

Pecyn Dogfennau



Wendy Walters
Prif Weithredwr,
Chief Executive,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

DYDD MERCHER, 6 TACHWEDD 2019

AT: HOLL AELODAU'R CYNGOR SIR

YR WYF DRWY HYN YN EICH GALW I FYNYCHU CYFARFOD O'R CYNGOR SIR A GYNHELIR YN SIAMBR, NEUADD Y SIR, CAERFYRDDIN. SA31 1JP. AM 10.00 YB, DYDD MERCHER, 13EG TACHWEDD, 2019 ER MWYN CYFLAWNI'R MATERION A AMLINELLIR AR YR AGENDA SYDD YNGHLWM

Wendy Walters

PRIF WEITHREDWR



AILGYLCHWCH OS GWELWCH YN DDA

Swyddog Democraidd:	Kevin Thomas
Ffôn (Ilinell uniongyrchol):	01267 224027
E-bost:	kjthomas@sirgar.gov.uk
Cyf:	AD016-001



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

AGENDA

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB
2. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANNAU PERSONOL.
3. CYHOEDDIADAU'R CADEIRYDD.
4. LLOFNODI YN GOFNOD CYWIR COFNOD CYFARFOD Y CYNGOR A GYNHALIWDYD AR 9FED HYDREF, 2019 5 - 16
5. CYFLWYNIAD - Y SIARTER ANABLEDDAU DYSGU 17 - 22
6. CWESTIYNAU GAN Y CYHOEDD
 - 6.1 CWESTIWN GAN MISS C. SYLVAN I'R CYNGHORYDD MAIR STEPHENS - DIRPRWY ARWEINYDD Y CYNGOR

“10 mis yn ôl des i yma i ofyn cwestiwn i'r Cyngor Llawn ynghylch sut y bydd yn mynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng hinsawdd ac ecolegol. Rwy'n falch iawn fod y Cyngor wedi datgan argyfwng hinsawdd ym mis Chwefror, a bod y Cyngor yn gweithio i ddod yn gyngor di-garbon erbyn 2030 ac yn ymrwmo i ymwahanu pensiynau oddi wrth danwyddau ffosil ymhen 2 flynedd. Ond, rwy'n ofni bod pethau sy'n niweidiol i'r amgylchedd yn parhau i ddigwydd yn Sir Gaerfyrddin, ac nid yw hyn yn cyfateb i'r hyn mae fy nghyngor yn ei ddweud. Rwy'n 12 oed erbyn hyn, ac rwy'n ddigon ffodus i fyw bywyd cymharol wyrdd diolch i fy rheini. Ond sut y gall hyn ddod yn norm i bob person ifanc yn Sir Gaerfyrddin? Hoffwn ofyn i'r cynghorwyr sy'n gweithio ar faterion cynllunio, beth y maen nhw'n ei wneud mewn gwirionedd i atal adeiladu a datblygiadau nad ydynt yn ecolegol, i atal llecynnau glas rhag cael eu clirio (megis torri coed ar Lôn Jackson), i greu llecynnau glas newydd a phlannu coed, i wella trafndiaeth gyhoeddus, osgoi adeiladu mwy o ffyrdd i geir a hyrwyddo syniadau megis Datblygiadau Un Blaned?”

7. CWESTIYNAU GAN AELODAU:-

7.1 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD DERYK CUNDY I CYNGHORYDD MAIR STEPHENS - DIRPRWY ARWEINYDD

“CWESTIWN AM Y NADOLIG

Rydym bob amser yn canmol ein staff ond yn anaml iawn mae gennym ffordd o ddangos cymaint yr ydym yn gwerthfawrogi'r gwaith caled y maent yn ei wneud.

Mae'n hawdd inni anghofio wrth inni dreulio amser arbennig gyda'n teuluoedd dros gyfnod y Nadolig a chymryd y gwyliau haeddiannol hynny, nad yw pobl eraill mor ffodus efallai.

Felly oherwydd bod y Nadolig mor agos at y penwythnos eleni, a fyddai modd inni roi'r dewis i bobl nad ydynt yn rhan o wasanaethau rheng flaen gymryd y dydd Gwener i ffwrdd o'r gwaith fel gwyliau, amser i ffwrdd yn lle oriau a weithiwyd neu oriau hyblyg, er mwyn inni helpu i sicrhau eu cydbwysedd bywyd a gwaith ac iddynt rannu yn y llawenydd a'r cyfle i ymlacio a gymerir yn aml yn ganiataol gennym".

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

- | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------|
| 8.1 | ARDAL GWELLA BUSNES (AGB) CAERFYRDDIN | 23 - 110 |
| 8.2 | CYNLLUN GWELLA HAWLIAU TRAMWY (CGHT) SIR GAERFYRDDIN | 111 - 234 |
| 8.3 | YMGYNGHORIAD LLYWODRAETH CYMRU FFRAMWAITH DATBLYGU CENEDLAETHOL 2020-2040 (DRAFFT) | 235 - 262 |
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| 9. | DERBYN ADRODDIAD CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALIUYD AR 21AIN HYDREF, 2019. | 1085 - 1090 |
| 10. | AELODAETH PWYLLGORAU | |
| 10.1 | NODI BOD Y GRWP LLAFUR WEDI ENWEBU'R CYNGHORYDD KAREN DAVIES I GYMERYD LLE'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN SCHIAVONE AR Y PWYLLGOR ARCHWILIO | |
| 11. | COFNODION ER GWYBODAETH (AR GAEL AR Y WEFAN) | |
| 11.1 | PWYLLGOR CRAFFU ADDYSG A PHLANT - 4YDD MEDI, 2019 | |
| 11.2 | PWYLLGOR ARCHWILIO - 13EG MEDI, 2019 | |
| 11.3 | PWYLLGOR CRAFFU GOFAL CYMDEITHASOL AC IECHYD - 24AIN MEDI, 2019 | |
| 11.4 | PWYLLGOR SAFONAU - 26AIN MEDI, 2019 | |
| 11.5 | PWYLLGOR CRAFFU DIOGELU'R CYHOEDD A'R AMGYLCHEDD - 30AIN MEDI, 2019 | |
| 11.6 | PWYLLGOR CYNLLUNIO - 1AF HYDREF, 2019 | |
| 11.7 | PWYLLGOR CRAFFU CYMUNEDAU - 3YDD HYDREF, 2019 | |

- 11 .8 PWYLLGOR APELAU - 4YDD HYDREF, 2019
- 11 .9 PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU - 10FED
HYDREF, 2019
- 11 .10 PWYLLGOR APELAU - 11EG HYDREF, 2019
- 11 .11 PWYLLGOR CRAFFU CYMUNEDAU - 16EG HYDREF, 2019
- 11 .12 PWYLLGOR CYNLLUNIO - 17EG HYDREF, 2019
- 11 .13 PWYLLGOR TRWYDDEDU - 23AIN HYDREF, 2019

CYNGOR SIR

DYDD MERCHER, 9 HYDREF 2019

YN BRESENNOL: Cynghorydd K. Madge (Cadeirydd)

Y Cynghorwyr:-

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

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

W. Walters, Prif Weithredwr

J. Morgan, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cymunedau

C. Moore, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol

G. Morgans, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Addysg a Phlant

Mrs R. Mullen, Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd

L.R. Jones, Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith

P.R. Thomas, Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Rheoli Pobl a Pherfformiad)

M. Evans Thomas, Prif Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

E. Bryer, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

Siambwr, Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin - 10.00 yb - 1.05 yp

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB

Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan y Cynghorwyr F. Akhtar, S.M. Allen, L.R. Bowen, H.L. Davies, K. Davies, W.R.A Davies, D.C Evans, C.J. Harris, A.D. Harries, P.M. Hughes, A. James, T.J. Jones, D. Nicholas, D.E Williams a J.E Williams.

2. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANNAU PERSONOL.

Y Cynghorydd	Rhif y Cofnod	Y Math o Fuddiant
K. Madge	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei ferch yn gweithio i'r Cyngor ac yn aelod o'r CPLIL. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)

D. M Cundy	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae'n rhan o'r Cynllun Pensiwn fel Cynghorydd Sir ac mae ganddo berthnasau a fydd yn fuddiolwyr y Cynllun Pensiwn. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
K. Lloyd	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae'n aelod o'r gronfa o ganlyniad i gyflogaeth flaenorol mewn llywodraeth leol. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
P.M. Edwards	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae'n derbyn pensiwn o'r gronfa. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
S. Mathews	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae'n derbyn pensiwn o'r gronfa bensiwn. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
S.A. Curry	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei gŵr yn aelod o'r cynllun pensiwn. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
T.M. Higgins	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei nith a'i chwaer-yng-nghyfraith yn gweithio yn y gwasanaeth llyfrgell. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
R. James	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei bartner yn aelod o'r Gronfa Bensiwn.
R.E. Evans	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae aelod o'r teulu yn gweithio yn y gwasanaeth llyfrgell.
D. Jones	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae aelod o'r teulu yn gweithio yn y gwasanaeth addysg.
E. Dole	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Buddiant Personol.
D. Price	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei fam yn aelod o Gronfa Bensiwn Dyfed. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
J.E. Williams	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae'n derbyn pensiwn Cynghorydd. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
G.H. John	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae'n aelod o'r gronfa bensiwn.
A. Vaughan Owen	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ganddo fuddsoddiad pensiwn hanesyddol ym Mhensiynau Dyfed ac mae gan ei wraig bensiwn yng Nghynllun Pensiwn Dyfed. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a

		phleidleisio)
A.D.T. Speake	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei wraig yn aelod o'r CPLIL. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
S.J.G. Gilasbey	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae perthynas yn aelod o Gronfa Bensiwn Dyfed. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
E. Morgan	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae'n aelod o'r gronfa o ganlyniad i gyflogaeth flaenorol mewn llywodraeth leol. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
J.S. Edmunds	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei ferch yn aelod o'r CPLIL. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
B.A.L. Roberts	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei pherthnasau yn aelodau o'r Cynllun Pensiwn.
S.L. Davies	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae merch ei diweddi yn gweithio yng Ngholeg Sir Gâr. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
E.M.J.G. Schiavone	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei wraig yn aelod o'r cynllun pensiwn.
T.A.J. Davies	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei chwaer-yng-nghyfraith yn gweithio i'r Cyngor ac yn aelod o'r CPLIL. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
H.B. Shepardson	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae'n derbyn y gronfa pensiwn fel cynweithiwr. (Caniatawyd gollyngiad i siarad a phleidleisio)
J. Tremlett	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae aelod o'i theulu yn aelod o'r cynllun pensiwn.
G.R. Jones	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ei wraig yn aelod o'r cynllun pensiwn.
M.J.A. Lewis	7.1 - Rhybudd o Gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James.	Mae ganddi fuddiant personol.
K.V. Broom	8 – Cyflwyniad gan Wasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.	Cynrychiolydd y Cyngor ar Awdurdod Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.
E.G. Thomas	8 – Cyflwyniad gan Wasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.	Cynrychiolydd y Cyngor ar Awdurdod Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.

J.M. Charles	8 – Cyflwyniad gan Wasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.	Cynrychiolydd y Cyngor ar Awdurdod Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.
R.E. Evans	8 – Cyflwyniad gan Wasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.	Cynrychiolydd y Cyngor ar Awdurdod Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.

3. CYHOEDDIADAU'R CADEIRYDD.

- Rhoddodd y Cadeirydd ddiweddariad am y gweithgareddau a'r digwyddiadau yr oedd wedi bod iddynt yn cynrychioli'r Cyngor, gan gynnwys:
 - Seremoni Agor ac Enwi a drefnwyd gan RNLI Porth Tywyn.
 - Parêd y Gwarchodlu Cymreig, a oedd yn arfer eu hawl i orymdeithio drwy Dref Caerfyrddin a chyngerdd Band y Gwarchodlu Cymreig.
 - Gŵyl Ddefaid Llanymddyfri.
 - Gwasanaeth Dinesig Cyngor Dinas Abertawe.
 - Seremoni Ddinasyddiaeth a drefnwyd gan y Cyngor i groesawu tri dinesydd newydd a'u teuluoedd.
 - Gwasanaeth arbennig Porthfaer Talacharn.
- Mynegodd y Cadeirydd ei longyfarchiadau i Gronfa Bensiwn Dyfed ar ennill y wobwr am "Gronfa Cynllun Pensiwn Llywodraeth Leol y Flwyddyn, gydag asedau dros £2.5m biliwn" yn Seremoni Gwobrau Buddsoddi'r LAPF yn ddiweddar. Cafodd Partneriaeth Pensiwn Cymru, yr oedd yr awdurdod yn rhan ohoni, ei chanmol yn fawr hefyd yng nghategori Cronfa'r Flwyddyn.
- Mynegodd y Cynghorydd Carys Jones, gyda chaniatâd y Cadeirydd, ei llongyfarchiadau i Jessica Rennie o Llansteffan a enillodd wobwr Prentis y Flwyddyn (Masnach) yng Ngwobrau Rhagoriaeth Adeiladu Cymru gyda Sgiliau Adeiladu Cyfle. Dylid cydnabod llwyddiant Jessica o ran hyrwyddo arferion adeiladu da, hyrwyddo cyfleoedd am brentisiaethau yn y Sir a hefyd hyrwyddo cyfleoedd i fenywod mewn diwydiant sy'n gysylltiedig yn bennaf â dynion.
- Estynnwyd dymuniadau gorau i'r Cynghorwyr Colin Evans a Dorian Williams yn dilyn eu llawdriniaethau.
- Nodwyd bod llythyr o ddiolch wedi'i dderbyn gan Faer Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Merthyr Tudful (y Cynghorydd Howard Barrett), gan ddiolch i'r Cyngor am gefnogi'r Rhybudd o Gynnig yng nghyfarfod mis Medi ynghylch gwahodd ysgolion i gynnal munud o dawelwch yn flynyddol ar fore 21 Hydref er cof am drychineb Aberfan ym 1966.

4. LLOFNODI YN GOFNOD CYWIR COFNOD CYFARFOD Y CYNGOR A GYNHALIWDYD AR 11EG MEDI, 2019

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL lofnodi bod cofnodion cyfarfod y Cyngor a gynhaliwyd ar 11 Medi 2019 yn gofnod cywir.

5. CWESTIYNAU GAN Y CYHOEDD:-

5.1. CWESTIWN GAN MR GREG PARKER I'R CYNGHORYDD ELWYN WILLIAMS, CADEIRYDD PWYLLGOR CRONFA BENSIWN DYFED

"Ar ôl i Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ddatgan Argyfwng Hinsawdd ym mis Chwefror 2019, a yw'r Cyngor yn ymwybodol y gallai ddarparu buddsoddiad mwy cadarn ag elw ganwaith yn uwch ar gyfer ei aelodau, a phweru Sir Gaerfyrddin gyfan drwy ddefnyddio ynni adnewyddadwy, drwy symud ei fuddsoddiadau pensiwn o gwmnïau tanwydd ffosil ac ail-fuddsoddi'n uniongyrchol mewn ynni adnewyddadwy? Caiff hyn ei egluro yn y 'Cynllun Syml iawn i ddatrys yr Argyfwng Hinsawdd' gan Ynni Sir Gâr <http://www.carmarthenshireenergy.org/YSG/climate-emergency?Language=Cymraeg>. Drwy arloesi yn y model hwn, gall y Cyngor osod esiampl yn genedlaethol ac yn fyd-eang ar gyfer pweru'r byd yn gyfan gwbl drwy ffynonellau adnewyddadwy erbyn 2045 heb fod angen cyllid newydd."

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd wrth Mr Parker, gan nad oedd y Cynghorydd Elwyn Williams yn bresennol oherwydd ei fod i ffwrdd ar fusnes y Cyngor, y byddai ymateb ysgrifenedig i'r cwestiwn yn cael ei ddarparu.

6. CWESTIYNAU GAN YR AELODAU (NID OEDD DIM WEDI DOD I LAW)

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

7. YSTYRIED Y RHYBUDDION O GYNNIG CANLYNOL:-

7.1. RHYBUDD O GYNNIG A GYFLWYNWYD GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES:-

[Sylwer: Roedd y Cynghorwyr E. Dole, G.R. Jones, G.H. John, M.J.A. Lewis, B.A.L. Roberts, E.M.J.G. Schiavone a J. Tremlett wedi datgan buddiant yn y mater hwn a gadawsant Siambr y Cyngor cyn i'r Pwyllgor ystyried y mater a phenderfynu arno. Gadawodd yr holl swyddogion a oedd yn aelodau o'r Cynllun Pensiwn (ar wahân i Ben-swyddog y Gwasanaethau Democraataidd, a oedd yn aros i gymryd nodiadau a Chynorthwydd y Gwasanaethau Aelodau) Siambr y Cyngor hefyd]

Bu'r Cyngor yn ystyried y Rhybudd o Gynnig canlynol a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James:-

"Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn:

- Nodi bod Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin wedi datgan argyfwng hinsawdd yn unfrydol yn gynharach eleni, gan ymrwmo i wneud y Cyngor Sir yn awdurdod lleol di-garbon net erbyn 2030.
- Nodi casgliadau'r Panel Rhynglywodraethol ynghylch Newid yn yr Hinsawdd (IPCC) "ein bod yn gweld canlyniadau cynhesu byd-eang 1°C yn barod drwy dywydd mwy eithafol, codiad yn lefel y môr ac iâ môr yn toddi yn yr Arctig";
- Nodi bod adroddiad yr IPCC yn nodi bod yn rhaid i allyriadau carbon deuocsid byd-eang fod ar eu uchaf erbyn 2020 er mwyn cadw'r blaned yn is nag 1.5C; Tudalen 3
- Nodi ymgyrchoedd ac ymchwil Extinction Rebellion, Cyfeillion y Ddaear ac eraill, ynghylch daliadau cronfeydd Pensiwn Llywodraeth Leol, gan gynnwys Dyfed, mewn cwmnïau tanwyddau ffosil;

- Credu nad yw'r cynlluniau presennol yn agos at fod yn ddigon cryf i gadw'r tymheredd o dan y lefelau a elwir yn ddiogel.
- Galw ar Gronfa Bensiwn Dyfed i ymwahanu oddi wrth danwyddau ffosil o fewn y ddwy flynedd nesaf a buddsoddi'r cronfeydd mewn cynlluniau ynni adnewyddadwy lleol."

Eiliwyd y Cynnig.

Cynigiwyd y gwelliant canlynol i'r cynnig gan y Cynghorydd C. Jones a chafodd ei eilio:

"Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn:

- Nodi bod Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin wedi datgan argyfwng hinsawdd yn unfrydol yn gynharach eleni, gan ymrwmo i wneud y Cyngor Sir yn awdurdod lleol di-garbon net erbyn 2030;
- Nodi casgliadau'r Panel Rhynglywodraethol ynghylch Newid yn yr Hinsawdd (IPCC) "ein bod yn gweld canlyniadau cynhesu byd-eang 1°C yn barod drwy dywydd mwy eithafol, codiad yn lefel y môr ac iâ môr yn toddi yn yr Arctig";
- Nodi bod adroddiad yr IPCC yn nodi bod yn rhaid i allyriadau carbon deuocsid byd-eang fod ar eu huchaf erbyn 2020 er mwyn cadw'r blaned yn is nag 1.5C;
- Nodi ymgyrchoedd ac ymchwil Extinction Rebellion, Cyfeillion y Ddaear ac eraill, ynghylch daliadau cronfa Pensiwn Llywodraeth Leol, gan gynnwys Dyfed, mewn cwmnïau tanwyddau ffosil;
- Credu nad yw'r cynlluniau presennol yn agos at fod yn ddigon cryf i gadw'r tymheredd o dan y lefelau a elwir yn ddiogel;
- Yn croesawu'r ffaith bod Cronfa Bensiwn Dyfed eisoes wedi ymrwmo i fuddsoddi mewn ynni adnewyddadwy fel rhan o Bartneriaeth Pensiwn Cymru a'i bod yn canolbwyntio i raddau helaeth ar ei hymrwymiad i Newid yn yr Hinsawdd gan gydnabod ei gyfrifoldebau ymddiriedol cyffredinol;
- Yn galw ar Gronfa Bensiwn Dyfed i ystyried lleihau ei buddsoddiad mewn tanwyddau ffosil."

Cafodd cynigydd ac eilydd y Gwelliant gyfle i siarad o'i blaid a bu iddynt amlinellu'r rhesymau dros ei gyflwyno.

Gwnaed nifer o ddatganiadau a gefnogai'r cynnig a'r gwelliant.

Yn dilyn trafodaethau, cytunodd y cynigydd, gyda chytundeb yr eilydd, i dynnu'r Gwelliant yn ôl. Ar hynny, aeth y Cyngor ymlaen i bleidleisio ar y Cynnig a

PHENDERFYNWYD cefnogi'r Cynnig a'i gyfeirio at Bwyllgor Cronfa Bensiwn Dyfed i'w ystyried.

7.2. RHYBUDD O GYNNIG A GYFLWYNWYD GAN Y CYNGHORYDD GARY JONES:-

Bu'r Cyngor yn ystyried y Rhybudd o Gynnig canlynol a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Gary Jones:-

"Bod Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin yn:

- Cydnabod bod Rheoliadau Mynediad i Gerbydau Gwasanaeth Cyhoeddus 2000 wedi creu dyletswydd gyfreithiol i sicrhau bod bysiau cyhoeddus y telir amdanynt yn darparu lle i ddefnyddwyr cadair olwyn, o Ionawr 2020 ymlaen.
- Pryderu na chafodd nifer o rieni a disgyblion wybod na fyddai disgyblion yn gallu teithio ar eu llwybr arferol i'r ysgol ar ddechrau'r flwyddyn academiaidd hon ac yn credu bod yn rhaid cysylltu â'r rheiny yr effeithir arnynt hyd yn hyn erbyn diwedd y tymor hwn i sicrhau eu bod yn deall y newidiadau sydd ar y gweill.
- Sicrhau bod disgyblion yn gallu teithio i'r ysgol ac yn ôl mewn modd diogel ac sy'n gydnaws â'r amgylchedd.
- Galw ar y Bwrdd Gweithredol i ddarparu cludiant am ddim i bawb yr effeithiwyd arnynt ar gyfer gweddill y flwyddyn ariannol, gan adolygu darpariaeth i fyfyrwyr yn y dyfodol.”

Eiliwyd y Cynnig.

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

Gwnaed nifer o ddatganiadau yn erbyn y Cynnig.

Yn dilyn pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD peidio â chefnogi'r Rhybudd o Gynnig.

8. CYFLWYNIAD GAN WASANAETH TAN AC ACHUB CANOLBARTH A GORLLEWIN CYMRU

[Sylwer: Roedd y Cynghorwyr K.V Broom, J.M Charles, E.G. Thomas ac R.E. Evans wedi datgan buddiant yn yr eitem hon yn gynharach]

Croesawyd y Prif Swyddog Tân, Chris Davies, a'r Prif Swyddog Tân Cynorthwyol, Iwan Cray, o Wasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru i'r cyfarfod gan y Cadeirydd.

Rhoddyd y Prif Swyddog Tân drosolwg ar waith y Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub. Roedd y cyflwyniad yn cynnwys cyfeiriad at y canlynol:

- Ardal ddaearyddol y Gwasanaeth a heriau cysylltiedig
- Strwythur rheoli gan gynnwys Bwrdd Gweithredol y Cyfarwyddwyr a chwe Ardal Reoli sirol
- Yr Awdurdod Tân
- Arbedion ariannol oedd wedi'u gwneud eisoes
- Dyletswyddau Statudol y Gwasanaeth.
- Digwyddiadau a Heriau Gweithredol
- Perfformiad o ran tanau bwriadol, tanau damweiniol mewn preswylfeydd, marwolaethau ac anafiadau a damweiniau traffig ffyrdd
- Newidiadau gwariant gwirioneddol ac o ran gwerth cyhoeddus
- Aseiad Strategol ac Adolygiad o'r Gwasanaeth
- Canlyniadau arolwg diweddar ynghylch barn y cyhoedd

- Trosolwg o'r gyllideb gan gynnwys arbedion effeithlonrwydd/diraddio gwasanaethau
- Cyllideb Arfaethedig ar gyfer 2020/21

Ar ôl y cyflwyniad cynhaliwyd sesiwn holi ac ateb a soniwyd y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru lloïo'r Llywodraeth Ganolog i sicrhau bod cyllid digonol yn cael ei sicrhau i gynnal gwasanaethau.

Diolchodd yr Aelodau i'r Prif Swyddog Tân a'r Prif Swyddog Tân Cynorthwyol am y cyflwyniad ac am y gwaith amhrisiadwy a wneir gan Wasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru.

9. ADOLYGU DOSBARTHOU PLEIDLEISIO A MANNAU PLEIDLEISIO

Bu'r Cyngor yn ystyried adroddiad ar yr adolygiad o Ddosbarthau Pleidleisio a Mannau Pleidleisio. Gwnaeth Adran 18C o Ddeddf Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl 1983 (fel y'i diwygiwyd gan Adran 17 o Ddeddf Cofrestru a Gweinyddu Etholiadol 2013) gyflwyno dyletswydd i adolygu pob dosbarth a man pleidleisio seneddol bob 5 mlynedd.

Cynhaliwyd adolygiad rhagarweiniol o'r dosbarthau pleidleisio a'r manau pleidleisio presennol o 3 Medi 2018 a daeth i ben ar 12 Hydref 2018. Fel rhan o'r gwaith o baratoi cynllun arfaethedig diwygiedig o'r Dosbarthau Pleidleisio a Mannau Pleidleisio, bu'r Swyddog Canlyniadau'n ystyried, fel ystyriaethau allweddol, hwylustod i etholwyr a hygyrchedd i bleidleiswyr ag anabledau.

Dechreuodd y broses adolygu ar 23 Ionawr 2019 gydag ymarfer ymgynghori cyhoeddus ar wefan Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin, ymgynghori â phob parti â diddordeb a chyhoeddi Hysbysiad Cyhoeddus o'r Adolygiad ynghyd ag atodlenni'r cynllun presennol a'r cynllun arfaethedig a oedd yn tynnu sylw at y newidiadau a argymhellwyd. Y dyddiad cau ar gyfer cyflwyno sylwadau oedd 27 Chwefror 2019.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gymeradwyo'r adroddiad ar yr Adolygiad o Ddosbarthau Pleidleisio a Mannau Pleidleisio.

10. YSTRIED ARGYMHELLION Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL O RAN Y MATER CANLYNOL:-

10.1. ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL CYNGOR SIR GAERFYRDDIN 2018/19.

Rhodddwyd gwybod i'r Cyngor bod y Bwrdd Gweithredol, yn ei gyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 23 Medi (gweler cofnod 6), wedi ystyried Adroddiad Blynyddol Drafft Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ar gyfer 2018/19 a luniwyd yn unol â gofynion Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2009 a Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gymeradwyo Adroddiad Blynyddol Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ar gyfer 2018/19.

10.2. ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL CYFARWYDDWR STATUDOL Y GWASANAETHAU CYMDEITHASOL YNGHYLCH PERFFORMIAD Y

GWASANAETHAU GOFAL CYMDEITHASOL YN SIR GAERFYRDDIN YN 2018/19

Rhodddwyd gwybod i'r Cyngor bod y Bwrdd Gweithredol, yn ei gyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 23 Medi (gweler cofnod 7), wedi ystyried Adroddiad Blynyddol Drafft Cyfarwyddwr Statudol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar Berfformiad y Gwasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin ar gyfer 2018/19. Yn yr adroddiad, rhodddwyd trosolwg gan Gyfarwyddwr Statudol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ynghyd ag asesiad ar y dyfodol a'r blaenoriaethau strategol ar gyfer 2019/20.

Mynegodd yr Aelodau o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol dros lechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol ac Addysg a Phlant eu gwerthfawrogiad i Gyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a'i staff am eu gwaith dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gymeradwyo Adroddiad Blynyddol Cyfarwyddwr Statudol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar Berfformiad y Gwasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin ar gyfer 2018/19.

10.3. CYTUNDEB DIWYGIEDIG CYD-BWYLLGOR BARGEN DDINESIG BAE ABERTAWE

Rhodddwyd gwybod i'r Cyngor bod y Bwrdd Gweithredol, yn ei gyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 23 Medi (gweler cofnod 16), wedi ystyried adroddiad a oedd yn gofyn am gadarnhad o'r gwelliannau i gytundeb Cyd-bwyllgor Bargaen Ddinesig Bae Abertawe yn dilyn canlyniadau adolygiadau gan Lywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y DU a'r rhanbarth ei hun a dderbyniwyd gan y Cyd-bwyllgor ym mis Mawrth 2019. Roedd yr adolygiadau wedi cynnwys argymhellion a oedd yn gofyn am ddiwygiadau i'r Cytundeb Cyd-bwyllgor gwreiddiol a gymeradwywyd ym mis Gorffennaf 2018. Cafodd yr adroddiad ei gynnig a'i eilio.

Cyfeiriwyd at gyfarfod Cyd-bwyllgor Craffu Dinas-ranbarth Bae Abertawe a gynhaliwyd ar 2 Medi 2019 pan ystyriwyd adroddiad diweddar ar y Cytundeb Cydweithio. Dywedwyd bod y Cyd-bwyllgor Craffu wedi cytuno'n unfrydol i ofyn am i'r Cyd-bwyllgor gynnwys 3 diwygiad ychwanegol i'r cytundeb (Cymal 9.3 a Chymalau 2.2 a 7 o Atodlen 12) a chynigiwyd y rhain yn ffurfiol fel diwygiad i'r adroddiad.

Rhodddwyd gwybod nad oedd unrhyw gais o'r fath wedi ei roi gerbron y Cydbwyllgor i'w ystyried a dywedwyd ymhellach nad oedd unrhyw ohebiaeth na chofnodion drafft wedi'u dosbarthu a'u cymeradwyo gan Aelodau'r Cyd-bwyllgor Craffu.

Dywedodd y Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith wrth y Pwyllgor fod copïau o lythyr oddi wrth Gadeirydd y Cyd-bwyllgor Craffu a chofnodion drafft y Cyd-bwyllgor Craffu wedi'u dosbarthu i'r Swyddogion Monitro y diwrnod blaenorol, ond nid oedd y Swyddogion Monitro wedi cael y cyfle i'w drafod oherwydd y byr rybudd. Fodd bynnag, at ddibenion egluro, darllenodd y Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith gynnwys y cofnodion drafft i'r Cyngor.

Dywedodd y Prif Weithredwr fod y cofnodion craffu ar y cyd drafft yn gofyn yn glir i'r Cyd-bwyllgor ystyried y gwelliannau hyn, felly byddai angen i unrhyw ddiwygiad

arfaethedig gael ei ystyried gan y Cyd-bwyllgor ei hun yn gyntaf. Pe byddai cytundeb ar y diwygiadau hynny, byddai angen i bob un o'r 4 awdurdod lleol ystyried a mabwysiadu'r newidiadau arfaethedig.

Yn dilyn pleidlais, collwyd y gwelliant.

PENDERFYNWYD:

10.3.1 cymeradwyo'r gwelliannau i Gytundeb y Cyd-bwyllgor fel y'u nodwyd yn Atodiad 1 a 2 i'r adroddiad;

10.3.2 awdurdodi'r Prif Swyddog Cyfreithiol ar gyfer Bargaen Ddinesig Bae Abertawe i wneud gweithred o amrywiad er mwyn gweithredu'r newidiadau i'r Cytundeb Cyd-bwyllgor.

HYD Y CYFARFOD

Am 12:55pm wrth ystyried yr adroddiad uchod, tynnwyd sylw'r Pwyllgor at Reol Sefydlog 9 'Hyd Cyfarfod', ac at y ffaith bod y cyfarfod wedi bod yn mynd rhagddo ers 3 awr. Felly

PENDERFYNWYD bod y Rheolau Sefydlog yn cael eu rhoi o'r neilltu dros dro er mwyn gallu ystyried yr eitemau oedd yn weddill ar yr agenda.

10.4. ADRODDIAD MONITRO BLYNYDDOL 2018/19 - CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL MABWYSIEDIG SIR GAERFYRDDIN.

Rhodddwyd gwybod i'r Cyngor bod y Bwrdd Gweithredol, yn ei gyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 23 Medi (gweler munud 20) wedi ystyried Adroddiad Monitro Blynyddol 2018/19 - Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Sir Gaerfyrddin, a luniwyd yn unol â darpariaethau Deddf Cynllunio a Phrynu Gorfodol 2004 a Rheoliadau Cynllun Datblygu Leol (CDLI) 2005, ac roedd angen ei gyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru erbyn 31 Hydref 2019.

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

10.4.1 cael a derbyn cynnwys yr pedwerydd Adroddiad Monitro Blynyddol ar gyfer Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Sir Gaerfyrddin, y mae angen ei gyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru erbyn 31 Hydref 2019;

10.4.2 bod y canfyddiadau a'r dystiolaeth a gynhwysir yn yr Adroddiad Monitro Blynyddol hwn yn cael eu hystyried fel rhan o'r gwaith o baratoi CDLI diwygiedig 2018-2033, a llywio'r broses o gasglu tystiolaeth;

10.4.3 Rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i swyddogion wneud addasiadau teipograffyddol neu ffeithiol yn ôl yr angen, i wella eglurder a chywirdeb yr Adroddiad Monitro Blynyddol.

11. DERBYN ADRODDIAD CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALIWDYD AR 23AIN, MEDI, 2019.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL dderbyn adroddiad y cyfarfod uchod.

12. PENODI AELODAU I WASANAETHU AR BWYLLGORAU YMGYNGHOROL Y CYNGOR AC AR GYRFF ALLANOL YN AMODOL AR Y GOFYNION O RAN CYDBWYSEDD GWLEIDYDDOL.

Ar ôl cael hysbysiad bod y Cynghorydd Colin Evans wedi ymddiswyddo o'r Grŵp Llafur ac wedi ymuno â Grŵp Plaid Cymru wedyn, bu'r Cyngor yn ystyried adroddiad a oedd yn nodi'r newidiadau ôl-ddilynol i gyfansoddiad gwleidyddol cyffredinol y Cyngor ac yn adolygu'r trefniadau ar gyfer dyrannu seddi i grwpiau gwleidyddol.

Roedd yr adroddiad yn amlinellu y byddai angen i'r Grŵp Annibynnol ildio sedd ar Banel Heddlu a Throseddu Dyfed-Powys i Grŵp Plaid Cymru a byddai angen i'r Grŵp Llafur ildio sedd i'r Grŵp Annibynnol Newydd ar Banel Ymgynghorol y Cyngor ynghylch y Polisi Tâl.

Gofynnwyd am enwebiadau ar gyfer y trefniadau newydd o ran cynrychiolaeth ar Banel Heddlu a Throseddu Dyfed-Powys a Phanel Ymgynghorol y Cyngor ynghylch y Polisi Tâl.

PENDERFYNWYD:

12.1 Bod y Cynghorydd Emlyn Schiavone, Aelod o Grŵp Plaid, yn cymryd lle'r Cynghorydd Jim Jones, Aelod o'r Grŵp Annibynnol, ar Banel Heddlu a Throseddu Dyfed Powys.

12.2 Bod y Cynghorydd Jeff Edmunds, Aelod o'r Grŵp Annibynnol Newydd, yn cymryd lle'r Cynghorydd John Prosser ar Banel Ymgynghorol y Cyngor ynghylch y Polisi Tâl.

13. AELODAU' R PWYLLGORAU:-

13.1. DERBYN HYSBYSIAD GAN GRWP PLAID CYMRU YNGHYLCH PENODI AELOD YN LLE'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN SCHIAVONE AR Y PWYLLGOR ARCHILIO

Rhoddodd y Cadeirydd wybod i'r Cyngor fod yr eitem wedi cael ei thynnu'n ôl.

CADEIRYDD

DYDDIAD

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

**Y CYNGOR SIR
13^{EG} TACHWEDD, 2019**

**PWNC :
Y SIARTER ANABLEDDAU DYSGU**

Y Pwrpas:

Cyflwyno Siarter Anableddau Dysgu Gorllewin Cymru

**Yr argymhellion / penderfyniadau allweddol sydd eu hangen:
Ystyried ymuno â'r Siarter Anableddau Dysgu**

Y rhesymau:

Sicrhau bod pob agwedd ar fusnes y Cyngor yn anelu at gyrraedd safonau'r Siarter Anableddau Dysgu.

Angen ymgynghori â'r Pwyllgor Craffu perthnasol : NAC OES

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad NAC OES

Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad OES

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

Y Cyng. J. Tremlett (Deiliad y Portffolio Gofal Cymdeithasol ac Iechyd)

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth

Cymunedau

Enw Pennaeth y
Gwasanaeth:

Avril Bracey

Awdur yr Adroddiad:

Sharon Frewin

Pennaeth Iechyd Meddwl ac
Anableddau Dysgu

Uwch-reolwr, Cynhwysiant
Cymunedol

Rhifau ffôn:

01267 242492

07789 371175

Cyfeiriadau E-bost:

abracey@sirgar.gov.uk

sfrewin@sirgar.gov.uk

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COUNCIL
13TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

**SUBJECT:
LD CHARTER**

To introduce the West Wales Charter, a set of standards and aspirations identified by people with a Learning Disability in relation to their rights and how they want to live their lives.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

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

Signed: **Avril Bracey** **Head of Mental Health & Learning Disabilities**

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

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

- The Charter supports the strategic direction of the following :-
 - Opening Doors...Lifelong Learning
 - Feeling Fine...Health & Well-being
 - Feeling Secure – Safer Communities;

Whilst also supporting us to deliver against the :-

- West Wales Integrated Area plan
- Social Services and Wellbeing Act

- The charter will enable us to become more socially inclusive whilst supporting the human rights of those with a Learning Disability. Ensuring all individuals have access to appropriate support, employment, education, social opportunities whilst developing meaningful relationships of their choosing.

7. Staffing Implications

- The authority and each line manager will need to consider how the principles of the charter are communicated to all staff. This may include additional training and the development of support networks facilitated by LD champions.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Avril Bracey

Head of Mental Health & Learning Disabilities

1. Scrutiny Committee

N/A

2. Local Member(s)

N/A

3. Community / Town Council

N/A

4. Relevant Partners

Pembrokeshire/Carmarthenshire People First; Hywel Dda Health Board; Pembrokeshire County Council.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

N/A

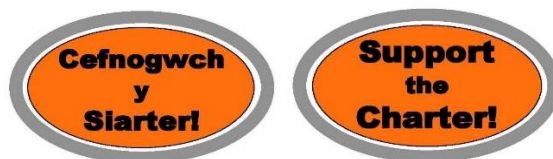
Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

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

THERE ARE NONE

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection

The LD Charter



www.ldcharter.com

Over the past 5 years, people with learning disabilities in Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion have worked together to develop a Charter – a simple list of things they expect, and need, to live fulfilling lives. Maybe there shouldn't be a need for such a document, but there certainly is.

James Dash, Co-Chair of the Learning Disability Programme Group, explains:

“The West Wales LD Charter brings together our rights, our needs, and our wants, in a simple document aimed at everyone in our community.

“It covers crucial areas like support, health and relationships, and brings them all together in a document anyone can – and should – sign up to.

“I wasn't sure about using the words “we demand” – but we do! It's only fair that we demand to be treated like everyone else, to have a social life, to do things that fulfil us, and to be treated with dignity and respect.”

The West Wales LD Charter has been developed with support from the Welsh Government's Intermediate Care Fund, the West Wales Care Partnership, and Pembrokeshire College. It is supported by the County Councils of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, and the Hywel Dda University Health Board. In the coming months, the project will be rolled out across the region. Carys James, Co-Chair of the Learning Disability Programme Group and Director of Social Services for Ceredigion explains:

“This is not a project led by professionals, or social services – or even charities. In the coming months, it will be turned over entirely to The Dream Team, a group of people with learning disabilities who advise us on what really matters and hold us absolutely to account. They will be visiting businesses and organisations to get them to sign up – and checking that they really do follow through on their commitments.

“We're doing things differently in West Wales. And we're very proud of the Dream Team and committed to measuring everything we do against the Charter's demands.

“And of course, “concludes Carys, “signing the Charter is just the beginning. It's not enough to sign – organisations and individuals have to act on what they pledge, and the Dream Team will make sure that they do.”

Organisations, companies and individuals can sign the Charter and commit to treating everyone equally. There will be a quality mark developed which will be awarded to organisations or businesses who demonstrate they live up to the standards and aspirations of the charter. The Dream Team will be training LD champions who will routinely inspect organisations, venues, businesses against set standards which must be achieved in order to obtain the quality mark.

Our Departmental Management Team (DMT) signed up to the charter in August



For more information about the West Wales LD Charter, please contact Karen Chandler at Pembrokeshire People First on 01437 769135 or ldcharterwestwales@gmail.com, or check our Facebook page or Twitter feed (West Wales LD Charter).

You can hear more about the Charter by watching the video at http://www.pembrokeshirepeople1st.org.uk/?page_id=766

**CYNGOR SIR
13EG TACHWEDD, 2019**

Ardal Gwella Busnes (AGB) Caerfyrddin

Argymhellion y Bwrdd Gweithredol:

Argymhellir bod y Cyngor yn gwneud y canlynol:

- Cefnogi 'Cwmni AGB Caerfyrddin' er mwyn ei alluogi i gynnal pleidlais ffurfiol ynghylch a fyddai busnesau ardrethol y dref yn dymuno gweithredu Ardal Gwella Busnes (AGB) Caerfyrddin am gyfnod cychwynnol o 5 mlynedd neu beidio;
- cytuno ar ei safbwynt o ran rhoi cefnogaeth i egwyddor yr AGB a phleidleisio o ran ei 15 eiddo ardrethol sy'n eiddo i'r Cyngor ac yr effeithir arnynt o fewn y parth AGB (amcangyfrif o gost flynyddol yr ardoll yw £20,061 ynghyd â chwyddiant o 2% y flwyddyn);
- cytuno ar yr egwyddor o ymgymryd â chasglu ardoll yr AGB fel y nodwyd yn y Cytundeb Gweithredol ar ran Cwmni AGB Caerfyrddin, heb unrhyw gost i'r AGB am y cyfnod cyntaf o 5 mlynedd;
- cymeradwyo'r Datganiad o Wasanaethau Sylfaenol a amgaeir ar gyfer Cwmni'r AGB;
- enwebu cynrychiolydd aelodau i fod ar Fwrdd Cwmni'r AGB;
- cytuno i reoli, heb unrhyw gost, broses bleidleisio yr AGB ar ran Cwmni AGB Caerfyrddin.

Y Rhesymau:

Drwy ei hardoll byddai AGB Caerfyrddin yn cynhyrchu tua £847,000 dros gyfnod cychwynnol yr AGB o bum mlynedd, i'w fuddsoddi mewn prosiectau a gwasanaethau er budd busnesau yng Nghaerfyrddin.

Mae grŵp llywio'r AGB, yn dilyn ymgynghoriad helaeth â busnesau o fewn terfynau'r AGB, yn cynnig y bydd yr AGB yn canolbwyntio ar bedwar maes gweithgarwch:

1. Gwneud busnesau'n fwy proffidiol
2. Gwella proffil y dref
3. Gwella'r profiad parcio
4. Gwella golwg y dref

Bydd y canolbwynt hwn yn hyrwyddo ac yn cefnogi economi canol y dref trwy gynyddu nifer y bobl sy'n ymweld â chanol y dref a'r gwariant yno a thrwy wneud y dref yn fwy bywiog.

Angen ymgynghori â'r pwyllgor craffu perthnasol: Ddim yn berthnasol

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad	OES
Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad	OES

YR AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL SY'N GYFRIFOL AM Y PORTFFOLIO:- Y
Cynghorydd Emlyn Dole / Y Cynghorydd David Jenkins

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth: Prif

Weithredwr

Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth:

Jason Jones

Awdur yr Adroddiad:

Stuart Walters/Mike Bull

Swyddi:

Pennaeth Adfywio

Rheolwr Datblygu Economaidd
/ Rheolwr Rhanbarthol -
Datblygu Economaidd

Rhifau ffôn: 01267 242336

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Carmarthen Business Improvement District (BID)

BACKGROUND

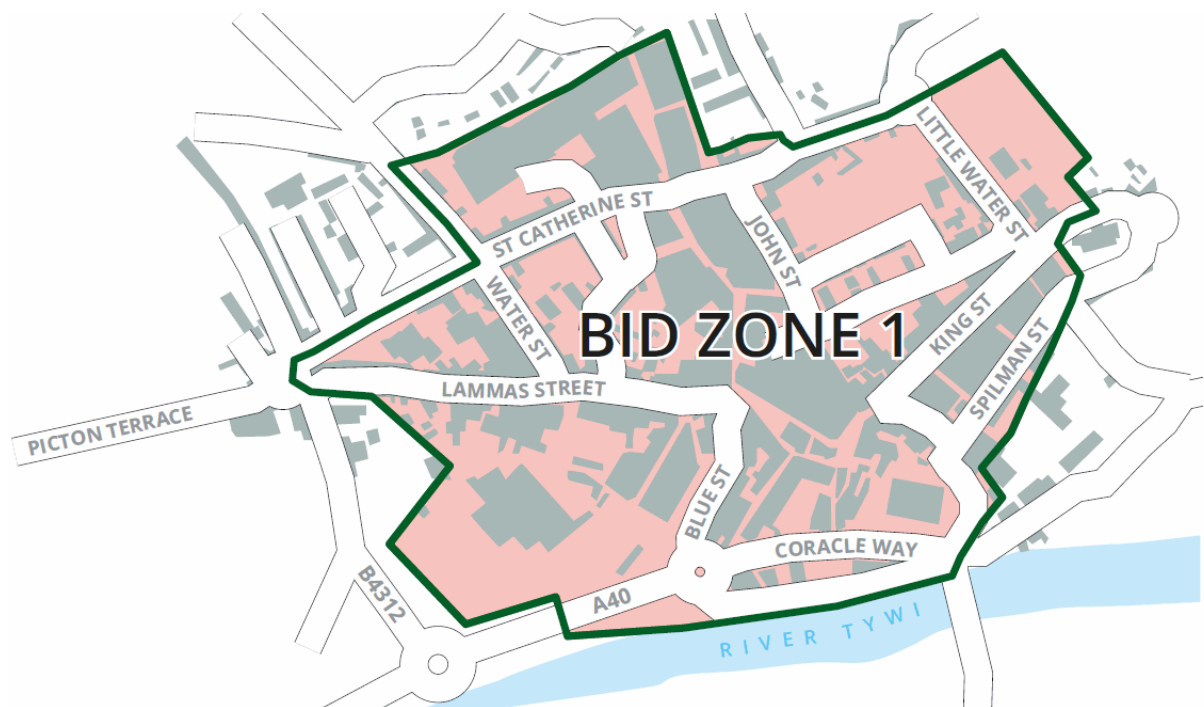
A BID is a business-led and funded body formed to improve a defined commercial area. It is a specific area, where businesses work together and invest in agreed services, projects and special events.

The BID is financed by a levy made on the rateable value of a commercial property.

In March 2017, 190 Carmarthen businesses were consulted about the town centre and prospects for a BID. There was a second opportunity to comment and make suggestions via a drop-in session in November 2017. The consultations sought to establish whether businesses would support the introduction of a BID and opinion was overwhelmingly positive. A detailed 'proposal for a Business Improvement District in Carmarthen' has been developed (copy attached Appendix A), which provides specific detail on the proposals. The following section provides a summary of the aims, pledges and project ideas:

THE PROPOSAL

The proposed Carmarthen BID area detailed below proposes to apply a levy rate of 1.5% towards the rateable value of a commercial property within the BID boundary, this is applicable to all properties with a rateable value of over £6000 and 80% discount for non-retail charity property is proposed.



Through its levy it is estimated that Carmarthen BID would generate an income of around £165,000 per year, or £847,000 over the five-year term (inflation at 2% pa) to invest in projects and services to benefit businesses within the defined area.

What will the BID do?

The BID proposal makes four pledges:

1. Improve business profitability:

Supporting businesses in the BID area to become even more successful by increasing their profitability. The BID will support businesses to reduce their bottom line costs through, for example, a collective / centralised purchasing programme, and will deliver a range of schemes and initiatives to improve business performance and thereby increasing turnover and profitability.

2. Improve the profile of the town:

Promoting Carmarthen as a great place to visit for heritage and culture, entertainment, shopping and learning. This is a fantastic opportunity for the business community to directly influence how the town is promoted. The BID will also help to ensure a “croeso cynnes” for those visiting and spending time in the town centre.

3. Improve the parking experience:

The BID will strive to improve the parking experience for members of the public and BID members by reducing costs to incentivise consumers to visit the town more often.

4. Improve the look of the town:

This closely interrelates with the other pledges and is geared towards the same goal of increasing footfall and improving the vibrancy of the town. It will make the town an even better place to live and work, helping to drive increased footfall and attract businesses to invest in the town.

The BID proposes to focus on these four areas of activity. In addition a proportion of the budget will be ring fenced for supporting projects being developed and delivered by other local organisations, which fit with the aims and objectives of the BID.

How will it operate?

A company limited by guarantee has been established and a board of directors will serve voluntarily on the BID Board, this will include a nominated member representative from Carmarthenshire County Council.

A BID Manager will be employed by the BID Board, initially on a part time basis, to deliver the activities of the BID. The post will be funded from the BID levy. The BID Manager will be the key point of contact for BID member businesses.

The BID will produce a detailed action plan with quarterly milestones, which will be monitored quarterly and evaluated annually. Once the BID is established members will be able to influence the focus of the BID in order to best suit the changing needs of the town centre.

The Ballot

In order to successfully start a BID, it is necessary for eligible businesses to vote on paying the additional levy, with the proposed ballot scheduled to take place in Autumn/ Winter 2019. To be successful the vote must meet two tests: more than 50% of votes cast must be in favour of the BID and the ‘yes’ vote must represent more than 50% of the aggregate rateable value of votes cast.

COUNTY COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS

The County Council needs to give due consideration to a number of key elements of the BID proposal. These are detailed as follows:

The BID Baseline Agreement

The 'BID Baseline Agreement' (Appendix b attached) provides a statement of Carmarthenshire County Council's current service provision in Carmarthen Town Centre. The baseline services in the agreement includes: Street cleaning, refuse collection, highways maintenance, street lighting, Christmas lighting, drainage, public conveniences, grass cutting and landscape maintenance, public realm asset management, fly tipping and fly posting / graffiti removal.

The Carmarthen BID will only be allowed to use levy to deliver additional activities over and above this level of service.

The BID baseline agreement has been developed in consultation with Highways & Transportation and Environmental Managers.

The BID Operational Agreement

The arrangements for collection of the BID levy are detailed within the '**BID Operational Agreement**' (Appendix C – Copy attached). The document sets out the Council's option to raise a charge for the administration of the scheme, however as the collection software and licences have been purchased to implement the Llanelli BID levy collection and no charge is made for the collection of the Llanelli BID levy, agreement is sought to undertake the collection at no charge for the first Carmarthen BID term (five years).

Arrangements for the collection of the BID levy have been developed in consultation with Local Taxation Team leader and Head of Financial Services.

Property Levy Schedule

The levy of 1.5% towards the rateable value of a commercial property within the BID boundary, is applicable to all properties within the BID Boundary with a rateable value of over £6000. Fifteen Carmarthenshire County Council properties are affected with an estimated annual levy charge of £20,061 plus inflation at 2% pa. A list of CCC properties affected is detailed within the '**CCC Property Levy Schedule**' (Appendix D – Copy attached)

CMT will need to consider whether this revenue implication is to be funded by the facilitating departments (Economic Development, Environment, Leisure, Education and Highways) or by a Growth bid for 2020/21.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council:

- Support the 'Carmarthen BID Company' to enable it to hold a formal ballot on whether or not the town's rateable businesses wish to operate the Carmarthen Business Improvement District (BID) for an initial term of 5 years;
- agrees its position in respect of support for the principle of the BID and voting in respect of its 15 affected rateable properties within the BID zone (estimated annual levy charge of £20,061 plus inflation at 2% pa);
- agrees the principle of undertaking the BID levy collection as detailed in the Operational agreement on behalf of the Carmarthen BID Company, at no charge to the BID for the first 5 year term;
- approves the attached Statement of Baseline services to the BID company;
- nominates a member representative to sit on the BID Company Board;
- agrees to manage at no fee the BID ballot process on behalf of the Carmarthen BID Company.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

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

Signed: Jason Jones

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities YES	Legal YES	Finance YES	ICT YES	Risk Management Issues YES	Staffing Implications YES	Physical Assets NONE
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Policy, Crime, Disorder and Equalities: The project supports Carmarthenshire County Council's Transformations Strategy which identifies six key transformational projects, including the transformation of Carmarthen Town. The Carmarthen BID will play a key role in the Transformation of Carmarthen Town.

The proposed project is aligned to the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 in terms of taking action to safeguard the local economy of Carmarthen for future generations. The five ways of working and the sustainable development principle has been considered when developing the proposal (Long Term, Prevention, Integration, Collaboration, & Involvement).

The Carmarthen BID company will aim to improve the vibrancy and viability of Carmarthen town and where possible will engage with Dyfed Powys Police as a stakeholder in the town.

Legal: As part of a BID it is standard practice for the BID group to put in place operational and baseline services agreements with the Council. The operational agreements set out the terms of the agreement in relation to the operation of the BID including collection responsibilities. The baseline services agreement sets out the Council's current service provision as the BID group cannot use BID levy to replace existing council services. All affected departments have been consulted and agreed on the baseline services agreement and both the draft Baseline Services and Operational agreements have been reviewed by Legal.

Finance: The Council is currently liable for 15 rateable properties within the BID boundaries with a combined potential annual BID levy charge of £20,061 pa (2% inflation pa). CMT will need to consider whether this revenue implication is to be funded by the facilitating department or by a Growth bid for 20/21. Whilst the BID collections software was purchased as part of the Llanelli BID, there will be cost implications on the Council in respect of the levy collection via business rates. These costs will, however, be minimised by synchronising collections with the annual business rates. There is a clause in the operational agreement to enable the charge to be passed onto the BID group. The Carmarthen BID group have, however, requested that there is no charge made on the BID company for the first 5 year term, or for a similar period to that applied by the Council to the Llanelli BID, subject to Carmarthen BID Group agreeing that the collection period be synchronised with annual business rate collection dates.

There will be a further cost implication on the authority in respect of undertaking the ballot with regard to printing & staff costs (notionally £1500). Agreement is sought to run the ballot for this 5 year term at no cost to the Carmarthen BID.

ICT: Collection software and licences in place as they are being used in the Llanelli BID. These systems will be used to collect levy in Carmarthen.

Risk Management: If the Carmarthen BID proposal is not progressed then the Council's ability to fully deliver on one of its key regeneration aims - the transformation of Carmarthen town centre - is affected.

Staffing: Whilst there are no additional staffing requests to support the delivery of the BID the Council will need to commit existing staffing resources to:

- Collect the levy on behalf of the BID group;
- Assist with the ballot;
- Representative of the Council will be required to sit on the BID Company Board

Physical Assets:

None - the BID company office will be located within the zone at a commercial premises to be agreed

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Jason Jones

Head of Regeneration

1.Scrutiny Committee

N/A

2.Local Member(s)

The following members have been consulted and support the BID in principle:

Cllr. Gareth John
Cllr. Alun Lenny
Cllr. Elwyn Williams
Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths
Cllr. Ken Lloyd
Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone

3.Community / Town Council

Town Council has been consulted directly by the BID group and via The Town Regeneration Forum.

4.Relevant Partners

The Carmarthen Town Regeneration Forum have been fully consulted on proposals

5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

None

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol



Cynnig ar gyfer Ardal Gwella Busnes (AGB) yng Nghaerfyrddin

DRAFFT TERFYNOL 7/1/19

Rhagair gan y Cadeirydd

Fel Cadeirydd grŵp Llywio Ardal Gwella Busnes (AGB) Caerfyrddin, a rheolwr canolfan siopa yn y dref, rwyf wedi gweld llawer o newid dros y degawd diwethaf. Mae dirwasgiad hir, cystadleuaeth sylweddol gan y rhynggrwyd, Brexit, toriadau i gyllidebau'r Cyngor Sir a'r Cyngor Tref, cwtogi ar swyddi, a llawer i ansicrwydd arall oll yn effeithio ar fywiogrwydd Caerfyrddin, gan arwain at lai o ymwelwyr â'r dref, ac, yn sgil hynny, llai o wariant ym musnesau'r dref.

Ond mae gwytnwch yn perthyn i dref Caerfyrddin, ac rwyf o'r farn mai'r unig ffordd o gynnal ein henw da fel y lle gorau yng Ngorllewin Cymru i wneud busnes ac fel lle cofiadwy i ymweld ag ef, yw drwy gydweithio a chymryd rheolaeth fel busnesau, gan feddu ar weledigaeth glir o'r hyn sydd angen ei wneud.

Mae ceisiadau AGB llwyddiannus mewn trefi cyfagos wedi cael effaith sylweddol ar eu hamgylcheddau masnachu, felly does dim dewis gennym; pleidleisiwch o blaid AGB neu'r perygl yw y cawn ein gadael ymhell ar ei hôl hi.

Os gwnawn ni i gyd bleidleisio o blaid er mwyn

gwireddu ein gweledigaeth, bydd gennym gronfa o £847,000 o leiaf ar gyfer y 5 mlynedd hyd nes y daw'r cynllun i ben, a hynny i fuddsoddi yn y dref er budd pawb. Rydym yn hyderus fod modd cynyddu'r swm hwn ymhellach byth drwy ddenu cyllid ychwanegol gan ffynonellau allanol eraill i'n galluogi i wneud mwy hyd yn oed.

Er mwyn gwireddu'r uchod, rydym angen i chi bleidleisio o blaid. Heb eich cefnogaeth bydd Caerfyrddin, ar y gorau, yn aros fel y mae ar hyn o bryd, ac, ar y gwaethaf, yn dirywio ymhellach a gwelir rhagor o unedau gwag a'n cymdogion yn cipio ein cyfran ni o'r farchnad.

Mae'n hynod bwysig fod busnesau'n cefnogi'r AGB. Mae'n rhaid inni gael lleisio'n barn am ddyfodol y dref. Dim ond drwy weithio gyda'n gilydd y gallwn wneud gwahaniaeth.

Ymunwch â mi a llawer o'n cyd-fusnesau drwy gefnogi'r cynllun hwn a phleidleisio o blaid AGB Caerfyrddin.

John Nash

Cadeirydd, Grŵp Llywio AGB Caerfyrddin

Cyflwyniad - AGB i Gaerfyrddin

Beth yw Ardal Gwella Busnes (AGB)?

Corff a arweinir ac a gyllidir gan fusnesau yw AGB ac fe gaiff ei ffurfio i wella ardal fasnachol. Mae'n ardal benodol, yn yr achos hwn canol tref Caerfyrddin, lle mae busnesau'n gweithio gyda'i gilydd ac yn buddsoddi mewn gwasanaethau, prosiectau a digwyddiadau arbennig y cytunwyd arnynt.

Penderfynwyd ar faes gorchwyl AGB Caerfyrddin eisoes, a bydd yn cael ei reoli gennych chi, sef y busnesau fydd yn rhan o'r AGB. Wrth i chi reoli'r AGB, gennych chi y mae'r rôl allweddol o ran penderfynu pa brosiectau a mentrau aiff ymlaen i fod yn rhan o dymor 5 mlynedd yr AGB.

Mae'r AGB yn cael ei hariannu gan ardoll o 1.5%, sydd wedi'i seilio ar eich gwerth ardrethol, ac mae'r cytundeb i sefydlu AGB yn cael ei wneud ar sail pleidlais drwy'r post, er bod modd datblygu ffrydiau referniw eraill pan fydd yr AGB yn weithredol.

Ni all AGB gymryd lle gwasanaethau sector cyhoeddus craidd ac mae'n rhaid bod modd i'r rhai sy'n talu'r ardoll elwa yn sgil eu buddsoddiad.

Bydd AGB Caerfyrddin yn cael ei harwain gan Fwrdd yr AGB sy'n cynnwys gwirfoddolwyr sy'n cynrychioli'r sefydliadau a'r sectorau busnes gwahanol yn y dref.

Ym mis Mawrth 2017, roedd tîm yr AGB wedi ymgynghori â chi i gael eich barn am AGB i Gaerfyrddin. Hefyd cynhaliwyd digwyddiad ymgynghori galw heibio ym mis Tachwedd 2017. Ar sail yr ymgynghoriad, mae'r grŵp wedi llunio cynllun busnes pum mlynedd (y ddogfen hon) ar draws y pedwar prif faes gweithgarwch sy'n rhan o addewidion AGB Caerfyrddin. Mae'r cynllun hwn yn seiliedig ar yr hyn yr ydych chi'n credu y dylid ei wneud i wella amodau ar gyfer busnesau yng

nghanol tref Caerfyrddin dros y pum mlynedd nesaf.

Ers sefydlu AGB gyntaf y DU yn 2005, mae tua 270 o Ardaloedd Gwella Busnes bellach wedi'u ffurfio. Ceir deuddeg o Ardaloedd Gwella Busnes yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd, ac maent yn cwmpasu ardaloedd yn Abertawe, Merthyr Tudful, Casnewydd, Bangor, Caernarfon, Bae Colwyn, Castell-nedd, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Pontypridd, Aberystwyth, Caerdydd a Llanelli. Mae'n bryd i Gaerfyrddin ymuno â'r rhestr hir hon o'r Ardaloedd Gwella Busnes llwyddiannus sydd ar waith yng Nghymru a phob cwr o'r DU. Efallai mai'r hyn sy'n dangos llwyddiant y model AGB orau yw cyfradd y bleidlais o'i blaid: 85% adeg y tymor cyntaf, ac yn uwch byth adeg pleidleisiau adnewyddu. Hwn yw'r cyfle am newid. Cefnogwch AGB Caerfyrddin.

Ewch i'n gwefan: <https://www.facebook.com/lovecarmarthen>

Y bleidlais

Mae'n rhaid i chi bleidleisio er mwyn cael dweud eich dweud.

Gofynnir i fusnesau* cymwys yng nghanol tref Caerfyrddin bleidleisio ar dalu ardoll ychwanegol o 1.5% ar ardrethi busnes i gronfa a gaiff ei defnyddio ar gyfer gweithgareddau a mentrau i sicrhau bod canol y dref yn fwy bywiog a llwyddiannus yn economaidd. Dyma'r amser y mae angen i bob busnes a'r sector cyhoeddus ddod ynghyd i sicrhau bod canol y dref yn brysurach ac yn fwy deniadol.

Cefnogir y bleidlais o blaid gan Gyngor Sir Gaerfyrddin, sydd wedi gwneud ei ymrwymiad i AGB Caerfyrddin yn amlwg fel talwr ardrethi o bwys a thrwy gefnogi datblygiad a sefydliad yr AGB.

Bydd gan y busnesau berchnogaeth, yn ogystal â chyfrifoldeb, dros sicrhau bod yr arian yn

**Mae busnesau sydd â gwerth ardrethol o dan £6000 wedi'u heithrio, ond gallent ddewis gwneud cyfraniad gwirfoddol i ddod yn aelod o'r AGB. Bydd gostyngiad o 80% ar gyfer sefydliadau elusennol anfanwerthol.*

cael ei wario'n ddoeth, a bydd yr AGB yn cael ei goruchwyllo gan ei Bwrdd a'i gwerthuso'n annibynnol. Bydd pob ceiniog yn cyfrif. Rydym yn gwybod fod Caerfyrddin yn dref wych lle mae llawer i'w wneud, ei weld, a'i brofi. Rydym hefyd yn gwybod fod llawer o bethau y mae angen eu gwella'n barhaus, yn enwedig yng nghanol y dref. Gall AGB Caerfyrddin sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd.

Pam datblygu AGB i Gaerfyrddin?

Diben yr AGB yw cydweithredu a chydweithio er mwyn gwella. Bydd yr AGB o fudd i'r gymuned leol yn ei chyfanrwydd drwy greu twf economaidd yn yr ardal, creu ymdeimlad cadarnhaol o le a gwella ansawdd bywyd. Yn fwy penodol, bydd o fudd i'r gymuned fusnes drwy gynyddu nifer yr ymwelwyr a gwariant defnyddwyr, lleihau costau, galluogi busnesau i benderfynu a dylanwadu ar yr hyn maent ei eisiau ar gyfer yr ardal, rhoi llais iddynt, a chreu amgylchedd mwy deniadol i gyflogwyr a'u gweithwyr.

Mae gan Gaerfyrddin lawer i'w gynnig fel cyrchfan ac iddo enw da am ei siopau a'i adloniant, a hynny yn ystod y dydd a chyda'r nos. Mae'r modd y mae'r modern yn cyfuno â threftadaeth gref yn arbennig yma. Mae'r arlwy siopa'n gyfuniad o ganolfannau siopa modern â nifer o adwerthwyr cenedlaethol, bwytai, a sinema fawr ar yr un llaw, ac ar y llaw arall cedwir presenoldeb cryf gan adwerthwyr annibynnol, gan gynnwys marchnad dan do sy'n hyrwyddo cynnyrch lleol. Mae'r dref hefyd

yn cynnwys ystod o fusnesau proffesiynol sy'n darparu amrywiaeth o gynnyrch a gwasanaethau pwysig.

Fel y dref farchnad hynaf yng Nghymru, mae Caerfyrddin yn cynnig hanes a diwylliant arbennig, drwy ei chysylltiadau â Myrddin a'i threftadaeth Rufeinig. Mae'r dref yn gartref i Amgueddfa Sir Gaerfyrddin, sy'n llawn trysorau megis y darn olaf o'r Hen Dderwen, esgyrn mamothiaid, aur Rhufeinig ac arteffactau o'r Aifft. Mae ei diwylliant a'i threftadaeth yn golygu bod Caerfyrddin mewn sefyllfa ddelfrydol i ddenu ymwelwyr lleol i'w chanolfan adwerthu, ac i ddenu ymwelwyr o bell ac agos. Bydd AGB Caerfyrddin yn helpu canol y dref i adeiladu ar y cryfderau hyn a thrwy hynny sicrhau dyfodol mwy llewyrchus.

Byddwn yn gweithio gyda'n gilydd i wneud ein gweledigaeth yn bosibl, a thrwy AGB Caerfyrddin dros y pum mlynedd nesaf, bydd canol y dref yn cael buddsoddiad o oddeutu £847,000.

Dychmygwch yr hyn y gallai ein dyfodol fod:

Erbyn 2024 bydd canol tref Caerfyrddin wedi mynd o nerth i nerth, bydd nifer yr ymwelwyr wedi cynyddu, a bydd ein busnesau'n ffynnu.

Os cawn bleidlais o blaid, byddwn yn gwella canol y dref ac yn gwneud gwahaniaeth cadarnhaol i'ch busnes.



Yr hyn y bydd yr AGB yn ei wneud

Ym mis Mawrth 2017, ymgynghorwyd â 190 o fusnesau yng Nghaerfyrddin ynghylch canol y dref a'r rhagolygon ar gyfer AGB. Cafwyd ail gyfle i gynnig sylwadau a gwneud awgrymiadau drwy sesiwn galw heibio ym mis Tachwedd 2017. Ceisiodd yr ymgynghoriad weld a fyddai busnesau'n cefnogi cyflwyno AGB ac roedd yr ymateb yn gadarnhaol dros ben. Lleisiwyd y prif bryderon a'r blaenoriaethau gan y busnesau yn ystod yr

ymgynghoriad, a oedd yn cynnwys ymchwilio i'r posibiladau o ran lleihau problemau parcio, a chynyddu nifer yr ymwelwyr drwy ddigwyddiadau, hyrwyddo a gwell arwyddion.

Felly, mae'r nodau, yr addewidion a'r syniadau prosiect canlynol wedi'u datblygu i fynd i'r afael â'r materion hynny ac i wneud gwelliannau sy'n diwallu'r anghenion a nodwyd gan y gymuned fusnes.

Nod yr AGB

Ein nod yw sicrhau bod Caerfyrddin yn dref fywiog a llewyrchus lle mae busnesau'n ffynnu a lle mae nifer yr ymwelwyr yn cynyddu drwy:

- **Greu partneriaethau lleol cryf sy'n cyflawni pethau ac yn rhoi llais i fusnesau'r AGB;**
- **Gwella'r cyfleoedd economaidd a'r amgylchedd masnachu ar gyfer busnesau'r AGB; a**
- **Cynyddu faint o gwsmeriaid sy'n cael eu denu i'r AGB, am faint o amser maen nhw'n oedi, faint maen nhw'n gwario yn ogystal â'u teyrngarwch i'r busnesau.**

Mae'r AGB yn gwneud pedwar addewid o ran cyflawni'r uchod:

1. Gwneud busnesau'n fwy proffidiol:

Helpu busnesau yr AGB i ddod hyd yn oed yn fwy llwyddiannus drwy eu gwneud yn fwy proffidiol. Bydd yr AGB yn helpu busnesau i leihau eu costau net drwy, er enghraifft, raglen bwrcasu gyfunol / canolog, a bydd yn rhoi ystod o gynlluniau a mentrau ar waith i wella perfformiad busnes, a thrwy hynny, gynyddu trosiant a phroffidioldeb.



2. Gwella proffil y dref:

Hyrwyddo Caerfyrddin fel lle gwych i ymweld ag ef o ran treftadaeth a diwylliant, adloniant, siopa a dysgu. Mae hwn yn gyfle gwych i'r gymuned fusnes ddylanwadu'n uniongyrchol ar sut y mae'r dref yn cael ei hyrwyddo. Bydd yr AGB hefyd yn sicrhau bod y rheiny sy'n ymweld â chanol y dref ac yn treulio amser yno yn cael "croeso cynnes".



3. Gwella'r profiad parcio:

Bydd yr AGB yn ymdrechu i wella'r profiad parcio i staff a chwsmeriaid y busnesau fydd yn rhan o'r AGB, drwy leihau costau i'n staff a rhoi cymhelliant i gwsmeriaid ymweld yn amlach a gwario mwy.



4. Gwella golwg y dref:

Mae cydberthynas agos rhwng yr addewid hwn a'r lleill ac mae wedi'i anelu at yr un nod sef cynyddu nifer yr ymwelwyr a gwneud y dref yn fwy bywiog. Bydd yn gwneud y dref yn lle hyd yn oed gwell i fyw a gweithio ynddo, yn helpu i ysgogi mwy o ymwelwyr, ac yn cael busnesau i fuddsoddi yn y dref.

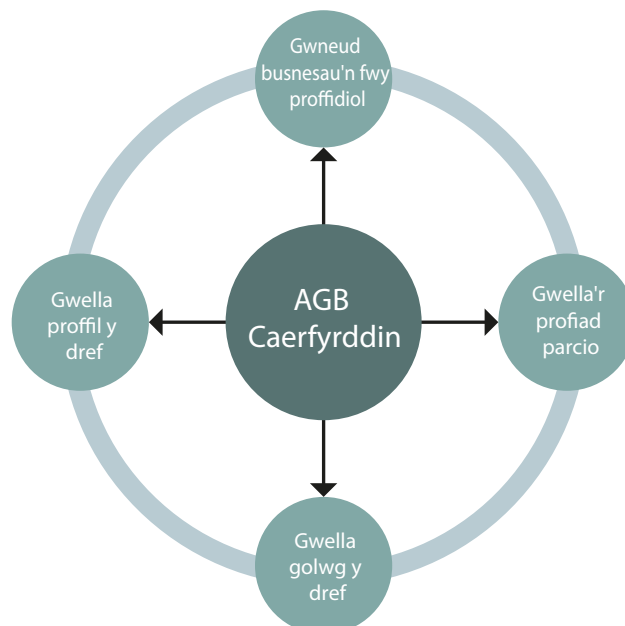


Mae'r AGB yn bwriadu canolbwyntio ar y pedwar maes gweithgarwch hyn. Fodd bynnag, bydd cyfran o'r gyllideb yn cael ei neilltuo'n benodol ar gyfer cefnogi prosiectau sy'n cael eu datblygu a'u darparu gan sefydliadau lleol eraill, ac sydd â'r un nodau ac amcanion â'r AGB.

Bydd Rheolwr AGB yn cael ei gyflogi, a hynny'n rhan-amser i ddechrau, er mwyn cyflawni gweithgareddau'r AGB. Rheolwr yr AGB fydd y pwynt cyswllt allweddol i aelod-fusnesau'r AGB. Bydd gan yr ymgeisydd llwyddiannus gymhelliant cryf a bydd digon o fentergarwch yn perthyn iddo/

iddi. Yn ogystal, bydd yn meddu ar sgiliau o ran cysylltiadau cyhoeddus, y cyfryngau cymdeithasol, a rheoli perthnasoedd.

Bydd yr AGB yn llunio cynllun gweithredu manwl ac iddo gerrig milltir a monitro chwarterol, ynghyd â gwerthusiad blynyddol o'r cynnydd tuag at ei dargedau. Wedi i'r AGB gael ei sefydlu, bydd y sawl sy'n aelod ohoni'n gallu dylanwadu ar yr hyn y bydd yr AGB yn canolbwyntio arno er mwyn darparu prosiectau o dan y themâu hyn sy'n diwallu orau anghenion newidiol canol y dref.



Addewid 1: Gwneud busnesau'n fwy proffidiol



Buddsoddiad AGB arfaethedig dros 5 mlynedd: o leiaf £200,000

Mae'r AGB yn cydnabod y gellid gwneud mwy drwy gydweithredu a dysgu rhagor er mwyn gwella proffidioldeb ein busnesau. Drwy weledigaeth gadarnhaol ar gyfer y dyfodol byddwn yn ymdrechu tuag at lwyddiant a rennir. O dan yr addewid hwn, bydd yr AGB yn darparu gwerth gwydych am yr arian i'w aelodau drwy leihau costau net busnesau a chymryd camau er mwyn hybu rhagor o ymwelwyr a gwariant.

Bydd yr AGB yn...

Datblygu a darparu cynllun pwrkasu cyfunol a chanolog

Bydd gwasanaeth i reoli pwrkasu gwasanaethau casglu gwastraff ac ailgylchu yn gyfunol ac yn ganolog i aelodau'r AGB yn helpu i leihau costau busnes. Hefyd gallai'r cynllun hwn gynnwys cynnyrch a gwasanaethau allweddol eraill a nodwyd gan aelod-fusnesau'r AGB megis cyfleustodau a diogelwch. Gan weithredu fel corff cyfunol, bydd aelodau'r AGB yn elwa ar arbedion maint ac yn defnyddio eu grym prynu fel grŵp i leihau costau net megis casglu gwastraff blyneddol a biliau trydan, nwy a ffôn. Gall yr AGB gyd-drafod â darparwyr gwastraff masnach, ailgylchu a darparwyr eraill er mwyn ceisio lleihau costau'r contractau hyn, gan gynnal gwasanaeth o safon ac arbed amser i chi ar yr un pryd.

Ariannu hyfforddiant pwrpasol i'r aelod-fusnesau

Bydd yr AGB yn helpu i gynyddu trosiant a phroffidioldeb ein haelodau drwy ariannu'r



hyfforddiant sydd o'r diddordeb/defnydd mwyaf i'n haelodau. Yn hytrach na phenderfynu ar ba fath o hyfforddiant dylid ei ariannu a'i ddarparu, bydd hwn yn wasanaeth pwrpasol dan arweiniad aelodau'r AGB, a fydd yn penderfynu beth sydd ei angen arnynt i wella eu busnes, boed yn hyfforddiant ynghylch gwerthiannau a gwasanaeth cwsmeriaid, marchnata a chyfryngau cwsmeriaid, iechyd a diogelwch, ymwybyddiaeth o droseddau, SIA ac ati.

Cyflawni Cynllun Siopwr Dirgel

Bydd yr AGB yn ariannu ac yn rheoli cynllun siopwr dirgel yn yr AGB, ac yn dilyn hynny bydd adborth a fydd yn galluogi busnesau i wella eu gwasanaeth os oes angen. Mae'r cynllun hwn wedi cael ei gyflawni'n llwyddiannus mewn Ardaloedd Gwella Busnes eraill fel Abertawe, gan alluogi busnesau i asesu eu gwasanaeth cwsmeriaid yn gyfrinachol a sicrhau ei fod mor effeithiol â phosibl. Fel yr amlinellwyd uchod, wedyn gellir ariannu hyfforddiant i alluogi busnesau i ymateb i ganfyddiadau'r broses siopwr dirgel.

Ymchwilio i'r potensial i gael Cynllun Cerdyn Teyrngarwch

Byddwn yn ymchwilio i gyflwyno cerdyn teyrngarwch i wobrwyo a rhoi cynigion arbennig i bobl leol a staff. Byddai hyn yn cynnwys amryw o gynigion i gymell pobl i wario eu harian yn lleol ac i helpu i sicrhau bod cwsmeriaid yn dychwelyd dro ar ôl tro. Fel rhan o'r fenter hon, byddem yn gweithio gyda'r Cyngor a'r Brifysgol, sydd eisoes yn cydweithio i ddatblygu cynllun teyrngarwch / talebau lleol ar gyfer myfyrwyr PCYDDS.

Addewid 2: Gwella proffil y dref



Buddsoddiad AGB arfaethedig dros 5 mlynedd: o leiaf £200,000

Mae hwn yn gyfle gwyh i'r gymuned fusnes ddylanwadu'n uniongyrchol ar sut y gall yr adnoddau sydd ar gael i hyrwyddo Caerfyrddin a'i busnesau gael eu defnyddio orau er mwyn codi proffil y dref cymaint â phosibl. Gall yr AGB hefyd ariannu a chyflawni gweithgareddau penodol i hyrwyddo canol y dref a'i busnesau.

Bydd gweithgareddau o dan yr addewid hwn yn codi proffil y dref er mwyn denu rhagor o ymwelwyr, ac yn darparu llwyfan marchnata i godi proffil busnesau'n uniongyrchol.

Dyma un o'r negeseuon allweddol a roesoch inni yn yr arolwg ymgynghori â busnesau ym mis Mawrth 2017 a'r digwyddiad ym mis Tachwedd 2017.

Dywedsoch y dylai'r AGB anelu at gynyddu nifer yr ymwelwyr yn y dref drwy...

- gyfeirio ymwelwyr o amgylch y dref;
- gwneud mwy o ran marchnata a hyrwyddo digwyddiadau, yn ogystal â'r dref yn gyffredinol

Felly, bydd yr AGB yn...

Llobio i ddylanwadu ar frandio ac arwyddion yng nghanol y dref a'u gwella

Bydd yr AGB yn creu grŵp llobio pwerus i gynrychioli ei haelod-fusnesau mewn

trafodaethau ynghylch brandio Caerfyrddin a'r arwyddion i'r dref ac oddi mewn iddi. I hyrwyddo'r gymuned fusnes yng Nghaerfyrddin, bydd yr AGB newydd yn ceisio cydgysylltu gweithgareddau marchnata er mwyn codi proffil Caerfyrddin yn lleol a thu hwnt drwy weithio gyda phartneriaid lleol a rhanbarthol. Lle y bo'n bosibl, bydd yr AGB yn ceisio cefnogi ac ychwanegu gwerth at weithgareddau marchnata presennol, a darparu mentrau newydd drwy weithio gyda phartneriaid lleol a rhanbarthol. Gallai hyn gynnwys creu ymgyrchoedd marchnata a fydd yn hyrwyddo'r cwbl oll sydd gan y dref i'w gynnig mewn modd cydlynol, gan gynnwys diwylliant, treftadaeth, hamdden, siopau annibynnol, a'r arlwy masnachol ehangach.

Mewn perthynas ag arwyddion, ymhlith y syniadau cychwynnol y mae llobio i godi arwyddion mewn lleoedd strategol allweddol ar hyd y ffordd osgoi a'r prif ffyrdd i sicrhau bod pobl yn gwybod am ganol y dref ac yn gallu canfod eu ffordd yno'n hawdd. Bydd yr AGB hefyd yn gwella'r arwyddion sydd yn y dref, gan fod darparu arwyddion o safon, sydd wedi'u diweddarau, yn hollbwysig o ran denu pobl i'r lleoliad a'u helpu i ymchwilio i'r hyn sydd ar gael. Mae arwyddion a gwybodaeth yn effeithio ar ddefnydd pawb o'r dref. Bydd yr AGB yn adnewyddu ac yn gwella'r arwyddion a'r ddarpariaeth canfod y ffordd er mwyn sicrhau bod pobl yn gyfarwydd â'r dref ac yn gwybod ble mae pethau, boed yn lonydd lle mae siopau annibynnol, swyddfeydd, neu brif asedau'r dref o

Addewid 2: *parhad...*

Datblygu menter “Croeso Cynnes”

Bydd menter “Croeso Cynnes” yr AGB, sy'n gysylltiedig â'r cynllun siopwr dirgel fel a ddisgrifir yn yr addewid cyntaf, yn gwella ac yn hyrwyddo enw da'r dref fel man sy'n sicrhau profiad o safon i gwsmeriaid ac ymwelwyr. Mae Caerfyrddin yn dref groesawgar iawn eisoes a bydd y fenter hon yn ein galluogi i fod hyd yn oed yn fwy croesawgar.

O dan y fenter hon bydd yr AGB yn datblygu ac yn rheoli cynllun i wella'r gwasanaeth i gwsmeriaid ac i ymwelwyr, ynghyd â'r profiad a gynigir yn yr AGB, gan gynnwys mentora a phroses effeithiol o ran atgyfeirio cwsmeriaid. Bydd ein mentoriaid “Croeso Cynnes” yn ymweld ag aelodau'r AGB i roi cyngor a gwybodaeth i unrhyw fusnesau sy'n ceisio hynny, yn ogystal â chynghorion arfer gorau i gwsmeriaid.

Bydd y fenter hon hefyd yn cynnwys cynllun cwrdd-a-chyfarch lle byddwn yn ariannu ac yn rheoli 'Llysgenhadon Canol Tref'. Byddant yn gyfrifol am groesawu'r bobl i'r dref a gweithredu fel hyrwyddwyr twristiaeth.

Datblygu gwefan AGB â chyfeiriadur busnes lleol

Byddwn yn sefydlu gwefan i hyrwyddo canol tref Caerfyrddin ac aelod-fusnesau unigol o'r AGB, gan gynnwys micro-safleoedd ar gyfer busnesau unigol. Bydd yn cynnwys gwybodaeth am fusnesau lleol ac yn darparu cyfeiriadur ar gyfer siopau, cyfleusterau hamdden a gwasanaethau, cynigion a thalebau,

hysbysfwrdd swyddi gwag, newyddion a rhestrau o ddigwyddiadau.

Bydd adran i'r aelodau, yn cynnwys hysbysfwrdd a fforwm i fusnesau'r AGB. Bydd yr adran i'r aelodau yn galluogi'r holl fusnesau i drafod a chodi materion, a bydd rheolwr yr AGB yn cadw golwg ar y fforwm, gan ymateb i unrhyw gwestiynau, awgrymiadau, a phroblemau. Ceisir sicrhau bod y wybodaeth ar wefan AGB yn cyrraedd cynifer o bobl â phosibl drwy ddefnyddio'r cyfryngau cymdeithasol megis Facebook, Twitter ac Instagram.

Cefnogi digwyddiadau a gwyliau o safon

Bydd yr AGB yn cefnogi ac yn gwella'r digwyddiadau presennol ac yn mwyhau'r buddiannau ar gyfer canol y dref, yn ogystal ag ymchwilio i gyfleoedd i ddatblygu digwyddiadau newydd o safon mewn partneriaeth â grwpiau cymunedol lleol ac eraill. Nod hyn yw cynyddu nifer yr ymwelwyr â'r AGB yn y dydd a'r nos a thrwy gydol y flwyddyn. Bydd yn ymgysylltu â phreswylwyr ac ymwelwyr, bywiogi'r strydoedd ac annog pawb i dreulio amser yng nghanol y dref.

Bydd yr AGB yn ceisio marchnata'r digwyddiadau a'r gwyliau mewn modd mwy cydgysylltiedig, a byddant i gyd yn cael eu cynnwys a'u marchnata ar wefan AGB. Byddwn hefyd yn ystyried y posibilrwydd o brynu offer ac adnoddau y gallai trefnwyr digwyddiadau eu defnyddio.



Addewid 3: Gwella'r profiad parcio



Buddsoddiad AGB arfaethedig dros 5 mlynedd: o leiaf £40,000

Dangosodd yr arolwg ymgynghori â busnesau ym mis Mawrth 2017 yn glir y dylai lleihau problemau parcio yng nghanol y dref fod yn un o brif flaenoriaethau'r AGB. Mae'r profiad parcio a gaiff pobl yn hollbwysig o ran pa fath o argraff y mae'r dref yn ei chreu arnynt. Bydd yr AGB yn gweithio i wella'r profiad hwnnw yng Nghaerfyrddin drwy weithio gyda Chyngor Sir Caerfyrddin a darparwyr parcio eraill i wasanaethu fel cyswllt â busnesau a chwsmeriaid. Mae llais cryf gan yr AGB o ran mynd i'r afael â'r pryderon hyn.

Bydd yr AGB yn...

Lobio i wella'r profiad parcio yng nghanol y dref

Bydd yr AGB yn gweithredu fel grŵp lobio sy'n cynrychioli busnesau'r AGB mewn trafodaethau ynghylch parcio ceir yng nghanol y dref. Byddwn yn edrych i weithio gyda darparwyr parcio i ymchwilio i'r posibilrwydd o gynnig cymhellion a chynigion ar gyfer digwyddiadau, a hynny ar adegau allweddol o'r flwyddyn fasnachu ac ar adegau penodol o'r wythnos. Byddwn hefyd yn

gweithio gyda phartneriaid i ystyried datblygiadau megis dewisiadau talu drwy gerdyn. Bydd gan AGB Caerfyrddin Reolwr AGB amlwg a brwd a fydd yn gweithredu ar ran aelodau'r AGB ac yn gweithredu fel cyswllt canol y dref; rhywbeth fydd yn sicrhau bod anghenion parcio busnesau ac ymwelwyr yn cael eu diwallu.

Ystyried opsiynau ar gyfer ad-daliad parcio neu gynllun teyrngarwch

Bydd yr AGB yn ystyried opsiynau ar gyfer cyflwyno cynllun parcio a fyddai'n annog ymwelwyr i ddychwelyd yn amlach. Un o'r syniadau cychwynol yw datblygu cynllun a fyddai'n gwobrwyo teyrngarwch drwy gyflwyno tocynnau parcio lle gellir cael yr arian yn ôl drwy wario mewn siop sy'n aelod o'r AGB.

Cyd-drafod disgownt i staff aelodau'r AGB

Byddai'r AGB yn ceisio datblygu Tocynnau Parcio i'r Staff a'r Busnesau lle byddai staff yn cael disgownt wrth ddefnyddio meysydd parcio canol y dref. O dan y cynllun hwn, byddai pob busnes sy'n talu'r ardoll AGB yn gymwys i gael tocyn parcio blynyddol am bris gostyngol.

Addewid 3: *parhad*

Gwell mapiau ac arwyddion mewn meysydd parcio

Bydd yr AGB yn gweithio gyda'n partneriaid i ddatblygu mapiau cyfredol o ansawdd da, i'w gosod mewn meysydd parcio o amgylch y dref fel ffordd o groesawu ymwelwyr i'r dref. Bydd rhifynnau ar-lein a rhifynnau argraffedig yn cael eu cynhyrchu. Yn gysylltiedig â hyn, fel y nodwyd o dan Addewid 2, bydd yr AGB yn gweithio hefyd i wella arwyddion yn y dref gan fod darparu arwyddion cyfredol o ansawdd da yn hanfodol i gael pobl i'r lleoliad ac i'w helpu i ymchwilio i'r hyn sydd ar gael.



Datblygu cynllun 'cwrdd-a-chyfarch' (sy'n gysylltiedig ag Addewid 2)

Mae'r addewid hwn hefyd yn cynnwys rhai o'r themâu a ddisgrifir yn yr ail addewid, gan gynnwys ariannu a rheoli llysgennad canol tref / cynllun cwrdd-a- chyfarch fel rhan o fenter "croeso cynnes". Bydd y Llysgenhadon hyn mewn meysydd parcio yng nghanol y dref ar ddyddiadau ac amserau allweddol (yn cynnwys pan fydd bysiau'n cyrraedd), er mwyn sicrhau bod yr argraff gyntaf gaiff ymwelwyr yn dda a'u bod yn cael gwybod beth sydd gan Gaerfyrddin i'w gynnig. Hefyd bydd yr AGB yn ceisio datblygu a gosod mapiau (yn gysylltiedig â fersiynau ar-lein/ffonau symudol) mewn meysydd parcio yng nghanol y dref.



Addewid 4: Gwella golwg y dref



Buddsoddiad AGB arfaethedig dros 5 mlynedd: o leiaf £40,000

Roedd gwella argraffiadau cyntaf siopwyr, ymwelwyr a thrigolion o Gaerfyrddin yn thema gyffredin a godwyd yn yr ymgynghori â busnesau, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â mynd i'r afael â blaenau siopau / unedau gwag. Gan fod dewisiadau eraill megis McArthurGlen, Abertawe a Chaerdydd yn gyrchfannau poblogaidd i siopwyr, mae angen i Gaerfyrddin gystadlu â threfi a dinasoedd o'r fath er mwyn denu siopwyr ac ymwelwyr o bob cwr o dde Cymru.

Bydd yr AGB yn:

Ariannu gwaith glanhau newydd ac ychwanegol yng nghanol y dref

Bydd yr AGB yn gweithio i wella'r amgylchedd ffisegol, gan helpu i wneud canol y dref yn lle glanach. Byddwn yn sefydlu gwasanaeth 'Tasgmon' a Thîm Glanhau ymateb cyflym a fydd yn canolbwyntio ar fonitro sut y caiff canol y dref ei reoli a'i lanhau. Bydd y gwasanaeth cynnal a chadw hwn yn ein galluogi i ymateb yn gyflym i faterion yn yr AGB (e.e. glanhau, mân atgyweiriadau). Y nod yw sicrhau bod y gwaith o lanhau'r strydoedd yn digwydd hyd at safon dderbyniol, a bod pob parti yn cytuno ar faterion megis ble mae gosod biniau. Bydd yr AGB yn rhoi bod i lanhau strydoedd yn fwy effeithiol na'r hyn sy'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd e.e. mwy o lanhau a glanhau'n fwy rheolaidd, yn ogystal â mentrau glanhau dwfn.

Mae'n bwysig nodi y bydd yr AGB yn datblygu Cytundeb Sylfaenol gyda Chyngor Sir Caerfyrddin i sicrhau bod gweithgareddau'r AGB yn ychwanegol at wasanaethau presennol, nad oes hawl gan weithgareddau'r AGB eu disodli.

Defnyddio siopau gwag / blaenau siopau

Bydd yr AGB yn ceisio gwella blaenau siopau mewn safleoedd gwag, gan gynnwys gosod finyl / graffeg marchnata deniadol ar ffenestri siopau gwag. Byddai hyn yn manteisio ar yr amrywiaeth o safleoedd treftadaeth o'r radd flaenaf yn ardal Caerfyrddin. Bydd y ffenestri hefyd yn cynnwys hysbysiad "gwylwch y gofod hwn" i roi sicrwydd i bobl a busnesau fod cynlluniau ar y gweill ar gyfer y safle.

Byddwn hefyd yn edrych ar y potensial o ran sefydlu a chefnogi 'siopau gwib' mewn safleoedd gwag yn yr AGB fel modd o ddefnyddio safleoedd gwag a helpu i ddatblygu busnesau newydd yn yr AGB. Gallai hyn gynnwys cyfnod prawf o tua thri mis, a fyddai'n galluogi busnesau i asesu dichonoldeb defnyddio'r safleoedd hyn yn fwy parhaol. Hyrwyddir cyfleoedd i 'siopau gwib' a'r safleoedd gwag sydd ar gael ar wefan yr AGB.

Ardal yr AGB

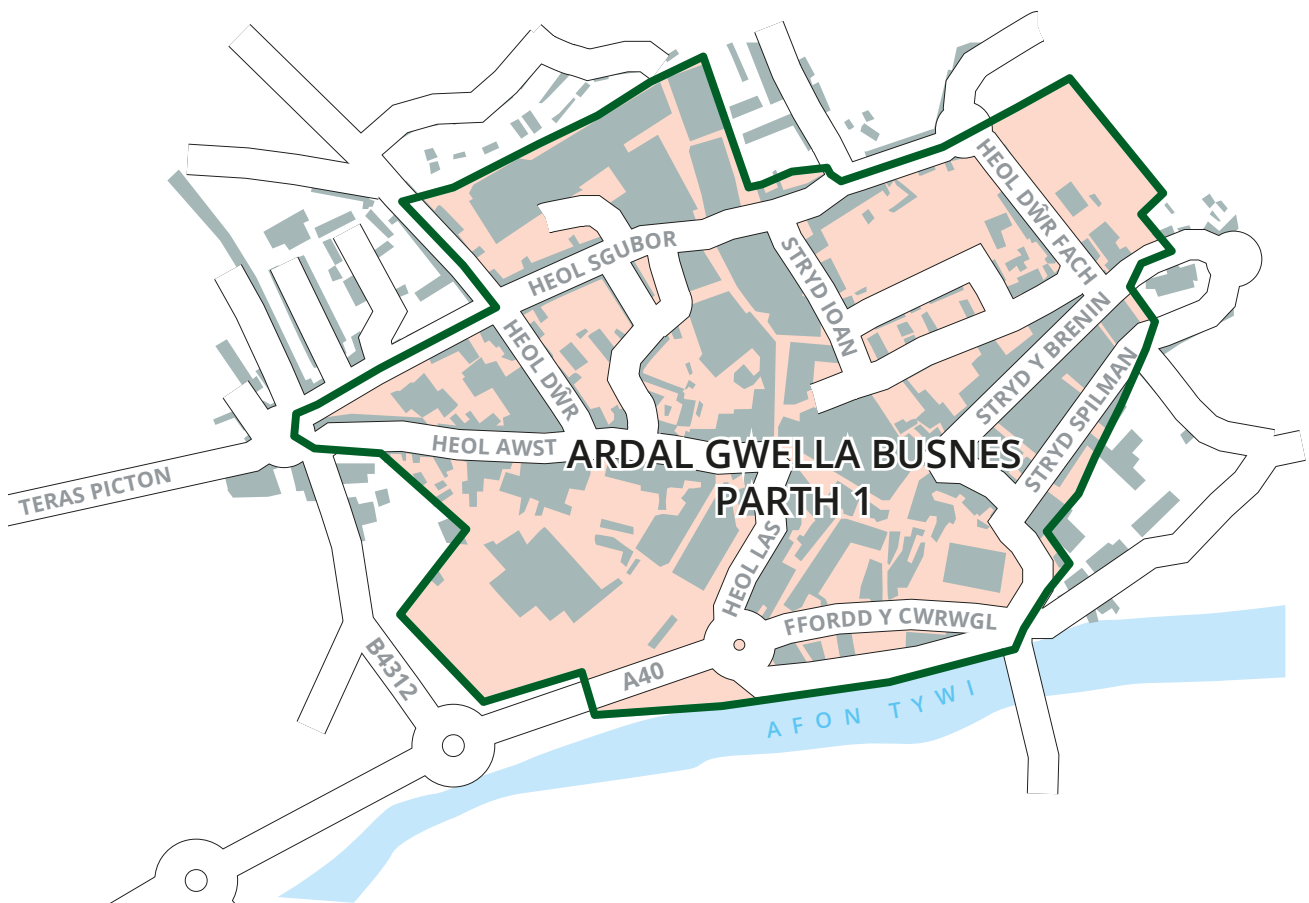
Mae'r map isod yn dangos y ffin arfaethedig ar gyfer ardal AGB Caerfyrddin.

Mae'r strydoedd canlynol wedi'u cynnwys yn yr AGB arfaethedig:

Heol y Sgubor
Heol Las
Heol y Bont
Llys Gwalia
Maes Cambria
Ffordd Cambria
Rhiw'r Castell
Heol y Capel
Lôn y Llan
Heol y Llan
Ffordd y Cwrwg
Porth Tywyll
Teras Francis
Parc y Brodyr Llwyd
Heol y Ffwrnais
Clos Mawr

Heol y Neuadd
Lôn Jackson
Heol Ioan
Heol y Brenin
Heol Awst
Heol Fach y Bont
Heol Dŵr Fach
Heol Mansel
Ffordd y Farchnad
Neuadd y Farchnad
Heol Myrddin
Maes Myrddin
Heol y Felin
Heol Morley
Maes Nott
Heol yr Hen Orsaf

Heol y Berllan
Heol y Rhodfa
Heol y Cei
Heol y Frenhines
Heol Goch
Heol Spilman
Heol y Gwyddau
Heol y Santes Fair
Heol San Pedr
Rhodfa'r Santes Catrin
Y Mwnt
Y Cei
Y Farchnad
Heol Dŵr
Rhes Wood



Cyllideb AGB arfaethedig

Bydd AGB Caerfyrddin yn darparu gwerth eithriadol am arian i'w aelodau.

Bydd yr AGB yn cael ei hariannu drwy ardoll ychwanegol, flynyddol o 1.5% o werth ardrethol y busnes, er bod modd ymchwilio i ffynonellau incwm ychwanegol pan fydd yr AGB ar waith.

Bydd yr ardoll yn berthnasol i'r holl dalwyr ardrethi busnes â gwerth ardrethol o dros £6,000. Fodd bynnag, bydd gostyngiad o 80% ar gyfer sefydliadau elusennol anfanwerthol.

Drwy ei hardoll byddai AGB Caerfyrddin yn cynhyrchu incwm o tua £165,000 y flwyddyn, neu £847,000 * dros gyfnod pum mlynedd yr AGB i'w fuddsoddi mewn prosiectau a gwasanaethau er budd busnesau.

*Mae'r cynnig hwn yn cwmpasu cyfnod o 5 mlynedd, sy'n golygu bod angen ystyried chwyddiant; mae cyfradd chwyddiant o 2% y flwyddyn wedi'i chynnwys yn y cyfrifiadau.

Hwn yw'r cyllid lleiaf posibl sy'n debygol o fod ar gael i'r AGB. Byddwn hefyd yn ceisio manteisio ar gyllid ychwanegol o ffynonellau eraill gan gynnwys: sicrhau arian grant a nawdd, cyfraniadau gwirfoddol gan fusnesau y tu allan i'r ffin a landlordiaid. Er eu bod yn cael eu heithrio rhag talu'r ardoll, gall busnesau â gwerth ardrethol is na £6,000 gyfrannu'n wirfoddol er mwyn bod yn aelodau gwirfoddol o'r AGB ac elwa ar y manteision sydd ynghlwm wrth fod yn aelod.

Fel talwr ardoll, bydd yn ofynnol i chi dalu un taliad blynyddol tuag at yr AGB am bum mlynedd. Bydd y taliad blynyddol hwn yn 1.5% o werth ardrethol eich eiddo unigol (hereditament). Felly, os ydych yn berchen busnes sydd â gwerth ardrethol o £10,000 byddwch yn talu £150 y flwyddyn i'r AGB i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau a nodir yn y ddogfen hon. Cofiwch, byddai chwyddiant o 2% y flwyddyn yn berthnasol.

Ardrethi Busnes 2017/18*	Gwerth Ardrethol	Cost ardoll y flwyddyn**	Cost ardoll y diwrnod
£5,140	£10,000	£150	41p
£25,700	£50,000	£750	£2.05
£51,400	£100,000	£1,500	£4.11
£102,800	£200,000	£3,000	£8.22

* ar gyfer 2018/19 mae'r lluosydd yn £0.514

** 1.5% o'r gwerth ardrethol

Mae'r ardoll yn fuddsoddiad - ar gyfer busnes sydd â gwerth ardrethol o £10,000 mae'n fuddsoddiad o 41c y dydd yn unig. Yn gyfnewid am y buddsoddiad hwnnw, bydd busnesau yn elwa ar y prosiectau na fydddech yn eu cael heb

yr AGB. Bydd cwmni'r AGB yn atebol am yr holl arian a dderbynnir neu a gynhyrchir, ac yn gallu dweud wrth fusnesau beth maent yn ei gael am eu buddsoddiad.

Cyllideb ddrafft yw hon. Er hwylustod, mae cyfanswm y gwariant fesul addewid wedi'i ddyrannu'n gydradd ar draws y 5 mlynedd. Gallai'r dyraniadau amrywio o flwyddyn i flwyddyn, yn

dibynnu ar y cynnydd a blaenoriaethau'r Bwrdd, ond cedwir at y gyllideb a ddyrannwyd dros y 5 mlynedd y bydd y cynllun busnes hwn ar waith.

		Blwyddyn 1 (£)	Blwyddyn 2 (£)	Blwyddyn 3 (£)	Blwyddyn 4 (£)	Blwyddyn 5 (£)	Cyfanswm (£)
Incwm: Ardoll o 1.5%*		162,803	166,059	169,380	172,768	176,223	847,234
Gwariant	%						
Addewid 1: gwneud busnesau'n fwy proffidiol	25	40,701	41,515	42,345	43,192	44,056	211,808
Addewid 2: gwella proffil y dref	25	40,701	41,515	42,345	43,192	44,056	211,808
Addewid 3: gwella'r profiad parcio	5	8,140	8,303	8,469	8,638	8,811	42,362
Addewid 4: gwella golwg y dref	5	8,140	8,303	8,469	8,638	8,811	42,362
Cymorth i brosiectau eraill	5	8,140	8,303	8,469	8,638	8,811	42,362
Costau rheolwr AGB	20	32,561	33,212	33,876	34,554	35,245	169,447
Costau gweinyddol a gorbenion	5	8,140	8,303	8,469	8,638	8,811	42,362
Trefniadau wrth gefn, drwgddyled, gwarged	10	16,280	16,606	16,938	17,277	17,622	84,723
Cyfanswm y Gwariant	100	162,803	166,059	169,380	172,768	176,223	847,234

* casglu - 95%, isafswm trothwy - £6,000, chwyddiant y flwyddyn - 2%

Cyfradd casglu ardoll a chyllideb wrth gefn arfaethedig

Y cyngor gan Gonsortiw Adwerthwyr Prydain yw y dylid cyllidebu ar sail cyfradd gasglu o 95% â chyllideb wrth gefn nad yw'n llai na 5% ar bob eitem o wariant. Am y rheswm hwn, mae incwm

ardoll yr AGB yn y tabl uchod wedi'i seilio ar gyfradd casglu ardoll o 95%. Mae trefniadau wrth gefn ar gyfer drwgddyled neu warged wedi'u cynnwys ar gyfradd o 10%, yn unol ag argymhelliad Cymdeithas Rheoli Canol y Dref.

Rheoli a Llywodraethu'r AGB

Mae'r gwaith o ddatblygu ein AGB yng Nghaerfyrddin wedi cael ei arwain hyd yn hyn gan grŵp brwdfrydig o fusnesau a chynrychiolwyr lleol. Os pleidleisir o blaid yr AGB, mae'r unigolion hyn wedi cytuno i ofalu am gwmni'r AGB newydd hyd nes y cyfarfod cyffredinol blynyddol cyntaf, pryd y caiff Cyfarwyddwyr eu hethol.

Bydd pob busnes â gwerth ardrethol o £6,000 neu'n uwch yn gymwys i fod yn aelodau o'r AGB ac yn gallu sefyll i fod yn gyfarwyddwr. Gall y busnesau hynny sydd o fewn terfynau'r AGB, ond sydd â gwerth ardrethol is wneud cyfraniad gwirfoddol (nid oes penderfyniad wedi cael ei wneud hyd yn hyn ar y swm) bob blwyddyn er mwyn bod yn aelodau. Byddwn yn sefydlu cwmni cyfyngedig drwy warant i redeg yr AGB, er nad oes penderfyniad terfynol wedi'i wneud ynghylch strwythur y cwmni hwnnw hyd yn hyn.

Bydd **cyfarwyddwyr y Bwrdd** yn gwasanaethu'n wirfoddol. Bydd gan bawb sy'n talu ardoll yr AGB hawl i fod yn aelodau o'r cwmni a gallant sefyll i fod yn aelodau etholedig o Fwrdd yr AGB yn ei chyfarfod cyffredinol blynyddol. Gofynnir i bawb sy'n talu'r ardoll wneud cais am gael bod yn aelod o gwmni'r AGB.

Bydd gan bawb sy'n talu'r ardoll **randdaliad yng nghwmni'r AGB**, a gallant ddal cwmni'r AGB i gyfrif. Bydd yr ardoll yn cael ei chasglu gan Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ar ran yr AGB.

Bydd **Rheolwr AGB** yn cael ei gyflogi, a hynny'n rhan-amser i ddechrau, er mwyn darparu gweithgareddau'r AGB. Rheolwr yr AGB fydd y pwynt cyswllt allweddol i aelod-fusnesau'r AGB. Bydd gan yr ymgeisydd llwyddiannus gymhelliant cryf a bydd digon o fentergarwch yn perthyn iddo/iddi. Yn ogystal, bydd yn meddu ar sgiliau o ran

cysylltiadau cyhoeddus, y cyfryngau cymdeithasol, a rheoli perthnasoedd.

Newidiadau i Drefniadau'r AGB

Dim ond mân newidiadau y gellir eu gwneud i drefniadau'r AGB heb geisio cymeradwyaeth ffurfiol gan aelodau'r AGB. Ni ellir gwneud diwygiadau sy'n newid y canlynol heb bleidlais ddiwygio:

- Ardal ddaearyddol yr AGB
- Ardoll yr AGB yn y fath fodd a fyddai'n:
 - ogolygu bod yn rhaid i rywun dalu'r ardoll, er nad oedd yn rhaid iddo/iddi ei thalu o'r blaen; neu'n
 - ynyddu ardoll yr AGB i unrhyw un ac eithrio at ddibenion chwyddiant, fel y nodwyd yn y ddogfen hon.

Lle bo modd newid trefniadau'r AGB heb bleidlais ddiwygio, caiff y diwygiad ei wneud drwy benderfyniad gan Fwrdd llawn AGB Caerfyrddin.

Mesur Perfformiad

Bydd AGB Caerfyrddin yn dryloyw ac yn atebol i'w haelodau. Bydd Rheolwr yr AGB, ar y cyd â'r bwrdd rheoli, yn datblygu fframwaith monitro a gwerthuso â thargedau blynyddol yn erbyn dangosyddion perfformiad allweddol. Bydd perfformiad yn erbyn y targedau hyn ac effaith rhaglen wella yr AGB yn cael eu monitro'n rheolaidd a bydd adroddiadau ynghylch cynnydd yn cael eu rhoi i dalwyr yr ardoll ac i'r gymuned fusnes ehangach. Bydd ffocws clir ar reoli perfformiad, effeithiau gweledol a'r gallu i ddangos gwerth rhagorol am arian.

Rheolau'r bleidlais

Bydd gan bob talwr ardrethi busnes bleidlais, ar yr amod ei fod ar y Rhestr Ardrethi Annomestig pan fydd Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin yn cyhoeddi'r hysbysiad ynghylch y bleidlais, a'i fod o fewn terfyn yr AGB â gwerth ardrethol o £6,000 neu fwy.

- Bydd pecyn pleidleisio yn cael ei anfon i gyfeiriad yr hereditament (eiddo).
- Rhaid dychwelyd pob pleidlais erbyn y dyddiad a bennir.
- Er mwyn i'r AGB gael ei gwireddu, mae'n rhaid bodloni dau amod:
 - Rhaid i fwy na 50% o'r busnesau sy'n pleidleisio fod o blaid.
 - Rhaid i gyfanswm gwerthoedd ardrethol y pleidleisiau o blaid gynrychioli mwy na 50% cyfanswm gwerth ardrethol yr holl bleidleisiau a fwriwyd.
- O dan y ddeddfwriaeth, os bodlonir yr amodau hyn, daw'r ardoll o 1.5% yn orfodol i'r holl

fusnesau cymwys, ni waeth sut y gwnaethant bleidleisio.

- Ni ellir newid lleoliad yr AGB, canran ardoll yr AGB na'r meini prawf ar gyfer y busnesau sy'n gymwys ar unrhyw adeg yn ystod pum mlynedd yr AGB, heb gael pleidlais ddiwygio lawn. Gwneir hyn er mwyn diogelu trethdalwyr a rhoi sicrwydd o ran costau ardoll yr AGB.

Mae eich pleidlais yn cyfrif!

Dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf mae busnesau canol y dref wedi dangos cryn frwdfrydedd ynghylch cael Ardal Gwella Busnes yng Nghaerfyrddin. Nawr yw'r amser i fabwysiadu ymagwedd gynaliadwy a llwyddiannus at reoli canol y dref am flynyddoedd i ddod.

PLEIDLEISIWCH O BLAID - PLEIDLEISIWCH DROS AGB CAERFYRDDIN



Atebion i'ch Cwestiynau

Pam ydym yn cynnal pleidlais AGB?

I greu AGB, mae angen inni gynnal pleidlais ar gyfer busnesau cymwys. Bydd y bleidlais yn gofyn cwestiwn syml: 'A ydych o blaid y cynigion ar gyfer Ardal Gwella Busnes Caerfyrddin? (AGB)'.

A wyf i'n gymwys i bleidleisio

Os yw safle eich busnes yn yr AGB arfaethedig ac os yw gwerth ardrethol eich busnes yn fwy na £6,000, rydych yn gymwys i bleidleisio.

Sut bydd AGB Caerfyrddin yn cael ei hariannu?

Os bydd y bleidlais yn llwyddiannus, bydd AGB Caerfyrddin yn cael ei hariannu drwy ardoll flynyddol o 1.5% o werth ardrethol yr holl unedau busnes cymwys sydd wedi'u lleoli yn yr AGB, boed y busnes wedi pleidleisio o blaid neu yn erbyn yr AGB. Er enghraifft, os yw'r gwerth ardrethol ar eich safle yn £10,000, byddwch yn talu £150 y flwyddyn. Bydd ardoll yr AGB yn orfodol i bob busnes cymwys a chyrrff eraill, gan gynnwys yr awdurdod lleol. Gallai'r AGB hefyd gael incwm ychwanegol drwy gyfraniadau gwirfoddol gan fusnesau llai o faint a busnesau y tu allan i derfyn yr AGB sy'n dymuno bod yn aelodau, yn ogystal â thrwy unrhyw geisiadau grant llwyddiannus.

Casglu'r Ardoll

Bydd ardoll yr AGB yn cael ei chasglu'n flynyddol a hynny gan Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin, gyda'r ardrethi busnes. Bydd AGB Caerfyrddin yn glir ac yn dryloyw ynghylch sut y mae'n gwario'r arian. Bydd gwybodaeth am incwm a gwariant, a gaiff ei diweddarau'n rheolaidd, ar gael i holl aelodau'r AGB.

Sicrhau bod unrhyw wasanaethau AGB yn ychwanegol

Menter dan arweiniad busnesau fydd yr AGB yng nghanol tref Caerfyrddin, a chaiff y cyllid ei gasglu a'i reoli gennych chi. Mae'n rhaid i'r AGB ddarparu gwasanaethau sy'n ychwanegol at y rhai a gynigir gan yr awdurdod lleol ac asiantaethau statudol eraill. Bydd AGB Caerfyrddin yn llofnodi Cytundeb Sylfaenol gyda Chyngor Sir Caerfyrddin, a fydd yn nodi'r hyn mae'r awdurdod lleol yn ei ddarparu eisoes, a bydd y cytundeb hwn yn cael ei fonitro.

Am faint fydd yr AGB yn para?

Bydd yr AGB yn para am bum mlynedd, sy'n golygu sicrwydd o ran buddsoddiad yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw. Os bydd busnesau am i'r AGB barhau'r tu hwnt i'r pum mlynedd, byddwch yn penderfynu ar hyn drwy bleidlais arall.

Sut gallaf i gael fy nghynrychioli?

Gall yr holl fusnesau sy'n talu'r ardoll fod yn aelodau o'r cwmni er mwyn bod yn gymwys i bleidleisio. Gall unrhyw aelod sefyll i gael ei ethol i'r bwrdd. Gall safleoedd busnes sydd â gwerth ardrethol is na £6,000 gyfrannu'n wirfoddol ar sail £X / y flwyddyn man lleiaf, er mwyn cael eu cynnwys fel aelodau gwirfoddol o'r AGB. Fodd bynnag, dim ond aelodau sy'n dalwyr ardoll gorfodol fydd â hawliau pleidleisio llawn.

Pa ymchwil sydd wedi'i gwneud tra bo'r cynigion yn cael eu datblygu?

Lluniwyd astudiaeth ddichonoldeb ym mis Mai 2017 i weld a fyddai AGB yn ddull effeithiol o fynd i'r afael â'r problemau presennol yng nghanol y dref, gan ganolbwyntio ar wella amodau masnachu.

Ar sail dadansoddi gwerthoedd ardrethol ac arolwg o fusnesau o fewn terfynau arfaethedig yr AGB, daeth yr astudiaeth ddichonoldeb i'r casgliad bod AGB lwyddiannus nid yn unig yn gyfle cyffrous a hynod fuddiol i fusnesau a chymuned ehangach Caerfyrddin, ond ei bod hefyd yn gam ymarferol realistig. Mae cefnogaeth i'r AGB a galw amdani, bydd yn ddichonadwy'n ariannol, gall fwrw ati i ddiwallu anghenion penodol busnesau'r AGB yn y tymor hir a gall ychwanegu gwerth at yr ardoll ar fusnesau drwy integreiddio, partneriaethau, a dylanwad.

Cwblhawyd arolygon gan 190 o fusnesau, ac o'u plith dywedodd 150 (79%) eu bod yn meddwl fod AGB ar gyfer Caerfyrddin yn syniad da mewn egwyddor, a dylid cael pleidlais yn ei gylch. Dim ond deuddeg ddywedodd nad oeddent am weld AGB ac nid oedd y gweddill yn siŵr.

Dogfennau Atodol

Bydd dogfennau eraill sy'n gysylltiedig â'r AGB ar gael ar wefan yr AGB wedi iddynt gael eu cwblhau.

Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys:

- Y Cytundeb Sylfaenol drafft rhwng yr AGB a Chyngor Sir Caerfyrddin, yn cynnwys datganiad o'r gwasanaethau sylfaenol presennol a ddarperir gan Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin.
- Y Cytundeb Gweithredu drafft rhwng yr AGB a Chyngor Sir Caerfyrddin, sy'n nodi'r telerau fydd ar waith gan Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin wrth weithredu fel yr awdurdod bilio a phleidleisio ar ran yr AGB.

I gael mwy o wybodaeth am AGB Caerfyrddin, ac i weld sut y gallwch gymryd rhan, ewch i'r wefan neu anfonwch e-bost atom:

Ewch i'n gwefan: <https://www.facebook.com/lovecarmarthen>

Atodiad 1: Gwybodaeth Hanfodol

Pwy sy'n rhan o'r AGB?

1. Y person sy'n gyfrifol am dalu ardoll yr AGB yw'r un sy'n gyfrifol am dalu ardrethi annomestig mewn perthynas â'r hereditament.
2. Bydd ardoll yr AGB yn berthnasol i bob hereditament sydd â chyfeiriad Ardrethi Annomestig Cenedlaethol ac sydd o fewn terfynau AGB Caerfyrddin.
3. Ni fydd busnesau sydd â gwerth ardrethol is na £6,000 yn gymwys i dalu ardoll yr AGB, ond gallant gyfrannu'n wirfoddol er mwyn bod yn aelodau gwirfoddol o'r AGB.

Dyddiadau Allweddol

1. Bydd yr AGB arfaethedig yn para pum mlynedd ariannol olynol.
2. Bydd gan yr holl fusnesau cymwys hawl i bleidleisio ar gyfer cynnig yr AGB drwy bleidlais drwy'r post, a fydd yn para 28 diwrnod.

Yr Ardoll

1. Bydd ardoll yr AGB yn 1.5% o werth ardrethol pob hereditament am y pum mlynedd lawn, gyda chynnydd bach bob blwyddyn i gyfrif am chwyddiant.
2. Ni wahaniaethir rhwng hereditamentau sydd wedi'u meddiannu a rhai sydd yn wag.
3. Ni fydd y cynllun gostyngiad treth i fusnesau bach yn effeithio ar ardoll yr AGB.
4. Bydd yr awdurdod lleol yn casglu'r ardoll ac yn dal yr arian a gesglir yng Nghyfrif Refeniw'r AGB.
5. Cyfrifir yr ardoll ar gyfer pob hereditament yn flynyddol a'i bilio erbyn dechrau bob blwyddyn yr AGB.
6. Codir yr ardoll yn unol â gweithdrefnau dydd trethadwy. Bydd yn seiliedig ar y rhestr ardrethi ar gyfer pob hereditament yn yr AGB ar y dyddiad pan gyhoeddir y rhestr ardrethol yn gyhoeddus a ghylych y bleidlais. Bydd hyn

yn sicrhau bod y rhestr gwerth ardrethol a ddefnyddir ar gyfer creu biliau bob blwyddyn yn gyflawn ac yn gywir.

7. Bydd y Cytundeb Gweithredu ar gael ar gais gan ddarpar dalwr ardoll.
8. Mae'n bosibl y bydd busnesau'n gorfod talu'r ardoll er nad oedd yn rhaid iddynt wneud hynny o'r blaen, er enghraifft, lle caiff hereditament yn yr AGB a oedd yn absennol o'r rhestr i gychwyn ei ychwanegu ar ôl hynny.
9. Codir tâl am y cyfnod o bum mlynedd y bydd yr AGB ar waith. Ni roddir ystyriaeth i unrhyw ailbriso o ran ardrethi, oni bai bod hereditament ar y rhestr honno am y tro cyntaf, ac os felly caiff y gwerth ardrethol a ddangosir ar y rhestr honno ei ddefnyddio. Yr eithriad fydd unrhyw newid mewn defnydd neu unrhyw newid ffisegol i eiddo neu hereditament.
10. Os na chaiff yr AGB ei thalu, defnyddir pob dull posibl i fynd ar drywydd y taliad.

**DRAFT 6 JUNE 2019 BASELINE AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF
STANDARD SERVICES**

Carmarthenshire County Council (the “Council”)

and

**Carmarthen BID CIC Limited
(the “BID Company”)**

Dated to be inserted

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Baseline Agreement for the Provision of Standard Services

Dated: to be updated

Between:

- 1) Carmarthenshire County Council
- 2) Carmarthen BID CIC Limited

Recitals

- A The Council is the local authority for the purposes of the Local Government Act 2003 and is responsible for providing the Standard Services within the BID Area.
- B The BID Company is responsible for the management and operation of the BID and for achieving the objectives and aspirations set out in the BID Business Plan.
- C The purpose of this Deed of Agreement is to set out for the avoidance of doubt
- (i) the Standard Services provided by the Council within the BID area;
 - (ii) the benchmark levels against which the provision of the Standard Services will be measured so as to ensure that whenever the BID Company wishes to provide any additional/complimentary services these services are not Standard Services; and
 - (iii) the mechanism for the continued monitoring and review of the Standard Services.

It is agreed:

1. Definitions

see Business Improvement Districts (Wales) regulations 2005

BID Ballot means a ballot under section 49(1) of the Act

BID Alteration Proposals means proposals in relation to the alteration of BID arrangements in accordance with regulation 17

BID Alteration Ballot has the meaning given in regulation 17

BID Re-ballot means a BID ballot, renewal ballot or alteration ballot, as the case may be, which is required to be arranged in accordance with regulation 9(10)

BID Renewal Ballot means a ballot under section 54(2) of the Act

Ballot Result Date means the date upon which a successful ballot result has been declared in favour of putting in place the BID Arrangements.

Baseline Agreement sets out for the avoidance of doubt

- (i) the Standard Services provided by the Council within the BID area;
- (ii) the benchmark levels against which the provision of the Standard Services will be measured to ensure that whenever the BID Company wishes to provide any additional/complimentary services these services are not services which are Standard Services; and
- (iii) the mechanism for the continued monitoring and review of the Standard Services.

BID means the Business Improvement District which is managed and operated by the BID Company and has the meaning given in the Regulations.

BID Area means that area within which the BID operates as shown in Schedule 1.

BID Arrangements has the meaning given by section 41 of the Local Government Act 2003

BID Business Plan means the plan voted for by the BID Levy Payers which sets out the objectives of the BID and for Financial Year 2019/20 is known as the BID Proposal.

BID Levy means the charge levied and collected within the BID pursuant to the Regulations.

BID Levy Payers means the non-domestic rate payers liable for paying the BID Levy.

BID Proposal means the plan voted for by the BID Levy Payers in a ballot which sets out the objectives of the BID and identifies the various projects which will be undertaken using funds raised by the BID Levy and/or Voluntary Contributions to achieve those objectives and 'Renewal Proposals' has the same meaning save that 'ballot' shall be replaced with 'renewal ballot' and 'Alteration Proposals' has the same meaning save that 'ballot' shall be replaced with 'alteration ballot'.

BID term means the period from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2025

Complementary Service(s) means those services secured or procured by the BID Company from the Council or other third-party provider in addition to the Standard Services.

Complementary Services Agreement(s) means an agreement entered into between the Council and the BID Company or such further agreements as may be entered into by the BID Company for the provision of the Complementary Services.

Complementary Service Provider means the provider of a Complementary Service.

Designated Officer means the officer appointed by the relevant Council Department to liaise directly with the BID on issues relating to the performance of the Standard Services and any Complementary Services

Financial Year means the financial year for the BID Company which runs from 1st April to 31st March

Operating Agreement means the agreement to be entered into between the Council and the BID Company which sets out various procedures for the collection, monitoring and enforcement of the BID Levy.

Protocols means the informal procedures to be agreed by the Council and the BID Company the purpose of which is to assist in the provision of the Standard Services.

Regulations means the Business Improvement Districts (Wales) Regulations 2005 and such amendments to those regulations which may be made by the Welsh Ministers pursuant to Section 48 of the Local Government Act 2003 (from time to time).

Renewal Proposals means proposals in relation to the renewal of the BID arrangements under section 54(2) of the Act

Standard Services means the services provided by Carmarthenshire County Council within the BID Area as set out in Schedule 2.

Voluntary Contribution(s) means any contributions or funds paid or made available to the BID Company which do not form part of the BID Levy.

2. Statutory Authorities

- 2.1 This Agreement is made pursuant to Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, Part IV of the Local Government Act 2003, the Business Improvement Districts (Wales) Regulations 2005, Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 and all other enabling powers

3. Commencement

- 3.1 This Agreement shall commence on 1st April 2020 and continue until 31st March 2025 subject to earlier termination or extension by mutual consent as hereinafter provided.
- 3.2 This Agreement shall determine and cease to be of any further effect in the event that:
- (a) the BID Company fails to secure approval of the Proposals, Renewal Proposals or Alteration Proposals in a ballot, renewal ballot, alteration ballot or rebalot (Business Improvement Districts (Wales) Regulations 2005);
 - (b) the Welsh Ministers declare void a BID ballot, renewal ballot, alteration ballot or rebalot;
 - (c) the Council exercises its veto pursuant to Section 51(2) of the Local Government Act 2003 and paragraph 12 of the Business Improvement District (Wales) Regulations 2005 and there is no successful appeal against the veto;
 - (d) the BID Term expires save where the BID Company secures approval of Renewal Proposals in a renewal ballot or Alteration Proposals in an alteration ballot or Proposals in a rebalot in which event this Agreement shall continue until the expiry of the BID term set out in the Renewal Proposals, Alteration Proposals or the Proposals set out in the rebalot provided, in relation to Renewal Proposals and Alteration

Proposals, the Council and the BID Company both consent to such continuation;

- (e) the Council exercises its discretion to terminate the BID Arrangements in exercise of its powers under Regulation 18 of the Regulations; and
- (f) the Council terminates this Agreement pursuant to clause 9 of this Agreement.

4. The BID Company's Obligations

- 4.1 The BID Company agrees that it will provide the Council with any information the Council will reasonably require in relation to the carrying out of the Complementary Services.
- 4.2 In the event that the BID Company intends to change the Complementary Services the BID Company shall serve notice on the Council for the purposes of arranging a meeting and at such a meeting the BID Company shall consult with the Council in respect of the intended change to the Complimentary Services.

5. The Council's Obligations

- 5.1 The Council agrees to the following:
 - (a) to provide the Standard Services within the BID Area as its own cost for the duration of the BID term; and
 - (b) will not use the BID Levy at any time to either fund or procure the Standard Services.
- 5.2 In the event that the Council is unable to continue to provide all or any part of the Standard Services within the BID Area set out in Schedule 2 it shall confirm the following to the BID Company:
 - (a) identify which part or parts of the Standard Services it is unable to provide;

(b) confirm the date upon which the Council will cease to operate the identified Standard Service.

5.3 The Council may provide different Standard Services, delayed Standard Services or no Standard Services in the event that it is not reasonably practicable to provide the Standard Services.

5.3.1 neither party shall have any liability under or be deemed to be in breach of this Agreement for any delays or failures in performance of this Agreement which result from circumstances beyond the reasonable control of that Party. The Party affected by such circumstances shall notify the other Party in writing when such circumstances cause delay or failure in performance and when they cease to do so. If such circumstances continue for a continuous period of more than six months, either Party may seek to terminate this Agreement by written notice to the other Party.

Provided always that the Council shall first and, if possible, provide the BID Company with reasonable notice in the event that the Council intends to provide different Standard Services, delayed Standard Services or no Standard Services as a result of any of the reasons mentioned in this clause and the Council shall, if possible, endeavour to recommence the Standard Service as soon as reasonably practicable to the same standard as it was immediately before the change.

5.4 To use reasonable endeavours to liaise with the BID Company to provide Complementary Services or, and (where practicable) put in place such partnering arrangements (of formal or informal nature) with a Complementary Service Provider where the Complementary Services are complementary to or are of a similar nature to the Standard Services and to liaise with the Complementary Service Provider (where appropriate).

5.5 To implement such reasonable recommendations in the carrying out or provision of the Standard Services as may be made by the BID Company, insofar as is reasonably practicable and affordable.

6. Licence

6.1 The BID Company, its agents or Complementary Service Provider shall not enter onto into or upon any land within the Council's ownership or the highway for the purposes of the BID Company its agents or Complimentary Service Provider carrying out any function or service required or secured (or any ancillary function) for the operation of the BID proposal without first obtaining the Council's licence and consent under Clause 7.2 and complying with all relevant statutory requirements.

6.2 The BID Company shall give the Council reasonable notice in writing of its intention to carry out any function or service under Clause 7.1, stating when each such access will be required and the location and nature of the proposed works or services. The Council reserves the right to refuse or reschedule such entry in the event that it considers (acting reasonably) it necessary to do so provided that such refusal shall be given promptly with an explanation and in writing to the BID Company. Any such licence or consent may be given subject to such conditions as the Council may consider reasonably necessary.

7. Monitoring and Review

7.1 The Council and the BID Company shall:

(a) Where appropriate, review and monitor the carrying out of the Standard Services and make such recommendations to the Council for consideration as are appropriate;

(b) where appropriate, review and monitor the provision of the Complementary Services and make such recommendations to the BID Company as are appropriate;

8. Joint Obligations

8.1 Both the Council and the BID Company agree:

- (a) for the purposes only of monitoring the Standard Services and the Complimentary Services to review and take account of any representations or recommendations made to them and take such action as may be appropriate;
- (b) to agree appropriate Protocols as may be required in order to assist the carrying out or provision of the Standard
- (c) To operate the complementary services in accordance with such agreed Protocols.

9. Termination

9.1 The Council may terminate this Agreement:

- (a) in the same circumstances in which it may terminate the BID Arrangements under Regulation 18 of the Regulations;
- (b) in the event that the BID Company commits a serious and irremediable breach of this Agreement; or
- (c) in the event that the Council terminates the Operating Agreement

10. Confidentiality

10.1 Both the Council and the BID Company agree to keep confidential and not to divulge to any person without the prior written consent of the other party all information (written or oral) concerning the business affairs of the other nor

any information which has been exchanged about the BID Levy Payers or about other third parties which it shall have obtained or received as a result of operating the BID. This obligation shall survive the termination or lapse of the provision of the BID.

- 10.2 The Council and the BID Company acknowledge that each party is a controller for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) and that both parties are therefore required to comply with all the requirements of this data protection legislation.

The BID Company shall, subject to the limitations of the data protection legislation, ensure that the confidentiality of BID levy payers records is maintained. The BID Company shall allow the Council to inspect such records when required.

Neither the Council nor the BID Company shall disclose any Personal Data which they have received from each other to any third party without the prior written consent of the other or subject to statutory provision including the GDPR and DPA.

The exercise of the duty to observe confidentiality by either party shall take into account the wider professional and legal duty of either party to take care of the safety of children, young people and other vulnerable people or where an over-riding public interest prevails.

11. Notices

- 11.1 Any notice or other written communication to be served or given to or upon any party to this Deed to the other shall be in writing and shall be sent to the address provided for above or such substitute address in the UK as may from time to time have been notified by that party upon 7 (seven) days' notice in writing.

- 11.2 A Notice may be served by registered or recorded delivery post and:

- (a) delivered to the Head of Administration and Law of the Council at the above address;
- (b) delivered to the BID Director of Operations at the BID Company's office address;

11.3 Any notice served shall be deemed to have been validly served or given at the time when in the ordinary course of business, it would have been received.

12. Miscellaneous

12.1 For the avoidance of doubt where any part of this Agreement is incompatible with the Regulations or any other regulations issued pursuant to Part IV of the Local Government Act 2003 then such part shall be struck out and the balance of this Agreement shall remain.

12.2 The headings appearing in this Deed are for ease of reference only and shall not affect the construction of this Deed.

12.3 For the avoidance of doubt the provisions of this Deed (other than those contained in this Clause) shall not have any effect until this document has been dated.

12.4 Where reference is made to a Clause, Part, or Recital such reference (unless the context requires otherwise) is a reference to a clause, part, plan, or recital attached to this Deed.

12.5 References to the Council include any successors to its functions as local authority.

12.6 References to statutes, bye laws, regulations, orders, delegated legislation shall include any such instrument re-enacting or made pursuant to the same power.

13. Exercise of the Council's Powers

Nothing contained in this Agreement or implied in it shall prejudice or affect the rights discretions powers duties and obligations of the Council under all statute byelaws statutory instruments orders and regulations in the exercise of its functions as a local authority.

14. Contracts (Rights of Third Parties)

The parties do not intend that the provisions of this Agreement may be enforced or varied by any other party pursuant to the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

15. Relationship between the Parties

- 15.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall constitute, or be deemed to constitute, any partnership agency or joint venture arrangements as between the Council and the BID Company.
- 15.2 The BID Company is not and will not at any time hold itself out as the agent of the Council for any purposes and under no circumstances will the BID Company have the authority to bind the Council or hold itself out as having such authority.
- 15.3 All contracts and agreements entered into or made by the BID Company pursuant to this Agreement will be contracts or agreements as between the BID Company as principal and the respective third parties and the Council will have no obligation or liability under them.
- 15.4 Both parties shall indemnify and keep indemnified the other party against all costs claims demands proceedings and liabilities which may be incurred as a result of any act, neglect or default by the indemnifying party, its employees contractors or agents in carrying out their obligations under this Agreement.

16. Dispute Resolution

- 16.1 If any dispute or difference arises between the Council and the BID Company relating to or arising out of the terms of this Agreement then dispute shall be

referred to the Chief Executive of the Council and the Managing Director of the BID Company or their designated representatives, who will meet in good faith to try and resolve the dispute or difference.

- 16.2 If after 28 days (or such longer period as the parties may agree) the dispute or difference has not been resolved then either of the Parties may give notice that it wishes to attempt to settle the dispute by mediation in accordance with the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (“CEDR”) Model Mediation Procedure 2001 (“The Model Procedure”) or such later edition as may be in force from time to time.
- 16.3 If the Parties do not agree on the identity of the Mediator then either party may request that CEDR appoint one.
- 16.4 The Model Procedure shall be amended to take account of any relevant provisions of this Agreement or any other agreement that the parties may enter into in relation to the conduct of the mediation.
- 16.5 Both Parties use their best endeavours to ensure that the Mediation starts within twenty working days of the service of the notice of mediation and to pay the mediator’s fees in equal shares.
- 16.6 Any agreement reached by the parties as a result of mediation shall be binding on the parties, as set out in the Model Procedure, but if the dispute has not been settled by mediation within 10 working days of the mediation starting then either party may commence litigation proceedings (but not before then).
- 16.7 Neither party shall be precluded by this Clause 17 from taking such steps in relation to court proceedings as they may deem necessary or desirable to protect its position, including but not limited to, issuing or otherwise pursuing proceedings to prevent limitation periods from expiring and applying for interim relief.

IN WITNESS whereof the Council has caused its Seal to be affixed and the BID Company has executed this Agreement as a Deed the day and year first before written

The Common Seal of Carmarthenshire County Council was)
hereunto affixed in the presence of:)

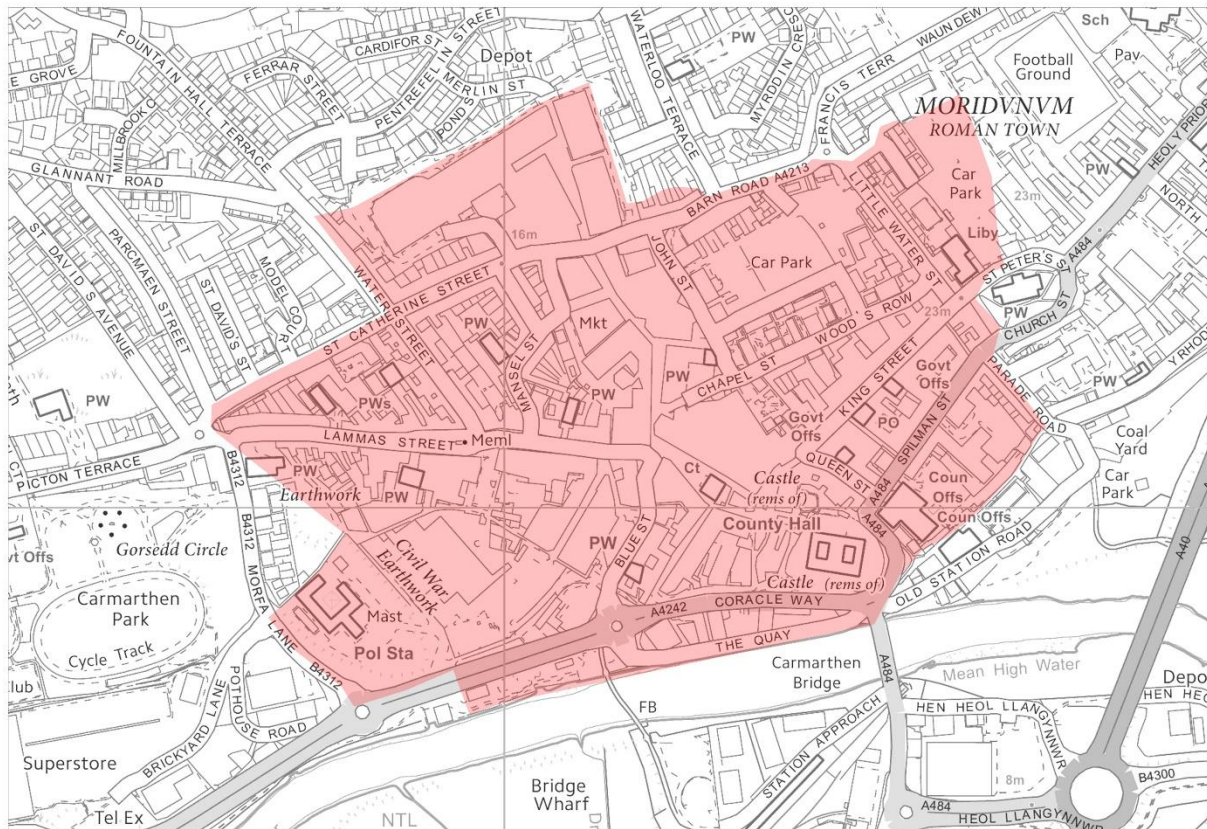
Authorised Signatory

The Common Seal of [THE BID COMPANY] was)
hereunto affixed in the presence of:)

Authorised Signatory

Authorised Signatory

Schedule 1 – BID Map Area



© Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2018 Arolwg Ordnans 100023377
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The BID area covers the following streets, either in whole or part:

Barn Road	Blue Street	Bridge Street	Cambrian Court
Cambrian Place	Cambrian Way	Castle Hill	Chapel Street
Church Lane	Church Street	Coracle Way	Darkgate
Francis Terrace	Friars Park	Furnace Road	Guildhall Square
Hall Street	Jacksons Lane	John Street	King Street
Lammas Street	Little Bridge Street	Little Water Street	Mansel Street
Market Way	Market Hall	Merlin Street	Merlins Walk
Mill Street	Morley Street	Nott Square	Old Station Road
Orchard Street	Parade Road	Quay Street	Queen Street
Red Street	Spilman Street	St Catherine Street	St Mary Street
St Peters Street	St Catherine's Walk	The Mount	The Quay
The Market	Water Street	Woods Row	

Schedule 2 – Carmarthen Council Standard Baseline Services – Carmarthen

Details of Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) service provision within proposed Business Improvement District (BID) Area. Information to be included in this schedule of the baseline agreement and reflects standard services CCC provides.

Highways and Transportation

Designated Officer – Highways and Transportation Manager

1. Reactive Highway Safety Inspections

1.1 The authority has a duty to maintain highways maintainable at public expense under Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980.

1.2 In addition to programmed safety inspections we will respond to and investigate all reported or identified defects in accordance with the authorities current Code of Practice for Highway Safety Inspections. The authorities Code of Practice follows the recommendations contained in the National Code of Practice “Well Maintained Highways”. A review of the authorities code is underway following the introduction of a new National code of practice ‘Well Managed Highway Infrastructure’. This recommends a risk based approach to setting inspection and maintenance priorities.

1.3 Response times for reactive inspections will be in accordance with our current policy until such time as they are updated across the County. Frequencies for inspection and investigation levels for maintenance will remain appropriate to the nature of the defect and location and in line with other Welsh authorities as developed through the National Highway Asset Management project.

The defect responses adopted by Highways and Transport will be as follows:

1.4 Identified or reported defects are typically risk assessed taking into account factors such as the type and nature of the defect, location and also the day and time of day. All defects are assigned a defect category in accordance with the authorities current Code of Practice for Highway Safety Inspections.

1.5 The response time will be determined by the defect category and appropriate to the nature of the defect. This will follow a risk based approach and will be in line with recommendations of ‘Well Managed Highway infrastructure’ and in line with other Welsh authorities as developed through the National Highway Asset Management project.

1.6 Intervention levels for defects will be in accordance with the levels set out in the authorities current Code of Practice for Highway Safety Inspections until such time as they are updated across the County and in line with other Welsh authorities as developed through the National Highway Asset Management project.

2. Street Lighting Maintenance

2.1 Specialist Structural and Electrical column testing is carried out in accordance with the authorities rolling programme.

2.2 Lighting Defect Responses

2.2.1 The response time for defects will be determined by the defect type and will be appropriate to the nature of the defect.

2.2.2 Lighting outages identified during patrols or reported to the authority are responded to within a minimum of 10 working days.

2.2.3 Section Faults are treated as urgent and are responded to the next working day.

3. Christmas Lighting and Trees

3.1 The Street lighting section will liaise with key stakeholders involved in the erection of Christmas Lighting and Trees in order to identify suitable electricity supply.

3.2 The Street lighting section will also assess and agree suitable locations for the placing of Christmas Motifs on street lighting apparatus as appropriate.

4. Surface Water Drainage

4.1 Routine cleansing of highway surface water drainage systems is undertaken once per year. Combined sewer systems maintained by Welsh Water.

Environmental Services

Designated Officer – Environmental Services Manager

1. Street Cleansing and Associated Services

1.1. In the areas included within the BID areas **Carmarthenshire County Council** operates routine street cleaning and servicing of litter bins is undertaken on a daily basis. Cleaning schedules are set to meet the duty to keep the relevant land clear of litter and refuse and highways are clean. Areas within the BID area are included within the current cleansing schedules which identify the frequency of cleansing in compliance to grades A – D as set out in the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse and Associated Guidance 2007 code of practice for rubbish and waste.

1.2. Land managed by the duty body (**Carmarthenshire County Council**) has been split into four main zones. High intensity of use, Medium intensity of use. Low intensity and areas with special circumstances. Land has been allocated into one of the four zones and managed accordingly.

1.3. Street cleansing teams are deployed on a daily basis to implement cleansing schedule to maintain or restore identified areas to appropriate standard in high and medium intensity areas.

1.4. Reactive Cleansing shall be determined by the Environmental Services Division to achieve the appropriate standard of cleanliness.

1.5. Response times for each category by which a land must be returned to an acceptable standard:-

High and medium intensity areas: - the maximum response time to restore to an acceptable standard is 24 hours.

Standard of Cleansing

1.6. All works, or services performed shall be carried out in accordance with the Code of Practice. The Division shall be responsible for all supervision to identify the cleansing required to achieve the specified standards within the time limits as set out in this Specification and the Response Time Summary. A Supervising Officer may from time to time during the works monitor the cleansing standard and will instruct the operatives in accordance with the Conditions if any defects are found. The Supervising Officers' decision regarding the grade and extent of defect shall be final.

1.7. Amendments and additions to the Code of Practice shall be as follows:-

- A full reactive cleansing service shall be provided at all times within a core working day except for Christmas day and New Years' day when the service required will be as specified for Category 1 and 2 zones only
- Response time for syringes, hypodermic needles and the like shall be immediately if found by division during monitoring of cleansing or within 3 working hour if instructed by the Supervising Officer and records of work carried out provided in accordance with the designated operating procedure.

Methodology of Work

1.8. Cleansing shall be performed by mechanical or manual means or a combination thereof at the discretion of the Division. Cleansing work to any area contained in category zones 1, 2, 3 or 4 shall be applied to the full extent of that area as defined by its natural or physical boundaries.

1.9. The Division shall have demonstrated in the detailed programme of service that the resources are available in sufficiency to cater for seasonal factors affecting the workload such as holiday traffic and visitors. It shall include for the deployment of special machinery and any additional cleansing where appropriate.

1.10. The standard of cleanliness shall be obtained by the Division irrespective of the type of surface including paving blocks, cobbles and the like.

Chewing Gum Removal

1.11. A towable high pressure 'Gum Buster' machine located in the Carmarthen highway's depot is deployed on an annual basis normally prior to the Xmas period to remove areas of gum deposits in the town centre pedestrianised areas

Litter Bins

- 1.12. The operation of litter bin emptying shall consist of complete removal of all waste on a daily basis. The Division may use recyclable or recycled plastic bin liners at discretion to facilitate the task of litter removal and maintaining the cleanliness of the bin.

Fly-tipping

- 1.13. Any fly-tipping on publicly owned land will be cleared within 5 working days where possible depending on scale and any ongoing investigation works. Fly-tipping on private land is the responsibility of the land owner.

Graffiti

- 1.14. Property controlled or owned by **Carmarthenshire County Council** - **Carmarthenshire County Council** will remove graffiti including offensive or racist subject matter from buildings it owns or controls.

Graffiti affecting the public highway including signs and bus shelters is removed by the Highways Service DLO gangs. Depending on the severity and type of graffiti material used the operatives will utilise specialist chemical products. A towable high pressure 'Gum Buster' machine located in the Carmarthen highway's depot can also be deployed to remove graffiti as necessary.

Private Property – **Carmarthenshire County Council** will advise and assist property owners on the removal of graffiti from private property. Where applicable, a removal service can be provided subject to agreed conditions and recovery of reasonably incurred costs.

2. Public Conveniences

- 2.1. Primary public conveniences in Carmarthen located at :-

Location	Opening Hrs
*John Street Car Park	05:00 – 23:00 (disabled 24 hrs)
*St Peter's Car Park Indoor Market	05:00 – 23:00 (disabled 24 hrs) 09:00 – 17:00 (Mon - Sat)

*these toilets currently charge 20p for entry

- 2.2. Public conveniences in Carmarthen have a dedicated team responsible for maintaining the facilities and cleanliness at these facilities throughout the day. John Street and St. Peter's public conveniences are cleaned three times per day.

3. Playground areas

- 3.1. The Playgrounds in the bid area are under the direct control of the Carmarthen Town Council.

3.2. Annual playground safety inspections are still carried out by Carmarthenshire County Council.

4. Grass Cutting and Gardening

4.1. Within the BID area grass is maintained in accordance with an agreed separate SLA standard as follows :-

High Standard 10 day working cycle (where agreed)

Medium Standard 4 cuts per annum

Near 30 mph areas 4 cuts per annum

4.2. Flower beds are planted with seasonal bedding plants. The beds are weeded monthly through the growing season.

4.3. Shrubs will be pruned/shaped twice a year. Additional pruning will be carried out as required to maintain safety

4.4. Grass is cut using different machinery depending upon access requirements and this operation is weather dependent.

5. Public realm asset management

Public realm assets receive regular, formal, condition inspections primarily for risk management purposes and to identify essential reactive maintenance works. Public realm assets may include – benches, bollards, statues, sculptures, fountains, litter bins, trees, etc. Frequencies of inspections are determined by risk evaluations and asset management requirements and can be monthly, quarterly, 6 or 12-month basis. Condition inspections can also occur in response to reports of damage or incidents. Frequencies may be reviewed to reflect changes in circumstances.

6. Seasonal Leaf Removal

Removal of leaf fall is undertaken during the autumn period as necessary.

7. Maintenance of Planters and Hanging Baskets

7.1 Planters are maintained by the Grounds maintenance section

7.2 Hanging Baskets are maintained by Carmarthen Town Centre

8. Removal of Fly Tipping

Removal of fly tipping within the public highway is undertaken upon receipt of request or complaint.

9. Removal of Fly Posting

9.1 Fly Posting on Council Owned/ Controlled Property

9.1.1 Removal of fly posting within the public highway is undertaken upon receipt of request or complaint.

9.2 Fly Posting on Private Property:

9.2.1 Highways and Transport do not remove flyposting on private property

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

**CARMARTHEN BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT
DRAFT 6/6/19**

OPERATING AGREEMENT

Dated

**Carmarthenshire County Council
(the Council)**

**Carmarthen BID CIC Limited
(the BID Company)**

Contents

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- 3 Commencement**
- 4 Setting the BID Levy**
- 5 The BID Revenue Account**
- 6 Debits from the BID Revenue Account**
- 7 Collecting the BID Levy**
- 8 Procedures available to the Council for enforcing payment of the BID Levy**
- 9 Enforcement Mechanisms for non-collection of the BID Levy by the Council**
- 10 Accounting Procedures and Monitoring**
- 11 Termination**
- 12 Confidentiality**
- 13 Notices**
- 14 Miscellaneous**
- 15 Exercise of the Council's powers**
- 16 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties)**
- 17 Arbitration**
- 18 Freedom of Information**

Operating Agreement

Dated

- (1) Carmarthenshire County Council (the Council), County Hall, Carmarthen

- (2) Carmarthen BID CIC Limited (the BID Company)

Recitals

- A The Council is the billing authority for the purposes of the Local Government Act 2003 and is responsible for collecting the BID Levy and administering the BID Revenue Account which shall be used towards the operation of the BID within the area of the Council and the funding of the BID Arrangements.
- B The BID Company is responsible for the operation of the BID and for using the BID Levy for the purposes of achieving the objectives and aspirations set out in the BID Arrangements.
- C Both parties wish to confirm the arrangements by which the BID Levy shall be collected together with general arrangements as to the relationship to be established between the Council and the BID Company for the duration of the BID.
- D The purpose of this Agreement is to:
- establish the procedure for setting the BID Levy;
 - confirm the basis upon which the Council will be responsible for collecting the BID Levy;
 - set out the enforcement mechanisms available for collection of the BID Levy;
 - set out the procedures for accounting and transference of the BID Levy;
 - provide for the monitoring and review of the collection of the BID levy;
 - Confirm the manner in which the Council's expenses incurred in collecting the BID Levy shall be paid.

IT IS AGREED:

1 Definitions

the **Administrative Expenses** means all costs incurred by the Council in the administration, collection and recovery of the BID Levy including but not limited to any staffing costs and any expenditure incurred by the Council in relation to software or other systems used in relation to the BID levy and any costs associated with this Agreement or any proposed termination thereof.

the **Annual Report** means a report to be prepared by the Council which details the following:-

- (a) the total amount of the BID Levy collected during the relevant Financial Year;
- (b) details of the success rate for the collection of the BID Levy;
- (c) the Council's proposals (if any) to help improve its efficiency in the collection and enforcement of the BID levy;
- (d) details of those BID Levy Payers who have paid the BID Levy and those who have not paid the BID levy; and
- (e) the Council's proposals for bad or doubtful debts

the **Appeal Notice** means a notice to be served by the BID Company in accordance with clause 9.2.

Bad or Doubtful Debts shall have the same meaning as described in Part 2 of Schedule 3 of the Regulations.

The **BID** means the Business Improvement District which is managed and operated by the BID Company and which operates within and is covered by those streets set out below and shown on the map attached hereto.

The following streets are included in the BID area in whole or in part:-

Barn Road	Blue Street	Bridge Street	Cambrian Court
Cambrian Place	Cambrian Way	Castle Hill	Chapel Street
Church Lane	Church Street	Coracle Way	Darkgate
Francis Terrace	Friars Park	Furnace Road	Guildhall Square
Hall Street	Jacksons Lane	John Street	King Street
Lammas Street	Little Bridge Street	Little Water Street	Mansel Street
Market Way	Market Hall	Merlin Street	Merlins Walk
Mill Street	Morley Street	Nott Square	Old Station Road
Orchard Street	Parade Road	Quay Street	Queen Street
Red Street	Spilman Street	St Catherine Street	St Mary Street
St Peters Street	St Catherine's Walk	The Mount	The Quay
The Market	Water Street	Woods Row	

the **BID Arrangements** means those arrangements to be put in place pursuant to the Regulations by the BID Company for the purpose of enabling the projects specified to be carried out for the benefit of the BID or those who live, work or carry on any activity in the district.

the **BID Company's Report** means a report for each Financial Year to be prepared by the BID Company which details the following:-

- (a) the total income and expenditure of the BID Levy;
- (b) other income and expenditure of the BID Company not being the BID Levy;
- (c) a statement of actual and pending deficits; and
- (d) the various initiatives and schemes upon which the BID levy has been expended by the BID Company

the **BID Levy** means the charge to be levied and collected within the BID area pursuant to the Regulations and this Agreement. Details regarding the BID levy are included within Schedule 1.

the **BID Company's Termination Notice** means a notice to be served by the BID Company on the Council pursuant to clause 11.8 and Regulation 18 of the Regulations.

the **BID Levy Payer(s)** means the non-domestic rate payers who are liable for paying the BID levy as described in the Schedule.

the **BID Levy Rules** means the rules set out in the Schedule which sets out how the BID Levy will be calculated, details of Exempt Properties or discounted properties and other requirements related to the BID Levy (as may be amended by a successful alteration ballot).

the **BID Revenue Account** means the account to be set up in accordance with Regulation 14 and operated in accordance with Schedule 3 of the Regulations.

the **BID Term** means the period from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2025

the **Council's Termination Notice** means the notice to be served by the Council on the BID Company pursuant to clause 11.1 and Regulation 18 of the Regulations.

the **Contributors** means the BID Levy Payers or other Contributors making voluntary contributions to the BID Company.

Demand Notice shall have the same meaning ascribed to it as set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Schedule 4 of the Regulations.

Hereditament shall have the same meaning as defined in the Regulations.

Electronic Communications means a communication transmitted (whether from one person to another, from one device to another or from a person to a device or vice versa):

- (a) by means of a telecommunication system (within the meaning of the Telecommunications Act 1984); or
- (b) by other means but while in electronic form

Enforcement Notice means a notice to be served on the Council as specified in clause 9.

Enforcement Regulations means the Non-Domestic Rating (Collection and Enforcement)(Local Lists) Regulations 1989.

the Exceptions means the circumstances in which the Council shall not be required to seek to enforce payment of the BID levy where a BID Levy payer has failed to make payment pursuant to a Demand Notice. The exceptions shall be as agreed by the parties from time to time.

the Exempt Properties or discounted properties means those class or classes of properties as identified in the BID Levy Rules which shall be exempt either from any requirements to pay the BID levy, or are permitted a discount on the BID levy.

the Financial Year means the financial year for the BID Company which runs from 1st April to 31st March in the following year.

the First Priority Expenses means the administrative expenses incurred by the Council in respect of all reasonable costs arising out of compliance with its obligations under this Agreement and the Regulations during each year of the duration of this Agreement.

Liability Order means an order obtained from the Magistrates Court pursuant to Regulation 12 of the Enforcement Regulations

the **Monitoring Group** means the group to be set up to monitor the collection and enforcement of the BID levy (as referred to in clause 10) such group to consist of one officer from Carmarthenshire County Council and one representative from the BID Company.

the **Operational Date** means the date upon which the BID Arrangements come into force.

the **Public Meeting** means the meeting to be held of all BID Levy Payers pursuant to the Public Meeting Notice and Regulation 18 of the Regulations.

the **Public Meeting Notice** means a notice to be served pursuant to clause 11.1 or 11.8 by either the Council of the BID Company which provides the following:-

- (a) confirmation that either party is considering terminating the BID;
- (b) details of the venue where the public meeting will be held;
- (c) confirmation that all BID Levy Payers who attend will be permitted to make representation

the **Regulations** means the Business Improvement Districts (Wales) Regulations 2005 and such amendments made by the National Assembly for Wales pursuant to Section 48 and Section 58 of the Local Government Act 2003 (from time to time).

the **Reminder Notice** means the notice to be served pursuant to clause 8.1.

the **Summons Notice** means the notice to be served following a Reminder Notice and pursuant to clause 8.2.

a **Working Day** means any day of the week other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a bank holiday.

2 Statutory Authorities

- 2.1 This Agreement is made pursuant to Part IV of the Local Government Act 2003, Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Regulations and all other enabling powers.

3 Commencement

- 3.1 This Agreement shall be effective from 01/04/2020
- 3.2 if, at the end of the BID Term a renewal ballot is held and is successful then the terms of this Agreement shall be reviewed prior to the start of the new BID Term.

4 Setting the BID Levy

- 4.1 As soon as is practicable and before commencement of the BID term, the Council shall calculate the BID levy due from each BID Levy Payer in accordance with the BID Levy Rules.
- 4.2 As soon as practicable after the ballot result, Carmarthenshire County Council confirm in writing to the BID Company the BID levy payable annually by each BID Levy payer.

5 The BID Revenue Account

- 5.1 Interest payments on money in the BID Revenue Account will be subject to the Council's banking arrangements at the time of operating the account. Such interest, if any, will be paid to the BID Company as part of the BID Levy.

6 Debits from the BID Revenue Account

- 6.1 The Council must notify Carmarthen BID of its intention to raise charge for the administration of the scheme in any subsequent year by the 31st March of any year ' The charges will be as described in section 1 Administrative Expenses and will be in line with average BID charges'
- 6.2 Where the Council has provided notice of its intention to raise a charge for administration of the scheme, the Council may debit directly from the BID Revenue Account:-

- (a) the First Priority Expenses at the mid-point of each Financial year provided that they have been detailed in a valid VAT invoice delivered to the BID Company giving a detailed breakdown of the costs incurred.

6.3 Notwithstanding the above provision the BID Company shall be responsible for ensuring that all VAT invoices delivered to the BID Company shall, if not debited from the BID Revenue Account, be paid within 28 days of delivery.

7 Collecting the BID Levy

7.1 The Council shall at the beginning of each Financial Year confirm in writing to the BID Company:-

- (a) the means by which the BID Levy Payer shall be billed for the BID Levy; and
- (b) the date when the BID Levy shall first be collected.

7.2 Pursuant to clause 7.1(ii) the Council shall serve the Demand Notices on each BID Levy Payer and thereafter shall continue to calculate the BID Levy and serve the Demand Notices throughout the BID Term.

7.3 The Council shall maintain a list which identifies payment and/or non-payment of the BID Levy and shall make available to the BID Company as needed or at intervals of once a month.

7.4 The Council shall liaise with the BID Company in carrying out reviews at regular intervals of each Hereditament within the BID Area in the event of any change in the occupier of each Hereditament or the merger or division of a Hereditament (or provision of an additional Hereditament) shall:

- (a) serve an updated list of BID Levy Payers upon the BID Company;
- (b) serve a Demand Notice (or alter any existing Demand Notice if appropriate) on the relevant BID Levy Payer.

- 7.5 The Council shall use all reasonable endeavours to collect the BID Levy on the date specified (pursuant to clause 7.1(ii) above) and thereafter on an annual basis and in accordance with the procedure set out in Schedule 4 of the Regulations.
- 7.6 The Council shall use all reasonable endeavours to take all reasonable steps for collecting the BID Levy which are consistent with its usual procedures for the collection of non-domestic rates.
- 7.7 The Council shall notify the BID Company of the amounts credited to the BID Revenue Account and of the amount of the authorised debits in accordance with clause 6. Notifications will be made on the last working day of April and every second month thereafter. Upon receipt of an appropriate invoice from the BID Company shall transfer to the BID Company's own bank account the amount due and provide written confirmation of the sum transferred.
- 7.8 In the event of an overpayment by the Council to the BID in excess of £5,000 for a period of more than three consecutive months, the BID will return the overpayment to Carmarthenshire County Council within 14 days upon receipt of a valid invoice.

8 Procedures available to the Council for enforcing payment of the BID Levy

- 8.1 In the event that the BID Levy is not paid in whole within twenty eight days – from the payment due date then (subject to the Exceptions or as may otherwise be agreed between the parties) the Council shall serve a Reminder Notice on such defaulting BID Levy Payer which shall:-
- (a) identify the sum payable;
 - (b) provide a further 14 (fourteen) days for payment to be made;
 - (c) confirm that if payment is not received in accordance with (b) above the Council will make an application to the Magistrates Court for a Liability Order to recover the unpaid sum (together with costs). For the avoidance of any doubt, it is agreed that the costs awarded and

obtained by the Council arising from the making of any Liability Order shall be due to and retained by the Council and shall not be payable to the BID Company.

The value of the costs will be commensurate with the Non Domestic Rates liability costs as set out in The Council Tax and Non Domestic Rating (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2011/528 or any other subsequent statutory amendment.

8.2 In the event that the BID levy is not paid in whole within 14 (fourteen) days of the service of the Reminder Notice in accordance with clause 8.1 then the Council shall immediately inform the BID Company of such further failure to pay (subject to the Exceptions). The Council will consider any comments made by the BID Company before deciding whether to make an application to the Magistrates Court for a Liability Order. The Council will normally then make an application to the Magistrates Court for a Liability Order to recover the outstanding sum of the BID Levy as is permitted by the Regulations and the Enforcement Regulations (as amended).

8.3 In the event that the Council's application to the Magistrates Court for a Liability Order is awarded it shall immediately inform the BID Company. The Council will consider any comments made by the BID Company prior to entering in to an enforcement payment arrangement or issuing recovery instructions to the Enforcement Agent. The Council will endeavour to use external Enforcement Agents which it has arrangements with at the relevant time.

9 Enforcement Mechanisms for non-collection of the BID Levy by the Council

9.1 In the event that the Council is not taking appropriate steps to enforce payment of the BID Levy pursuant to clause 8 above the BID Company shall serve the Enforcement Notice on the Council requesting that:-

- (a) it serve a Reminder Notice; or

- (b) a Further Reminder Notice; or
- (c) it applies to Court to obtain a Liability Order pursuant to clause 8.3 above; or
- (d) enter in to an enforcement payment arrangement or issuing the account to the Enforcement Agent.

and the Council shall thereafter provide written confirmation of the action taken to recover the unpaid BID Levy.

9.2 If after being served an Enforcement Notice the Council fails to take the requested action within 28 days then the BID Company shall serve an Appeal Notice to the Chief Executive of the Council. Such notice shall:-

- (a) detail the sum which remains unpaid;
- (b) confirm that the Council has failed to use the Enforcement Mechanisms available to it as referred to in this Agreement to recover the sum; and
- (c) request a meeting take place between the Chief Executive, relevant officers of the Council and the BID Company to achieve a solution and/or agree a strategy to recover the outstanding sum, such meeting to take place in any event no later than 28 (twenty eight) days from service of the Appeal Notice.

10 Accounting Procedures and Monitoring

10.1 Within 1 (one) month from the Operational Date the Council and BID Company shall form the Monitoring Group.

10.2 In addition to the information outlined in 7.4, every month or as required, during the BID Term the Council shall provide the BID Company with a breakdown of:-

- (a) the amount of BID Levy for each individual BID Levy Payer;
- (b) the BID Levy collected in relation to each BID Levy Payer;
- (c) details (together with the outstanding unpaid sum) of those BID Levy Payers who have not paid the BID Levy (Llanelli bid also refer to during those 6 months) ;

- (d) details of the Reminder Notices issued throughout that period; and
- (e) details of any Liability Orders obtained or applied for by the Council.

10.3 The Monitoring Group shall meet no less than once in any one Financial Year and on all other occasions further meetings of the Monitoring Group shall be arranged by the service of written notice by either party on the other, such notice to be provided no less than 28 (twenty eight) days prior to the date of the proposed meeting (or lesser if otherwise agreed or in cases of emergency) and provided further that such meetings can be dispensed with altogether upon the written agreement of both the Council and the BID Company.

10.4 At each meeting the Monitoring Group shall:-

- (a) review the effectiveness of the collection and enforcement of the BID Levy; and
- (b) if required, review and assess the information provided by the Council pursuant to clauses 10.2 above and make any recommendations for implementation as may be agreed (and which are permitted by the Regulations and the terms of this Agreement).

10.5 Within 1 (one) month after the date of the end of the Financial Year the Council shall provide the Annual Report to the BID Company.

10.6 The BID company shall provide the BID Company Report to the Council two weeks prior to their Annual General Meeting.

11 Termination

11.1 The Council shall not be permitted to terminate the BID Arrangements because:-

- (a) In its opinion there are insufficient finances available to the BID Company to meet its liabilities for the chargeable period for the purposes of the BID Arrangements; or

- (b) the Council is unable, due to any cause beyond its control to provide the works or services which are secured as part of the BID Arrangements

unless and until it first serves the Public Meeting Notice on the BID Levy Payers and the Council's Termination Notice on the BID Company and within 14 (fourteen) days from the date of service of such notice both parties shall arrange to meet where the purpose of such meeting shall be to discuss and/or agree all or any of the following set out in clause 11.2 or 11.3 (whichever is applicable).

11.2 Where the BID Termination Notice relates to clause 11.1(i) both parties shall agree and/or discuss or review the following:-

- (a) the Council is concerned that the BID Company has insufficient finances to meet its liabilities for that period and details of such concerns should be made available to the BID Company;
- (b) insufficient funds;
- (c) alternative means by which the insufficiency of the funds can be remedied; and
- (d) an appropriate time frame to resolve this issue.

11.3 Where the BID Termination Notice relates to clause 11.1(ii) both parties shall agree and/or discuss or review the following:-

- (a) the services or works which it is no longer able to provide together with confirmation and details as to why such works or services cannot be provided;
- (b) a review by both parties as to whether such works or services are of material importance to the BID so that termination of the BID Arrangements is the only option;
- (c) alternative means of procuring the said services or works by third parties or increased financial funding from the BID Company;

- (d) alternative replacement services or works which will be acceptable to the BID Company;
 - (e) an appropriate time frame to resolve this issue.
- 11.4 In the event that the parties cannot reach agreement in relation to the above the Council shall cause a Public Meeting to be held and subject to consideration of representations made by any BID Levy Payer at the Public Meeting the Council shall be permitted to terminate the BID Arrangements provided that notice by the Council to terminate the BID shall be provided to the BID Company no less than 28 days prior to termination taking place.
- 11.5 Upon termination of the BID Arrangements the Council shall review whether there is a credit in the BID Revenue Account and in the event that there are sufficient funds in the BID Revenue Account amounting to a refund of at least £5 for each BID Levy Payer (having already deducted a reasonable sum for the administration of such refund) to:-
- (a) calculate the amount to be refunded to each BID Levy Payer;
 - (b) ensure that the amount to be refunded is calculated by reference to the amount payable by each BID Levy Payer for the last chargeable period; and
 - (c) make arrangements for the amount calculated to be credited against any outstanding liabilities of each BID Levy Payer or, where there are no such liabilities refunded to the BID Levy Payer.
- 11.6 Upon termination of the BID the Council shall notify the BID Levy Payers of such termination in accordance with Regulation 18(6) of the Regulations together with confirmation as to whether any part of the BID Levy is to be repaid to BID Levy Payers in accordance with clause 11.8.
- 11.7 The BID Company shall not be permitted to terminate the BID Arrangements where:-

- (a) the works or services under the BID Arrangements are no longer required; or
- (b) the BID Company is unable, due to any cause beyond its control to provide works and services which are necessary for the BID to continue

Unless and until it has served the BID Company's Termination Notice on the Council and thereafter carried out a proper consultation with all relevant representatives of the BID Area as considered appropriate by the Council.

- 11.8 Upon termination of the BID Arrangements the BID Company shall notify the Council of such termination in accordance with Regulation 18(5) and the Council shall notify the BID Levy Payers pursuant to Regulation 18(6) together with confirmation as to whether any part of the BID Levy is to be repaid to BID Levy Payers in accordance with clause 11.5.

12 Confidentiality

- 12.1 Both the Council and the BID Company agree to keep confidential and not to divulge to any person without the prior written consent of the other party all information (written or oral) concerning the business affairs of the other nor any information which has been exchanged about the BID Levy Payers or Contributors or about other third parties which it shall have obtained or received as a result of operating the BID. This obligation shall survive the termination or lapse of the BID Arrangements. For the avoidance of doubt nothing in this clause shall prevent the Council from using or divulging such information as is necessary for the purpose of complying with its obligation under this Agreement.
- 12.2 The Council and the BID Company acknowledge that each party is a controller for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) and that both parties are therefore required to comply with all the requirements of this data protection legislation.

The BID Company shall, subject to the limitations of the data protection legislation, ensure that the confidentiality of BID levy payers records is

maintained. The BID Company shall allow the Council to inspect such records when required.

Neither the Council nor the BID Company shall disclose any Personal Data which they have received from each other to any third party without the prior written consent of the other or subject to statutory provision including the GDPR and DPA.

The exercise of the duty to observe confidentiality by either party shall take into account the wider professional and legal duty of either party to take care of the safety of children, young people and other vulnerable people or where an over-riding public interest prevails.

13 Notices

13.1 Any notices or other written communication to be served or given to or upon any party to this Agreement to the other shall be in writing and shall be sent to the address provided for above or such substitute address in England and Wales as may from time to time have been notified by that Party.

13.2 A Notice may be served by:-

- (a) delivery to the Local Taxation Team Leader, Carmarthenshire County Council;
- (b) delivery to the Company Secretary at the BID Company's address;
George Reid, Carmarthen BID CIC Limited, Glangwili Mansion, Llanllawddog, Carmarthenshire, SA32 7JE
- (c) registered or recorded delivery post;
- (d) Electronic Communication (provided that it is in legible form and is capable of being used for subsequent reference);

13.3 Any notice served shall be deemed to have been validly served or given at the time when in the ordinary course of business it would have been received.

14 Miscellaneous

- 14.1 For the avoidance of doubt where any part of this Agreement is incompatible with the Local Government Act 2003 or Regulations or any other regulations which the Welsh Ministers or National Assembly for Wales may issue pursuant to Part IV of the Local Government Act 2003 in so far as they relate to Wales then such part shall be struck out and the balance of this Agreement shall remain.
- 14.2 The headings appearing in this Agreement are for ease of reference only and shall not affect the construction of this Agreement.
- 14.3 For the avoidance of doubt the provisions of this Agreement (other than those contained in this clause) shall not have any effect until this document has been executed and dated.
- 14.4 Where reference is made to a Clause, Part or Recital such reference (unless the context requires otherwise) is a reference to a clause, part, plan or recital attached to this Agreement.
- 14.5 References to the Council include any successors to its functions as relevant billing authority.
- 14.6 References to statutes, bye laws, regulations, orders, delegated legislation shall include any such instrument re-enacting or made pursuant to the same power.

15 Exercise of the Council's Powers

- 15.1 Nothing contained in this Agreement or implied in it shall prejudice or affect the rights discretions powers duties and obligations of the Council under all statutes bye-laws statutory instruments orders and regulations in the exercise of its functions as a local authority.

16 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties)

16.1 The provisions of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 shall not apply to this Agreement.

17 Arbitration

The following provisions shall apply in the event of a dispute:

17.1 Any dispute or difference of any kind whatsoever arising between the parties hereto out of or in connection with this Deed shall be referred to arbitration before a single arbitrator.

17.2 The parties shall jointly appoint the arbitrator not later than 28 (twenty eight) days after service of a request in writing by either party to do so and each party shall bear its own costs.

17.3 If the parties are unable to agree within 28 (twenty eight) days as to the appointment of such arbitrator then such arbitrator (hereinafter referred to as “the Tribunal”) shall be appointed on the application of either party to the President for the time being of the Law Society.

17.4 In the event of a reference to arbitration the parties agree to:

- Prosecute any such reference expeditiously; and
- Do all things or take all steps reasonably necessary in order to enable the Tribunal to deliver any award (interim, final or otherwise) as soon as reasonably practicable.

17.5 The award shall be in writing signed by the Tribunal and shall be finalised within 21 (twenty one) days from the date of such award.

17.6 The award shall be final and binding both on the parties and on any persons claiming through or under them.

18 Freedom of Information

- 18.1 The BID Company accepts that the Council is obliged to comply with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Code of Practice on the Act, and will assist the Council to comply with these obligations. This includes helping the Council comply with its obligation to respond to a request for information within 20 days of receipt; and providing information to the Council where the Council requests.
- 18.2 The Council is entitled to disclose information unless it believes that the information is exempt under the Act. Exemption may apply where, for example, information is provided in confidence, where the information is a trade secret; or where release is likely to prejudice commercial interests. The Council will decide, acting reasonably, whether information requested under the Act is to be disclosed or not. The Council will where reasonably practicable consult the BID Company and will consider any representations made by it.

The Council shall not be liable for any loss or other detriment caused by the disclosure of any information in response to a request for information under the Act.

Signed by the parties or their duly authorised representatives

Signed by)
duly authorised for an)
on behalf of)
Carmarthenshire County Council
)_____

Signed by)
duly authorised for an)
on behalf of)
Carmarthenshire County Council)_____

Signed by)
duly authorised for an)
on behalf of)
Carmarthen BID CIC Limited)_____

Schedule 1 – The BID Levy Rules / Arrangements

This Schedule sets out in further detail the technical and budgetary information relating to how Carmarthen BID CIC Limited will operate, in so far as the arrangements between the BID Company and the Council are concerned in the event of any conflict between the body of this Agreement and this Schedule arising then the Agreement shall prevail over this Schedule.

1 Definitions

Definitions of words or terms referred to in these arrangements are those set out or referred to in The Business Improvement Districts (Wales) Regulations 2005, the Local Government Act 2003 and Local Government Finance Act 1988 unless expressly defined in this Agreement.

2 The BID Proposer

The BID Proposer is the Management Committee of the Carmarthen BID Steering Group. The BID body will be Carmarthen BID CIC Limited. It will be incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in the event of a positive ballot result in Summer 2018.

3 Governance

The BID will be run by the Carmarthen BID Company.

The proposed Board will reflect that of the businesses in the BID area to ensure a representative body to lead the development of the Carmarthen BID. This may include representatives from:

Large Business	Night time Economy
Medium Business	Business Forum / Chamber of Trade (voluntary levy contributor)
Small Business	Statutory Body (e.g. the local authority)
Professional Services	Local City / Town Council.
Local Community group	Additional business who represent different geographical areas within the BID

It is expected that the Steering Group will implement proposed Business Plan themes : Improve business profitability, develop the profile and look of the town, improve parking and reduce empty shop numbers. These are themes led by the Board and/or any established sub-groups. Sub-groups are formed from BID Members, who are responsible for developing detailed budgets for their group, which are then passed to the Board for approval. All businesses are given the opportunity to be represented on these sub-groups and the Board. Sub-groups will be set up as and when required.

4 Membership of the Company

All BID Levy Payers, will be invited to become a Member of the Company. Company Members may subsequently nominate themselves for directorships or to sit on one of the BID Sub-Groups.

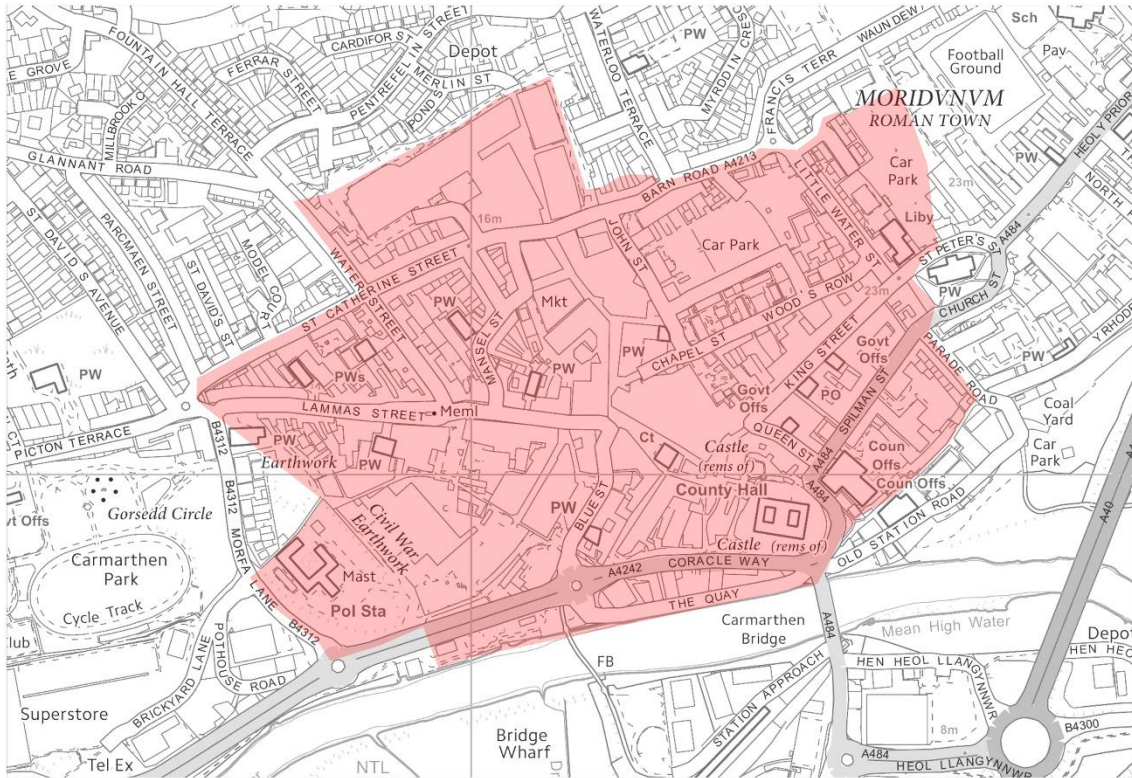
The Board will manage the Executive Team, which will deliver the projects and services as set out in the BID Proposal.

5 Duration of the BID

The BID Term will be five years in duration from a successful ballot date to 5 years hence. Before the end of this period, the BID Board may choose to seek renewal of the BID for a further term, through a renewal ballot.

6. The BID area

The area covered by the proposal comprises parts of Carmarthen town centre as shown in the map below.



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The BID area covers the following streets, either in whole or part:

Barn Road	Blue Street	Bridge Street	Cambrian Court
Cambrian Place	Cambrian Way	Castle Hill	Chapel Street
Church Lane	Church Street	Coracle Way	Darkgate
Francis Terrace	Friars Park	Furnace Road	Guildhall Square
Hall Street	Jacksons Lane	John Street	King Street
Lammas Street	Little Bridge Street	Little Water Street	Mansel Street
Market Way	Market Hall	Merlin Street	Merlins Walk
Mill Street	Morley Street	Nott Square	Old Station Road
Orchard Street	Parade Road	Quay Street	Queen Street
Red Street	Spilman Street	St Catherine Street	St Mary Street
St Peters Street	St Catherine's Walk	The Mount	The Quay
The Market	Water Street	Woods Row	

7 Ensuring BID services are supplementary

There is no link between the amount of business rate collected by the Council and the amount it receives back from Central Government to deliver services in the area.

A BID, in comparison, generates revenue that is ring-fenced for the area in which it is collected, to be spent on projects for the benefit of businesses that pay the BID Levy. All services provided by the BID will be additional to those provided by the Council. Additionally is ensured through the production of a 'Baseline Agreement' which sets out the standard level of statutory service that is already provided for the BID area. This ensures that the BID levy only funds services and projects over and above this level.

8 the BID Ballot

The ballot will be managed by the Legal Services within Carmarthenshire County Council and will run between (to be decided). The Ballot will close at 5pm on the (to be decided) The ballot will be a secret postal ballot of the eligible Hereditaments on the National Non-Domestic Ratings List at the time of the notice of ballot being issued. Where the occupiers of individual Hereditaments have nominated in writing the name of the person who should vote on their behalf, the notice of ballot and ballot papers will be sent to them.

9 Eligible businesses

The following will not be eligible for the BID Levy, or for the vote:

- Business units with a rateable value of less than £6,000 (according to the 2017 version of the Rating List)
- 'Central List' properties that are not contained in the local rating list.
- Advertising rights, telephone masts, and kiosks
- Primary and secondary schools
- Churches

All other types of business are eligible to vote in the BID ballot and to pay the BID Levy. Hereditaments (rated 'units' of business space) with a rateable value of less

than £6,000 will be exempt from paying the Levy and therefore will not be eligible to vote in the ballot. Currently this means approximately c. 423 rateable properties will be eligible for the vote and to pay the BID Levy within Carmarthen.

Businesses with a rateable value of less than £6,000 will be welcome to take up some of the BID's services by contributing on a voluntary basis at a rate to be agreed.

Where Hereditaments are unoccupied at the time of the notice of ballot, the owner will be entitled to vote in the BID ballot. The BID Levy Payer in cases of unoccupied Hereditaments will be the owner of the whole of the Hereditament. No three-month 'void' period will be given and those Hereditaments which are exempt from empty property rates and will not be exempt from the BID Levy. The BID levy is payable irrespective of part or all of the property being empty. The term 'owner' is defined in section 65(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1998.

Ratepayers who receive mandatory relief from business rates, and are office based (non-retail) will have their BID Levy discounted at the same rate. This discount will not apply to those hereditaments in receipt of mandatory relief, which are retail.

The BID levy will not be reduced to reflect any discretionary rate relief.

10 The BID Levy

The BID Levy is charged according to chargeable day procedures.. Occupiers and owner-occupiers will pay the Levy at a fixed rate of 1.5% of rateable value, based upon the 2017 Rating List. The BID Levy will be charged at 1.5% of the rateable value of each Hereditament listed in the Ratings List. It will be based on the 2017 ratings list record for each hereditament in the BID area at the date when notice of ballot is given.

New assessments brought into the Rating List will be liable to the BID levy as from the effective date provided in the Rating List. In the event that a hereditament is removed from the Rating List, liability for the BID levy will apply up to the day of deletion of the assessment from the Rating List"

The table below sets out the indicative Levy at 1.5% payable for businesses depending on their rateable value:

Indicative rateable value (£)	Indicative BID Levy (£)
6.000	90
10.000	150
50,000	750
100,000	1,500
500,000	7,500

What if I already pay rates and services charges as part of my rent?

Where the occupants of Hereditaments pay an inclusive rent or other charge for occupying space that includes the rates charge, the owner is liable to pay the BID Levy and, consequently, is eligible to vote in the ballot.

I'm thinking of taking on more premises in the BID area. Will I have to pay a levy on those when I move in?

Businesses which begin to occupy existing Hereditaments during the BID period will be liable to pay the Levy for their period of occupation, providing the Hereditament remains eligible for the BID Levy. The BID Levy will be extended to occupiers of Hereditaments built or first occupied in the BID area during the life of the BID, assuming that they are otherwise eligible. In these cases the Levy will be calculated on the rateable value entered in the most recent version of the Ratings List.

Occupiers of Hereditaments in new developments located within the BID boundary will also be liable for the BID levy, assuming that they are otherwise eligible.

11 Levy Collection

The Council will be responsible for collecting the BID Levy on behalf of Carmarthen BID CIC Limited. The BID Levy will be payable in one instalment per year. Bills will be raised in March and payment will become due on 1st April each year. Bills raised throughout the year will be periodically billed with payment due within 28 days.

Enforcement measures for the collection of the BID Levy are detailed under clause 8

above titled 'Procedures available to the Council for enforcing payment of the BID Levy'

The BID Levy is a mandatory charge and collection is enforceable in the same way as the business (non-domestic) rates. After 28 days non-payment of the BID Levy, a reminder will be sent giving a further 14 days to pay. If after a further 7 days from the payment date stated in the Reminder Notice the outstanding sum of the BID Levy has not been paid the Council shall make an application to the Magistrates Court for a Liability Order to recover the outstanding sum of the BID Levy. The BID Company will strongly pursue collection of the BID Levy, using all available enforcement mechanisms. Non-payment of the BID Levy will incur additional costs to the business in question.

The Council will apply to the Magistrates Court to recover its reasonable costs incurred in obtaining any order (currently estimated as £70.00 costs per liability order).

12 The cost of the BID ballot

The costs of the BID ballot will be met by Carmarthenshire County Council.

13 Alterations to the BID arrangements

Only minor amendments can be made to the BID arrangements without seeking formal approval from the BID Members. BID arrangements may be altered without an alteration ballot, as long as there is no proposal to alter:

- The geographical area of the BID;
- The BID Levy in such a way that would:
 - (a) cause any person to be liable to pay the BID Levy, who was not previously liable to pay; or
 - (b) increase the BID Levy for any person other than for inflation purposes as set out above.

Where the BID arrangements may be altered without an alteration ballot, the alteration will be made by a decision of Carmarthen BID Board, following consultation with Carmarthenshire County Council.

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

CCC Property levy schedule.

Address	Property type	Rateable value	BID Levy
Economic Development- Jason Jones			
Shire Hall, Guildhall Square, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1PR	Law Court	£45,750	£686.25
Total			£686.25
Environment - Jonathan Fearn			
County Hall, Castle Hill, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1JP	Local Gov't Offices	£285,000	£4,275
Offices, 3, Spilman Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1LE	Offices (Exl. Central And Local Govt)	£186,000	£2,790
Offices, 5-8, Spilman Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1LE	Offices (Exl. Central And Local Govt)	£40,000	£600
Total			£7,665
Leisure – Ian Jones			
27, King Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1BS	Shops,Banks,Post Offices Etc	£6,400	£96
County Library, St Peters Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1LN	Museums,Libraries Etc	£101,000	£1,515
Lytic Theatre, King Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1BD	Theatre	£11,500	£172.50
Total			£1,783.50
Education -			
Carmarthen Learning Centre, Furnace Road, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1EU	Clubs,Community Centres Etc	£14,500	£217.50
Total			£217.50
Highways – Steve Piliner			
Blue Street Car Park, Blue Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3LQ	Car Parks And Parking Spaces	£18,000	£270
Friars Park Car Park, Friars Park, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3AN	Car Parks And Parking Spaces	£205,000	£3,075
Car Park, John Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1QT	Car Parks And Parking Spaces	£257,500	£3,862.50
Lammas Street Car Park, Lammas Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3AP	Car Parks And Parking Spaces	£15,500	£232.50
Car Park R/O 5-8, Spilman Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1LE	Car Parks And Parking Spaces	£31,000	£465
Car Park, St Peters Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1LN	Car Parks And Parking Spaces	£105,000	£1,575
Bus Station, Blue Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3LE	Transport	£15,250	£228.75
Total			£9708.75
Total CCC Additional Levy			£20,061

**CYNGOR SIR
13EG TACHWEDD, 2019**

CYNLLUN GWELLA HAWLIAU TRAMWY (CGHT) SIR GAERFYRDDIN

Pwrpas: Ceisio cymeradwyaeth CGHT Sir Gaerfyrddin 2019 i 2029 i'w fabwysiadu a'i gyhoeddi gan yr Awdurdod.

Yr argymhellion / penderfyniadau allweddol sydd eu hangen:

Cymeradwyo mabwysiadu a chyhoeddi'r ddogfen bolisi hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus 10 mlynedd - CGHT Sir Gaerfyrddin 2019-2029.

Y Rhesymau:

O dan Adran 60 (3) o Ddeddf Cefn Gwlad a Hawliau Tramwy 2000, disgwylir i bob Awdurdod Lleol yng Nghymru fod yn destun adolygiad statudol o'i CGHT presennol cyn pen 10 mlynedd ar ôl ei gyhoeddi.

Cyhoeddwyd CGHT Sir Gaerfyrddin 2007-2017 yn 2008 ac felly roedd yn ofynnol ei adolygu yn unol â'r rhwymedigaeth statudol.

Cynhaliwyd adolygiad o CGHT cyntaf Sir Gaerfyrddin yn unol â chanllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru a gyhoeddwyd yn 2016. Penderfynwyd cynhyrchu CGHT newydd yn 2017 i adolygu'r amcanion, y polisiau a'r camau a gyhoeddwyd er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn gyfredol a'u bod yn llywio rheolaeth realistig a chyraeddadwy yn y Sir. Dylai'r cynllun newydd hefyd gyfeirio at amcanion y ddeddfwriaeth newydd a'r polisiau a chynlluniau perthnasol a chysylltu â hwy. Mae'r CGHT newydd wedi'i lunio ar y cyd â'r Fforwm Mynediad Lleol, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru a Pharc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog.

Mae'r holl asesiadau ac ymgynghoriadau sy'n ofynnol o dan y canllawiau wedi'u cynnal. Cyflwynwyd 130 o sylwadau unigol yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad 12 wythnos ynghylch y cynllun drafft ac ystyriwyd pob un ohonynt. Gweithredwyd yr ymatebion hynny i'r ymgynghoriad yr ystyrid y byddent yn gwella cynnwys y CGHT newydd, yn cryfhau'r amcanion, y polisiau a/neu'n gwella pa mor hawdd yw'r ddogfen i'r cyhoedd ei deall; felly mae'r cynllun terfynol bellach yn barod i'w fabwysiadu a'i gyhoeddi gan yr Awdurdod yn amodol ar y gymeradwyaeth berthnasol

Angen ymgynghori â'r pwyllgor craffu perthnasol: - NAG OES – Copi wedi'i anfon drwy ebost er gwybodaeth.

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad	OES
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Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad	OES
-------------------------------------	-----

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth:

Amgylchedd / Cymunedau

Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth:

Stephen G Pilliner / Ian Jones

Awdur yr Adroddiad:

Caroline Ferguson

(Rheolwr Dros Dro Mynediad i Gefn Gwlad

Rhif Ffôn

Caroline Ferguson

01554 742216

Cyfeiriadau E-bost:

cferguson@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY COUNCIL

BACKGROUND

The Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan was published in 2008 and steered the strategic management and development of Carmarthenshire's PRow and access network for 10 years from 2007-2017.

The Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act (2000) states that each Local Authority must review their existing Rights of Way Improvement Plan within 10 years of first publication.

Welsh Government guidance issued in 2016 directed the review process, the diagram below provided in the guidance outlines the processes undertaken in completing the review.

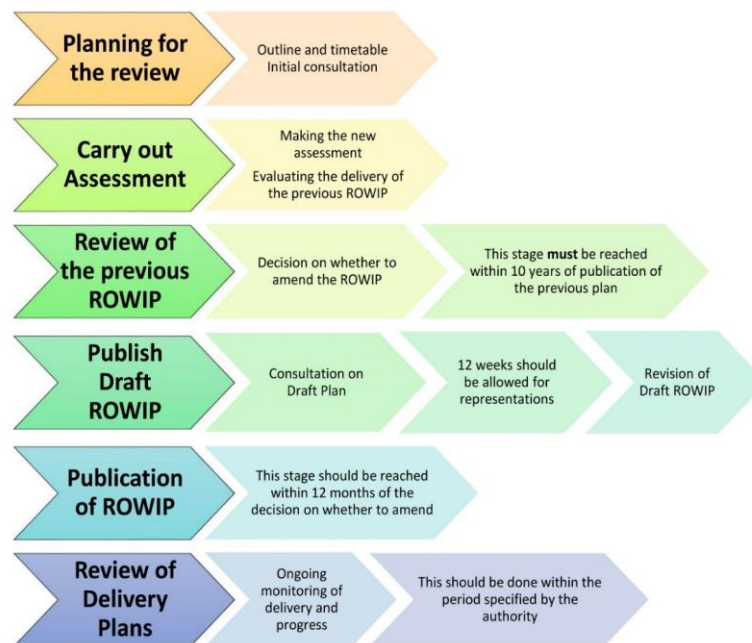


Diagram 1: Summary of the ROWIP process and timetable

The first four stages of the review process have been completed, the draft document which included revised aims, policies and actions was subject to wider public consultation over a twelve week period. The views obtained by the consultation have been considered and the plan updated where appropriate to enable the plan to proceed to the formal approval and publication.

This report is seeking approval to adopt and publish the Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) 2019 – 2029. A copy of the ROWIP 2019-2029 is attached as Appendix 1 including a summary of the consultation responses.

ROWIP Review Process

The ROWIP review has been undertaken in accordance with the Wales Government guidance 2016. The review has followed the six stage process as set out in the guidance and has been subject to wider consultation with the public and statutory consultees.

The list of consultees in receipt of the draft document can be found in appendix 1 to the final ROWIP (Appendix 1 to this report). In total there were 239 consultees plus notices in the local press and online.

The consultation exercise revealed a great deal of interest in public rights of way and countryside access in Carmarthenshire with 130 individual comments identified from the responses received. A summary of the responses is included at Appendix 5 of the report, and includes comments from the Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum (LAF) who had input into the draft document and provided a response to the 12 week consultation.

Analysis of the responses revealed that in general there was support for the draft plan and what the aims policies and actions it contained were working towards. Multiple comments were raised in respect of funding, equestrian access, disabled access and digital mapping. Each of these topics were addressed to some degree in the draft ROWIP illustrating that the plan will steer future public rights of way management in a direction that is important to our partners, stakeholders and the public.

Each comment that suggested that some sort of amendment to the draft was considered in terms of whether it will potentially enhance the final plan whilst being:

1. Within the scope of the ROWIP
2. Reasonable
3. Align with Council policy
4. Support compliance with relevant legislation
5. Not change the plan to such an extent that would require further consultation.

The suggested amendments which met the criteria above and would therefore enhance the final plan have been integrated into the final version document appended to this report (appendix 1). It is clear within the plan that parts of the ROWIP are aspirational and will be constrained by level of resources that will be available during the life of the plan. The Council will also explore new ways of working to help deliver the aspirations set out in the plan. This information should manage expectations in terms of delivery when the plan is adopted and published.

As the ROWIP is a public facing document the formatting and design will be reviewed by the Media and Marketing team before being translated in readiness for publication. We want to ensure that the final plan is useful to both the Authority and its partners, stakeholders and the public.

Conclusions

Carmarthenshire now has a draft ROWIP for 2019 to 2029 which reflects the significant changes in legislation and in Local Government since the inception of the first ROWIP. It is a document that will direct the strategic management and development of Carmarthenshire's public rights of way and access network for the next 10 years, containing policies, aims and actions which incorporate our statutory duties, powers, ideals and aspirations.

Undertaking the review process and developing the new ROWIP has highlighted the challenges faced in meeting demand for maintenance, enforcement and improvement of the public rights of way and access network within the constraints of resources available.

It has however, also illustrated opportunities for alternative ways of delivering the service such as collaborative working and has highlighted where the countryside access service can contribute to the Authority's wider obligations such as Active Travel and Carmarthenshire's Wellbeing objectives.

Establishing alternative methods of managing and improving the public rights of way network, such as using volunteer groups, as identified in the ROWIP action plan will play a large part in delivering the ROWIP.

Additionally, continually exploring for sources of funding to enable completion of some of the ROWIP actions which are currently not achievable within available resources will be vital to the successful delivery of the plan.

The final stage of the ROWIP review process as detailed in the WG guidance is the Review of the Delivery Plan. A delivery plan will be developed once the new ROWIP is adopted and published. A two yearly review of ROWIP delivery has been identified in the plan and the delivery plan will be developed in accordance with that timescale.

Recommendation

To approve the Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2019-2029 for Carmarthenshire to enable formal publication by 1st December 2019.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	Yes
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IMPLICATIONS

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

Signed: S Pilliner / I Jones

Head of Transport & Highways / Head of Leisure

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

. Legal

Carmarthenshire County Council, as the relevant Highway Authority, has a statutory obligation to undertake a 10 year review of the Carmarthenshire ROWIP 2007-2017.

The Carmarthenshire ROWIP 2019- 2029 has been drafted in close liaison with Natural Resources Wales who are overseeing ROWIP reviews across Wales.

Finance

The ROWIP sets out the broader policies and context of the rights of way network in Carmarthenshire and how the guiding principles of how they should develop in future.

Issues such as maintenance and resources are discussed within the Plan and an Action Plan is also included which identifies projects to be promoted subject to available funding.

Previously funding for ROWIPs was available from Welsh Government which is unfortunately no longer the case. Consequently it is intended to investigate alternative funding options to take projects forward and to work with partners and volunteers to maintain and develop the Public Right Of Way network.

The ROWIP clearly sets out that the actions and ambitions will be constrained by the level of resources available.

Staffing Implications

The delivery of the ROWIP will not have any direct staffing implications however, it is planned to work more closely with other partner organisations including Town and Community Councils and volunteers to maintain, improve and promote our public rights of way network.

CONSULTATIONS

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

1. Scrutiny Committee

Yes – The Environment and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee were consulted on the draft ROWIP on 2nd October 2017.

2. Local Member(s)

See appendix 1 within the final ROWIP (Appendix 1 to this report)

3. Community / Town Council

See appendix 1 within the final ROWIP (Appendix 1 to this report)

4. Relevant Partners

See appendix 1 within the final ROWIP (Appendix 1 to this report)

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

See appendix 1 within the final ROWIP (Appendix 1 to this report)

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

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

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Guidance for Local Authorities on Rights of Way Improvement Plans July 2016	N/A	http://gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/160711rights-of-way-improvement-plans-en.pdf Countryside Access Unit, Mynydd Mawr Woodland Park, Tumble. SA14 6HU
Carmarthenshire Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2019	N/A	Countryside Access Unit, Mynydd Mawr Woodland Park, Tumble. SA14 6HU

Carmarthenshire County Council

Rights of Way Improvement Plan



2019-2029



Executive Board Member Foreword

The County of Carmarthenshire has an extensive and largely rural network of Public Rights of Way (PROW). We recognise that this network of paths and ways alongside the County's coastline, open access land, country parks, woodland parks, picnic sites and nature reserves provide opportunities for recreation and tourism which in turn helps the health of the population and supports local businesses and the local economy.

In addition, more urban PROWs provide sustainable travel opportunities to schools, places of work and local amenities and facilities.

We must however also recognise the challenges of managing such a large and expansive network during this ongoing period of limited funding and reduced budgets.

The first Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) for Carmarthenshire provided a clear strategic direction for PROW management in the County. In the 10 years since its publication the plan has helped to ensure the best use of resources to make more of the PROW network available and to enhance priority paths and areas of public access. This has involved successful partnership working with volunteers, Town and Community Councils as well as other local Authorities and organisations.

This revised ROWIP is founded on research and consultation with a variety of stakeholders and the public. It takes into account the successes and shortcomings of the first plan through its 10 year term and provides strategic direction to the Countryside Access team, enabling them continue to build on the many positive outcomes.

This plan is ambitious as we strive to achieve significant improvements to our public access network over the next 10 years. We thank all those who have contributed to the preparation of this new ROWIP, the delivery of which will allow more people to enjoy access to our open countryside, coast and the various local attractions and businesses in Carmarthenshire.



County Councillor Hazel Evans
Executive Board Member for
Environment



Councillor Peter Hughes-Griffiths
Executive Board Member for Culture,
Sport & Tourism.

Chairman of Local Access Forum Foreword

As the Chairman of the Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum, I welcome the opportunity to write this introduction on behalf of the Forum Members. This plan will set the agenda and goals for access to the Countryside, Parks, Towns and Villages in the County for the next 10 years and forms an important document through which the performance of the Local Authority can be measured.

Access for the public is extremely important with significant benefits for health, wellbeing and the economy all being linked to people using the Rights of Way network and other public spaces within Carmarthenshire. The Local Authority needs to ensure that this access is maintained and improved throughout the life of this plan and is encouraged to continue to provide opportunities for walkers, horse riders, cyclists and other leisure users throughout the County.

This plan will be regularly examined by the Forum to ensure that the Authority's objectives are being achieved and targets met.

Every member of the public has the right to attend our Forum sessions to observe the discussions and ask relevant questions on the recommendations that it submits to your County Council. If you want to find out more about the Forum please look on the Council's website where you will find copies of Minutes from meetings along with each year's annual report that is produced.

Please use your right to ensure the County Council listens to what you want with regards to access by getting in contact with them & the Forum.

Mark Hadley
Chairman
Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum



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Appendices

Appendix 1 – ROWIP Consultees

Appendix 2 - The Definitive Map & Statement for Carmarthenshire

Appendix 3 - Active Travel routes on the Rights of Way Network

Appendix 4 - Town & Community Councils participating in PROW maintenance

Appendix 5 - Assessment consultation responses

Appendix 6 - Analysis of WORS

Appendix 7 - 2007-2017 ROWIP review of actions & policies

Appendix 8 – Current and Emerging Legislation, Plans and Policies

1. Background and Introduction

In 2007 Carmarthenshire County Council published its first Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP). The ROWIP was decennial document, developed in accordance with section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act (2000) which detailed Carmarthenshire's plan for the strategic management, development and improvement of the County's Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network up until 2017.

Through the term of the 2007-2017 ROWIP a great deal was achieved in improving and enhancing the PRoW network in Carmarthenshire. The actions and policies published in the previous plan led to the Authority being awarded ROWIP funding annually. A total of £726,449 ROWIP funding was received between 2008 and 2017 which allowed a significant number of the published actions and policies to be either partially or entirely implemented.

During the term of the last ROWIP we worked in 56 parishes and during this period over 300 routes were improved or reopened, hundreds of new pieces of access furniture were installed and dozens of footbridges ranging from 3m up to 33m in length were constructed on the network. ROWIP funded works also included surface and drainage improvements across the network and various promotional activities.

Under section 60(3) of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000, all Local Authorities in Wales are expected to undergo a statutory review of their present 'Rights of Way Improvement Plan' (ROWIP) within 10 years of publishing their original Plan.

Guidance published in 2016 directs that any emerging Improvement Plans must consider the following;

- The extent to which local Rights of Way (RoW) meet the present and future needs of the public;
- The opportunities provided by local Rights of Way for exercise and other forms of open air recreation and the enjoyment of the authority's area; and
- The accessibility of local Rights of Way to blind or partially sighted people and others with mobility problems.

The Improvement Plan must contain an action statement outlining how, as an Authority, Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) can better manage the local Rights of Way network and undertake improvements.

The Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum (LAF) is a statutory body established under section 94 of the CROW Act 2000. Its role is to advise the Council on all countryside recreation matters. The LAF has had an advisory role during the production of this plan and will continue to have an input into the implementation of any actions arising from it.

Welsh Government guidance published in July 2016 outlines the ROWIP review process, as shown in Diagram 1 below.

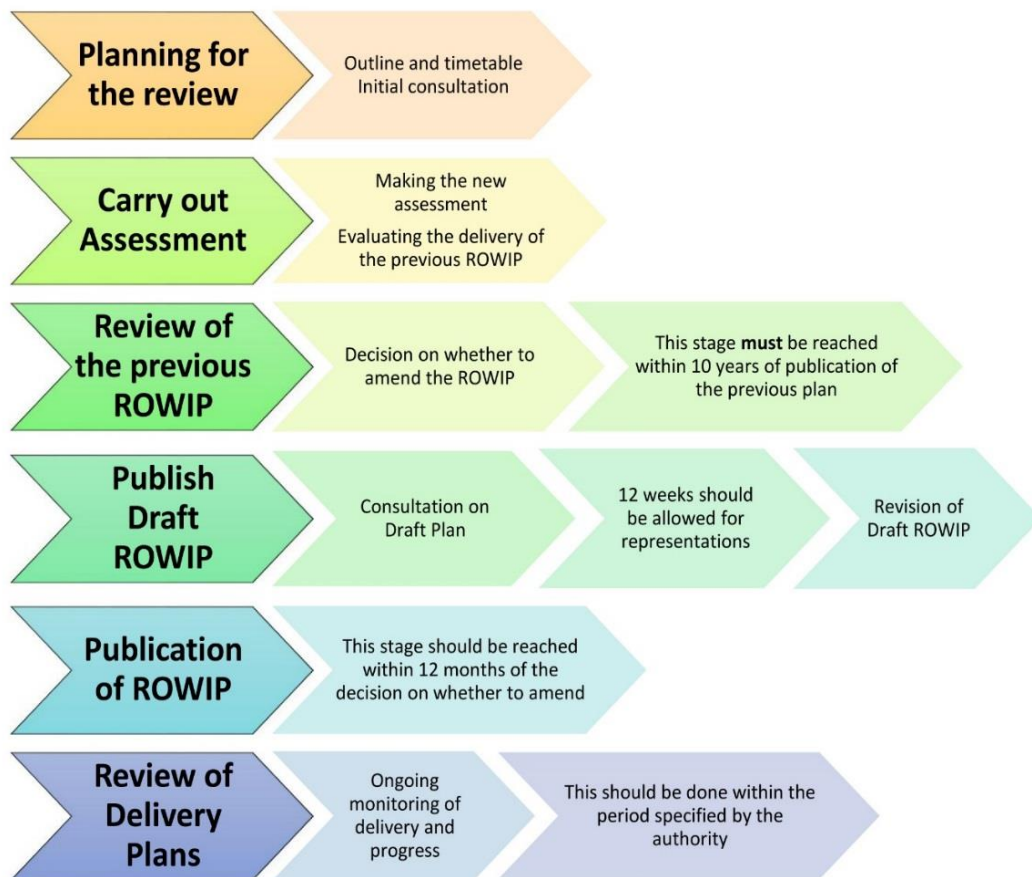


Diagram 1: Summary of the ROWIP process and timetable

Some of the actions and policies detailed in this plan are aspirational. These have the potential to bring significant benefits to local communities and improvements to the network, however, their delivery is subject to securing appropriate grant funding.

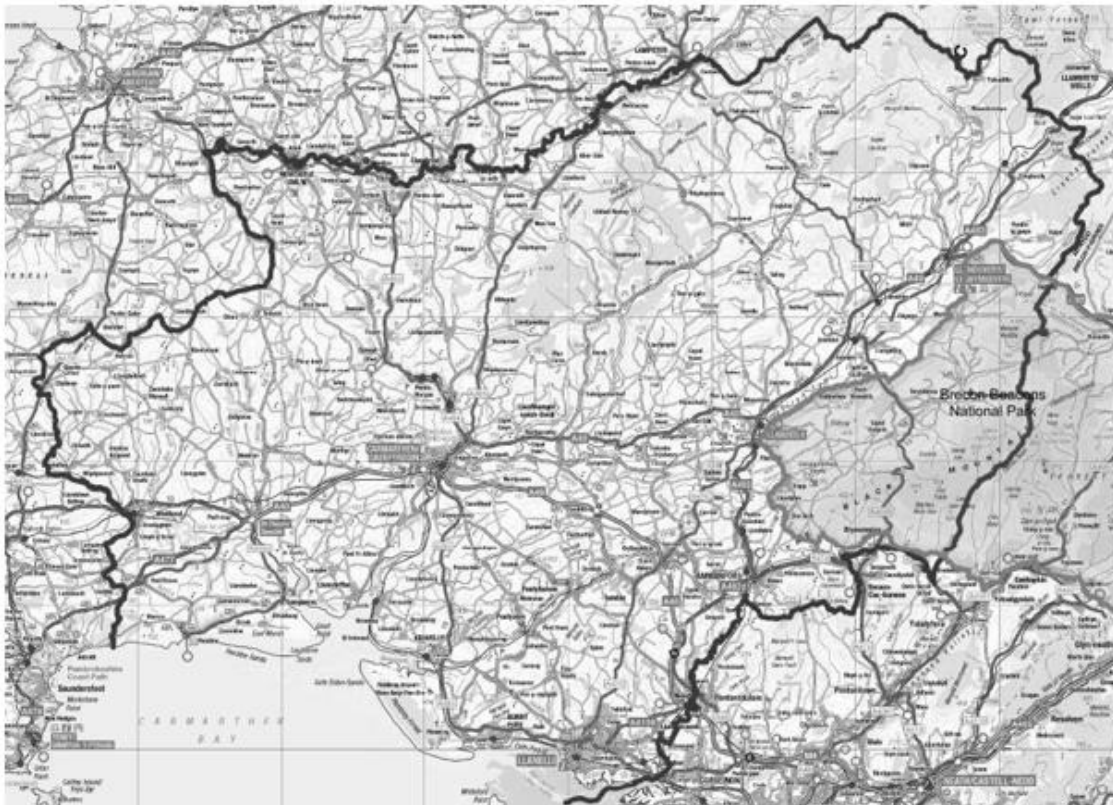
Section 11 of this plan presents, in detail, the aims, policies and action plan that will steer public rights of way and access management for the next 10 years. These have been developed following the assessment stage of the ROWIP process and their delivery will be reviewed on a two yearly basis to monitor their progress.

The draft version of this plan has been subject to the statutory 12 week public consultation as detailed above (see appendix 1 for the list of consultees). Each

consultation response received has been fully considered and, where appropriate, revisions have been made to the ROWIP to reflect those responses.

Preparation of the ROWIP falls within the scope of Article 2(a) of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. An SEA need only be undertaken if the implementation of a plan is likely to lead to significant environmental effects. The ROWIP was screened against the flowchart contained in 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. Having completed this screening exercise it is the Authority's judgement that the aims, policies and actions contained within the ROWIP are not likely to lead to any significant environmental effects, we therefore consider that an SAE is not required.

The Carmarthenshire ROWIP covers all of the County with the exception of the section (largely the Black Mountains) which forms part of the Brecon Beacons National Park. There is currently an agency agreement between Carmarthenshire County Council and the Brecon Beacons National Park who manage and maintain the PRoW network that falls within the National Park boundary. Within that area the relevant ROWIP will be that prepared by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.



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*Carmarthenshire County Boundary
(including Brecon Beacons National Park Boundary)*

2. Geography & Demographics of Carmarthenshire

Carmarthenshire is a diverse County with the agricultural economy and landscape of large rural areas contrasted with the urban and industrial south-eastern area. However, as a primarily rural County, the population density is low at 75.7 persons per sq. kilometre, compared with 140 persons per sq. kilometre for Wales as a whole. This scarcity of population is more apparent in rural Carmarthenshire than it is in the south and east where 65% of the County's population reside on 35% of the land.

The main urban centres of the County include Llanelli, Carmarthen and Ammanford. Carmarthen (due to its central geographic location) typically serves the needs of the County's rural hinterland. A number of rural villages and settlements are self-sufficient in terms of facilities and services, however, other smaller settlements lack services and facilities. The needs of residents in these latter areas are typically met by neighbouring settlements.

Carmarthenshire is justly renowned for its magnificent coast, quiet estuaries, steep wooded valleys and rugged uplands. Throughout much of the rest of the county there is a patchwork of woodlands and fields, bounded by the hedge banks that are frequently of historic importance. The network of PROW run all through the landscape made up by these habitats. This natural beauty of the county is a major factor on which the local tourism and recreation industries depend. Biodiversity is therefore fundamental to the physical, economic and spiritual well-being of all who live and work in Carmarthenshire.

The richness of Carmarthenshire's natural and cultural environment is highlighted by the number of sites designated protect and enhance their important nature conservation value, at a national and local level: 7 Special Areas of Conservation, 3 Special Protection Areas, 1 Ramsar site, 82 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (with a further 12 within the Brecon Beacons National Park), 5 National Nature Reserves, 5 Local Nature Reserves and 7 registered landscapes. The County also boasts sites designated at the international level to protect and enhance important nature conservation value, as well as striking landscapes and distinctive historic towns and villages.

The importance of the County's built heritage is borne out by the 27 conservation areas, 470 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (ranging from Prehistoric to post-Medieval/Modern features of cultural historic interest) and a large number of listed buildings.

Agriculture in Carmarthenshire dominates the rural landscape with the agricultural industry and in particular dairy and sheep farming establishing the County as one of the most important agricultural areas in Wales. Some 203,700 ha of land within

Carmarthenshire is classified as agricultural land with the majority classified as grade 3a and 4 with a small tranche of grade 2 land in the south-east of the County.

At the LDP base date (2006) the population for the County was estimated to stand at 178,043 with 78,213 households (2006 WG-based projection). The Welsh Government also published a set of 2008-based population and household projections; however the most recent data in the 2011 Census identified the population of Carmarthenshire at 183,777 with 78,829 households.

As displayed in Table 2.1 the population of Carmarthenshire as a whole, is older than the national average.

Table 2.1 Population of Carmarthenshire (2011 Census)

AGE	CARMARTHENSHIRE	WALES
Age 0 to 4	5.6%	5.8%
Age 5 to 9	5.3%	5.3%
Age 10 to 14	5.8%	5.8%
Age 15 to 17	3.8%	3.7%
Age 18 to 24	8.2%	9.7%
Age 25 to 29	5.2%	6.1%
Age 30 to 44	17.3%	18.6%
Age 45 to 59	20.9%	19.9%
Age 60 to 64	7.3%	6.7%
Age 65 to 74	11.1%	9.8%
Age 75 to 84	6.9%	6.1%
Age 85 and over	2.8%	2.4%
Mean Age	42.3	40.6
Median Age	44	41

3. The Public Rights of Way Network

All Public Rights of Way in Carmarthenshire – footpaths, bridleways and byways are recorded on the Definitive Map and Definitive Statement which is held in the Countryside Access office. A full explanation of the Definitive Map and Statement as the conclusive legal record of public rights of way in the County and how the County Council manages and amends the record is provided in appendix 2. Digital mapping software which provides a digital version of the Definitive Map is used by the Authority for day to day management of public rights of way. This digital information is also available to the public online however to view the legal record members of the public are invited to view the hard copy of the Definitive Map at the Countryside Access office.

The Public Rights of Way (PROW) network provides a valuable recreational resource for use by residents and visitors to Carmarthenshire alike. They provide unrivalled access to the countryside and offer sustainable methods of travel by enabling safe use of alternative modes of transport to motor vehicles.

Table 3.1 below provides details of the respective numbers and length of recorded routes in Carmarthenshire, being the third largest local authority network in Wales.

Table 3.1 Network Routes & Length (March 2018)

Route Type	Number of Routes	Length (km)
Footpath	2951	2198.0
Bridleway	136	164.8
Byway Open to All Traffic	88	77.9
Restricted Byway	1	1.6
Totals	3176	2442.4

Our statutory responsibilities in respect of the PROW network include:

- Signposting and waymarking of footpaths, bridleways and byways;
- Keeping up to date the Definitive Map and Statement which is the legal record of Public Rights of Way;
- Maintaining the surface of a Public Right of Way to a standard appropriate for the purpose for which it is used;
- Maintaining bridges over natural river courses;
- Keeping the Public Rights of Way open and available by ensuring that other partners fulfil their responsibilities.

Countryside access opportunities offered by the PRow network contribute towards health and well-being initiatives and improving quality of life for residents. As they are free to access and enjoy, they can also promote social inclusion.

According to the Wales Outdoor Recreation Study (WORS) 2016-2017, a wide range of activities are enjoyed by people visiting the countryside.

The study showed that walking was the main activity undertaken by nearly three quarters of all adults in Wales during the last 12 months. Social recreation activities were also very popular, with nearly a third of people enjoying picnicking.

Table 3.2 Reasons Why People Visit the Countryside (2016-17 WORS Study)

Activity	Percentage of adults taking part 2016/17
Walking	71.4%
Picnicking	31.3%
Taking children to play area outdoors	31.1%
Informal games (e.g. frisbee or golf)	19.8%
None of these	19.5%
Running	16.9%
Wildlife watching	16.2%
Road cycling	13.0%
Swimming outdoors	12.6%
Off-road cycling or mountain biking	9.1%
Fishing	6.5%
Other watersports	4.8%
Rock climbing or caving	3.6%
Field sports (shooting / hunting)	3.5%
Horse riding	3.0%
Off-road driving or motorcycling	2.9%

Other outdoor activities	2.9%
Motorised watersports	1.5%
Don't know	0.2%

The network also plays a part in the economic development of Carmarthenshire through either direct or indirect spend in the County. Spending on tourism services, equipment, hospitality, travel, parking and any number of other support services all contribute to the local economy.

A Natural Resources Wales (NRW) report published in 2013 demonstrates the economic value of well managed and promoted countryside access provision. Their report concluded that the Wales Coast Path, which circumnavigates the coastline of Wales, generated approximately £16 million of added value to the Welsh economy (The Economic Impact of Wales Coast Path Visitor Spending on Wales 2013).



Telpyn Point

4. Other Public Access Opportunities

In addition to the PRow network there are other valuable opportunities to access the countryside such as:

Open Access Land designated under the CRoW Act, consisting of open country such as mountains and moorland and 'registered common land'. There are approximately 7600 hectares (ha.) of Open Access Land where the public have the right to roam on foot. This includes areas of 'dedicated open access land' where landowners allow free open access. An example is the Welsh Government who allow free open access to their woodland estate and in addition, also offers permissive access opportunities for mountain biking, horse riding and carriage driving.

Unclassified Road Network amounting to approximately 170 Unclassified Roads (often referred to as "Green Lanes") with vehicular rights, totalling some 150 kilometres of largely unsurfaced routes, which play a significant role in the provision of recreational routes, for all users.

Cycleways developed in response to the rapidly growing cycling market in Wales. Carmarthenshire has made significant developments in improving the opportunities for cyclists with the ambition to become the 'cycling hub of Wales'. The creation of numerous cycleways in the County which include the National Cycle Network and Safe Routes in the Community have also created opportunities for other users such as walkers, less able and disabled users and occasionally horse riders.

Under the Active Travel Act (Wales) 2013 Carmarthenshire continues to identify and improve routes for cyclists and walkers to make active travel the most attractive option for shorter journeys and to connect key sites and communities. Appendix 3 shows the number of Active Travel routes in Carmarthenshire which follow parts of the Public Rights of Way network.

- Category A – Cycle lane forming part of the carriageway, commonly 1.5m strip adjacent to nearside kerb.
- Category B – Cycle track – a highway route for cyclists not contiguous with the public footway or carriageway. Shared cycle/pedestrian paths, either segregated by a white line or un-segregated.
- Category C – Cycle trails, leisure routes through open spaces, not necessarily the responsibility of highway authority but may be maintained by an authority.
- On Road - signed route but using normal carriageway, no segregation.

Carmarthenshire County Council Sites largely owned and managed by the Authority providing valuable recreational access, often to user groups with poorer provision in the wider countryside for example people with physical disabilities and horse riders.

Coastal Access to the foreshore where public access rights exists. Beaches like Pembrey, Marros and Pendine are accessible for walking and very popular with horse riders. The nationally recognised Wales Coast Path (WCP), a linear route around the coast of Wales established between 2007 and 2012 which provides unrivalled access to the coastline of Carmarthenshire on foot, through a range of habitats and coastal landscapes. Constant improvements are being made to the WCP with help from Welsh Government funding to ensure it is as widely accessible as possible.

Permissive Access delivered in a number ways, such as through Glastir Agri-Environmental Funded Schemes, privately by individual landowners or over National Trust properties, primarily for walkers.

“Lost Ways” are routes which carry public rights over them which were in existence before 1949 but are not currently recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement for Carmarthenshire.



Llanllwni Mountain

5. MAINTENANCE

In managing the network of Public Rights of Way in Carmarthenshire the Council has to maintain surfaces of routes and bridges, signposts where they leave a metalled road and ensure that the routes are free from natural & man made obstructions. The Council must also ensure that landowners carry out their responsibilities, which includes the maintenance of Rights of Way furniture such as stiles and gates, and the removal of vegetation encroaching from the sides or above the Rights of Way.

Historically the maintenance of the Rights of Way network on the ground has been greatly under-funded and under resourced. Maintenance is a vital element for Rights of Way - neglect of essential small-scale strimming and clearance results over time in major works of tree/shrub clearance from routes and far greater issues from the perspective of both owners and users.

Since the first ROWIP 2007-2017 many aspects of the PROW maintenance have changed. Of the original thirty four active Town and Community Councils only six now carry out the same duties. The primary means of maintenance was, and still is, carried out by the Ranger Service. Nine fulltime rangers were employed to carry out these works but due to ever increasing budgetary constraints (£149,132 overall reduction in controllable maintenance budget between 2007/08 and 2017/18) the number of rangers have now been reduced to four.

As a consequence of this we now use approved contractors, on a part time basis, to do the majority of the work of vegetation clearance. This leaves the rangers free to concentrate on coordinating work with landowners and dealing with the more demanding and complex issues.

To better meet the needs of the residents and visitors to Carmarthenshire, and to meet the County Councils statutory duties, an increase of resources would be required. We aim to work closer with Town and Community Councils to encourage greater involvement from them to maintain their local PROW and help to identify a list of key priority routes within their communities.

Appendix 4 lists the participating Town & Community Councils together with details of the number of Rights of Way maintained within their areas.

It is important that environmental sustainability is considered when we plan maintenance or enhancement works. The timing and manner of maintenance will be carefully considered with regard to any relevant protected species legislation so as not to have adverse impacts on protected species or habitats. Opportunities for action to enhance habitats and species will also be sought.

6. IMPROVEMENTS

In recent years improvements on the network have been carried out using the limited PROW budget enhanced by the annual ROWIP grant (now ceased), Wales Coast Path funding and additional funding contributions from organisations such as the British Horse Society and Carmarthenshire Riders.

Since the implementation of the first ROWIP and with assistance from the funding sources mentioned above that has at least doubled the effective budget for Public Rights of Way improvements, much has been achieved.

- 1355 Public Rights of Way and other routes with public access have been worked on, this amounts to 1272kms of public access and can be broken down into:
 1. 1,099 kms footpaths,
 2. 98km bridleways,
 3. 46kms of Byways
 4. 29kms unclassified roads

- Improvement work has been completed on:
 1. The Wales Coastal Path,
 2. Tywi, Teifi and St Illtyd Trails
 3. The Heart of Wales Trail.
 4. The Cothi Trail

- The Rights of Way software package CAMS continues to be developed and improved and more information input / extracted to give meaningful reports such as those provided to the Local Access Forum at the quarterly meetings.

- 22 County Walks have been established and promoted via Tourist Information Centres and other outlets.

- Positive reaction has been received from local councils, public bodies, other organisations, land owner groups and the general public.

However, there is much more to do and the Authority will continue to seek partnership funding to enable further improvements and better promotion of walks and trails in the County.

As these improvements are completed, over time, the Maintenance team will be able to give more attention to maintenance issues. The proper maintenance of County Walks and other promoted routes must be a priority issue. The need for sustainable maintenance will increase in importance over the Plan period and is a critical factor for the ROWIP to address, subject to the availability of sufficient funding.

7. RESOURCES

In the last decade, despite reduced funding and maintenance staff resources (as outlined in section 6) the proportion of the network that is open increased from 2012 to 2017, with only a slight reduction in 2018 as evidenced by table 9.1.

Irrespective of resources our responsibilities remain the same, albeit the remit has increased with the addition of facilities such as the Heart of Wales Trail and the Cothi Trail as two examples. Measures are in place to deal with most of these issues, but the number of reports and list of requests for maintenance continues to grow due to improved contact with user groups, Community Councils and the public.

The Wales Coast Path receives Welsh Government funding through NRW which means this important national trail is adequately resourced at present.

A continuation of the annual capital budget for maintenance of £50,000 is critical. This is used as match funding for grants and to purchase materials, hiring of plant and for the use of seasonal contractors for less complex project works and general maintenance purposes. This allows significant improvements to the network to develop easier access for people of all abilities. Given the present circumstances it will be increasingly important to encourage and support Town and Community Councils to take responsibility for some of the key paths in their areas. We anticipate a mixed response to this as historically Town and Community Councils have shown a diverse range of attitudes towards getting involved with the ROW network within their boundaries.

An increased use of contract staff in 2017- 18 to cover a vegetation clearance schedule of work has enabled the Rangers to concentrate on liaison with landowners, carry out our statutory requirements and to manage and support contract staff. Promoted routes have been reduced in number in order to focus efforts and limited resources on the best walks and rides in the County to maintain them to a high standard. Plans are in place to improve the quality of information on the County Council's *Discover Carmarthenshire* website to encourage walking, cycling and horse riding for residents and to support local economies through tourism.

We intend to work with volunteers to help survey the network and to carry out simple lightly supervised tasks.

In conjunction with the Countryside Access team, greater use is now made of the CAMS digital mapping system to log, prioritise and record all works carried out or planned and is available for use by more staff than previously. Upgrading and improving the system along with ongoing staff training is essential to ensure that the Authority gets the most out of CAMS.

The Countryside Access team, responsible for managing the Definitive Map, enforcing the Public Rights of Way network and processing legal Orders, has maintained staff numbers since the implementation of the first ROWIP with the exception of periods of reduced staff numbers where vacant posts have not been filled.

As outlined in appendix 2, a significant backlog of legal Orders exists within the Countryside Access team which dates back to a period when the service was operated by very low staff numbers. The resource needed and time required to clear the backlog is difficult to quantify due to the unpredictable timescale of the Order making process combined with other the other statutory duties met by the team.

The increased remit and higher reporting numbers outlined earlier in this section also impact the available resource within the Countryside Access team but with current staff numbers progress is being made in processing some of the older legal Orders as well as newer Order applications, enforcement matters and continuous review of the Definitive Map and Statement.

Despite the significant resource challenge, improvements were achieved year on year up until 2017 as shown in the Performance Indicator results table below.

The annual Performance Indicator (5% sample) has long been the primary method of obtaining data to record the current condition of the network. From 2015 there was no longer a statutory requirement to carry out our annual performance indicator surveys however two years following the removal of the requirement Carmarthenshire recognised the significant value of the PI results and elected to resume PI style surveys of the network from 2017 as an information gathering exercise. We intend to continue this on an annual basis subject to sufficient resources to complete the process.

Table 9.1: Performance Indicator (PI) (5% Sample) Survey Results

Measures	% Pass						
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Open, Accessible and Signed (CMT/001 PI)	37.9	34.6	41.4	-	-	47.6	45.9
Open and Accessible	52.2	50.8	53.2	-	-	59.3	52.2
Open	52.2	51.1	53.9	-	-	59.3	52.3

8. INITIAL CONSULTATION

In March 2017 initial consultation letters were sent to a variety of stakeholders to outline the steps that CCC would be taking to review the Carmarthenshire ROWIP.

Local Authorities:

Ceredigion County Borough Council,
Neath Port Talbot County Borough
Council, Pembrokeshire County
Council, Powys County Council and
Swansea City Council.

A summary of Statutory Stakeholders:

National Authorities, Brecon Beacons
National Park, Tourism Businesses,
Local Access Forums, Natural
Resource Wales.

The purpose of this was to advise stakeholders of CCC's intention to review the ROWIP and the timetable for doing so.



The Carmarthen Fans

9. THE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

The Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum (LAF) played an important role in developing and shaping this Plan, particularly in respect of the aims and policies.

4 main consultation meetings were held with the LAF in respect of the new ROWIP.

1. An introduction to the process and to the Capita consultant appointed to undertake the review,
2. A workshop with the subcommittee to review the actions and policies in the previous ROWIP
3. A discussion group to comment on first draft
4. A feedback session to go through responses received following 12 week consultation

In accordance with WG Guidance, CCC has engaged the LAF in the following way;

WG ROWIP Guidance	LAF Involvement
Assisting with dialogue through contacts with national, regional and local organisations.	The LAF assisted by providing local contacts to which consultation material was circulated.
Informing the data gathering exercise including the extent to which local Rights of Way meet the present and likely future needs of the public.	LAF ROWIP subcommittee members were engaged in a review of the actions and policies of the previous ROWIP and proposed new actions and policies for the revised ROWIP
Advising on how the network could be improved for the public and where there are particular land management concerns.	The LAF ROWIP subcommittee proposed areas for improvement and this information was used to develop appropriate actions on the Action Plan.
Advising on the related issue of access to open countryside especially where new linear routes may be desirable.	The LAF have identified issues on open access land during regular LAF meetings, this information was taken into consideration during development of new ROWIP
Providing advice on prioritising implementation.	The LAF provided assistance in defining the High, Medium and Low actions within the Action Plan.
Commenting on published draft plans.	The LAF were given opportunities to provide comment and feedback on the emerging Plan.
Assisting in the resolution of conflicts between different representations when plans are issued for consultation.	Not necessary.

10. ROWIP ASSESSMENTS

Following the decision to produce a new ROWIP a number of assessments were carried out to inform and support the new document.

a. Assessing the Delivery of the Previous ROWIP

Section 6 outlines the achievements delivered during the term of the 2007-2017 ROWIP with the support of the associated ROWIP funding awarded by Natural Resources Wales.

A comprehensive review of each of the Actions and Policies contained within the 2007-2017 ROWIP was undertaken to evaluate the success of its delivery. This was first completed as an in-house exercise before being extended to the LAF ROWIP subcommittee where the actions were briefly reviewed then considered for suitability in the new ROWIP. This evaluation is presented in appendix 7.

The evaluation process highlighted those actions and policies that were realistic, within the resources and time available. This helped to inform the actions and policies going into the new ROWIP.

b. Assessment of Current and Likely Future Public Needs

In accordance with WG Guidance a 12 week consultation period was undertaken to assess user needs. The results of this exercise are presented in appendix 5. Due to the low participation rate in the consultation exercises the robustness of the data gathered was poor and therefore of limited value. The policies and actions developed for this ROWIP were therefore not based heavily on this data but rather on other available published data, Local Access Forum input and staff knowledge and expertise.

The Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey (WORS) attempts to measure participation levels and behaviours in outdoor recreation by adults living in Wales, including the associated health and economic benefits. It also covers public attitudes towards biodiversity, along with actions that people take to protect the environment.

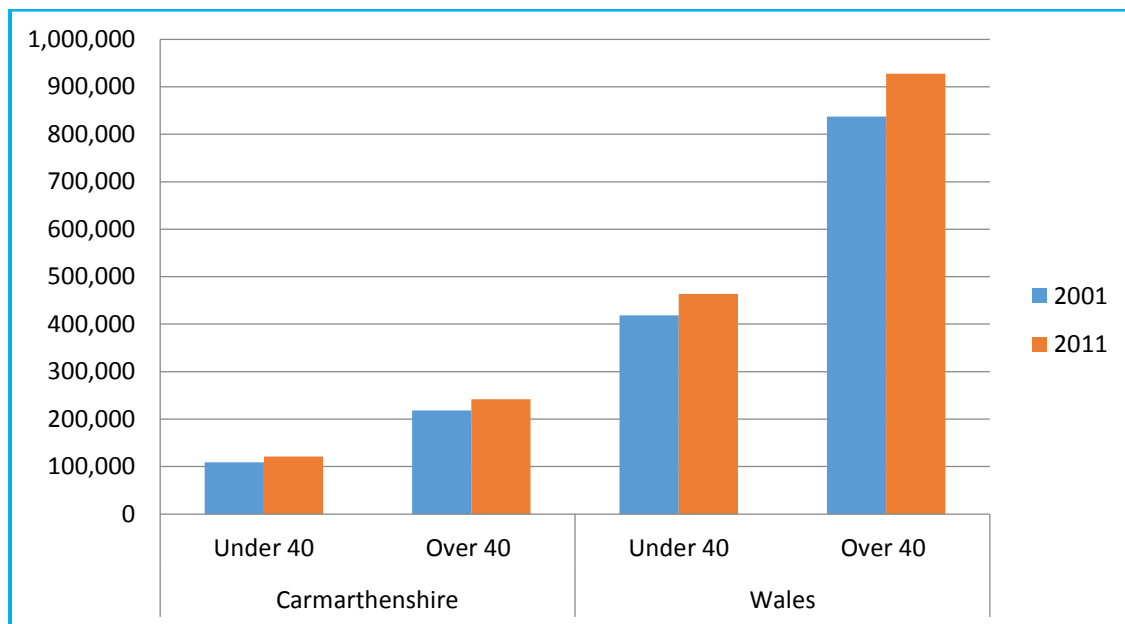
It is the largest survey of public engagement with the environment by people living in Wales, with around 6000 people interviewed throughout the year over each full 12 month period. It includes adults of all ages and backgrounds who live in both rural and urban areas.

To date the survey has been undertaken in 2008, 2011 and 2014 and comparison year on year has been used to identify any statistically significant trends in recreational behaviour or demand over that time.

Analysis of the WORS allowed a unique insight in the activity levels, behaviour and attitudes of people in Wales, and this information has been used to help shape and fine tune this Improvement Plan, as demonstrated in appendix 6.

Within the context of this Improvement Plan the WORS survey frames some of the key challenges faced by CCC in terms of attracting more people to countryside. It is known that the County has an aging population, as demonstrated by graph 9.1

Graph 9.1: 2011 Population Age



According to 2011 Census, the population in Carmarthenshire is ageing. Between 2001 and 2011 the number of people aged between 0 – 39 declined by approximately 3,500, while over the same period of time the number of people aged between 40 and 80 increased by over 9,000.

Within these ages groups there was a decline of 13% for those aged between 30 – 34, and a decline of 14% for those aged between 35 and 39 between 2001 and 2011. In the 60 – 64 age bracket there was an increase of 36%, while the number of people in the 65 – 69 age bracket increased by 27% over the same period.

It is important that the emerging ROWIP contains plans and policies designed to cater for this trend. In addition when developing an Action Plan it is important to understand the barriers that prevent people from accessing the Countryside on a more regular basis.

Barriers

According to the WORS survey for those reporting no visits in the last year, the single most common reason (28%) was a perceived lack of free time, whilst 24% cited physical disability, 19% other health reasons and 19% old age. In contrast, only 2% said there was nowhere suitable for them to go, and 1.7% said they didn't know where to go.

However, there were some significant gender and age-related differences. For older people (over 65), the main barriers were old age (41%) and physical disability (34%). For younger adults (16-44) the main barrier was lack of time (57%). Equally, women were more likely to cite physical disability and old age as their main barrier, whilst for men it was lack of time. For respondents who reported not having made a visit to the outdoors in the last four weeks, the most common reason (46%) was bad weather. The WORS survey also reports that most visits were relatively short; 50% lasted an hour or less. A substantial majority (77%) were two hours or less.

Whilst the ROWIP can do little to influence issues relating to lack of time or weather, actions can be developed so that facilities to improve access for the elderly and those with reduced mobility are implemented. In addition facilities and attractions that encourage people to stay longer need to be developed and introduced across the rights of way network.



Timber Footbridge, Llanfair ar y Bryn

An assessment of future needs must take account of the physical needs of different user groups' across the Public Rights of Way network.

Walkers

All walkers need a network which is easy to use with adequate and clear signing and waymarking where needed. This is especially true in the case of tourists who are often not familiar with the area and rely on the Ordnance Survey Mapping which shows all routes as if they were clear on the ground. They are dissuaded from walking and this reflects on both County and Town & Community Councils. There has been substantial concern over the number of routes that are obstructed by overgrown vegetation, poor furniture, fences and other problems. Detailed discussions within the Local Access Forum have noted that stiles were often not suitable for the elderly or less-able and many preferred gates or kissing gates as they were easier to negotiate.

The value of the Rights of Way network to the everyday needs of the local community has been emphasised both for leisure and other purposes. The important role that a fully open network can make to the tourist industry and its related employment in the County has also been significant. The council receives both compliments and complaints from visitors to the County, the latter generally where expectations on the ground do not match up to anticipated information from Ordnance Survey (OS) maps etc.

According to the WORS 2016/17 survey walking is the most popular countryside activity. Consequently it is important that the needs of walkers are catered for within this emerging Improvement Plan.

Horse Riders

Horse riders have the right to use bridleways, restricted byways and BOATs, giving them access to 6.7% of the County's PRow network. However, this access is not evenly distributed across the County. Equestrian off -road access is particularly lacking, but a network of byways, minor road and bridleways exist in Brechfa Forest amounting to circular rides of more than 20 miles.

The equestrian network is fragmented and links on busy roads or rural roads that are local short cuts make them increasingly dangerous for equestrians to use because of the speed and volume of motorised traffic on them. It is hoped that being recognised as vulnerable road users in the Wales Road Safety Delivery Plan will improve the safety of these links in time as increased traffic volume and development around bridleways identifies a likely increased need for equestrian provision in the future.

Horse riders require local rides but will box to areas further afield or to avoid busy roads. They are probably the most vulnerable users when sharing routes with vehicles due to the unpredictable nature of their mounts. Riders seek historic routes with natural unsealed surfaces that provide spectacular views or links between

communities and countryside access, with minimal gates that are horse friendly and easy to negotiate.

Equestrians improve their own personal health, as well as bringing added economic benefit to Wales by the increased spend as a result of such recreation.

Horse ownership provides and supports work for many in rural areas where local employment is much needed - such as farriers, vets, petrol stations, timber yards, feed merchants, farmers and the livery yards where many of these horses are kept.

The National Equine Database (2012) recorded 34,748 passported horses resident in Wales, 22,000 of these in Carmarthenshire.

Based on the British Equestrian Trade Association's finding that horse owners spend £3,600 annually on their horses this represents an annual investment by horse owners into the economy of £485 million and to Carmarthenshire of £79 million.

Equestrian tourists have to house and feed their horses as well as themselves which doubles spend per night of any other visitor to the county. With a significant number of active riding and pony clubs in the county and venues for equestrian sport, Carmarthenshire attracts equestrian visitors from neighbouring counties and further afield but more could be done to encourage them to stay longer, to access beaches, forestry and open country.

Carriage Drivers

Carriage drivers have legal access to byways and restricted byways. In Carmarthenshire byways are unsuitable for carriages due to the uneven surfaces and the general state of repair so they are not generally used. They also have access to some NRW forestry which includes Crychan Forest which attracts no fees but similar access to Brechfa Forest is chargeable, with no access at Pembrey Forest despite a successful annual event held in Pembrey Park, bringing carriages from some distance away. It is council policy not to allow equestrians to the park unless attending an organised event. Engagement with local groups is required to identify suitable routes for improvement and access to Council owned land.

Carriage driving can give access to the countryside for users who are unable to use it by other means or who are disabled. They are minority users of the PRow network and it is rare for new access to cater for them. Carriage drivers predominantly use off road areas and minor roads shared with other users.

Cycling

Cycling has long been a popular and low-cost method of transport in Carmarthenshire and this has been accentuated by improvements to routes forming the National Cycle Network, notably in its off-road sections. Overall, 29 million trips

were made during 2011 on the National Cycle Network in Wales, with 85% of users saying that they felt fitter as a result.

At Pwll Pavillion on the Millennium Coastal Path, there have been over 137,000 users in 2017, with 74% cycling and 26% walking. At Pembrey, Canal Waun Sidan, attracted over 48,000 people in 2017, 54% of them cyclists and 46% pedestrians.

Cyclists are entitled to use the same public Rights of Way that are available to horse riders. The Countryside Act 1968 extended rights on bridleways to include cyclists but again within the County the limited available network of Public Rights of Way and problems on some byways have limited opportunities.

Cycling usage is likely to increase outside of the road network and the byways/green lanes could be a useful resource in terms of assisting in meaningful and safe alternatives to busy roads.

Where such a resource offers a key strategic or community link and there are no quiet and safe alternative roads then any such improvements to the byways and green roads should take into account a robust and attractive surface which can be used by all types of cycle alongside the other users. Where quiet and secure highways offer easy access, then surfacing shared byways would be less of an issue and these byways should only be considered passable by mountain bike. It would therefore be beneficial to consider a hierarchy of byways and green lanes to meet the varied needs of users.

Active Travel

There are 10 Active Travel towns across Carmarthenshire. In total 128 Active Travel routes fall on to the Rights of Way Network. Appendix 3 illustrates those Active Travel routes that are on the Rights of Way Network.



Motorised Users

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), in its consultation paper on mechanically-propelled vehicles and Public Rights of Way, quote a figure from a user group representative of about 15,000 recreational off-road vehicle drivers active in England and Wales. In consultations for the preparation of this ROWIP a number of responses were received from motorised vehicle users and other interested parties within the County. These responses included ensuring that the ROWIP should recognise the rights of these users / riders /drivers to drive / ride along and use routes that are legally available to them. This reflects the economic importance within the tourism industry that these activities can achieve and that such activities should be encouraged within the Plan.

All motorised users of the PROW network must be fully road legal with driving licenses, road fund licenses and valid MOT's for their vehicles. It is also necessary for CCC to continue to encourage provision of suitable off road custom built facilities, properly insured and safe for riders / drivers to use within the County. These facilities should be made available to both non road legal and road legal users.

In the County the main resource available to off-road recreational motorists are unsurfaced County roads and byways. There have been 5 Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) made by the County Council and 3 others are under consideration. TRO's can be used to manage routes where safety concerns arise but will only be used as a last resort when other options have been exhausted.

Canoeists and other Paddlesports

NRW has affirmed that recreational access to water in Wales is within the remit for Local Access Forum and the ROWIP and therefore in contrast to Carmarthenshire's first ROWIP, access to waterways for canoeists and other paddlesports should be recognised and considered in future access management.

Paddlesport is generally recognised as being a positive activity for physical and mental health and general well-being. It also contributes to the economy and has low environmental impact.

According to Canoe Wales information access to waterways is one of the main limiting factors to greater paddlesport participation, limited often due to lack of clarity over legal rights on waterways.

This is a complex issue which the Welsh Government propose to resolve through future legislative reform.

c. Current and Emerging Legislation, Plans and Policies

The ROWIP must take account of the numerous other policy areas and legislative provisions with complementary themes and objectives. Policies and Legislation around Transport, Health, Wellbeing and Conservation, to name only a few, should be taken account of and the revised ROWIP should ultimately work alongside them.

The Policies and Actions contained in the revised ROWIP both compliment and contribute towards the aims and objectives of a number of pieces of both Welsh and UK legislation.

Current and emerging legislation, plans and policies that have been taken account of in the development of the new ROWIP are detailed in appendix 8.



Byway Open to All Traffic, Llanybydder

d. Evaluation of Completeness – Record of Limitations

Welsh Government guidance for the ROWIP review requests that an evaluation is undertaken which assesses the record of limitations and authorised structures on the network and the completeness of that record. This assessment should include the processes in place for their authorisation and is relevant in the Councils existing and ongoing policy of least restrictive access.

In this context a limitation generally refers to a stile or gate on the network which effectively limits the rights of the public. Limitations should be recorded, 'if it is not recorded, the limitation does not exist' (Ridall & Trevelyan 2007) and on that basis should be considered an unauthorised obstruction.

The purpose of the evaluation is to address 3 key functions;

- To inform the public of the local arrangements for the regulation of limitations;
- To provide a picture of current practice across Wales; and
- To provide an opportunity for authorities to consider their procedures and, if necessary, address any issues identified.

The Definitive Statement of Public Rights of Way for Carmarthenshire provides partial information in respect of limitations on the County's Public Rights of Way network.

The current Definitive Statement for Carmarthenshire, prepared under the provisions of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949) includes limitations recorded by the Parish Councils and submitted to the Local Authority as part of the original parish survey. The quality of information and level of detail submitted by the Parish Councils during the surveys varied enormously and not all of the limitations and authorised structures recorded were included in the final Definitive Statement. This means that there is some disparity between the recorded limitations held on the Definitive Statement and the situation on the ground but the information recorded provided a good basis for our record of limitations.

Additional information in respect of limitations has been added to the Definitive Statement largely through the Public Path Order and Modification Order processes which have been ongoing since the first publication of Carmarthenshire's first consolidated Definitive Map and Statement. This is an ongoing process which increases the number of accurately recorded limitations contained in Carmarthenshire's Statement on a continuous basis but the document is still far from a complete record.

Carmarthenshire's more complete record of limitations is the data held on the CAMS digital mapping system. Information in respect of structures on the network is regularly inputted and updated and the CAMS system is used as a day to day management tool. Information provided to the public in respect of limitations is often taken from CAMS and, where survey data is sufficiently detailed, can provide a complete picture of the limitations present on the network.

Authorisation of structures/limitations outside of the legal order process is carried out under section 147 of the Highways Act 1980. Landowners and/or managers must make an application to the local Authority to gain permission to erect a new limitation on the network.

The authorisation of structures through this process are not reflected in the Definitive Statement but are held as a permanent record on the individual path file and recorded on the CAMS system.



Llangathen Church

e. Assessment Summary

Taking into account the findings of the assessments that were completed for the purposes of informing the new Carmarthenshire ROWIP, the aims, policies and table of actions contained in section 11 have been developed.

Assessing the delivery of the previous ROWIP gave us our initial findings in terms of what can be achieved during the term of a ten year plan. The review highlighted many valuable indicators to consider when determining the actions and policies for the new ROWIP such as what is realistic in terms of scope, how the availability of funding can affect delivery and how actions should be written in such a way that they may be quantified. The 2007 table of actions and policies was also reviewed with the LAF as a separate exercise which gave a good indication of what had been of value to PROW users and therefore should rollover into the new plan and what new actions and policies should be added to meet likely future needs.

Current and likely future needs were partly assessed by a public consultation exercise. Unfortunately it delivered little in the way of robust data due to low participation in the varied exercises. This conveyed a very narrow perspective on what is valued in terms of public access opportunities and what might be needed in the future. The data could be considered supportive of the actions contained in the new ROWIP but it did little to provide a basis for developing those actions. Data obtained from published sources and professional organisations such as WORS and Canoe Wales gleaned more robust and comprehensive data on current public use of the network and their likely future needs, which has been used to develop the table of actions and agree our aims and policies going forward.

An assessment of Legislation and Policy has revealed the significant level of crossover and commonality between the ROWIP aims and policies and the various Acts, plans and policies currently published or in draft. Common themes such as well-being, sustainable travel, health and conservation appear alongside collaborative working and shared resources. This assessment illustrates the importance of the aims, policies and actions published in the new ROWIP aligning with the requirements of other departments, the Authority as a whole and outside organisations as well as being compliant with the provisions of relevant legislation. The agreed ROWIP policies as well as the numerous partnerships identified in the table of actions should ensure that this is the case.

The evaluation of completeness of Carmarthenshire's record of limitations has identified a notable weakness in the formal recording of limitations and lawful structures on the network. Given the recognised understanding that in the event a structure is not recorded it should not exist on the network, Local Authorities seemingly need to work towards comprehensive record of limitations and structures to effectively assert and protect the public in their enjoyment of the public rights of way network. There is both a policy and an action contained in section 11 that will help improve the process of recording limitations and enforce in cases of unlawful structures.

As already stated earlier in the plan, some of the actions and policies detailed in this plan are aspirational. They have the potential to deliver improvements to public access in Carmarthenshire subject to securing appropriate funding throughout the 10 year term.

11. AIMS, POLICIES & ACTION PLAN

Some of the Action Plan and Policies listed in this section are aspirational. They outline the activities and initiatives identified as valuable to Public Rights of Way and Access and that will be introduced and implemented if the relevant funding can be secured.

In reviewing the Rights of Way network there has been an opportunity to bring together actions and policies specifically concerned with the PRow network, with associated, wider access opportunities. These are included below.

Analysis of the work to date has drawn out a series of themes and aims which form the basis for the ROWIP.

A) AIMS

- Aim 1:** Ensure that the Rights of Way network is easy to use and enjoyable.
- A. Rights of Way Improvement
 - B. Rights of Way Maintenance
 - C. Rights of Way Enforcement
 - D. Access for All
- Aim 2:** Provide a reliable, accurate, up to date and widely available digital Definitive Map & Statement.
- A. Maintain progress in updating the Definitive Map
 - B. Produce a digital Definitive Map
 - C. Pursue Lost Ways claims
- Aim 3:** Ensure the opportunities for countryside access are easy to use and enjoyable.
- A. Country Parks
 - B. Open Country/Open Access Land
 - C. Picnic Areas & Nature Reserves
 - D. Active Travel Routes
 - E. Coast and Forestry
- Aim 4:** Continue to work in partnership with all relevant, interested parties to achieve improved facilities for Countryside Access.
- A. Promote Partnerships
 - B. Volunteers
- Aim 5:** Promotion – maintain and improve the range and quality of public information on access and PRow, as well as make it more widely available in appropriate formats.
- A. General
 - B. Publicity Material

B) POLICIES

<p>POLICY 1</p>	<p>Waymarking along a route will be integral to any Rights of Way improvement scheme, together with priority waymarking on routes identified as difficult to follow by users.</p>
<p>POLICY 2:</p>	<p>Develop prioritised improvement programmes by adopting the appropriate scoring system. Scoring systems will guarantee consistency in prioritisation and should take into account the following criteria as a minimum requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Statutory Duties b. Health and Safety concerns c. Consideration of Promoted Routes d. Under provisioned user groups e. Funding Deadlines f. Local Member & Community Council Support g. LAF Support h. High levels of public support i. Consideration of wider County Council objectives
<p>POLICY 3:</p>	<p>There will be a presumption to leave Rights of Way surfaces in their permeable / natural state other than those selected as priority routes for people with limited mobility or where ground conditions make it essential for reasonable access.</p>
<p>POLICY 4:</p>	<p>The Council will work with landowners and land managers to improve access for all by adopting a “least restrictive option” for all amendments to the network and a pro-active approach on improvement to selected routes. This will comprise the order of a gap, gate, then stile, subject to the essential needs for stock management and the liabilities of the landowner for the structures.</p> <p>Managing access will aim to accommodate the management needs of landowners as far as possible whilst maximising accessibility for all, including mobility/visually impaired.</p>

POLICY 5:	<p>Where applications are made for new furniture, there will be a presumption that structures will be kept to a minimum. Permitted structures will comply with Policy 4 above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structures which are authorised will provide the least restrictive option for users unless there are over-whelming stock management reasons for a less accessible option to be permitted. • On footpaths there will be a presumption in favour of the use of gates. • On bridleways there will be a presumption in favour of bridle gates fitted with bridle latches.
POLICY 6:	<p>Produce an Equestrian Strategy designed to promote and develop an accessible network for equestrian use.</p>
POLICY 7:	<p>Develop prioritised annual maintenance programmes by adopting the appropriate scoring system. Scoring systems will guarantee consistency in prioritisation and should take into account the following criteria as a minimum requirement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Statutory Duties b. Health and Safety concerns c. Consideration of Promoted Routes d. Under provisioned user groups e. Funding Deadlines f. Local Member & Community Council Support g. LAF Support h. High levels of public support i. Consideration of wider County Council objectives
POLICY 8:	<p>Routes which carry both public and private rights of access - CCC will undertake maintenance of Public Rights of Way according to the demand and needs of the public in accordance with the prioritised matrix.</p> <p>Private rights and/or easements which may exist in conjunction with a Public Right of Way will not be a maintenance consideration.</p>
POLICY 9:	<p>CCC will consider applications from third parties to change the surface of a Right of Way subject to a compatible approach, future maintenance commitments and a review of its impact on other users.</p>

POLICY 10:	CCC will work constructively with Landowners to resolve Public Rights of Way disputes / issues before resulting to legal recourse.
POLICY 11:	Keep CAMS up to date with all enforcement matters reported/surveyed (e.g. obstruction [natural/manmade], missing signs/misleading signs, dangerous livestock/landowners etc.) to be dealt with in line with the Enforcement Protocol.
POLICY 12:	Prosecution will be considered on repeat offences, where the authority is prevented from taking direct action on a Right of Way or where a landowner/occupier fails to apply for a diversion to remedy a particular obstruction.
POLICY 13:	Recover from applicants for temporary closures the full cost of advertising and any other associated costs to the Council.
POLICY 14:	Diversion orders will only be considered by the Council where it is shown to be the most cost effective and practical means of resolving historic / long standing problems on a Public Right of Way. Diverted routes are to be clearly way marked prior to Order coming into force and the cost of Orders to be covered by the landowner if they are the inherent cause.
POLICY 15:	Retain, review and enhance (wherever possible and in agreement with landowners) suitable opportunities, as identified by user groups, for country-side access for those with limited mobility and other impairments.
POLICY 16:	Use approved scoring matrix to define Public Path Order priorities which give consideration to such criteria as H&S, reduced maintenance burden, threat from development, benefit to network, political support and wider Council strategies/policies.

POLICY 17:	Use approved scoring matrix to define Definitive Map Modification Order priorities which give consideration to such criteria as age of application, quality/validity of application, political support, and threat from development and value to network.
POLICY 18:	Applicants will be required to pay for the costs of diversions/extinguishments together with the cost of works required to open the new route.
POLICY 19:	Applications for Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) Orders should be received, considered and ideally a resolution to make the Order reached before construction commences. TCPA Diversions will only be permitted where it can be proven that a PRow must be diverted to enable the development to be carried out and where an acceptable and comparable alternative route will be provided as far as is possible.
POLICY 20:	Unauthorised construction activity that obstructs a Right of Way will be considered as an obstruction and dealt with under the enforcement policy/protocol.
POLICY 21:	Use of permissive routes will be limited and only progressed where there are substantial short term benefits involving minimal expenditure.
POLICY 22:	Work closely with other divisions within both the Highways and Transportation service and the Leisure service and use joined up working and collaborative planning to better enforce, fund, improve and promote the PRow network.
POLICY 23:	Continue to promote and encourage responsible use of the countryside and respect for those that live and work in the countryside.
POLICY 24:	Actively encourage participation in countryside access from all sections of society using all widely accessible forms of promotion to maximise reach.

C. ACTION PLAN

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (incl. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 1: ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE					
A. RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT					
ACTION 1A: To increase the proportion of PROW that are open, easy to use and well signed by reopening and improving a minimum of 100km p.a (4.6% of network)	High	£150k	No ROWIP funding lost	2022	CCC
ACTION 1B: To increase the proportion of PROW that are open, easy to use and well signed by reopening and improving a minimum of 200km p.a	Low	£300k	No	2029	CCC
ACTION 2: Seek to maintain 2017 Countryside Access budget allocation plus inflation over the 10 year period of this Strategy.	High	£50K	Yes	2029	CCC

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
ACTION 3: Ensure that the Wales Coastal Path is maintained to highest possible standard in conjunction with Powys and Ceredigion utilising the Coast Path Officer jointly appointed for the role and utilising WG funding for the purpose. Look to improve appropriate sections to provide access for all.	High	£50k	Yes	2022	CCC WG NRW Powys CC Ceredigion CC
ACTION 4a: Bridleways, Byways & Green Roads (U/C roads) – work with Byway User Group, BHS and other user groups to improve selected highways, byways, bridleways and other suitable access land for equestrian users.	High	£32k	No - £16k awarded for works to Byways and UCR's. No specific Bridleway funding.	2022	CCC BHS User Groups
ACTION 4b: Explore opportunities to develop regional Equestrian Trails and additional equestrian routes within Carmarthenshire as more money is made available.	Med	£15k	No	2025	CCC BHS User Groups
ACTION 5: Rights of Way that could be used to gain recreational access to waterways for canoes and similar waterborne craft should maintained to allow for this purpose.					

AIM 1: ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE

B. RIGHTS OF WAY MAINTENANCE

<p>ACTION 6: Improve performance on signposting to increase use of rights of way “Easy to Use”</p>	High	£12.5k	Yes	2022	CCC User Groups
<p>ACTION 7: Annual Community Maintenance will be prioritised by the Countryside Access team. Town/Community Councils will be approached by the Countryside Access unit requesting that they to exercise their powers of PRow maintenance within their council area.</p>	High	>£50k	No Community Council assistance will increase achievability of this action.	2021	CCC Town & Community Councils Local Access Forum User Groups
<p>ACTION 8: Seek additional maintenance funding to enable a long term, sustainable, high quality access network, in conjunction with neighbouring Welsh authorities.</p>	High	£50k	N/A	2022	CCC, WG PCC, BBNP SCC, NPT, CCC

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
<p>ACTION 9:</p> <p>To ensure that all existing promoted Strategic Trails and County Walks are open, available, well maintained, signed and waymarked. Subject all walks and trails to annual review taking account of quality, suitability, popularity and resources available.</p>	High	£10k - £50k	Yes	2022	CCC User Groups
<p>ACTION 10:</p> <p>In conjunction with the Carmarthenshire Byways User Group and other relevant user groups, work to ensure that all Byways & U/C Highways where vehicular rights have been permanently restricted continue to be maintained and are kept open and available for remaining lawful users within resources available.</p>	Med	£10k - £50k	Yes – where possible	2025	CCC BHS
<p>ACTION 11:</p> <p>Continue to work towards a target of 100% open and easy to use network of bridleways in the County.</p>	High	£10k	Yes	2023	CCC BHS User Groups

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
ACTION 12: Clearance and improvement of suitable, selected byways/"green roads" in consultation with user groups subject to ongoing funding.	Med	£16k	Yes	2021	CCC User Groups
AIM 1: ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE C. RIGHTS OF WAY ENFORCEMENT					
ACTION 13: Define an Enforcement Protocol for policies/procedures to assert and protect the rights of the public where discussion, negotiation, goodwill and cooperation have failed by 2020.	High	£18k	Yes	2021	CCC
ACTION 14: Use approved scoring matrix to define enforcement priorities such as Health & Safety considerations, to ensure issues are dealt with fairly and in a timely manner in accordance with agreed criteria.	Med	£4k	Yes	2021	CCC

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 1: ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE					
D. ACCESS FOR ALL					
<p>ACTION 15:</p> <p>Adopt the policy of Least Restrictive Access and follow the principles of "By All Reasonable Means" using appropriate advice and guidance to improve the accessibility of all countryside access schemes.</p>	High	£20k	Yes	2029	CCC Partners
<p>ACTION 16:</p> <p>Engage with established relevant advisory groups such as the Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition on opportunities to upgrade the network for people with disabilities and less able users. Also, take active steps to identify and appoint a LAF member to represent the interests and needs of disabled, elderly and less abled users.</p>	Med	£2k	Yes	2024	CCC Local Access Forum
<p>ACTION 17:</p> <p>Develop an Equestrian Policy in line with Policy 6 to promote and develop an accessible network for equestrian use</p>	High	£6k	Yes	2022	CCC, BHS Equestrian User Groups & Businesses

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 2: PROVIDE A RELIABLE, ACCURATE, UP TO DATE AND WIDELY AVAILABLE DEFINITIVE MAP & STATEMENT A. MAINTAIN PROGRESS IN UPDATING THE DEFINITIVE MAP					
ACTION 18: Improve 2007-2017 performance by processing total 40 orders p.a. to Order making stage (to include both Public Path Orders [diversions, creations, extinguishments] & Modification Orders [claims, route anomalies, deletions])	High	£30k	Yes	2023	CCC
ACTION 19: Improve annual Order making performance to 45-50 Orders pa with those Orders being predominantly outstanding DMMO's.	Med	> £50k	No	2021	CCC
ACTION 20: Carry out a review of the appropriate costs to be charged for Orders. Initial review to be completed Nov 2017 with charges to be reviewed every year thereon.	Med	£2k	Yes	2029	CCC

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 2: PROVIDE A RELIABLE, ACCURATE, UP TO DATE AND WIDELY AVAILABLE DEFINITIVE MAP & STATEMENT B. PRODUCE A DIGITAL DEFINITIVE MAP					
Action 21: Continue to work towards 100% audit of digital map of PRow (CAMS) though ongoing continuous review of digital PRow layer.	Med	£15k	Yes	2024	CCC
AIM 2: PROVIDE A RELIABLE, ACCURATE, UP TO DATE AND WIDELY AVAILABLE DEFINITIVE MAP & STATEMENT C. LOST WAYS					
Action 22: Consider evidence received for Modification Orders to add unregistered historic Rights of Way to the Definitive Map and Statement as a matter of priority.	High	£10k	Yes	2026	CCC
AIM 3: ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE A. COUNTRYSIDE PARKS					
Action 23: CCC will continue to promote the Council's Country Parks as facilities for the public to access	High	£2k	Yes	2029	CCC NRW

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 3: ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE B. OPEN COUNTRY					
Action 24: To ensure all maintained or improved points of public access to blocks of access land are signed appropriately with the national access symbols.	Low	£1k	Yes	2029	CCC, NRW Local Access Forum User Groups
AIM 3: ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE C. PICNIC AREAS & NATURE RESERVES					
Action 25: Maintain existing picnic sites and nature reserves remaining under the care of the local authority / countryside access care team and ensure that robust maintenance arrangements are put in place to ensure all sites remain in good order.	Med	£15k	Yes	2024	CCC Partners

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 3: ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE D. ACTIVE TRAVEL					
ACTION 26: Assist the Transport Strategy & Infrastructure team in developing and maintaining cycleways in accordance with Carmarthenshire Cycle Strategy and the Active Travel Act.	Med	£100k	Yes	2021/2024	CCC, WG Sustrans User Groups Landowners
ACTION 27: Provide regular advice the Transport Strategy and Infrastructure team in schemes being developed under Active Travel and/or the Walking and Cycling Strategy.	Med	£1.5k	Yes	2024	CCC WG Sustrans User Groups

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 3: ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE E. COAST AND FORESTRY					
ACTION 28: Work with partner organisations and relevant stakeholders to maximise access to coast and forestry for as many user groups as possible, making efforts to improve access to all those underrepresented in other areas of the access network.	High	£2k	Yes	2024	CCC, NRW Private Forestry Managers The Crown Estate Private
ACTION 29: Incorporate in publicity which areas of open access forestry and coastline are available to which user groups.	Med	£1k	Yes	2022	CCC NRW

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 4: WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ALL RELEVANT INTERESTED PARTIES TO ACHIEVE IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS A. PROMOTE PARTNERSHIPS					
ACTION 30: Continue to carry out surveys of the access network on a community by community basis in conjunction with local councils and volunteer groups.	Med	£30k	Yes	2024	CCC Town & Community Councils Local Ramblers Community Service
ACTION 31: Continue to promote partnerships with community councils, landowners/occupiers and other public and private organisations, to maximise resources available for improved countryside access.	High	£5k	Yes	2022	CCC, LAF T & C Councils NRW National Trust
ACTION 32: Secure s.106 funding for improvements to Rights of Way and for the development of wider access opportunities for all, to meet the needs generated by new development.	High	£2k	Yes	2024	CCC Developers

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
<p>ACTION 33:</p> <p>Continue to work in conjunction with agri-environment schemes to achieve long term improvements and carry out enforcement on the access network.</p>	Med	£10k	Yes	2024	CCC NRW WG
<p>ACTION 34:</p> <p>Continue to work jointly to promote a more sustainable use of the PRow network through links with public transport providers e.g. development of train and/or bus walks.</p>	Med	£4k	Yes	2026	CCC Transport Providers
<p>ACTION 35:</p> <p>Continue to liaise with BHS and other horse riding groups to improve equine provision, maintaining a working knowledge of the NRW-BHS Concordat and working jointly with off road driving organisations such as the TRF and Tread Lightly to identify off road driving opportunities in the County.</p>	High	£4k	Yes	2021	CCC BHS TRF Green Lane Association Treadlightly

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 4: WORK IN PARTNERSHIP TO ACHIEVE IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS B. VOLUNTEERS					
ACTION 36: Maximise use of local organised voluntary groups and volunteers for the preparation for and provision of improvement and maintenance programmes on the PRow network.	High	Up to £50k	Yes	2021	CCC, NRW User Groups Ramblers Keep Wales Tidy Pride in Your Patch
AIM 5 – PROMOTION – MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE RANGE AND QUALITY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, WIDELY AVAILABLE IN APPROPRIATE FORMATS A. GENERAL					
ACTION 37: Work with relevant departments and agencies to improve opportunities for countryside access for people living in areas of deprivation.	Medium	£5k	Yes	2024	CCC Partners

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
AIM 5 – PROMOTION – MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE RANGE AND QUALITY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, WIDELY AVAILABLE IN APPROPRIATE FORMATS B. PUBLICITY MATERIAL					
ACTION 38: Provide up to date promotional material for promoted Rights of Way.	High	£3k	Yes	2021	CCC
ACTION 39: Alongside NRW guidebooks and online promotion of the WCP, ensure the information on the CCC website for the Carmarthenshire section of the WCP is up to date and accurate.	High	£2k	Yes	2021	CCC NRW
ACTION 40: Ensure that all promotional material relating to current County Walks are kept up to date by ongoing review.	High	£5k	Yes	2021	CCC

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per annum	Within available resources (inc. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
<p>ACTION 41:</p> <p>Consider creating new County Walks or reintroducing previously promoted walks where a need is identified by local people or user groups and when sufficient resource to create, improve, maintain and promote additional routes is available. In doing so consider the availability of public transport connections.</p>	Low	£20k	No	2029	CCC
<p>ACTION 42:</p> <p>Further improve the County Council website by providing information on countryside access opportunities and for all users, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Improved general information for public and landowners. b. Application packs for DMMO's (claims) and PPO's (diversions, extinguishments etc.) c. Online complaints forms d. Online register of DMMO & PPO applications and s31(6) deposits. e. Operational status of PRoW network <p>Also, work to improve information relating to the Carmarthenshire LAF by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Adding more general information b. Publication of meeting minutes c. Providing updates of meetings and venues 	Med	£8k	No	2025	CCC Local Access Forum

Actions	Priority H/ M/ L	Estimated Cost per Annum	Within available resources (incl. grants)	Target / Date	Lead Body / Partners
<p>ACTION 43: Supply regular information regarding improved horse riding, equestrian and tourism opportunities in the County to local BHS representative, Carmarthenshire Riders and other similar groups to be included in their promotional materials. Encourage wide circulation of promotional materials.</p>	High	£2k	Yes	2022	CCC
<p>ACTION 44: Provide information regarding opportunities for those with limited mobility and other impairments to groups such as the Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition to be included in their promotional materials. Encourage wide circulation of promotional materials.</p>	High	£2k	Yes	2022	CCC Partners
<p>ACTION 45: Promote the social, health and economic benefits of walking, riding, and cycling through events activity programmes within country parks, the CCC walking and cycling strategy and forthcoming CCC equestrian strategy.</p>	High	£4k	Yes	2025	CCC

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

ROWIP Consultees

LOCAL MEMBERS (72)

- Cllr. Fozia Akhtar
- Cllr. Sue Allen
- Cllr. Liam Bowen
- Cllr. Kim Broom
- Cllr. Cefin Campbell
- Cllr. Mansel Charles
- Cllr. Deryk Cundy
- Cllr. Suzy Curry
- Cllr. Ann Davies
- Cllr. Glynog Davies
- Cllr. Handel Davies
- Cllr. Ieuan Davies
- Cllr. Joseph Davies
- Cllr. Karen Davies
- Cllr. Sharen Davies
- Cllr. Arwel Davies
- Cllr. Anthony Davies
- Cllr. Emlyn Dole
- Cllr. Jeff Edmunds
- Cllr. Penny Edwards
- Cllr. Colin Evans
- Cllr. Hazel Evans
- Cllr. Linda Evans
- Cllr. Rob Evans
- Cllr. Tyssul Evans
- Cllr. Amanda Fox
- Cllr. Jeanette Gilasbey
- Cllr. Deian Harries
- Cllr. Carl J. Harris
- Cllr. Tina Higgins
- Cllr. Ken Howell
- Cllr. Philip Hughes
- Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths
- Cllr. Andrew James
- Cllr. John James
- Cllr. Rob James
- Cllr. David Jenkins
- Cllr. Gareth John
- Cllr. Betsan Jones
- Cllr. Carys Jones
- Cllr. Dot Jones
- Cllr. Gary Jones
- Cllr. Irfon Jones
- Cllr. Jim Jones
- Cllr. Alun Lenny
- Cllr. Jean Lewis
- Cllr. Ken Lloyd
- Cllr. Kevin Madge
- Cllr. Shirley Matthews
- Cllr. Andre McPherson
- Cllr. Eryl Morgan
- Cllr. Shahana Najmi
- Cllr. Dai Nicholas
- Aled Vaughan Owen
- Cllr. Dorian Phillips
- Cllr. Susan Phillips
- Cllr. Darren Price
- Cllr. John Prosser
- Cllr. Louvain Roberts
- Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone

- Cllr. Hugh Shepardson
- Cllr. Alan Speake
- Cllr. Mair Stephens
- Cllr. Bill Thomas
- Cllr. Dai Thomas
- Cllr. Edward Thomas
- Cllr. Gareth Thomas
- Cllr. Gwyneth Thomas
- Cllr. Jane Tremlett
- Cllr. Elwyn Williams
- Cllr. Dorian Williams
- Cllr. Eirwyn Williams

TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCILS (72)

- Abergwili
- Abernant
- Ammanford Town
- Betws
- Bronwydd
- Carmarthen Town
- Cenarth
- Cilycwm
- Cilymaenllwyd
- Cwmamman Town
- Cynwyl Elfed
- Cynwyl Gaeo
- Dyffryn Cennen
- Eglwys Gymyn
- Gorslas
- Henllan Fallteg

- Kidwelly Town
- Laugharne Town
- Llanarthne
- Llanboidy
- Llanddarog
- Llanddeusant
- Llanddowror and Llanmiloe
- Llandeilo Town
- Llandovery Town
- Llandybie
- Llandyfaelog
- Llanedi
- Llanegwad
- Llanelli Rural
- Llanelli Town
- Llanfair-ar-y-bryn
- Llanfihangel Aberbythych
- Llanfihangel ar arth
- Llanfihangel Rhos y Corn
- Llanfynydd
- Llangadog
- Llangain
- Llangathen
- Llangeler
- Llangennech
- Llangunnor
- Llangyndeyrn
- Llangynin
- Llangynog
- Llanllawddog
- Llanllwni
- Llannon

- Llanpumsaint
- Llansadwrn
- Llansawel
- Llansteffan & Llanybri
- Llanwinio
- Llanwrda
- Llanybydder
- Llanycrwys
- Manordeilo & Salem
- Meidrim
- Myddfai
- Newcastle Emlyn Town
- Newchurch & Merthyr
- Pembrey & Burry Port Town
- Pencarreg
- Pendine
- Pontyberem
- Cwarter Bach
- St Clears Town
- St Ishmael
- Talley
- Tre-lech a'r Betws
- Trimsaran
- Whitland

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (3)

- Jonathan Edwards MP
- Nia Griffith MP
- Simon Hart MP

ASSEMBLY MEMBERS (3)

- Adam Price AM
- Angela Burns AM
- Lee Waters AM

NEIGHBOURING LOCAL AUTHORITIES/NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITIES (7)

- Brecon Beacons NPA
- Ceredigion County Council
- Neath Port Talbot County
Borough Council
- Pembrokeshire Coast National
Park Authority (NPA)
- Pembrokeshire County Council
- Powys County Council
- Swansea Council

LOCAL ACCESS FORUMS (7)

- Carmarthenshire Local Access
Forum - Members, Observers
and Advisors
- Brecon Beacons NPA
- Ceredigion
- Neath Port Talbot
- Pembrokeshire/Pembrokeshire
Coast NPA
- Powys
- Swansea

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY
COUNCIL SERVICES (8)

- CCC Highways
- CCC Planning/Conservation
- CCC Transport Strategy & Infrastructure
- CCC Tourism
- CCC Passenger Transport
- CCC Media & Marketing
- CCC Education & Childrens Services
- CCC Pride In Your Patch

ORGANISATIONS, CLUBS, ACCESS
INTEREST GROUPS & DISABILITY
INTEREST GROUPS (67)

- All Wales Ethnic Minority Association
- Association of National Park Authorities Wales
- Autism Cymru
- Auto Cycle Union (ACU)
- Beacons Riding Club
- BHS Local Representative
- Brechfa Riding Club
- British Driving Society (BDS)
- British Horse Society (BHS)
- British Motorcyclists Federation (BMF)

- Byways & Bridleways Trust (BBT)
- CADW
- Cambrian Caving Council
- Canoe Wales
- Carmarthenshire Riders
- Carmarthenshire Tourist Association
- Country Landowners Association
- County Surveyors Society – Wales Committee
- Cwmamman Riding Club
- Cyclists' Touring Club (CTC)
- Demetia Services
- Depression Alliance
- Disability Wales
- Duke of Edinbrough
- Equal Opportunities Commission Wales
- Farmers Union of Wales
- Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group
- Farming Connect
- Federation of Young Farmers Clubs
- Green Lane Association
- Heart of Wales Forum
- Heart of Wales Line Trail Association
- Keep Wales Tidy
- LARA (Land Access & Recreation Association)

- Law Society in Wales
- Long Distance Walkers Association
- Mental Health Wales
- Menter Bro Dynefwr
- Menter Cwm Gwendraeth
- Mind Cymru
- Mudtrek Mountain Bike Wales
- National Farmers Union
- National Trust
- Natural Resources Wales
- Network Rail
- Open Spaces Society (OSS)
- Ordnance Survey
- Ramblers Association
- Red Rock Forestry
- Royal Institute for the Blind
- Royal Institute for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
- Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
- Sports Council for Wales
- Sustrans Cymru
- Tenant Farmers Association
- The Pony Club UK
- Tir Coed
- Towy Valley Riding Club
- Trail Riders Fellowship
- UPM Tillhill
- Visit Wales
- Wales Council for the Deaf
- Wales Scouts Council
- Wales Trekking and Riding Association
- Welsh Orienteering Association
- Welsh Trail Riders Association
- Woodland Trust

ONLINE

- CCC Website
- Facebook
- Twitter

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

- Carmarthen Journal
- Evening Post
- Llanelli Star
- South Wales Guardian

Appendix 2

The Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way

All Public Rights of Way in Carmarthenshire – footpaths, bridleways and byways are recorded on the Definitive Map and Definitive Statement. If a way is shown on the map then it is conclusive evidence of Public Rights along the way unless there has been a legally authorised amendment. However, the fact that a way is not shown on the map is not proof that the public has no rights over it and thus, the map may be subject to change.

Carmarthenshire County Council has a statutory duty, under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, to keep the map up to date. The Council also has a duty to investigate any application to add or delete Rights of Way or to change their status – either by upgrading or downgrading.

The Definitive Map is accompanied by the Definitive Statement. This is a description which may contain more information about individual paths, such as the start and end points, width of the way, etc.

The Definitive Map is available digitally via the Countryside Access Management System (CAMS). The map usually requires amendments and updating as a result of requests to create, divert or extinguish paths. Development, or the discovery of new historical evidence, may also result in amendments having to be made. A major part of maintaining this document is modifying it by legal order to add previously unrecorded rights of way to the map. However, many routes with Public Rights may be unregistered. This is particularly relevant in respect of “lost ways”.

Legislation has been passed in England which effectively creates a cut-off date of 2026 after which no routes can be considered for addition to the Definitive Map and Statement supported purely by historical information. This is anticipated to also have an impact on Wales if it is implemented, inevitably leading to an increased number of applications as the cut-off date approaches.

The procedure by which these claimed routes can become definitive Rights of Way, and have the same legal status, is by means of a complex and often contentious legal process, known as a Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO). This is usually dependent on historical documentation and testimony of user evidence. In addition orders may be processed that create divert or extinguish a path or reclassify it, these are known as Legal Events. These orders recognise new paths, extinguish paths, divert paths or change the status of paths. The processes to make these changes include:

- i. Public Path Orders (PPOs) agreed by the landowner, the Unitary Authority and users. These orders are processed under the Highways Act 1980 and Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

- ii. Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs) confirmed as a result of presumed rights, claims or the discovery of relevant historical evidence. These orders are processed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

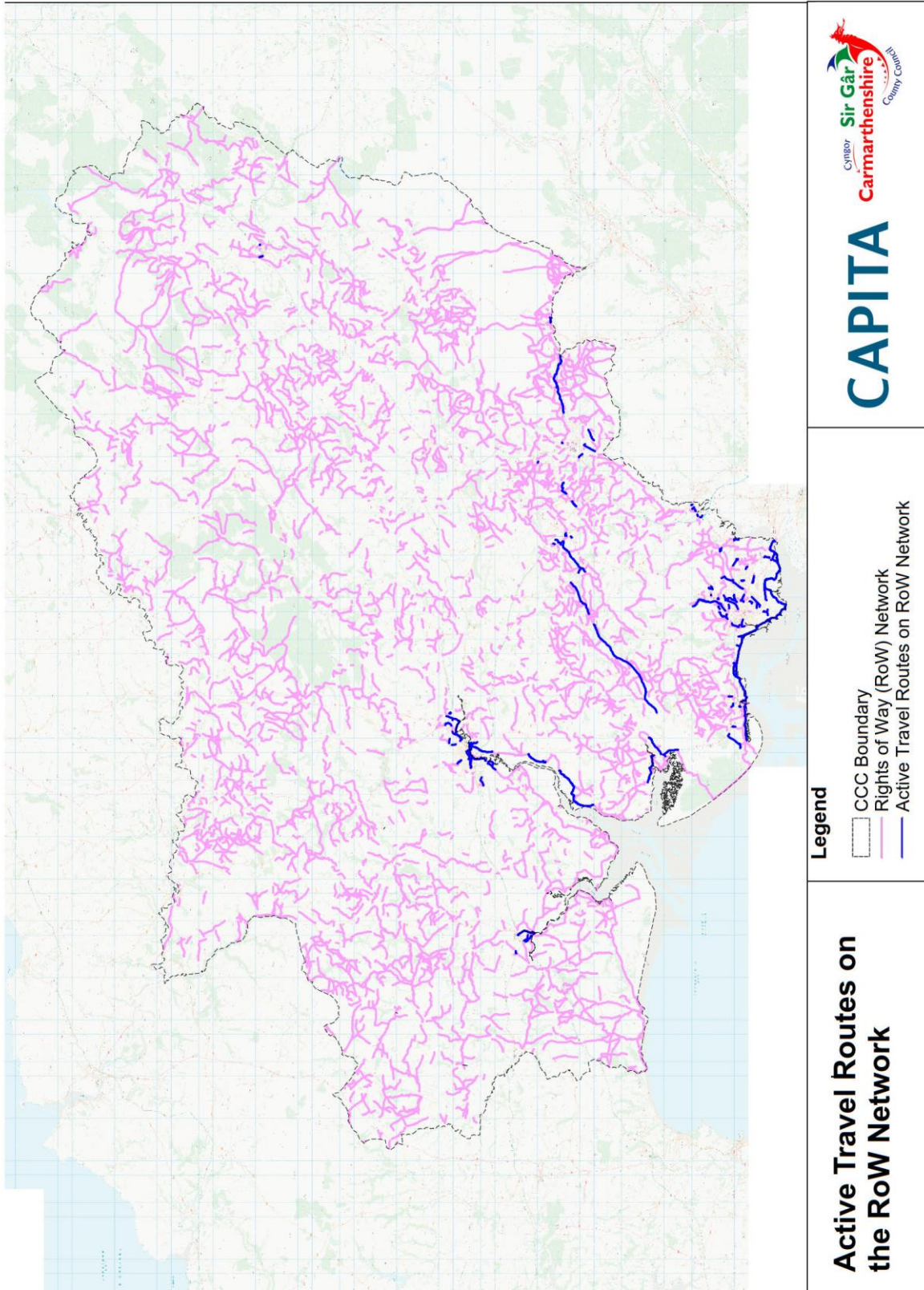
- iii. Section 116, Highways Act 1980 Power of magistrates` court to authorise stopping up or diversion of highway.

The Definitive Map and Statement is under continual review. Since 2007, the County Council has processed 11 applications to modify the Definitive Map and 108 Public Path Orders. Each successful Public Path Order has been the subject of a Legal Event Modification Order.

While the Definitive Map for the County is perhaps relatively up to date in comparison with some other authorities, there is still a substantial backlog of Orders awaiting processing. The Council receive on average 60 applications per year to change the Definitive Map, with future demand likely to increase. Given available resources, the Council are likely to be able to process a maximum of 40 applications for Orders per year. Because of the historic staffing levels a backlog of applications and in-house promoted Orders has accrued (approx. 148). This backlog will inevitably continue to grow whilst incoming applications and available resources to process them remain at their present levels.

Appendix 3

Active Travel routes of the Rights of Way Network



Appendix 4

Town and Community Councils participating in PRow Maintenance

Town/Community Council	Number / Length of Paths Maintained
Llanelli Town Council	28 paths (all) / 9489m
Llanelli Rural Council	126 paths / 72676m
Llannon Community Council	10 paths / 3916m
Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council	26 paths / 19408m
Llandybie Community Council	142 paths (all) / 91253m
Quarter Bach Community Council	10 paths / 7472m
Carmarthen Town Council	10 paths / 6049m
Laugharne Town Council	4 paths / 3541m
Dyffryn Cennen Community Council	1 path / 265m
Llangeler Community Council	68 paths / 49705m
St Clears Town Council	5 paths / 5036m

Appendix 5

Public Consultation

In accordance with Welsh Government Guidance, published in July 2016, consultation on the Draft ROWIP was held over a 12 week period. A revised draft was produced as a result of comments and observations received in respect of the first draft, this was also subject to a further 12 week consultation.

The aim of the consultation was to reach all appropriate audiences required by the delivery guidance including children/young people and other 'seldom heard' groups, those groups with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act 2010, key stakeholders and delivery partners, all persons that had requested to be consulted and the wider general public.

The scope of activities undertaken also reflected the fact that different types of consultation be made available for different stakeholders. Accordingly, a wide range of activities were employed including face to face engagement and online consultation.

Furthermore, in accordance with the Council's Welsh Language Policy, all documentation and publicity material was bilingual.

The following summarises the activities / publicity efforts that were implemented;

- (i) **Initial Consultation** – In accordance with the guidance an initial consultation exercise was undertaken with the following groups.
- Each local highway authority whose area adjoins their area;
 - Each community council;
 - The National Park authority for a National Park any part of which is within Carmarthenshire County Council;
 - Any Local Access Forum established for their area or any part of it;
 - Natural Resources Wales;
 - Such persons as the National Assembly for Wales may by regulations prescribe in relation to the local highway authority's area; and
 - Such other persons as the local highway authority may consider appropriate.

Communications were dispatched setting out terms of reference, outlining statutory matters supplementary matters along with a timetable outlining the Rights of Way Improvement plan review.

- (ii) **Consultation Document** – a document was prepared by the Council which identified the purpose of the consultation, how comments could be submitted, the actions / policies being consulted upon and information on what happens next.
- (iii) **Questionnaire / Survey** – a series of questionnaires were developed to facilitate the assessment process and guide relevant responses to the Council.
- (iv) **Online** – all documentation, was hosted on the Council’s website and the ‘Objective’ consultation portal respectively for 12 weeks.

The On line Consultation activity was promoted via;

- Facebook,
- Twitter, and
- A series of targeted emails.

Four different questionnaires, targeting four distinct stakeholder groups were posted on line:

- Town and Community Councils,
- Land Owners,
- Organisations, and
- Members of the Public.

- (v) **Correspondence** – correspondence was dispatched to all relevant individuals, stakeholders/delivery partners, organisations and schools describing the purpose of the consultation, identifying where more information could be obtained and how representations could be made.
- (vi) **Press Release / Social Media** – over the duration of the consultation process, press releases along with a series of Tweets and Facebook posts were published via the Council’s corporate social media account to promote the consultation.
- (vii) **Utilisation of existing networks** – relevant information was dispatched to all Council staff via the Council’s internal communications forums. Furthermore, the Council also made local landowners aware of the consultation through existing networks such as the ‘Local Access Forum’.

TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Correspondence was sent to 72 Town and Community Councils inviting them to engage in the consultation process. Three responded to the online survey;

- Llangyndeyrn Town Council,
- Laugharne Township Community Council, and
- Llanddarog Community Council.

The following is a summary of the feedback provided by the Town and Community Councils who responded to the On Line Survey. More detailed responses are available on request.

What are your views on the suitability of the network for each of the following?

	Walkers	Horse Riders	Restricted Mobility	Families	Horse Drawn Carriage	Motorcyclists	4x4 Drivers	Dog Walkers
Excellent	33%	-	-	-	-	-	-	33%
Good	33%	-	-	-	-	-	-	33%
Average	-	-	-	67%	-	33%	33%	-
Poor	-	67%	33%	-	33%	-	-	-
Very Poor	33%	-	33%	33%	-	-	-	33%
No Answer	-	33%	33%		67%	67%	67%	-
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

How important do you feel it is that the Rights of Way Network...

	Creates Circular Routes	Avoids Busy Roads	Connects to Public Transport	Improves Accessibility for those with Reduced Mobility	Improves Health & Well Being
Very Important	67%	67%	67%	100%	100%
Somewhat Important	33%	33%	33%	-	-
Somewhat Unimportant	-	-	-	-	-
Not Important At All	-	-	-	-	-
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

When asked to identify their priorities for the future of the Network, the Town and Community Councils identified the following 5 issues as their priorities;

Top 5 Priorities for the Future of the Rights of Way Network

1.	General maintenance - opening up and maintaining routes and trails including installing gates and stiles and clearing overgrown vegetation
2.	Waymarking and signage - maintaining and erecting more signs at roadsides and waymarkers along public paths and at entrances to access land
3.	Active travel work - provide paths which link to public transport, places of work, shops and other amenities
4.	School routes - increase links for access to the network by and for schools and their pupils
5.	Practical improvement work - this would focus on making the network more easily accessible for people with mobility difficulties

LAND OWNERS

A total of 17 Land Owners responded to the Land Owners questionnaire that was posted on-line during the 12 week consultation period.

The following is a summary of the feedback provided by Land Owners who responded to the On Line Survey. More detailed responses are available on request.

How would you prioritise the proposed Aims in the Draft Strategy?

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4	Priority 5	
Ensure the network is easy to use	27%	9%	46%	-	18%	100%
Provide an accurate and up to date Definitive Map	36%	27%	9%	-	27%	100%
Improved Access	9%	27%	18%	18%	27%	100%
Improved Partnership Working	33%	8%	25%	17%	17%	100%
Improved Information Provision	8%	17%	8%	33%	33%	100%

Indicate your level of satisfaction with the following:

	Provision of Furniture	Waymarking	Surface Clearance	Definitive Map	Countryside Access Service
Very Satisfied	8%	8%	17%	17%	-
Satisfied	33%	17%	25%	17%	25%
Dissatisfied	17%	33%	17%	33%	17%
Very Dissatisfied	17%	25%	16%	8%	25%
No Answer	25%	17%	25%	25%	33%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

ORGANISATIONS

A total of 6 organisations responded to the organisations questionnaire that was posted on-line during the 12 week consultation period;

- Dinefwr Ramblers (Ramblers Association);
- Llanpumsaint Walkers are Welcome;
- Clwb Cerdded Llanpumsaint Walking Club;
- Llwybrau Bro Cader;
- Walking Well, St. Clears, and
- West Wales Animal Aid.

The following is a summary of the feedback provided by the Organisations who responded to the On Line Survey. More detailed responses are available on request.

Where do your members get information on the Rights of Way Network? (respondents had the opportunity to select more than one option)

	Responses
Ordnance Survey maps	6
A local library	1
Carmarthenshire County Council Website	4
Other website	4
A guidebook or leaflet	3
Local knowledge	4
A club or association e.g. Ramblers, fishing club	2
A friend or family member	2
A local hotel / guesthouse / B&B	0
The Rights of Way team in Carmarthenshire	4

What discourages your members from using the Rights of Way Network? (respondents could select more than one option)

	Tick All That Apply
I don't know where the routes are	5
The routes don't go where I want to go	5
The paths I use can be obstructed sometimes	3
The condition/surface of the path can be an issue	1
I don't like crossing someone else's land or walking through a farmyard	1
I feel intimidated	1
I don't want to get caught in bad weather conditions	1
I'm worried about getting lost	1
There is a lack of organised walks	0
I have concerns over my safety	0
There are too many stiles to negotiate for me to enjoy using the network	0
There is a lack of public transport to get me to a right of way	0
Other Rights of Way users	0

How satisfied are you with the Rights of Way Section in respect of the following;

	Standard of Furniture	Signage & Waymarking	Improvement Work	Promotion	Surfaces	Maintenance of Definitive Route Map
Very Satisfied	-	-	-	-	20%	-
Satisfied	80%	33%	67%	17%	40%	50%
Dissatisfied	20%	17%		33%	20%	33%
Very Dissatisfied	-	50%	33%	-	20%	-
No Opinion	-	-	-	50%	-	17%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

What discourages you from using the Rights of Way Network? (respondents had the opportunity to select more than one option)

	Responses
Signage and waymarking (poor or missing)	30
Vegetation (surface or overhanging growth)	22
Ploughing / crops	15
Surface condition/drainage issues	13
Intimidation (from other users or landowners)	7
Stiles or gates (in a poor state or inappropriate for user)	7
Missing bridge	7
Obstructions or barriers (any obstacle preventing access)	6
Obstructions or barriers (any obstacle preventing access)	5
Inaccurate information (path not as per Definitive Map or on a leaflet)	5
Animals (dogs not on leads or farm animals preventing access)	2
Something else	2

Where do you get information on the Rights of Way Network? (respondents had the opportunity to select more than one option)

	Responses
Ordnance Survey maps	35
A local library	1
Carmarthenshire County Council Website	14
Other website	3
A guidebook or leaflet	14
Local knowledge	24
A club or association e.g. Ramblers, fishing club	11
A friend or family member	7
A local hotel / guesthouse / B&B	1
The Rights of Way team in Carmarthenshire	3

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A total of 41 members of the public responded to the questionnaire that was posted on-line during the 12 week consultation period. Responses were received from a wide area covering 14 different post codes across the County.

The following is a summary of the feedback provided by members of the public who responded to the On Line Survey. More detailed responses are available on request.

What do you use the Rights of Way Network for and how often do you use it?

	Walking	Running	Horse Riding	Horse Drawn Vehicle	4x4 Driving	Motor Cycling	Dog Walking
Daily	54%	3%	-	-	-	-	42%
Weekly	36%	16%	-	-	-	-	3%
Monthly	10%	9%	4%	-	-	-	7%
Twice Yearly	-	-	4%	-	4%	4%	-
Yearly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Never	-	66%	94%	100%	96%	96%	45%
No Answer	-	6%	-	-	-	-	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

In your opinion how good is provision for the following:

	Walking	Horse Riding	People with reduced mobility	Cyclists	Horse Drawn Carriages	Motorcycling / 4x4 Driving
Excellent	3%	-	-	3%	-	-
Good	21%	3%	-	9%	-	3%
Average	47%	6%	9%	14%	-	6%
Poor	21%	18%	31%	9%	16%	6%
Very Poor	8%	9%	34%	3%	7%	3%
No opinion	-	64%	26%	62%	77%	82%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

In your opinion how satisfied are you with the following:

	Standard of Furniture	Signage & Waymarking	Improvement Work	Promotion	Surfaces	Maintenance of Definitive Route Map
Very Satisfied	5%	-	8%	3%	3%	-
Satisfied	57%	39%	40%	21%	59%	28%
Dissatisfied	30%	33%	26%	30%	27%	28%
Very Dissatisfied	8%	28%	8%	20%	8%	16%
No Opinion	-	-	18%	26%	3%	28%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

WORKSHOP

Capita, with the Countryside Access Team in attendance, hosted a Workshop on 11th May 2017 to which members of the public were invited to attend. Hosted at Dinefwr Farm House in Llandeilo the workshop was designed to give members of the public the opportunity to engage directly with the Countryside Access staff on the development of the new strategy.

The event was attended by 8 members of the public, 2 of whom represented Llandybie Community Council. In addition a Rights of Way Officer from Brecon Beacons National Park was in attendance.

Discussions during the event focussed on the following 3 task and finish activities;

- Task 1: Review the proposed aims for the new Rights of Way Strategy;
- Task 2: Review the proposed policies and actions for the new ROWIP
- Task 3: Prioritise budget allocations across the network.

During Task 1 delegates were asked to discuss the appropriateness of the proposed Aims.

Task 2 involved delegates reviewing the proposed Rights of Way policies and objectives. Feedback and responses provided by the Group was used refine and improve the proposed objectives.

For the final task, delegates were asked to prioritise budget allocations across a series of different criteria. Individuals were assigned £100 which they could spend on infrastructure on the network.

More detailed responses are available on request.

Summary of ROWIP Consultation Responses

& Implementation

Consultation responses received from the LAF, NRW, Carmarthenshire Riders, Llanddarog Community Council, CCC Planning Conservation, 2 members of Ramblers Assc, 1 member of the public and 21 online comments – anonymous

A total of 130 individual comments made. Many instances of multiple comments/observations made in respect of similar issues/interests, such as:

1. Funding
2. Equestrian Access
3. Disabled Access
4. Digital Mapping

Each comment has been considered initially in terms of its relevance to the ROWIP as a strategic management document. Comments such as '*most footpaths are in poor condition*' and '*PRoW network is an important issue*' are quite simplistic observations which we do not intend to incorporate into the plan at this late stage. For the purposes of keeping this summary as concise as possible these sorts of comments have not been detailed further.

Responses which provide constructive input or criticism have been considered in terms of whether they will potentially enhance the final document.

With this in mind, any amendments must also:

1. Be appropriate and within the scope of the ROWIP
2. Be reasonable and align with Local Authority priorities/policies
3. Support Local Authority compliance with relevant legislation
4. Validate the agreed Aims, Actions and Policies contained in the draft ROWIP
5. Not change the draft ROWIP to such an extent that it would require additional committee approval and public consultation.

NRW made 30 comments/recommendations in respect of the draft ROWIP listed below.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) Summarising the key findings and conclusions from the assessment stage and then indicating how these issues will be addressed in the Statement of Action would strengthen document. | plan against need for SEA would leave adoption of plan open to challenge in SEA was required. |
| 2) Clarification required early in the plan that the ROWIP excludes BBNP | 4) Clarify status of digital PROW Map - copy of legal paper record. |
| 3) Preparation of ROWIP falls under article 2(a) of SEA directive. Failure to screen | 5) Explain why 2026 cut off will have an impact in Wales. |
| | 6) Mostly NRW does not own large areas of land - manages WG woodland estate. |

- 7) Open Access has not been relaxed (s1(c) Sch 12 CROW 2000) to allow equestrian access as of right. To help public understand NRW management of land statements are being produced. NRW statement on equestrian use available.
- 8) Official launch of WCP 2012 - constantly evolving
- 9) No acknowledgement of ROWIP funding to date (£726,449)
- 10) Reduction in funding should be evidenced
- 11) Should highlight WCP funding continues
- 12) Should be action surrounding a PI target based on table 9.1
- 13) Disjointed presentation of new legislation since last ROWIP
- 14) Area Statements should be referenced - link to emerging theme of reducing health inequalities
- 15) Public needs assessment previously confused with public consultation?
- 16) Concerns surrounding robustness of data, how results are presented, evaluated or taken account of in developing policies/actions.
- 17) Statistical insignificance of user needs response rate.
- 18) issues around data robustness should be acknowledged - response rate/equality of representation
- 19) figures do not align (pg. 35-36)
- 20) Policy 5 - refer back to Gap, Gate, Stile Policy 4 to clarify favoured option.
- 21) Statutory duties not mentioned in Policies 2 and 7, some stat duties ranked lower than non-stat.
- 22) Multi user access opportunities at Brechfa Forest (windfarm), potential links to wider PRow network.
- 23) Actions 1A & 1B - no NRW funding to go beyond legal liabilities.
- 24) WG funding (Through NRW) for WCP should be reflected in Action 3
- 25) No specific approach from CCC regarding partnership working Actions 26 and 27.
- 26) Actions 29 and 34 - no maint volunteer opportunities with NRW
- 27) Action 37 - WCP guidebooks not produced by NRW
- 28) Action 43 - Lets walk Cymru funding has ceased.
- 29) NRW-BHS Concordat may help progression of ROWIP Actions - currently under review awaiting final sign off.
- 30) With suggested revisions the final document can provide sound basis for future management.

We have a dedicated Partnership, Access and Recreation Officer within NRW to advise us on our ROWIP and comments received largely compliment comments made by other consultees. We have implemented all of the suggestions/requests put forward by NRW with the exception of comments 12, 24 and 25 for the reasons given below.

12) The addition of a PI Target Action

The PI exercise is onerous, we undertake the necessary surveys subject to available resource and intend to continue in this way. Setting a PI target means committing to conducting PI surveys at regular intervals. We do not have a duty to do this presently and we do not wish to voluntarily burden ourselves with the obligation.

24) WG Funding for WCP should be reflected in Action 3

WG are identified as an Action 3 Partner with an estimation of annual costs. We consider this clear acknowledgement of WG contributing towards WCP.

25) No specific approach detailed re: partnership working in Actions 26 & 27

The approach we take to working with partner organisations will differ according to the type of opportunity/organisation/project, a specific approach is unlikely to be the best fit for all partnership working opportunities.

The Carmarthenshire **Local Access Forum** (LAF) ROWIP subcommittee made 17 comments on the draft Plan listed below:

1. Disjointed document, not well structured
2. Statements in respect of LAF involvement ambiguous/not factual.
3. Some of early information and detail before Actions could be appendices to give reader a clearer view of more important issues.
4. ROWIP should be presented as bidding document
5. Emphasis should be on Action Plan
6. Relevant Legislation an appendix?
7. Highlight achievements through the lifespan of the last ROWIP
8. Add up to date PI figures and issue report figures
9. Include staffing levels.
10. Time of reporting should be included where figures are quoted.
11. Should be written in language the public can easily understand (e.g. para 1, pg. 12 - difficult to read)
12. Recent Ministers Statement should be taken into account.
13. Completion dates for aims/actions not achievable.
14. Access to water information needs to be strengthened.
15. 32 actions with high priority but no associated measurable targets - should be 3/4 measurable key actions
16. Equestrian Strategy needs to be an aim with a specific target.
17. Section 5 inadequate - doesn't flow/isn't clear.

We met with the LAF and went through each comment with members. We discussed each point and provided an explanation of the Authority's decision in respect of making the suggested changes to the final Plan. During this meeting we took account of members' views, specifically in respect of comment 2 which required clarification, and following the meeting we implemented all of the LAF's suggestions/comments with the exception of comments 4 and 12.

4) ROWIP should be presented as bidding document

The ROWIP is a multifunctional document as is presented as such. It provides information, its serves as a management tool and the actions it contains would inform and support future bids for funding as they include CCC's aspirations for the network if funding were available.

12) Recent Ministers Statement should be taken into account.

Draft ROWIP significantly pre-dates minister's statement. The Statement only outlines intentions, nothing to indicate how or when changes might be implemented therefore detail in statement insufficient for inclusion in ROWIP. Nature of changes proposed will discredit a significant proportion of the document if they are implemented.

Excluding NRW and LAF responses outlined above, the remaining 84 consultation responses have been grouped into 14 main headings in the table below with the remaining standalone responses included at the bottom of the table.

Each response/group of responses has an explanatory note alongside, this demonstrates our consideration of the point raised and provides validation of our decision to amend the draft ROWIP or not.

Response	LA Comments	Amendments to Draft ROWIP?
<p>Statutory Duties</p> <p>Insufficient reference, some stat duties ranked lower than non-stat in actions table.</p>	Brief review required to ensure Action priority reflects any statutory duty.	Yes
<p>Funding:</p> <p>Should be better evidenced and acknowledged. Use detail to evidence future funding need. Actions need to be supported by funding. Success of ROWIP dependant on funding. Budget constraints seek to delegate to volunteers. Use of people on community Orders/offenders? Budget for actions too low. No reference to likely future constraints. Comm Councils open to discussions around implementing maintenance.</p>	External funding received should be acknowledged, this is a reasonable expectation. Details of funding reductions needed to support statements made within maintenance chapter. Use of volunteers/comm councils is an approach within existing Actions and has a direct impact of funding requirements so some cross referencing required. Document is, in part, aspirational and therefore actions which fall outside of available resource are what we will strive towards. Nobody knows what future budgets will be, document identifies needs, will serve as a bidding tool if budgets are insufficient.	Yes
<p>Formatting</p> <p>Disjointed presentation. Too Long, doesn't flow. Place more of content in appendix. Lacks clear statement of action.</p>	Poor formatting not fundamental to the content but review of format may be beneficial to the quality and readability of final ROWIP. Statement of Action can be reviewed to ensure clarity.	Yes
<p>Data</p> <p>Statistical significance, robustness, accuracy, referencing, some figures do not align</p>	With a poor response rate to the assessments the data lost some significance, we therefore utilised existing data and knowledge of LAF membership to inform our policies and actions. Figures within the document require review to correct anomalous results.	Yes
<p>Equestrian Access</p> <p>Importance of provision, lack of provision, lack of inclusion, possible opportunities, unregistered routes, BHS Concordat, Equestrian Strategy action, assessment of future needs, engagement with equestrians, more multi user routes needed, clarification of equestrian use of Access Land.</p>	Multi-user Open Access to NRW managed Forestry requires clarification - not as of right under the CROW Act. Reference to the BHS-NRW Concordat can highlight access opportunities for equestrians in the County, incorporate into Action 41. Majority of other points raised relate to lack of access opportunities across the County for which the Equestrian Strategy has been identified as a Policy and we will add an associated action to support the policy. Suggestions of future needs assessment taken on board for implementation as part of the	Yes

	strategy.	
Previous ROWIP Needs to be better assessed, include key findings, successes, failures, and link with actions.	More should be made of what we achieved during the life of the old plan. How much was achieved, where we failed to deliver and why. Aligning this with the external ROWIP funding would support future bidding applications	Yes
Ministers Statement Should be referenced, taken account of. Concerns about horses using footpaths. No proposals to legislate against motor vehicles or impose speed limits. Blanket re-classification of footpaths to higher status requires important considerations and consultation	Draft ROWIP significantly pre-dates Ministers statement. Statement only outlines intentions, nothing to indicate how or when changes might be implemented. Not relevant to the strategic management of public access under current legislation.	No
Staff Changing staff levels, staff vs funding, staff vs issues. Success of ROWIP dependant on staff.	Staffing is an operational consideration determined as part of the wider departmental structure. It is not appropriate for inclusion in the ROWIP	No
Performance Indicators Add target as an action, results require update	Results can be updated for 2018, no PI carried out in 2019. See response to NRW suggestion above in respect of PI target as an Action.	Update results - Yes PI Target - No
Disabled Users Needs wider appreciation, not all in wheelchairs, policies detrimental to mobility/visually impaired, policies make action for all impossible. Unnecessary steps within developments to detriment of less abled.	Content within main body of document to be reviewed to ensure there is support for Actions. Our actions which commit to least restrictive access across the network and to upgrade suitable routes specifically for enhanced access for the less able illustrates our commitment to ensuring the PROW network continues to become increasingly accessible to all. Appreciation of all forms of disability supported by commitment to collaborate with and seek advice from various disability groups alongside trying to appoint a suitable LAF member as a disability representative and advisor.	Review main document Yes Change Actions No
Landowners Engagement necessary to ensure compliance and meeting responsibilities, make sure access doesn't cause conflict with landowner activities.	Developing good relationships with landowners is always a challenge and with the need for budget efficiencies more landowner responsibilities might have to be enforced. More content around landowner responsibility and collaborative working to be considered.	Yes
Operational Status Online info on accessibility should be on i-local, publicising closed/obstructed routes would be useful	Would be a very useful addition to the online service, significant resource required to analyse condition of whole network and develop technology/software to support service. Action 40 to improve website and online information encompasses this aspiration.	No
2026 Cut-Off Relevance in Wales? Local interest groups	2026 has limited relevance in Wales, no indication that it is likely to be implemented. Minor expansion of 2026 para to explain why it has the potential to	Yes

should be engaged before 2026	increase work volume even when it is not in force.	
Digital Maps Digital Map should be Definitive, updates to digital mapping should be prompt, software should be widely compatible, legal status of Digital mapping should be clarified. Open Access Land should be added.	A short para required to clarify the legal record vs the digital map. Other online/digital mapping suggestions similar to Operational Status idea, significant resource and specialised knowledge required to develop various ideas. All relevant for better strategic management possibilities in the future, all encompassed by Actions 19 and 40	Clarification of Legal Record Yes Additional Digital Mapping Actions No
Statistical baseline required to allow for assessments to highlight ROWIP achievements through life of plan.	This is a valid suggestion for the Delivery Plan and will be taken into consideration when that is developed.	No
Differing length of network between two ROWIPs should be explained	The PROW network is continuously changing as a result of mapping changes, as explained in section 4. Technical reasons for the differences found are insignificant given the scale of the network and providing an explanation would introduce unnecessarily complicated detail that is not needed when developing a strategic approach to access management	No
More details on cycle paths - status investment and improvements	Providing more details around Active Travel routes, Safe Routes, Shared Use paths will be helpful to readers. Detailing future developments, their purpose, and longer term aspirations will also be useful in terms of how they align with the ROWIP, need to mindful of duplicating Cycling Strategy.	Yes
More detail needed in section 6 – named locations, information on coastal access away from WCP.	Information regarding who can access the coast/beach/foreshore is minimal, additional information would be useful to public. Access to Water information will be added in accordance with Canoe Wales correspondence. Need to mindful of scope of document, not to drill down to level of specifics that takes away from overall strategic management ideals.	Yes
No Enforcement Policy at present, can this be included in Delivery plan?	Action 12 within draft ROWIP is to develop an Enforcement Protocol.	No
Clearer aims and objectives to highlight how improvements will be made	Existing draft Aims, Policies and Actions developed in conjunction with LAF, level of detail considered sufficient	No
Explanation of Limitations needed, link to Least Restrictive Access	Also a LAF comment, to be discussed.	
Top 5 priorities for RoW Network don't align with 5 main aims of ROWIP - conflicting?	Top 5 priorities according to Comm & Town Councils. Other contributing factors to 5 main Aims, this	Yes

	should be explained further.	
3, 4 & 5 in top 5 priorities need reconsideration in order to take account of wider access provision - improvements for all non-motorised users	5 priorities clearly introduced as those identified by T & C Councils, not necessarily the Local Authority view.	No
Work should be concentrated around population centres and tourist destinations. Same for signposting.	Priority is awarded to our County Walks which originate from towns and villages and other promoted routes which are centred on tourist destinations such as the Heart of Wales Line via a scoring matrix. Actions already in the ROWIP acknowledge priority scoring system as a means to allocate maintenance, signposting and improvement works so suggestion already implemented.	No
ROWIP should encourage people to take litter home	Something that has not been raised previously, a very current issue, complemented by our recent work with 'Pride in your Patch' volunteers that could be incorporated	Yes
New Agricultural Policy an opportunity to improve public access.	A suggestion that is beyond the scope of the ROWIP. Something that has been discussed at all Wales PROW Management meetings.	No
No money should be spent on altering vehicular access on PROW, would lead to further environmental damage and risk to people.	Nothing in draft to suggest specific spend on altering vehicular rights, only maintenance and enhancement of what already exists. However, a commitment to not spend on alterations to vehicular rights is not appropriate as we are subject to a stat duty if applications are received which incorporate amendments to vehicular access in some way.	No
Aims should be mindful of Active Travel, join up network for commuting.	Specific obligations under Active Travel Act met by Strategic Transport team, consideration of Active Travel Act is already included in the document.	No
Provide promoted routes that link with public transport.	Good suggestion, supports sustainable transport/active travel agendas. Possible expansion of action 39 to include consideration of public transport connections	Yes
Policy to include destination on signage	Very expensive to implement and maintain at a time when budgets are stretched.	No
Needs to be PRoW policy in LDP not just cross referencing. Network should be protected within developments to ensure routes do not become corridors inviting antisocial behaviour.	ROWIP should take account of LDP and vice versa, key points should be included in either document rather than the inclusion of full details. LDP Review should be mentioned.	Yes
Include further information regarding habitats within Geography and Demographics chapter and mention habitats under maintenance to demonstrate understanding of Environment Act.	Suggested text provided to enhance document in terms of compliance with the LA duties under the Environment Act.	Yes

Adjust section 11 to correctly reflect LA Env Act duties with reference to the Forward Plan.	Suggested text provided to show understanding of the Env Act and associated forward plan.	Yes
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The changes that have been made to the draft document as a result of the consultation exercise, although numerous, have not significantly changed the plan or the Policies and Actions coming out of it, only strengthened or clarified them.

Re-formatting the plan has hopefully resulted in a more useable and user friendly public facing document.

Appendix 6

How this Improvement Plan address the key challenges Identified in the Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey (WORS)

WORS Key Challenges	CCC ROWIP RESPONSE TO KEY CHALLENGES
<p>Challenge 1: Increasing frequent participation.</p> <p>The survey has found that frequent participation has declined. Although we know that this is associated with the corresponding decrease in 'doorstep' visits, we need to do further work to understand why this is happening. This will help inform action to increase frequent participation in the future.</p>	<p>Aim 1: Ensure that the Network is easy to use and accessible.</p> <p>By promoting and developing accessibility CCC will ensure that as many people living, working and visiting Carmarthenshire have the opportunity to access the Countryside.</p>
<p>Challenge 2: Supporting older people</p> <p>Age has been shown to be one of the key determinants of participation in outdoor recreation, which when combined with an increasingly aging population, highlights the need for more focus on older people.</p> <p>Understanding their activities, preferences, and barriers will help inform more targeted interventions to support and encourage participation.</p>	<p>Action 15:</p> <p>Engage with established advisory groups such as the Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition and relevant organisations on opportunities to upgrade the network for people with disabilities and other less able users. Also, take active steps to identify and appoint a LAF member to represent the interests and needs of disabled, elderly and less abled users.</p> <p>Action 15 of the ROWIP is specifically designed to improve access for those with reduced mobility, including the elderly.</p>
<p>Challenge 3: Supporting women with children</p> <p>'Life-stages' are a key factor in participation, and the survey has found that women with children are an important group. With distinct motivations, levels of physical activity, and challenges, there is a need to consider their outdoor recreation needs to improve opportunities and increase active participation.</p>	<p>Action 14:</p> <p>Adopt the policy of Least Restrictive Access and follow the principles of "By All Reasonable Means" using appropriate advice and guidance to improve the accessibility of all countryside access schemes.</p> <p>By recognising that different users groups, have different motivations and challenges, Action 14</p>

	promotes Least Restrictive Access in an attempt to make the Network as accessible as possible.
<p>Challenge 4: Flexible provision for different activities The survey has found that over the years participation in different activities has both increased and decreased. Change in activity preferences is often relatively unpredictable, and can shift rapidly. This highlights the need for recreation provision to be flexible, and where possible to accommodate a diversity of activities on the doorstep.</p>	<p>Aim 3: Ensure the opportunities for countryside access are easy to use and enjoyable.</p> <p>Aim 3 is designed to ensure that access is provided across a range of different activities and uses, so that flexible provision, capable of responding to changing trends is provided across the County.</p>
<p>Challenge 5: Balancing health and economic benefits Outdoor recreation provides benefits for both health and the economy. Health benefits are particularly associated with frequent participation in doorstep activities, whilst economic benefits are derived more from days out to the best of Wales' iconic coast and mountains. A key challenge is to find the right balance of support for both of these different types of recreation.</p>	<p>Action 40:</p> <p>Promote the social, health and economic benefits of walking, riding, and cycling through events and programmes such as the 'Lets walk Cymru' Scheme, associated Walk Well Carmarthenshire groups, activity programmes within country parks, the CCC walking and cycling strategy and forthcoming CCC equestrian strategy.</p>
<p>Challenge 6: Using outdoor recreation to increase pro-environmental attitudes and behaviours For the first time, the survey has shown that participation in outdoor recreation is linked to attitudes and behaviours that are related to caring for the environment. More work is needed to understand this connection, and to improve future communications to increase awareness and encourage behaviour that supports the environment.</p>	<p>Aim 4: Continue to work in partnership with all relevant, interested parties to achieve improved facilities for the Countryside</p> <p>Aim 5: Maintain and improve the range and quality of public information and make it more widely available in appropriate formats</p> <p>This Aim is designed to work with volunteers and interested parties to promote and care for the natural environment and engage community groups at a local level.</p> <p>In addition Aim 5 is designed to improve future communications and to increase awareness of behaviour that supports the environment.</p>

Appendix 7

2007-2017 ROWIP REVIEW OF ACTIONS & POLICIES

2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 1: ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE	
A. RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT	
ROWIP ACTION/POLICY	DELIVERED?
<p>ACTION 1A:</p> <p>To increase the proportion of PROW that are open, easy to use and well signed by reopening and improving a minimum of 150km p.a. (7% of network).</p>	78.4% of action achieved with varying Countryside Access staffing levels over 10 year period
<p>ACTION 1B:</p> <p>To increase the proportion of PROW that are open, easy to use and well signed by reopening and improving a minimum of 300km p. a. (14% of network).</p>	No
<p>ACTION 2:</p> <p>Seek to maintain an average capital budget allocation of £225k pa for Access network improvements by continued bids to the Capital Programme.</p>	No
<p>ACTION 3:</p> <p>To complete the Carmarthen Coast Trail and improve appropriate sections for all users as a part of the WAG Coastal Access Improvement Programme for an All-Wales Coastal Path.</p>	Wales Coast Path Complete
<p>ACTION 4:</p> <p>Bridleways, Byways & Green Roads (U/C roads) – work with BHS and other user groups to achieve a programme of regional Horse Trails/equestrian routes on selected highways, byways, bridleways and other suitable access land.</p>	Since 2007 in excess of 40 Bridleways, and 26 BOATs/Unclassified Roads have been opened up. Roads have been opened up. In completing these works close working relationships have been developed with the local BHS representative, Carmarthenshire Riders, Tread Lightly and CCC Highways to prioritise routes and fund works. Cothi Trail (a multi user route) was developed in partnership with the NT and NRW.
<p>ACTION 5:</p> <p>Waymarking along a route will be integral to any rights of way improvement scheme, together with priority waymarking on routes identified as difficult to follow by users.</p>	Ongoing
<p>POLICY 1:</p> <p>In consultation with Town & Community Councils, user</p>	

<p>groups and others, base improvement programmes on priority routes which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce any danger to the public. Provide strategic links and opportunities for promoted routes to benefit the economy of the County. Complement the existing set of County Walks and Trails. Benefit most users (actual or potential) based on levels of use of the right of way. Provide cost- effective use of resources. Benefit where possible those with limited mobility. Integrate with public transport provision. <p>Provide access to Open Country and urban commons.</p>	<p>Scoring matrices have been developed based on Policy 1 criteria (a-f), taking into account the views of Community Councils, Local Elected Members and the Carmarthenshire LAF.</p>
<p>POLICY 2:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a presumption to leave rights of way surfaces in their natural state other than those selected as priority routes for people with limited mobility or where ground conditions make it essential for reasonable access. 	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>POLICY 3:</p> <p>The Council will work with landowners and land managers to improve access for all by adopting a “least restrictive option” for all amendments to the network and a pro-active approach on improvement to selected routes. This will comprise the order of a gap, gate, then stile, subject to the essential needs for stock management and the liabilities of the landowner for the structures.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>POLICY 4:</p> <p>Where applications are made for new furniture, there will be a presumption that structures will be kept to a minimum. On footpaths there will be a presumption in favour of use of gates, unless there are over-whelming stock management reasons for stiles to be permitted.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW</p> <p>AIM 1: ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE</p> <p>B. RIGHTS OF WAY MAINTENANCE</p>	
<p>ACTION 6A:</p> <p>Improve performance on signposting to raise % of rights of way “Easy to Use”</p>	<p>Signposting performance improved by 63.%, process ongoing</p>

<p>ACTION 6B:</p> <p>Enhanced programme of signposting to speed up and extend baseline programme.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>ACTION 7:</p> <p>Encourage Town & Community Councils to cover maintenance of routes in their area on a priority basis, with grant assistance from CCC.</p>	<p><u>2007-2010</u></p> <p>Approx. 20 Community Councils undertook their own maintenance with the Rangers Service undertaking the remainder.</p> <p><u>2010 onwards</u></p> <p>Maintenance taken back from Comm CIs to be undertaken by Rangers Service (4 new Rangers recruited in preparation for change). 67 Community Council areas maintained by Rangers Service with larger Urban Comm CIs. (x5) retaining delegated maintenance responsibilities.</p>
<p>ACTION 8:</p> <p>Review the Community Programme with Town & Community Councils in order to establish a robust long-term maintenance system.</p>	<p>Community Programme ended 2010, see Action 7 above.</p>
<p>ACTION 9:</p> <p>Seek additional maintenance funding to enable a long term, sustainable, high quality access network, in conjunction with other Welsh authorities.</p>	<p>Coast Path Officer post has been created and funded in conjunction with Powys and Ceredigion CC's</p>
<p>ACTION 10:</p> <p>To ensure that all existing promoted Strategic Trails and County Walks are open and available and well maintained, signed & waymarked.</p>	<p>Routes are prioritised but funding and staff resource has limited standards of maintenance.</p>
<p>ACTION 11:</p> <p>Byways/U/c Highways – work with BHS and other user groups to ensure that all Byways & U/C Highways where vehicular rights have been permanently restricted by legal orders are open and available for use.</p>	<p>Works undertaken in this regard however as part of Action 4 not 11.</p>
<p>ACTION 12:</p> <p>Bridleways – Ensure that all bridleways are open and available for use.</p>	<p>No. of BR's open and easy to use have increased</p>
<p>ACTION 13:</p> <p>To carry out further research into vehicular access to the country-side in the Cambrian Mountains and other potential pressure areas</p>	<p>Cambrian Mtn Project commenced in 2007 looking to identify sustainable vehicular routes across the Cambrian Mountains. (Joint working with Powys & Ceredigion)</p>

	<p>Phase 1 report completed 2012 which mapped 650km of routes identified as suitable for vehicular use. Traffic light system applied to those routes for suitability - 5% classed as sustainable and 1% as legally available vehicular highways at the time.</p> <p>Next stage was to process DMMO applications in respect of the 5% of routes potentially carrying vehicular rights, no applications ever received for Carms. Project ceased 2012.</p>
<p>ACTION 14:</p> <p>Completion of survey on byways/"green roads" to define potential programme for clearance of suitable selected routes in consultation with user groups.</p>	<p>Work completed on selected vehicular routes in consultation with/following requests from user groups. Entire network survey not carried out and maintenance passed back to Highways who programme works.</p>
<p>POLICY 5:</p> <p>In consultation with Town & Community Councils, user groups and others, target annual Community Programme maintenance on priority routes which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Present a danger to the public. ii. Benefit most users,(actual or potential) based on levels of use of the rights of way.. iii. Provide links in and around towns & villages and promoted routes. iv. Benefit where possible those with limited mobility. v. Form part of a promoted County route. vi. Provide access to Open Country. 	<p>Maintenance has been largely prioritised according to ROWIP policy 5.</p> <p>Access to open country to a lesser extent, higher demand for PROW network away from Open Access land in the County.</p> <p>Scoring matrices have been developed largely based on Policy 5 criteria (i-vi), taking into account the views of Community Councils, Local Elected Members and the Carmarthenshire LAF.</p>
<p>POLICY 6:</p> <p>CCC will maintain rights of way in proportion to the relative public and private use which exists.</p>	<p>Yes, reflected in scoring matrix criteria</p>
<p>POLICY 7:</p> <p>CCC will not consent to third parties changing the surface type of a right of way, unless the new surface is compatible with the public use and liability for future maintenance rests with the third party.</p>	<p>Where unit has been aware of re-surfacing works on PROWs consent has been awarded once specifications have been agreed. Cases of re-surfacing have gone unobserved, highlighting need for better promotion of landowner requirements in this regard.</p> <p>Ongoing liability for maintenance has not been addressed.</p>
<p>2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW</p>	

AIM 1: ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE

C. RIGHTS OF WAY ENFORCEMENT

<p>ACTION 15:</p> <p>Define an Enforcement Protocol for policies/procedures to assert and protect the rights of the public where discussion, negotiation, goodwill and cooperation have failed within a reasonable timescale.</p>	<p>Enforcement has been inconsistent in approach with no definite protocol or policy in place.</p>
<p>POLICY 8:</p> <p>Remedying issues on rights of way will be firmly based on discussion, negotiation, goodwill and cooperation between the Council and landowners with a view to resolving issues amicably.</p>	<p>Yes, an ongoing and successful policy.</p>
<p>POLICY 9:</p> <p>Produce and keep up to date a register of complaints, (e.g. obstruction [natural/manmade], missing signs/misleading signs, dangerous livestock/landowners etc.) to be dealt with in line with the Enforcement Protocol.</p>	<p>Yes, CAMS system used for this purpose, not 100% complete to date but ongoing</p>
<p>POLICY 10:</p> <p>Prosecution will be considered on repeat offences, where the authority is prevented from taking direct action on a right of way or where a landowner/occupier fails to apply for a diversion to remedy a particular obstruction</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>POLICY 11:</p> <p>Recover from applicants for temporary closures the full cost of advertising and any other associated costs to the Council.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>POLICY 12:</p> <p>Diversion orders will only be considered by the Council where it is shown to be the most cost effective and practical means of resolving a problem on a right of way. Diverted route to be clearly marked prior to Order coming into force.</p>	<p>Yes</p>

2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 1: ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE	
D. ACCESS FOR ALL	
ACTION 16: Adopt the policy of Least Restrictive Access and follow the 6 broad principles of “By All Reasonable Means” in all countryside access schemes. (See para. 2.65 above).	Yes, this policy is applied where we have cooperation with landowners.
ACTION 17: Establish an Advisory Group on opportunities to upgrade the network for people with disabilities and other less mobile users.	Discussion has only taken place in this respect through the LAF & Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition.
ACTION 18: Retain, review and enhance (wherever possible and in agreement with landowners) suitable opportunities for country-side access for those with limited mobility and other impairments.	Yes, those routes identified as appropriate for limited mobility access have been enhanced in conjunction with relevant landowners.
2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 2: PROVIDE A RELIABLE, ACCURATE, UP TO DATE AND WIDELY AVAILABLE DEFINITIVE MAP & STATEMENT	
A. MAINTAIN PROGRESS IN UPDATING THE DEFINITIVE MAP.	
ACTION 19: As a minimum, improve performance 1996-2006 by 50% by processing total 40 orders p.a. to order-making stage (Public Path Orders (PPO’s)- diversions, creations, extinguishments & Modification Orders new Def Maps claims/anomalies).	Order output has been inconsistent. Staff changes/reductions has had a severe impact on improvement figure. Average performance 2007-2017 amounts to 15 Orders per annum
ACTION 20: Improve performance to at least 60 orders pa to order-making stage (PPO’s – diversions, creations, extinguishments & Modification Orders new Def Maps claims/anomalies).	No
ACTION 21: Carry out a review of the appropriate costs to be charged for orders.	No
POLICY 13: In the making of Public Path Orders, give priority to: 1. Anomalies that result in use of the right of way being prevented. 2. Bridleways and byways which connect up existing equestrian networks.	Public Path Orders (PPO’s) have been prioritised according to the 2 criteria named in this policy and additional criteria not outlined such as political pressures/support (WCP), reducing maintenance liabilities, H&S and wider public benefit. Scoring matrix to prioritise PPO’s now developed and in

	process of being applied to new PPO applications as well as backlog.
<p>POLICY 14:</p> <p>In the making of Modification Orders, deal with in order of receipt but give priority to:</p> <p>a. Claimed routes threatened by development.</p> <p>b. Routes where a Creation Agreement offers a speedier resolution of the issue.</p> <p>c. Bridleways and byways which connect up existing equestrian networks</p>	<p>Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMO's) have been prioritised according to the criteria named in this policy and additional criteria not outlined such as quality/validity of application, political pressures/support, value to network and public benefit.</p> <p>Scoring matrix to prioritise DMMO's now developed and in will be applied to new DMMO applications as well as backlog.</p>
<p>POLICY 15:</p> <p>Applicants will be required to pay for the costs of diversions/extinguishments together with the cost of works required to open the new route.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>POLICY 16:</p> <p>TCPAat diversions or stopping up should ideally be confirmed before construction commences, in order to reduce potential problems.</p> <p>Diversions will only be permitted where it can be proven that it must be diverted to enable the devt. to be carried out and where an acceptable alternative route is provided. Stopping up of rights of way will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances.ments together with the cost of works required to open the new route.</p>	<p>Working practices have improved in relation to TCPA Orders with a push towards earlier receipt of Diversion/Stopping Up applications and approval of proposals before construction commences.</p> <p>This does not yet happen in all cases but a large proportion of development sites are compliant with this revised system.</p>
<p>POLICY 17:</p> <p>Any construction site that obstructs a right of way will be considered as an obstruction and dealt with under the enforcement policy/protocol.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>POLICY 18:</p> <p>Use of permissive routes will be limited and only progressed where there are substantial short term benefits involving minimal expenditure.</p>	<p>Yes</p>

2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 2: PROVIDE A RELIABLE, ACCURATE, UP TO DATE AND WIDELY AVAILABLE DEFINITIVE MAP & STATEMENT	
B. PRODUCE A DIGITAL DEFINITIVE MAP	
ACTION 22: Accurately digitise 100% of the public rights of way network	Network has been 100% digitised and published online but with a disclaimer as it is not fully audited.
ACTION 23: Make digital version of Def. Map available on website	Digital PRow map published online but not definitive.
2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 2: PROVIDE A RELIABLE, ACCURATE, UP TO DATE AND WIDELY AVAILABLE DEFINITIVE MAP & STATEMENT	
C. LOST WAYS	
ACTION 24: Carry out pro-active research and consider evidence for claims for Modification Orders for unregistered historic rights of way.	Not pro-active, available staff resource has been concentrated on dealing with DMMO backlog and formal applications.
ACTION 25: Maintain current standards in meeting 95% of search requests within 5 days.	Searches performance reduced to an average of 90.4% due to loss of the Searches Assistant in 2009. Performance has improved in recent years with the average 5 day return figure between March 2015 and March 2017 being 99%
2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 3 – ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE	
A. COUNTRYSIDE PARKS	
ACTION 26: Pembrey Country Park – implement improvement programme inc. new visitor centre, better catering facilities and extended activities.	Works to improve all facilities commenced 2016
ACTION 27: Gelli Aur Country Park – seek long-term future and improvement programme for the country park in agreement with new owners.	No, Gelli Aur now in private ownership. Owner working with Visit Wales to provide some public access
ACTION 28: Llyn Llech Owain Country Park – completion of improvement programme for walkers, horseriders, and cyclists and associated environmental improvements.	Improved access for all throughout park. Continuing environmental improvements in conjunction with NRW.
ACTION 29: Millennium Coastal Park – maintain/improve opportunities for countryside access & water-based	Access and water based recreation opportunities have been improved, work is ongoing.

recreation.	
<p>Action 30:</p> <p>Mynydd Mawr Woodland Park – small scale improvements to access facilities as opportunities allow.</p>	<p>Improved access for all throughout park. Developed equestrian cross country course and all weather arena.</p> <p>Developed outdoor activity areas such as a climbing wall and a mountain bike course (off road and street).</p> <p>Made environmental improvements such as scrub clearance for Skylarks.</p>
<p>ACTION 31:</p> <p>Gelliwerdd Park (Glanamman) / Allt Nant y Ci (Saron)</p>	<p>Gelliwerdd Park - Improved access for all.</p> <p>Developed off road mountain bike course. Improved interpretation materials on site.</p> <p>Allt Nant y Ci – Improved access for all.</p> <p>Installed Life Trail (outdoor gym) equipment and mountain bike course.</p> <p>Installed bird hide and viewing platform.</p>
<p>2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW</p> <p>AIM 3 – ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE</p> <p>B. OPEN COUNTRY</p>	
<p>ACTION 32:</p> <p>To ensure that at least one point of public access is available to each block of Access Land/Urban Common</p>	<p>Not an active priority at present</p>
<p>ACTION 33:</p> <p>To ensure that all available and open exits and entrances to blocks of access land are signed with the national access symbols.</p>	<p>Not an active priority at present. Some access waymarking has been undertaken where work has been carried out on PRoWs surrounding open access land. However signing has been minimal as it has been reported to be misleading (especially negative Open Access signage)</p>
<p>POLICY 19:</p> <p>Give priority in maintenance and improvement programmes to ROW that provide opportunities for access to open country. (See Impt. A.3 & Mtce B.4 above).</p>	<p>Not been an active priority.</p>

2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 3 – ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE	
C. PICNIC AREAS AND NATURE RESERVES	
<p>ACTION 34:</p> <p>Maintain existing picnic areas and nature reserves and consider suitable limited additional facilities.</p>	<p>Ongoing maintenance. Currently discussions taking place surrounding asset transfer of sites to Comm. Councils</p>
2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 3 – ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE	
D. CYCLING	
<p>ACTION 35:</p> <p>Maintain existing cycleways in the country to meet the needs of cyclists and other users.</p>	<p>CCC Currently makes significant investment in the maintenance of our cycle network, this includes both our off road dedicated paths as well as those well used strategic on highway routes; further we work closely with Sustrans who undertake a maintenance function in terms of sections of National Cycle Network within the County. Our approach to maintenance is being further informed by the route audits undertaken as part of the Active Travel Act Existing Route Map process.</p> <p>In support of the above, an exercise is also being undertaken to assess our existing cycle path assets to ensure consistency and clarity in terms of classification and condition, this will allow us to target our resources effectively where they are most needed.</p>
<p>ACTION 36:</p> <p>Priority to be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Completing the Amman Valley cycleway b. Developing key missing links in the network between Ammanford and Cross Hands; c. Developing key missing links in the network between Nantgaredig & Whitemill in the Tywi Valley. d. Complete the three mountain biking trails in Brechfa and assist in the development of this area as a Centre of Excellence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The majority of the scheme is now complete, and land negotiation with Brynamman RFC and another landowners are being concluded. Anticipated construction in early 2018 to complete the missing link. b. Key missing links in the network between Ammanford and Cross Hands have been outlined in the integrated network maps as potential future developments. The Cross Hands Economic Link Road will also provide routes which tie in with the Active Travel Act. c. Carmarthenshire County Council are currently developing the Tywi Valley Path project which will provide a 3 meter wide shared use path stretching from Abergwili, Carmarthen to Ffairfach, Llandeilo. The section of the path connecting Nantgaredig and Whitemill is due for completion by 2019, while the remainder of the path has a target completion date of 2020. d. The three mountain bike trails in Brechfa have been

	completed. The 18.5km black graded 'Raven Trail' is listed as one of the top MTB cycling tracks in Wales , the 'Derwen Trail' which comprises a 9.2 km green route and 4.7km blue option, and the red graded 'Gorlech Trail', stretching for 19km and designed by Rowan Sorrell. Its rising popularity as a highly rated family day out will no doubt assist Brechfa in achieving the status of a Centre of Excellence, although this aim has not yet been met.
2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 4: WORK IN PARTNERSHIP TO ACHIEVE IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS	
A. PROMOTE PARTNERSHIPS	
ACTION 37: Continue to carry out pro-active surveys of the access network on a community by community basis in conjunction with local councils.	A number of community surveys have been carried out following requests made by the relevant town/community council. This has not been County wide to date.
ACTION 38: Continue to promote partnerships with community councils, landowners/occupiers and other public and private organisations, to maximise resources available for improved countryside access.	We have developed partnerships with a number of comm cls and private and public organisations to pool resources improve countryside access.
ACTION 39: Secure s.106 funding for improvements to Rights of Way and countryside access to meet the needs generated by new development.	We have negotiated for and made use s106 monies in a limited number of cases. We are now becoming actively engaged in the Section 106 Planning Subgroup so that we can make bids for s.106 money and use it to improve networks surrounding a new developments.
ACTION 40: Continue to work with Tir Gofal and similar agri-environment schemes to achieve long term improvement to the access network.	Ongoing collaboration with enforcement officers for current agri-environment schemes to maximise resource available for enforcement.
ACTION 41: Continue to work jointly to promote a more sustainable use of the network through links with public transport providers e.g. train walks, bus walks.	An opportunity to work with the Heart of Wales Line Trail group to develop train walks has recently been taken up. We would happily consider other similar opportunities but have not been pro-active in identifying schemes.

2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 4: WORK IN PARTNERSHIP TO ACHIEVE IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS	
B. VOLUNTEERS	
ACTION 42: Continue to maximise the potential for organised voluntary groups – local, national and international in the provision and improvement and maintenance of countryside access programmes.	In conjunction with Ranger service: 2007-2012 regular use of UNA international volunteers to maintain and improve PRoW network. 2007-2014 use of Ramblers volunteer groups for maintenance work.
ACTION 43: Continue to provide a minimum of 15 work camps/30 weeks p.a. for local and other organised voluntary groups.	Voluntary work camps ended in 2012
2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 5: PROMOTION – MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE RANGE AND QUALITY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, WIDELY AVAILABLE IN APPROPRIATE FORMS	
A. GENERAL	
ACTION 44: Continue to work with other agencies to improve opportunities for countryside access from people living in Communities First areas.	Not been an active priority
POLICY 20: Continue to promote and encourage responsible use of the countryside and respect for those that live and work in the countryside.	Involved in the development of the Public Space Protection Order and associated public information to encourage responsible use of public spaces including PRoWs. Ongoing distribution of material for the promotion of responsible behaviour in the countryside issued by other organisations such as NRW and the Welsh Government
POLICY 21: Continue to encourage participation in countryside access from all sections of society.	No active promotion presently. Recent Digital Transformation Workshop highlighted opportunities for increased public relations to encourage participation.
2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW	
AIM 5: PROMOTION – MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE RANGE AND QUALITY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, WIDELY AVAILABLE IN APPROPRIATE FORMS	
B. PUBLICITY MATERIAL	
ACTION 45: Retain, revise and update the ‘great outdoors’ brochure as the main printed source of information on countryside recreation access opportunities for walkers, cyclists, horse riders, disabled and vehicular users.	Not been updated. Publication no longer distributed.

<p>ACTION 46:</p> <p>Provide promotional material for promoted rights of way.</p>	<p>Promotion ongoing. Approximately 20% of CCC Walks leaflets are being updated each year primarily as downloadable leaflets on CCC website. (Hard copy leaflets still available at present but may be discontinued dependent upon future demand).</p>
<p>ACTION 47:</p> <p>Produce Strategic Walks leaflets to promote the (upgraded) Coast, Teili and Tywi and other defined trails.</p>	<p>Carmarthenshire's section of the Wales Coast Path will be added and updated to the CCC website as and when appropriate.</p> <p>The Tywi & Teifi were promoted up until 2015 but no active promotion has been carried out since then and there are no plans to specifically promote the Tywi or Teifi Trails or to reprint the brochures. This is subject to change dependant on resource.</p>
<p>ACTION 48:</p> <p>Ensure that the current series of country walks (36) is kept up to date by ongoing review/reprints.</p>	<p>The 36 County Walks and Trails have recently been rationalised down to 22 due to some being identified as inappropriate as CCC promoted walks for reasons of poor quality, accessibility and/or popularity. Additionally some have been removed from the series as they have been superseded by new schemes or are promoted and managed by outside organisations such as the National Trust removing the need for CCC promotion.</p>
<p>ACTION 49:</p> <p>Produce updated/additional country walks leaflets to complement the existing series.</p>	<p>WCP superseded CCC Coastal Trail. Now a major promoted route in the County, no other routes added.</p>
<p>ACTION 50:</p> <p>Further improve the County Council website by providing information on countryside access opportunities and for all users, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Def. map & statement b. Application packs for claims, diversions, etc. c. An interactive map & complaints form. d. Registers of def map applications and statutory declarations. e. Claims & modification orders. f. Local access forum details. 	<p>Website has been improved with the introduction of i-local giving the public a way of viewing PRoW data online. LAF information (minutes of meetings, meeting dates) are published online.</p>
<p>ACTION 51:</p> <p>Produce new information on opportunities for horse riding in the County.</p>	<p>Nothing produced by CCC but work closely with BHS and Carmarthen Riders who publish promotional material and info.</p>

2007 – 2017 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REVIEW

AIM 5: PROMOTION – MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE RANGE AND QUALITY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, WIDELY AVAILABLE IN APPROPRIATE FORMS

C. PROMOTING ACCESS FOR ALL

ACTION 52: Provide 'Access for All' information on access opportunities for those with limited mobility and other impairments.	No
ACTION 53: Promote the social and health benefits of walking, riding, and cycling through events and programmes such as the 'Lets walk Cymru' Scheme, Urban Walks and activity programmes from countryside parks & other locations.	Intermittent promotion of health benefits through 'Walking your Way to Health Officer' (until 2008) Countryside Rangers Service and Volunteers.

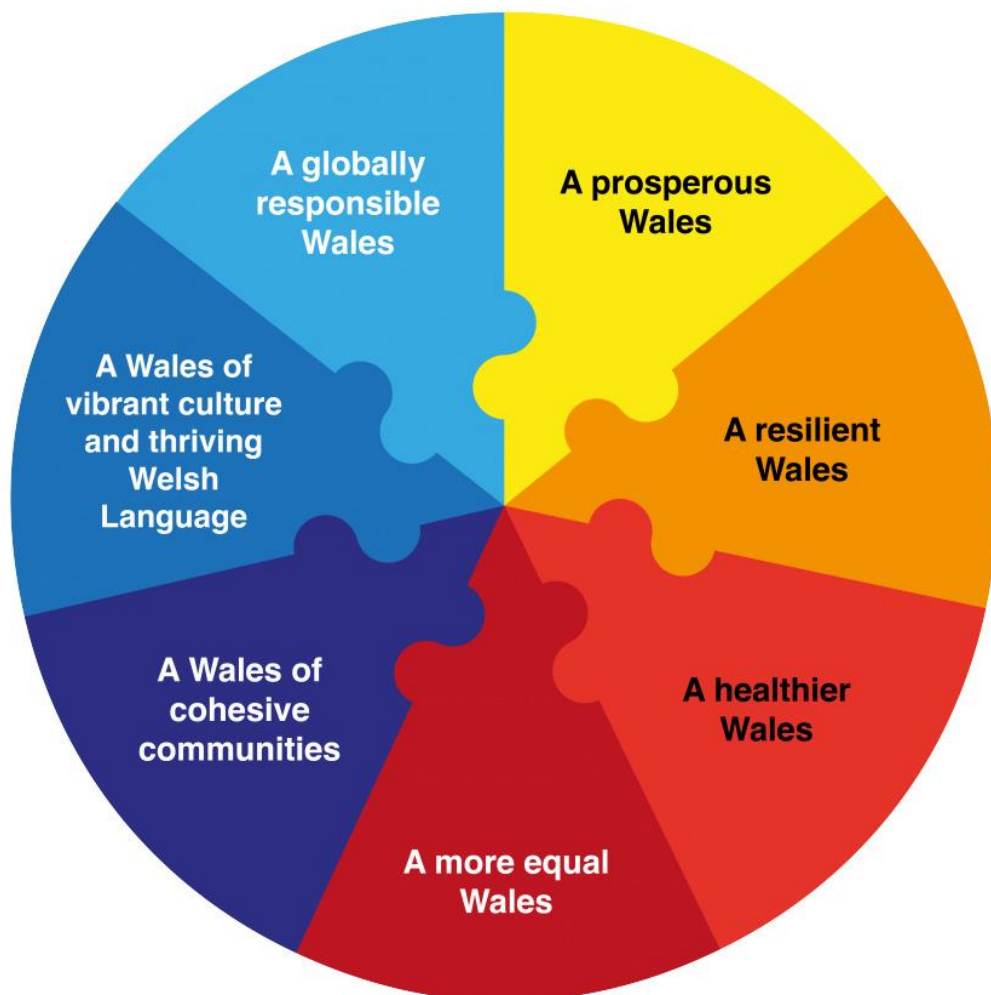
Appendix 8

CURRENT AND EMERGING LEGISLATION, PLANS AND POLICIES

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

The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WFG Act) puts in place a stronger, more coherent sustainable development framework for Wales through a set of seven well-being goals, a sustainable development principle, and a strong duty for all public bodies to carry out sustainable development, reflecting the need to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

This Rights of Way Improvement Plan compliments the key objectives of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act illustrated below.



WELL-BEING GOAL	CARMARTHENSHIRE ROWIP
<i>A prosperous Wales</i>	<p>Natural resources provide opportunities for employment and economic activity. For example, wildlife and outdoor activity tourism to Wales provides around 206,000 jobs and is estimated to be worth £6.2 billion.</p> <p>The PROW network provide unrivalled access to Carmarthenshire’s varied natural and historically rich countryside.</p> <p>Tourism is a key component of Carmarthenshire’s economy and a major source of employment and revenue supporting over 5,547 full time equivalent jobs either directly or indirectly and generating £326m revenue to the County’s economy annually.</p> <p>provide</p>
<i>A resilient Wales</i>	<p>The countryside and the PROW Network all contribute to supporting Wales’ ability to adapt to climate change by providing opportunities for sustainable travel via the Footpath, Bridleway and Byways network across the County.</p>
<i>A healthier Wales</i>	<p>Natural resources make a significant contribution to the physical health and mental well-being of people in Wales.</p> <p>Open space has the potential to provide benefits to health and wellbeing and can assist in mitigating the causes and effects of inactivity.</p> <p>Open spaces can also provide arenas for social interaction and community activities, and have a key role to play in underpinning other key strategic documents, such as the Health, Social Care and Well Being strategy.</p> <p>The PROW network enables the public at large to take advantage of the health benefits offered by the natural environment.</p>

<p><i>A more equal Wales</i></p>	<p>We want to minimise negative and maximise positive impacts for everyone. At present, sections of the Rights of Way Networks are not accessible to everyone and the very nature of certain routes may restrict those with mobility problems from accessing the entire network. However, we endeavour to provide access to all where possible, enabling all members of society to enjoy the access opportunities the network provides.</p>
<p><i>A Wales of cohesive communities</i></p>	<p>This Improvement Plan will involve communities, Local Access Forums, other organisations and volunteers in the management of the Rights of Way Network, as this joint working has been shown to improve community cohesion and reduce anti-social behaviour.</p>
<p><i>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language</i></p>	<p>Landscapes have played a significant role in the development of distinct cultural practices, such as local building techniques relying on local materials, along with locally specific art and literature. This Improvement Plan will act to protect all cultural aspects of the Rights of Way Network.</p>
<p><i>A globally responsible Wales</i></p>	<p>The environment supplies all our material resources, this Improvement Plan will ensure that in maintaining and improving the PROW network, we use only our fair share.</p>

By correctly managing our PROW network we can contribute to a nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change as required by the 2015 Act

b) The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013

The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 [“the 2013 Act”] places a duty on Local Authorities to secure new Active Travel routes and related facilities, to secure improvements to existing routes and facilities and to promote active travel journeys.

Section 9 of the 2013 Act requires local authorities to take reasonable steps, as far as it is practical, to enhance the provision for walkers and cyclists in the exercise of specified functions including those relating to creation, improvement, maintenance and enforcement of highways (including public Rights of Way) under parts 3, 4, 5, 9, and 12 of the Highways Act 1980.

Carmarthenshire has an extensive Active Travel Network, and this plan pays due regard to the Active Travel Act. The following medium priority actions are contained with Aim 3 of the Action Plan under the sub-heading Active Travel, demonstrate our commitment to developing Active Travel routes as part of the Rights of Way Network;

AIM 3:

ENSURE THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS ARE EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE

ACTIVE TRAVEL

ACTION 25:

Assist the Transport Strategy & Infrastructure team in developing and maintaining cycleways in accordance with Carmarthenshire Cycle Strategy and the Active Travel Act.

ACTION 26:

Provide regular advice the Transport Strategy and Infrastructure team in schemes being developed under Active Travel and/or the Walking and Cycling Strategy.

c) The Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 [“the Equality Act”] draws together a range of discrimination legislation and largely replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. The Equality Act specifies a number of ‘*protected characteristics*’: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

The Equality Act makes it unlawful to directly or indirectly discriminate against someone on the grounds of those characteristics.

Section 149, outlined below, also introduces a ‘public sector equality duty’ requiring that, in the exercise of its functions, authorities to have due regard to the need to;

d) The Equality Act, Section 149;

- (1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to—
 - (a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - (b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - (c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- (2) A person who is not a public authority but who exercises public functions must, in the exercise of those functions, have due regard to the matters mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:
 - (a) Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;

- (b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
 - (c) Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- (4) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.
- (5) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to
 - (a) Tackle prejudice, and
 - (b) Promote understanding.
- (6) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.
- (7) The relevant protected characteristics are
 - Age;
 - Disability;
 - Gender reassignment;
 - Pregnancy and maternity;
 - Race;
 - Religion or belief;
 - Sex;
 - Sexual orientation.

This Rights of Way Improvement Plan pays due regard to the requirements of the Act, as demonstrated by the following two actions contained within Aim 1 of the Action Plan under the sub-heading Access for All;

AIM 1:
ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK IS EASY TO USE AND ENJOYABLE
ACCESS FOR ALL

ACTION 14:

Adopt the policy of Least Restrictive Access and follow the principles of "By All Reasonable Means" using appropriate advice and guidance to improve the accessibility of all countryside access schemes.

ACTION 15:

Engage with established advisory groups such as the Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition and relevant organisations on opportunities to upgrade the network for people with disabilities and other less able users. Also, take active steps to identify and appoint a LAF member to represent the interests and needs of disabled and less abled users.

e) Local Government Act 1999

Section 3 of The Local Government Act 1999 requires local authorities to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which their functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

In doing so, authorities must consult, among others, representatives of persons who use or are likely to use services provided by the authority.

Section 3 of the Act states;

- (1) A best value authority must make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- (2) For the purpose of deciding how to fulfil the duty arising under subsection (1) an authority must consult—
 - (a) Representatives of persons liable to pay any tax, precept or levy to or in respect of the authority,
 - (b) Representatives of persons liable to pay non-domestic rates in respect of any area within which the authority carries out functions,
 - (c) Representatives of persons who use or are likely to use services provided by the authority, and
 - (d) Representatives of persons appearing to the authority to have an interest in any area within which the authority carries out functions.

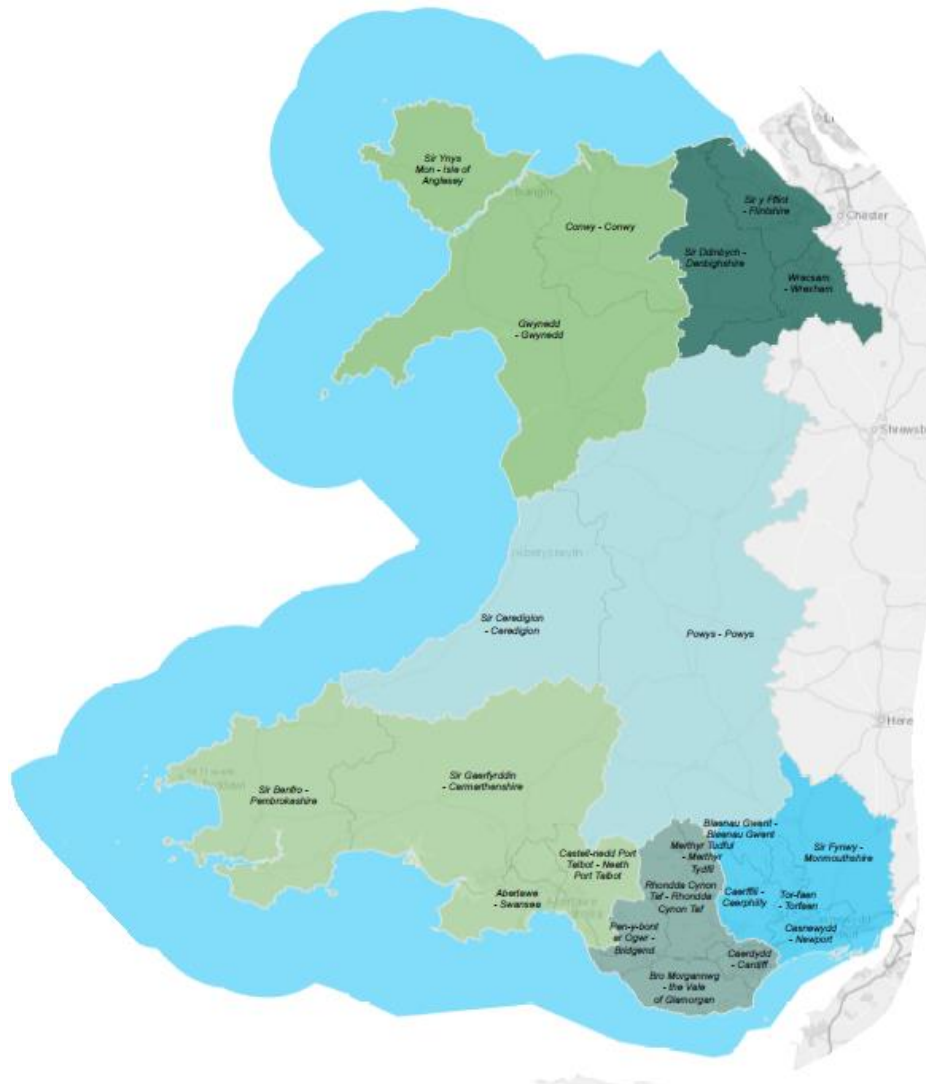
This Rights of Way Improvement Plan pays due regard to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1999, as outlined in Section 8 and 10 and appendix 4.

Significant consultation was undertaken and all sections of the community in Carmarthenshire were given the opportunity to provide feedback and opinion on the management and continuous improvement of the Rights of Way network.

f) The Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The Environment (Wales) Act became law on 21st March 2016. It puts in place legislation to enable Wales' resources to be managed in a more proactive, sustainable and joined up manner and to establish the legislative framework necessary to tackle climate change. The Act supports the Welsh Government's wider remit under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (see above), so that Wales benefits from a prosperous economy, a healthy and resilient environment and vibrant, cohesive communities.

The Act placed a duty on Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to produce Area Statements to enable Wales' natural resources to be managed in a sustainable and coordinated way. Carmarthenshire sits within the South West Wales Area Statement catchment which also incorporates Pembrokeshire, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.



Area Statement areas and Unitary Authority Boundaries
(Taken from Natural Resources Wales Website)

The profile of the South West area includes extensive areas of coast, estuary farmland, upland and mountains as well as industrial areas such as the steelworks at Port Talbot. Carmarthenshire contains all of these varied environments to some degree and therefore must take account of all of the unique and special resources available to us and going forward, work with all partners within the South West area to tackle the challenges and realise any opportunities those resources can offer.

The Area Statements are still being developed therefore it is not possible for this ROWIP to take account of the proposed Place Based approach for Natural Resource Management that the Statements will ultimately direct. The Authority will however get involved in the process and work together with NRW and other partners in developing the South West Area Statement so that any priorities, principles and actions coming out of the process align with the needs of the area and the Natural Resources available.

In addition to Area Statements, within the Act the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty (Section 6 of the Act) requires that all public authorities 'must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of functions in relation to Wales, and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems, so far as consistent with the proper exercise of those functions'.

The intention is to ensure that in carrying out their functions, public authorities will:

- Place biodiversity as a natural and integral part of policy and decision making within public bodies, embedding it in its plans, policies and projects and day-to-day activities.
- Address biodiversity decline, through positive actions that will result in maintenance or enhancement of our biodiversity.
- Develop ecosystem resilience through maintaining and enhancing biodiversity.

This Rights of Way Improvement Plan is therefore a key mechanism where we can evidence compliance with this duty through the way we manage and enhance and promote our ROW network.

The Council has produced an Environment Act Forward Plan setting out how it intends to comply with the duty with an action to consider the Environment Act duty when preparing the ROWIP.

g) Carmarthenshire Environment Act Forward Plan 2017 – 2019

As required by the Environment (Wales) Act, the Authority has developed a forward plan detailing how they intend to comply with the duty to enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems.

The forward plan highlights the pending ROWIP review and that the review process will 'address new duties placed on LAs under this Act' (Carmarthenshire County Council Forward Plan for Environment (Wales) Act 2016, 2017-19)

The ROWIP contains actions where the requirements of the Environment Act can be implemented effectively by working closely with the Rural Conservation Section. This will ensure the best results in maintaining and promoting the PROW network whilst meeting the LAs duties under the 2015 Act.

h) Carmarthenshire Well-Being Plan

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on each Public Services Board (PSB) to develop and publish a county Well-being Plan by May 2018.

As part of the preparation of this Plan, Carmarthenshire PSB undertook a detailed Well-being Assessment of the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the county and the assessment, along with a series of engagement events used to identify the Carmarthenshire well-being objectives and the actions to make progress against those objectives.

The key objectives of the Carmarthenshire plan (The Carmarthenshire We Want 2018-2023) are:

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

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

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

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

ROWIP aims 1, 3 and 5 will all contribute towards some of these objectives by providing the opportunities people need to develop Healthy Habits, make Strong Connections and allow Places to Prosper.

i) Local Development Plan

The Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted in December 2014.

The LDP sets out the spatial vision for the future of Carmarthenshire (excluding that area within the Brecon Beacons National Park) and a framework for the distribution and delivery of growth and development.

It sets out land-use planning policies and proposals which are used in the determination of planning applications and in guiding future opportunities for investment and growth.

These policies include land-use allocations for different types of development (i.e. housing, employment, retailing, education, open space etc.) as well as criteria for assessing individual proposals.

The Plan has a direct effect on the lives of every resident of the County as well as major implications on investment programmes, other plans and strategies, communities and landowners alike.

The LDP contains a number of policies that support and compliment this Rights of Way Strategy including;

SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment

Development should reflect the need to protect, and wherever possible enhance the County's natural environment.

All development proposals should be considered in accordance with national guidance/legislation and the policies and proposals of this Plan, with due consideration given to areas of nature conservation value, the countryside, landscapes and coastal areas, including those outlined below:

- a. Statutory designated sites including Ramsar sites, SPAs, SACs, SSSIs and National Nature Reserves;
- b. Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Value, including protected species and habitats of acknowledged importance as well as key connectivity corridors and pathways;
- c. Regional and Locally important sites (and their features) including Local Nature Reserves and RIGS;
- d. Areas of identified Landscape and Seascape quality (including SLAs);
- e. Features which contribute to local distinctiveness, nature conservation value or the landscape;
- f. The Open Countryside;
- g. The best and most versatile agricultural land (Grade 2 and 3a);
- h. Natural assets: including air, soil (including high carbon soils) controlled waters and water resources.

SP15 Tourism and the Visitor Economy

Proposals for tourism related developments and for appropriate extensions to existing facilities will be supported where they are in accordance with the locational hierarchy set out below and are acceptable in terms of scale, type of development, siting and general impact:

- i. Within the development limits of Growth Areas and Service Centres - major tourism proposals, including high level traffic generators;
- ii. Within the development limits of Local Service Centres and Sustainable Communities – smaller scale proposals which reflect the character of the area which are appropriate in terms of size, scale and impact;
- iii. Open Countryside – small scale location specific developments that must satisfy policy TSM3, except where they are subject to the provisions of TSM2 and/or TSM5.

SP16 Community Facilities

The LDP will support the provision of new facilities, along with the protection and enhancement of existing facilities, in accordance with the settlement framework and based upon evidence of need. Proposals for new education and training related developments will be supported where it supports the settlement framework and accords with the policies of this Plan.

SP17 Infrastructure

Development will be directed to locations where adequate and appropriate infrastructure is available or can be readily provided. The LDP therefore supports the economic provision of infrastructure by allocating sites in identified settlements and in accordance with the Settlement Framework.

Renewable energy generation and associated utility connections will be encouraged, in appropriate locations, subject to other Plan policies.

Proposals for ancillary developments to the utilities infrastructure will be permitted where:

- a. They have regard to their setting;
- b. Incorporate landscaping;
- c. Do not conflict with the areas built, historic, cultural and nature conservation and landscape qualities.

LDP Review

A review of the Carmarthenshire LDP commenced in 2018 and will provide opportunities for PRoW interests to be considered and for reference to be made to the ROWIP within the revised plan.

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

CYNGOR SIR
13EG TACHWEDD 2019

Ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth Cymru

Fframwaith Datblygu Cenedlaethol 2020-2040 (Drafft)

Yr argymhellion / penderfyniadau allweddol sydd eu hangen:

- Nodi cynnwys yr ymgynghoriad a chymeradwyo'r ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad hwn i'w cyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru.

Y Rhesymau:

- Amlinellu cynnwys arfaethedig y Fframwaith Datblygu Cenedlaethol 2020 – 2040 (Drafft).
- Sicrhau bod yr ymgynghoriad yn cael ei lywio'n llawn ac yn briodol.

Angen ymgynghori â'r Pwyllgor Craffu perthnasol

Pwyllgor Craffu - Cymunedau: Trefnwyd - amherthnasol

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad

Oes – (21 Hydref)

Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad

Oes

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

Y gyfarwyddiaeth: Yr Amgylchedd

Swyddi:

Rhifau ffôn: 01267 228659

Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth:

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Cyfeiriadau E-bost:

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Awdur yr Adroddiad: Ian Llewelyn

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COUNCIL
13TH NOVEMBER 2019**

Welsh Government Consultation

Draft National Development Framework 2020 - 2040

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

1. What is the National Development Framework?

The National Development Framework (NDF) is a new development plan which will set the direction for development in Wales from 2020 to 2040. It sets a strategy for addressing key national priorities through the planning system, including sustaining and developing a vibrant economy, decarbonisation, developing resilient ecosystems and improving the health and well-being of our communities.

The NDF is a spatial plan, which means it sets a direction for where we should be investing in infrastructure and development for the greater good of Wales and its people.

The NDF is the highest tier of development plan and is focused on issues and challenges at a national scale. Its strategic nature means it does not allocate development to all parts of Wales, nor does it include policies on all land uses.

2. How does the NDF fit with existing Planning Policy

The NDF should be read alongside Planning Policy Wales (PPW) which provides planning policy on an all-Wales basis. The NDF is intended to complement PPW, with a shared commitment to placemaking and by setting out the spatial priorities for planning and development where national-level consideration is required. In combination, and supplemented by Technical Advice Notes and procedural guidance, the NDF and PPW ensure that the planning system across Wales is fully aligned in working towards national ambitions and well-being goals.

3. How does the NDF fit with Strategic and Local Development Plans?

The role of development plans is to plan and manage land use at its spatial scale. The NDF consequently considers issues at the national scale whilst Strategic Development Plans (SDP's) cover regional or sub-regional scales and Local Development Plans (LDP's) consider issues at the local scale.

All three tiers are important and it is the collective effect of all tiers working together that is the strength of the planning system in Wales. Note that the emerging Revised LDP will be required to be in conformity with the content of the adopted NDF.

Whilst the future role of SDP's is clearly recognised, there are as yet none in place with their preparation, scope and spatial extent likely to be further considered as the NDF approaches adoption. Strategic and Local Development Plans must support the implementation of the NDF.

4. What does the draft NDF do?

The draft NDF sets out development policies for Wales as a whole and specifically for the North Wales, Mid and South West Wales and South East Wales regions. The regional approach is intended to align with other Welsh Government strategies and allows a consistent approach to policy implementation across Wales.

The NDF identifies 11 outcomes to be achieved through the planning system over the next 20 years:

1. Our cities, towns and villages will be physically and digitally well connected, offering good quality of life to their residents.
2. In rural areas, job opportunities and community services will be supported to help attract and retain people.
3. The regional approach will recognise that different parts of Wales work differently to each other, with distinct underlying characteristics and challenges.
4. We aim to have a million Welsh speakers in Wales by 2050 – an increase of almost 80% on current levels.
5. Cities and large towns are magnets for jobs and investment, while people are drawn to live and work there for the economic and social opportunities they provide.
6. Development Plans will have a forward thinking, positive attitude towards enabling economic development, investment and innovation.
7. All methods of travel will need to have low environmental impact and low emissions, with ultra low emission vehicles and public transport replacing today's petrol and diesel vehicles.
8. Broadband provision will develop and evolve, beginning with comprehensive coverage of superfast and progressing to ultra-fast fibre, which will help businesses to be more productive, resilient and innovative.
9. Wales' natural resources, including its minerals, coast, water, forests and landscape, support a range of activities and sectors and are assets of great value in their own right.
10. The variety of flora and fauna found across Wales make Wales a special place.
11. The challenges of climate change demand urgent action on carbon emissions and the planning system must help Wales lead the way in promoting and delivering a competitive, sustainable decarbonised society.

5. NDF Spatial Strategy

The NDF identifies the following three main urban clusters of cities and towns where it proposes Wales will grow:

- Cardiff, Newport and the Valleys;
- Swansea Bay and Llanelli; and
- Wrexham and Deeside.

Its states that each of these urban areas is economically distinctive, supporting a range of businesses, enterprises and universities, and offering culturally rich lifestyles to residents and visitors. It identifies them as nationally significant places and the NDF strategy promotes their continued growth and regeneration. As a result, new largescale employment opportunities and housing growth will occur predominantly, though not exclusively, in these urban areas.

Development in towns and villages in rural areas will support local aspirations and need, complementing rather than competing with efforts to grow our cities and towns. The NDF identifies a range of important regional centres which, through specific policies in SDP's and LDP's, which should retain and enhance the commercial and public service base that make them focal points in their areas. This will apply in: Carmarthen, the Pembrokeshire Haven towns, Aberystwyth, Llandrindod Wells, Newtown, Caernarfon, Bangor and the coastal towns from Llandudno to Prestatyn.

By focussing large scale growth on the urban areas, the NDF seeks to channel development pressures away from the countryside and productive agricultural land can be protected. In delivering the strategy the NDF sets out 33 policies including: Policy 1 – Sustainable Urban Growth, Policy 4 – Supporting Rural Communities, Policy 5 – Delivering Affordable Homes, Policy 10 - Wind and Solar Energy Priority Areas, Priority Areas for District Heat Networks, Policies for the Mid and South West Wales Region etc.

6. Main Issues for Carmarthenshire

The consultation response as appended reflects a number of key themes specific to Carmarthenshire as a diverse County with clear ambitions in relation to regeneration and opportunities across all its communities. The main issues identified within the appended consultation response relate to the following:

Urban and Rural Development

The NDF seeks to focus development and growth on 3 main centres namely which, from a Carmarthenshire perspective, includes Swansea Bay and Llanelli. This would seek to focus growth away from rural communities with only Carmarthen specifically identified as an additional centre for regional growth. The NDF whilst referencing to sustaining rural communities does not identify or specifically recognise the critical role many settlements play.

Residential Growth

The NDF proposes a housing growth of 23,400 across the Mid and South West Wales Region through to 2038. This rate of growth is based on WG projections and has no reference to growth aspirations and ambitions within the Region or within individual authorities.

Agriculture

The Draft NDF does not comment in any detail on the role of the agricultural economy to Wales or the region. In this respect it seeks to recognise other contributors to the Welsh economy but is largely silent on agriculture.

Affordable Housing

The NDF seeks to provide a strong policy statement in relation to the delivery of affordable homes across Wales and within the Mid and South West Wales Region.

Infrastructure

The spatial strategy of the NDF seeks to focus growth focused urban centres with the homes, jobs and services available. This has impacts in relation to infrastructure capacity and implications on future investment and funding streams. The focus away from rural communities may have implications on access to services in such areas.

Renewables

The NDF identifies "Priority Areas" for large scale renewable energy developments. These include extensive areas for both wind and solar across Carmarthenshire. Large scale developments are those which are classed as Developments of National Significance and are determined by Welsh Ministers. Large scale energy developments are defined in the framework as:

- All on-shore wind generation over 10MW
- Other renewable energy generation sites with generating power between 10MW and 350MW

It proposes that large scale solar and wind generation will be favoured in the priority areas. Areas not within the Priority Areas will not carry explicit Welsh Government support for large scale developments and proposals will be determined on their individual merits.

Economic Activity

The attached response seeks to highlight potential concerns arising from the strategic approach on growth in the main centres. In seeking to direct growth and development (residential and commercial) to Swansea Bay and Llanelli the significance of other areas including Cross Hands will be affected. With concerns that future WG funding priorities will be aligned to the NDF. This will limit other key town's ability to attract funding support.

7. Next Steps

The consultation on the Draft NDF closes on the 1st November 2019 with the NDF scheduled for adoption in September 2020. It is proposed that the consultation response be submitted by the 1st November deadline with the proviso that Council endorsement of the response will be at Council meeting on the 13th November 2019.

The appended report sets out the proposed response of the Council to the consultation on the Draft NDF. It incorporates comments across a range of service areas reflecting the strategic importance and implications.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

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

Signed: L Quelch

Head of Planning

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

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The NDF has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Well Being of Future Generations Act 2015 and embeds the 5 ways of working (long-term thinking, prevention, collaboration, integration and involvement), within the strategic thinking and policy development has informed, influenced and shaped the NDF. The implications in relation to Council policy are drawn out in the attached report.

2. Legal

The consultation document reflects the provisions of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and reflects the Positive Planning Agenda.

It also integrates requirements arising from the Environment (Wales) Act 2015 and the Well Being of Future Generations Act 2015.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: L Quelch

Head of Planning

1. Scrutiny Committee

N/A

2. Local Member(s)

The report details the consultation undertaken by the Welsh Government which is open to full public consultation.

3. Community / Town Council

The report details the consultation undertaken by the Welsh Government which is open to full public consultation.

4. Relevant Partners

The report details the consultation undertaken by the Welsh Government which is open to full public consultation.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

Internal contributions have been sought in formulating the response to the consultation set out in this report.

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

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

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Draft National Development Framework		https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2019-08/Draft%20National%20Development%20Framework.pdf
Consultation Document - Draft National Development Framework		https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2019-08/draft-national-development-framework-consultation-document.pdf
Supporting Documents - Draft National Development Framework		https://gov.wales/draft-national-development-framework

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Consultation Response Form

Your name	Ian R Llewelyn
Your address	Planning Services, Environment Directorate, Carmarthenshire County Council, 8 Spilman Street, Carmarthen, SA31 1LE
Preferred contact details (email/phone/post)	01267 228816 IRLlewelyn@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
<u>Organisation (if applicable)</u>	Carmarthenshire County Council

1. NDF Outcomes (chapter 3)

The NDF has proposed 11 Outcomes as an ambition of where we want to be in 20 years' time.

- Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree the 11 Outcomes are a realistic vision for the NDF?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- To what extent do you agree with the 11 Outcomes as ambitions for the NDF?

Agree with all of them	Agree with most of them	Agree with some of them	Agree with none of them	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- If you disagree with any of the 11 Outcomes, please tell us why:

Outcome 11 mentioned the need for Wales to become a sustainable, decarbonised society. In the context of new housing, we should be insisting on higher levels of energy efficiency for all new homes. This is not just about the individual homes, but potentially linking homes with other local facilities both in terms of location (reducing the need for car travel, enabling walking and cycling) but also enabling the development of district heating systems, which could include homes, schools, leisure facilities and workplaces.

2. Spatial Strategy (policies 1 - 4)

The NDF **spatial strategy** is a guiding framework for where large-scale change and nationally important developments will be focused over the next 20 years.

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the spatial strategy and key principles for development in...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
Urban areas (Policies 1, 2 & 3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural areas (Policy 4)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- If you have any comments on the spatial strategy or key principles for development in urban and rural areas, please tell us:

The Draft NDF sets out a clear drive for growth and development (residential and commercial) to be focused on Swansea Bay and Llanelli. From a Carmarthenshire perspective and for our region this represents a concern.

Whilst we welcome the fact that Llanelli is identified as a key development area, the NDF should incorporate the wider strategic areas such as Cross Hands Strategic Employment Zone, identified as a Regionally important growth zone in terms of providing jobs for the area and the wider economy; in order to achieve that objective transport investment and prioritised connectivity is needed.

In this regard Cross Hands is a key growth area for the County (supported by significant WG infrastructure funding) and contributes to growth within the region. On the basis of the NDF Carmarthen would have a regional albeit reduced role below that of Llanelli. Cross Hands, Ammanford etc. would have no significance. Whilst it is appreciated that local developments plans and Strategic Development Plans will respond to regional and local issues the lack of national plan level recognition of such settlements would raise significant concerns in terms of future WG funding priorities (which will be aligned to the NDF). Therefore other key towns and growth areas in our county – Cross Hands, Ammanford etc and even Carmarthen may not be able to attract the required funding and infrastructure

support thus diminishing their regeneration opportunities and roles within the County and region.

There has been a lack of reference to the current spatial and growth policies within the region – in this respect it is noted that Ammanford/Cross Hands is omitted (presumably on the basis of individual settlement population levels) despite its longstanding status as a 'growth area' within numerous development plans and as an area for investment and growth both within economic/regeneration strategies but also through the City Deal.

Similarly, the spatial strategy through the indication of a small number of regionally classified settlements fails to recognise the diversity across Carmarthenshire and many comparable Counties across Wales. In this respect the lack of recognition of several major rural market towns, as well as settlements such as Ammanford/ Cross Hands (see also response to question 11 for further discussion on this point), results in a spatial and effectively policy deficit for settlements across much of the region which have traditionally, and continue to, perform key functions in terms of providing homes, jobs and services. In this respect the spatial strategy and its understanding of rural areas, their settlements and communities would be strengthened through an explicit recognition of the role they play within their respective communities and as a contributor to the future of rural Wales.

Furthermore with growth focused on urban centres, the rural economy could be significantly disadvantaged with the consequential risk of increasing the proportion of older people living in such areas as young people migrate to city centres over a the life of the plan. The travel needs of rural communities will need to be met, in the short and medium term, with investment in public transport and infrastructure, in not making such provision rural deprivation is likely to be significantly increased.

Focusing investment on development areas only, will exacerbate current traffic growth and add to congestion on key strategic routes; it is worth noting that Carmarthenshire which has limited reference within the NDF other than green energy and Llanelli development has the 3rd highest traffic volumes in Wales approximately 1.3 billion vehicle miles p.a. Displacement of this existing travel demand will create concentrated areas of traffic growth and congestion stymying economic development.

In noting the aspirational nature of the NDF, the developmental focus on Swansea Bay and Llanelli should be qualified by those notable developmental considerations that need to be recognised even at a strategic level. Such considerations include the internationally protected waters of the Burry Inlet which bound Swansea and Llanelli. The identification of the Swansea Bay metro is welcomed, however there remains a lack of certainty and clarity with regards its implementation which renders this as largely aspirational at this time.

Reference to the importance of a METRO system to underpin development and mobility is welcomed, however the NDF does not reflect the true scope of the METRO being developed within the Swansea Bay City Region on instruction by the Wales Government; rather it appears to only capture a small area in the east of the region.

3. Affordable Housing (policy 5)

The NDF sets out the approach for providing affordable housing, encouraging local authorities, social landlords, and small and medium-sized construction and building enterprises to build more homes.

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the approach to increasing affordable housing?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF approach the delivery of affordable housing?

Fundamentally reference should be given to Policy 23 and 24 of the NDF which estimates a requirement for 23,400 homes within the Mid and West region during the NDF period. By setting such a low figure for housing requirement in general it will undoubtedly have a knock on effect on the number of affordable homes that can be developed during this period. The planning system seeks to maximise its contribution to delivering affordable housing. Less housing allocations within Local Development Plans as a consequence of a lower housing requirement, will result in much less supply of housing land for developing affordable houses.

Whilst we support the notion of increasing the delivery of affordable housing and the various mechanisms to achieve this, there is little substance within the Policy and supporting statement to show how this is to be achieved.

Public funding and land will be needed to deliver the number of affordable homes that are needed. The needs of older people are mentioned. The approach should be to make all new homes as accessible as possible to people with reduced mobility, so that older people, and younger people with disabilities, have more choice about where they can live. This should apply in both affordable and open market homes. Some older people and people with disabilities will prefer to move to specialist housing. It should not be assumed that all of these homes will be supported with public subsidies. The private sector should be contributing to meeting this need, even if providing other types of homes are more profitable.

Rural areas – there should be an emphasis on the importance of delivering new affordable homes in rural areas to create sustainable communities, based on identified local need.

4. Mobile Action Zones (policy 6)

- To what extent do you agree or disagree the identification of mobile action zones will be effective in encouraging better mobile coverage?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF improve mobile phone coverage in the areas which currently have limited access?

N/A

5. Low Emission Vehicles (policy 7)

- To what extent do you agree or disagree that policy 7 will enable and encourage the roll-out of charging infrastructure for ultra-low emission vehicles?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF enable and encourage the roll-out of charging infrastructure for ultra-low emission vehicles?

The Council welcomes the positive approach in relation to Ultra Low Emission Vehicles. We also welcome the recognition of the need to roll out the infrastructure particularly noting provision in rural areas.

6. Green Infrastructure (policies 8 & 9)

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the approach to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecological networks?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. Renewable Energy and District Heat Networks (policies 10-15)

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the NDF's policies to lower carbon emissions in Wales using...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
Large scale wind and solar developments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
District heat networks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- If you disagree with the NDF's approaches to green infrastructure, renewable energy or district heat networks, what alternative approaches should we consider to help Wales to enhance its biodiversity and transition to a low carbon economy?

The provisions of the NDF in relation to the development of District Heat Networks is noted as is the current expectation that LPA's consider them as part of the preparation of their current LDP's. The potential benefits are acknowledged, however, the costs associated with their implementation can be significant and may be prohibitive. In this respect the statements in relation to their viability are noted, as is the identification of Llanelli as a potential location. Further detail on the support available to local authorities and the development industry on the development of appropriate evidence and the delivery of such networks should be referenced or provided.

The identification of a significant proportion of Carmarthenshire for wind and/or solar energy is noted as is the initial supporting evidence. We welcome the clarification that not all areas within the 'Priority Areas' would be suitable and that careful consideration will be needed. However, the inclusion of the map as it stands ahead of the necessary refinement exercise could be considered as misleading particularly given their large geographical extent. We look forward to the further clarity arising from the detailed refinement work.

We would also welcome an understanding how the evidential work fits with the requirements of the current Technical Advice Note and the Toolkit.

Further evidence is needed beyond the priority areas identified before detailed consideration can be given the suitability of the priority areas identified. However, at

this stage there would be concerns over their spatial extent.

Q6. Agree - We welcome these policies and the recognition they give to the importance of Green Infrastructure. Policy 8 allows for the holistic consideration of green infrastructure and set a positive direction for local policy and the NRW Area Statements.

We welcome that Policy 8's supporting text explicitly notes that safeguarding does not necessarily prohibit development.

The supporting text to Policy 8 acknowledges the importance of green infrastructure in urban areas, however, we would suggest that GI also plays a vital role in rural areas, particularly in agricultural areas where land is intensively farmed, and where areas connecting strategic GI areas should be safeguarded.

8. The Regions (policy 16)

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the principle of developing Strategic Development Plans prepared at a regional scale?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The NDF identifies three overall regions of Wales, each with their own distinct opportunities and challenges. These are North Wales, Mid and South West Wales, and South East Wales.

9. North Wales (policies 17-22)

We have identified Wrexham and Deeside as the main focus of development in North Wales. A new green belt will be created to manage the form of growth. A number of coastal towns are identified as having key regional roles, while we support growth and development at Holyhead Port. We will support improved transport infrastructure in the region, including a North Wales Metro, and support better

connectivity with England. North West Wales is recognised as having potential to supply low-carbon energy on a strategic scale.

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the North Region?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

10. Mid and South West Wales (policies 23-26)

Swansea Bay and Llanelli is the main urban area within the region and is our preferred location for growth. We also identify a number of rural and market towns, and the four Haven Towns in Pembrokeshire, as being regionally important. The haven Waterway is nationally important and its development is supported. We support proposals for a Swansea Bay Metro.

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the Mid and South West Region?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. South East Wales (policies 27-33)

In South East Wales we are proposing to enhance Cardiff's role as the capital and secure more sustainable growth in Newport and the Valleys. A green belt around Newport and eastern parts of the region will support the spatial strategy and focus development on existing cities and towns. Transport Orientated Development, using locations benefitting from mainline railway and Metro stations, will shape the approach to development across the region. There is support for the growth and development of Cardiff Airport.

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the South East Region?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If you have any comments about the NDF's approach or policies to the three regions, please tell us. If you have any alternatives, please explain them and tell us why you think they would be better.

Question 10 - There would not appear to be a clear methodology for the identification of settlements across the respective regions. If, as it appears, the approach is centred on population levels this does not allow for recognition of the key roles which many large settlements play within their regions. This is notably applicable to market towns, or those settlements where there may be a combined population arising from an interconnected spatial form. In relation to the proposed policies and approach for the Mid and South West Region and its significant rural components, this approach fails to recognise the key and often strategic role settlements within such areas have within their rural communities. The exclusion of such settlements including examples such as Lampeter, Llandeilo and Newcastle Emlyn fails to reflect a broad understanding of the region and how communities are served and function.

In formulating the policy and developing the methodology there has been a lack of reference to the current spatial and growth policies within the region. In this respect, it is noted that Ammanford/Cross Hands is omitted (presumably on the basis of individual population levels) despite its longstanding status as a 'growth area' within numerous development plans and as an area for investment and growth both within economic/regeneration strategies but also through the City Deal.

It is noted that 23,400 additional homes have been identified within the Mid and South West Wales Region until 2040. Whilst it is noted that this is based upon current WG projections, they do not provide a positive basis for growth, ambitious policies and job creation. In this respect, it is noted that the projections are predicated on a 5-year trend and are not reflective of future interventions or indeed market changes. The reference to them as estimates is noted as is the clarification

that they provide a part of the evidence and context upon which the housing requirements for SDP's can be based. However, the NDF should be explicit and clear that, where evidenced, alternative growth projections will be appropriate within and across the region, particularly given the need to deliver the priorities associated with the delivery of a strong city region.

The supporting statement in respect of 'A strong rural Wales' is noted. However, it should be founded on an understanding that rural communities and their settlements vary considerably in character and scale. In this respect, there is a need to be adaptive to the needs of such communities and a one size fits all approach would not be appropriate. The role of the 'regional centres' is important, but these should not be the focus for growth at the expense of other rurally located settlements and communities. With this in mind, the reference to considering how jobs, services and homes in rural communities can help sustain themselves needs to include a realisation that many of our rural settlements are relatively small and have lost services such as schools, shops, post offices. Consequently, policies at a national and more localised level need to respect that they are places where people live and potentially work which may not necessarily be in the most sustainable locations. To preclude them from receiving a suitable (and proportionate) level of growth will lead to further depopulation in many of these rural communities and under investment in the key infrastructure needed to promote inclusivity and to improve their sustainability.

The text in relation to policies 23 – 26 is largely silent on the importance of agriculture across most of the region. In this respect, its value as a component for economic prosperity, and not just as a feature of the area's diversity, should be fully embedded in this section of the NDF.

The recognition of the role and function of settlements should not be seen purely in terms of their potential to accommodate growth, but should also be informed by their wider contribution to servicing the needs of local residents and the wider community.

There is a lack of effective connections within the NDF to initiatives and commitments made by ministers. In this respect the initiative such as the Valleys Task Force. The Draft NDF should reflect the ambitions to support the regeneration across our valley communities.

From a Carmarthenshire perspective the taskforces inclusion of the Gwendraeth and Amman Valleys was an important and positive step in reflecting the cultural relationship but also the regeneration ambitions for the settlements within these areas. The Draft NDF's apparent lack of regard to the ongoing contribution for such communities' runs counter the taskforces aims but also fails to acknowledge the critical role such areas and their settlements play.

Regional Transport Structures - Reference to the different regional structures for transport and planning. Transport structures are aligned to major drivers of movement i.e. Economic Development, the alignment of the planning process to the

City Deal areas is important. The proposed arrangement of 3 regions does not fit with existing transport and regeneration strategies currently supported by statutory policies, established governance and delivery structures which reflect the nature of development and movement across the Swansea Bay City Region as a whole.

Reference to the importance of a METRO system to underpin development and mobility is welcomed, however the NDF does not reflect the true scope of the METRO being developed within the Swansea Bay City Region on instruction by the Wales Government; rather it appears to only capture a small area in the east of the region.

The movement of people and goods East to West is vital to the delivery of an effective National Development Framework, as such it is surprising that there is no reference to the important Trans European Network (TENS) which runs from Russia in the East to Ireland in the West through the length of the East West corridor in the Swansea Bay City Region, thus providing important Local, Regional, National and International connectivity so important in attracting inward investment.

Given the above comments regarding lack of emphasis outside identified priority development areas, there appears to be a disconnect with some key established policy drivers in particular the Well Being of Future Generations Act which references amongst its key wellbeing goals:

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

A Wales of cohesive communities

12. Integrated Sustainability Appraisal

As part of the consultation process, an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) was conducted to assess the social, economic and environmental impacts of a plan. The report identified a number of monitoring indicators, including health, equalities, Welsh language, the impact on rural communities, children's rights, climate change and economic development.

- Do you have any comments on the findings of the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Report? Please outline any further alternative monitoring indicators you consider would strengthen the ISA.

No comments

13. Habitats Regulations Assessment

As part of the development of the NDF, a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) was undertaken. The purpose of the HRA process is to identify, assess and address any 'significant effects' of the plan on sites such as Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas for birds.

- Do you have any comments on the Habitats Regulations Assessment report?

P23 Swansea Bay and Llanelli

It would appear that little consideration is given to water quality issues on CBEEMS. Impact upon water quality is briefly mentioned as a potential effect, however, the mitigation for this is minimal.

The general statement of 'Avoid allocating new development within, or directly adjacent to, Natura 2000/ Ramsar sites to reduce/ minimise impacts on such sites (for example, avoiding land adjacent to the coast known to be functionally linked to adjacent SPA/ Ramsar sites)' is difficult to implement at a plan level in Llanelli, as the majority of development will be functionally linked to CBEEMS through the waste water treatment disposal. This is overlooked in the appropriate assessment of this policy.

14. Welsh Language

We would like to know your views on the effects that the NDF would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English.

- What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

We support the positive and ambitious aims outlined in Outcome 4 in respect of the Welsh language, and in particular welcome the recognition given to the importance of providing jobs and homes to support the language in Welsh speaking communities. However, it is not clear whether outcome 4 alone will have a positive impact upon the Welsh language given that there is no other guidance within the document to build upon the outcome.

It is presumably considered a matter for LDPs to consider how the land use planning system can support the Welsh language. It will therefore be entirely down to the content of respective LDPs to deliver on the NDF's outcome. However, given that the growth of the Welsh language is one of the outcomes of the NDF and that its importance has been acknowledged in respect of all three regions, we consider that it should be categorised as a strategic matter of national importance and further elaboration and guidance through a policy should be provided.

In terms of education and the Support for Welsh Language (million welsh speakers by 2050) – the draft NDF states that in locations where Welsh is not the language of the community 'Education Authorities will lead in developing infrastructure to enable the language to develop as a natural, thriving part of communities'. This does not seem to coincide with Welsh in Education Strategies and 21st Century Schools Strategies whereby investment should be prioritised to support investment in Welsh Medium Education regardless of location.

Please also explain how you believe the proposed NDF could be formulated or changed so as to have:

- I. positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, and
- II. no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

For Carmarthenshire, the retention of young people in the County is a key contributor towards increasing the proportion of Welsh speakers in the County. There is an outflow of young people from Carmarthenshire, partly in search of higher education

but also in search of employment and housing. To retain the young population within Carmarthenshire, it is therefore considered key that planning policy makes suitable provision for the creation of varied job opportunities and homes.

Carmarthenshire is a County of contrasts, with the more urban and post-industrial areas in the south and the more rural areas to the north and west. The provision of homes and jobs must be provided across each area of the County, and should not be restricted to the urban areas. It is therefore disappointing that the NDF does not acknowledge nor reflect in policy the strategic importance of developing job opportunities in rural areas or based upon rural and agricultural industries. We would have concerns about the sustainability of the Welsh language in rural areas on the basis that there does not seem to be much emphasis or acknowledgement of the importance of providing employment opportunities in rural areas, where they align with homes and other services and facilities.

Another potential issue is the compatibility of the Draft NDF with PPW. The NDF is clearly ambitious in terms of its hopes for the Welsh language. We consider that in order to deliver on this ambition, there will be a requirement for development to proactively contribute towards creating opportunities for the Welsh language to develop and grow. However, the guidance set out in PPW on the whole requires development to simply safeguard the Welsh language rather than to create opportunities for it to grow.

We consider that clearer and stronger compatible guidance through PPW and TAN20 would assist Local Planning Authorities to develop robust LDP strategies which can positively contribute towards creating opportunities for the Welsh language to develop and thrive. Of specific assistance would be examples of best practice in terms of assessing the impacts of local plans on the Welsh language and the provision of a standardised Welsh Language Impact Assessment methodology.

15. Further comments

- Are there any further comments that you would like to make on the NDF, or any alternative proposals you feel we should consider?

General comments:

The Council recognises the position of the NDF in considering issues at the national

stage and the clarification that it provides as well as the direction, policies and key issues the Welsh Government requires the regions to take forward. In this respect, the Council welcomes the clarification that the NDF does not seek to remove the local context for delivery. This recognition of the role of local plans in identifying the exact location for new development, the scale of growth in individual settlements etc is essential in allowing LPA's to respond to needs at a local level.

The emphasis on increasing prosperity and reducing inequality is welcomed, as is the recognition that prosperity is not equal across Wales. The need to tackle exclusion borne out of issues such as prosperity and inequality should also be extended to our rural areas with the issues of loneliness and mental health well documented in agricultural communities. In this regard the policy approaches should reflect such positive interventions.

Chapter 2 Wales: An Overview – Challenges and Opportunities. It is noted that the overview element of the chapter fails to reference the agricultural economy and the role our farming sector plays and has played within the Welsh context. This is a significant omission and reflects a lack of focus on rural areas and the economic opportunities a positive approach in such areas can provide within a County such as Carmarthenshire. In this respect the Draft NDF should reflect the role of the rural economy as a key driver for Carmarthenshire (as well as many other parts of Wales). The further reference to both agricultural funding within the context of the potential challenges arising from Brexit is noted. The recognition that it represents an area of major public policy (shaped by wider European policies and funding) and that the NDF seeks to provide a positive, proactive framework for growth and investment is welcome.

The Council welcomes the emphasis on retaining and attracting young people.

In general, very little reference is made to education, 21st Century schools in particular. It is therefore unclear how future investment as part of the 21st Century Schools programme will fit in with the Draft NDF. It would seem from the information available that investment will predominantly be supported in urban areas and will become a requirement in the business cases for investment. This could make it difficult to invest in rural areas with issues around the long-term sustainability of communities.

Rural Schools, presumption against closure – The WG has introduced a presumption against closure for rural schools in Wales and federation is being promoted to support this. The School Organisation Code identifies rural schools, however, the draft NDF suggests that development plans will need to develop appropriate definitions of rural areas.

Population growth – based on the provisions and policies of the Draft NDF that the

further focus of growth in urban areas will increase the rural/urban population split potentially making smaller rural schools unviable and putting significant pressure on urban schools.

The WG ambition to create a circular economy within Wales with the ability to create new resources from waste and recycling will require significant infrastructure development if this is to be possible. This should form part of the overall aim of the NDF. At present there seems to be little reference.

In recognising that the NDF seeks to provide a high level direction of travel on a national level, it would be disappointing if there is not some recognition of the value of community 'bottom up' planning – e.g. place planning. In this respect, there may be scope to recognise that there may (in some instances) be 'bottom up' led solutions to certain strategic spatial planning considerations which would align with the strategic priorities of the NDF. Such approaches could be particularly relevant to those areas that are located outside of the 3 main areas identified for growth.

Page 8 of the NDF provides a recognition of Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and the National Development Framework and states that the Act gives a legally-binding common purpose – the seven well-being goals – for national government, local government, local health boards and other specified public bodies. In this regard, further elaboration on how the future investment of the local health boards has informed the NDF would be welcomed. A similar theme would be for key infrastructure providers, not least of which would be Dwr Cymru. Has the NDF followed the lead of such partners, or it is the intention that the partners would follow the lead of the NDF?

The retail sector and strategic employment sites are also important drivers of economic activity for key towns such as Carmarthen, Llanelli and Cross Hands. Carmarthen for example, attracts visitors across the region as a retail centre. In this respect transport connectivity is important if such centres are to attract external spend. In this regard the Local, Regional and National Supply chain resilience is of paramount importance, including through support provided to the local agri- food sector. Whilst, this may be argued as a local matter that broader resilience will be essential to the economic prosperity across Wales and the NDF must ensure that moves to change the spatial landscape of Wales is not at the expense of Wales population to access such services.

It would be useful to understand the rationale and evidence base that underpins the selection of the priority development areas and associated movement corridors

16. Are you...?

Providing your own personal response	<input type="checkbox"/>
Submitting a response on behalf of an organisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses to the consultation will be shared with the National Assembly for Wales and are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here	Y
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Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

CYNGOR SIR
13 Tachwedd 2019

Fersiwn Adneuol Drafft o Gynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig Sir Gaerfyrddin 2018 - 2033

Yr argymhellion / penderfyniadau allweddol sydd eu hangen:

- Ystyried a chymeradwyo cynnwys y Fersiwn Adneuol Drafft o Gynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig 2018-2033 (a'r dogfennau atodol) at ddibenion ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ffurfiol.
- Rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i swyddogion i wneud addasiadau teipograffyddol, cartograffeg, a/neu ffeithiol ansylweddol yn ôl yr angen, i wella eglurder a chywirdeb y Fersiwn Drafft o'r Fersiwn Adneuol Drafft o Gynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig.
- Cymeradwyo'r Canllawiau Cynllunio Atodol Drafft mewn perthynas â Moryd Byrri ac Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig Caeau'r Mynydd Mawr ar gyfer ymgynghori ar yr un pryd â'r Fersiwn Adneuol o'r CDLI.

Y Rhesymau:

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

Angen ymgynghori â'r Pwyllgor Craffu perthnasol

Pwyllgor Craffu - Cymunedau: 16 Hydref 2019

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad

OES – 21 Hydref

Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad

OES – 13 Tachwedd

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

Y gyfarwyddiaeth: Yr Amgylchedd

Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth:

Llinos Quelch

Awdur yr Adroddiad: Ian Llewelyn

Swyddi:

Pennaeth Cynllunio

Rheolwr Blaen-gynllunio

Rhifau ffôn: 01267 228659

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
County Council
13th November 2019

Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033
DRAFT DEPOSIT

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

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

The preparation of the Draft Deposit Revised LDP represents an important milestone in the Council delivering on its statutory responsibilities to prepare an up-to-date Development Plan for the County (excluding the area within the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority).

This report sets out the Draft Deposit Revised LDP by identifying the Council's land use Vision, strategic objectives and strategic growth requirements for the County through to 2033. It also sets out a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and provisions - including site specific allocations (including housing and employment as well as environmental and other spatial considerations).

Approval is sought for the publication of the Draft Deposit Revised LDP as part of a formal public consultation for a minimum statutory period of 6 weeks. It should be noted that the Delivery Agreement identifies December 2019 for the publication of the Draft Deposit Revised LDP for public consultation.

It should be noted that the Draft Deposit Revised LDP, together with accompanying Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance and other supporting documents are emerging documents that will develop through to the point of publication. The emerging nature of Plan preparation reflects the availability of evidence and the timelines associated with the Plan's preparation.

This report includes the Proposals Map which identifies land use allocations (including housing and employment) thus identifying locations where developments may be permitted. The map also include e decision making considerations in respect of development proposals. This report also includes a Constraints Map which (whilst not formally part of the LDP) identifies those spatial areas often identified by other bodies/processes e.g. statutory environmental

designations and air quality management areas etc. These can be viewed through the links below:

Proposals Map

<https://carmarthenshire.opus4.co.uk/planning/localplan/maps/carldpprop>

Constraints Map

<https://carmarthenshire.opus4.co.uk/planning/localplan/maps/carldpconstraints>

2. Background

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

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

- The need to ensure that a Revised LDP is prepared and adopted before the expiration of the current / adopted LDP at the end of 2021.
- The indication of failures in the delivery of the LDP strategy, the settlement framework and the spatial distribution of growth - notably in respect of both the level and spatial distribution of growth, and the need to ensure that the strategy, particularly in terms of spatial distribution of growth and the performance of the tier 2 and 3 settlements, is realistic and deliverable.
- The failure to deliver a 5 year housing land supply, as required within Planning Policy Wales and Technical Advice Note 1.
- The need to ensure that the strategy and the identified growth requirements are robust, and that the spatial framework, distribution of growth and the allocated sites within the Plan are deliverable.
- The need to consider the implications of the 2014-based Local Authority Population and Household Projections and the variance in population change and household requirements.
- In addition, the need to consider contextual changes and changes in the form of legislation, national policy and a range of Plans and strategies and to the evidence base.

Reference is also made to the publication of the Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy in December 2018, which set out aspects such as: Issues; Vision, Strategic Objectives; Growth Options; Spatial Options and preferred strategic approach. The responses received as part of the consultation to the Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy were reported to Council on the 15th May 2019 and have been considered and where appropriate incorporated in the preparation of the

Draft Deposit Plan. Due consideration has also been given to any recommendations outlined as part of the Sustainability Appraisal – Strategic Environmental Assessment process.

3. Draft Deposit Revised LDP

The Draft Deposit Revised LDP is the Council's proposed statutory land use plan for its administrative area (excluding that area contained within the Brecon Beacons National Park) and covers the period 2018 – 2033. The preparation of the Plan is governed by defined statutory procedures with the process subject to a series of stages prior to its adoption. This process culminates in the Examination in Public (EIP) which will be presided over by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Welsh Ministers. Upon its adoption, the Revised LDP will supersede the current adopted LDP. It should be noted that the Inspector's recommendations are binding upon the Council.

Once adopted, the Revised LDP will guide and control development. It will inform future infrastructure and investment programmes from both internal and external partners. It will provide the local policy basis to determine future planning applications. Where relevant, Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) will be prepared to elaborate on, and consolidate upon the policies and provisions of the Plan itself. Reference is made to Appendix 3 of the Deposit LDP where the list of proposed SPG is provided, along with a timescale for their preparation.

The Draft Deposit Revised LDP will be accompanied by a range of documents to support its preparation and the consultation. These include the Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitat Regulations Assessment, the plan's evidence base, topic papers, an Initial Consultation Report, and Test of Soundness Self-Assessment, as well as a range of other background documents.

The Draft Deposit Revised LDP consists of a number of key elements which reflect stages in its preparation. It has sought to build on the preparation of, and consultation responses to, the Draft Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy. The recommendations of the Sustainability Appraisal – Strategic Environmental Assessment have also been responded to where appropriate. In this respect, engagement has, in accordance with the provisions of the Delivery Agreement, been an important aspect of the Strategy's preparation, with the contribution of technical consultees and other focused groups being instrumental in guiding the Draft Deposit Plan's content.

A key element of the Draft Deposit is founded on the need for the Plan to make appropriate provision for a sustainable and deliverable level of growth - reflecting the ambitions of the County and meeting the needs of its communities. This has been supported by a robust and updated evidence whilst seeking to deliver on key strategic influences including:

- The Council's Strategic Regeneration Plan 2015 – 2030 – Transformations;



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- Swansea Bay City Deal – including Yr Egin and the Wellness and Life Science Village;
- The New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023;
- The Council’s Well-being Objectives; and
- Recent Council resolutions – including the declaration of a Climate Emergency and the motion on Planning and the Welsh language;
- Rural Taskforce Report and recommendations;
- National planning policy and legislative agenda;
- Our Commitment to Affordable Homes 2015 – 2020 and Affordable Housing Delivery Plan 2016-2020;
- Building More Council Homes – ‘Our ambition and plan of action’;
- Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5-years.

The Draft Pre Deposit Preferred Strategy previously identified a population increase of 17,567 (9.4%) over the Plan period. Providing for the delivery of 9,987 new homes across the Plan period. This is a level that is notably below the current adopted LDP which makes provision for 15,197 homes.

The Strategy places an important strategic emphasis on job creation and is central to the Council delivering on its affordable housing targets.

The LDP seeks to promote and develop the economy across Carmarthenshire and the Draft Deposit Revised Plan identifies appropriate land allocations to reflect Carmarthenshire as an ambitious County which attracts investment and provides opportunities for those living and working in our communities and well as a key player within a Swansea Bay regional context.

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

In recognising the changing evidence base in relation to demographic change an addendum Report on Carmarthenshire’s Population and Household Forecasts has been prepared and is appended to this report. This identifies latest population and household projections reflecting the iterative nature of the Plan making process. It is therefore proposed as set out within the attached Draft Deposit Revised LDP to amend the population change figures and consequentially the proposed LDP housing requirement to the following: Population increase of **15,115** (or 8.1%) over the Plan period, with a housing requirement of **8,835 homes** (equivalent to 589 homes per year).

The Spatial approach to the distribution of land represents a Balanced Community and Sustainable Growth Strategy, a revision to the approach in the current LDP and one which seeks to address the issues highlighted in the Review Report, as well as reflecting the feedback in the formulation of the preferred strategy. The revised spatial hierarchy and the distribution of growth will therefore be expressed through the settlement framework as grouped under respective clusters which seek to characterise areas across the County. These are identified within the Draft Deposit Plan.



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Key themes and policy areas set out within the revised LDP includes:

- Provide for the requirement of 8835 new homes;
- To maximise affordable housing delivery providing for 1,500 new affordable homes.
Note: this figure will be subject to further refinement ahead of the publication of the Deposit Draft LDP. Additional evidence gathering in respect of viability and the impact on the affordable housing target and policies will also be ongoing;
- Provide for 77.93 ha of employment land;
- Defined levels of development viability;
- Identify levels of developer contributions (s106) and key priority areas;
- Recognise the economic opportunities to sustain and enhance rural economies;
- Support regeneration and strategic ambitions for the County and region;
- Promote a settlement framework which supports cohesion between settlements and communities;
- Reflect the linguistic needs of the County and its communities and their cultural characteristics;
- Distribute development in accordance with the settlement hierarchy, reflecting the principles of sustainability and the functional attributes of settlements;
- Respect and enhance the rich and diverse environmental qualities of the County;
- To reflect the need for new homes in rural areas;
- Reflect matters of infrastructural capacity – notably within the Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Works catchment area;
- Contribute towards the achievement of the statutory Conservation Objectives of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation;
- Contribute to the delivery of physical and social regeneration opportunities;
- Create diverse and cohesive developments and communities;
- Reflect the diversity across the County, and within its settlements and communities;
- Focus retail change in established centres whilst providing opportunities which will assist in achieving viable, self-supporting settlements and sustainable communities;
- Define search areas for the siting of wind and solar renewable energy developments;
- Recognise the contribution of 'previously developed land';
- To provide opportunities to maximise on the County's visitor economy potential;
- Protect and enhance the natural, historic and built conservation qualities of Carmarthenshire; and,
- Contribute to an integrated transport network both within the County and region.

In taking forward the above, the Draft Deposit LDP, its evidence base and its contextual influences, include a number of new policy areas or an additional focus on aspects around:

- Placemaking and Well-being of future generations;
- Green Infrastructure;
- Climate Change and Sustainable Development;
- The Welsh language;
- Flood avoidance;
- Reserve Regeneration Sites; and



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- Rural Planning Policy.

The Draft Deposit Revised LDP seeks to acknowledge and respond to changes in evidence and consider the emerging growth provisions of the emerging National Development Framework as it progresses through the reporting process. The Revised LDP will continue to develop as new evidence, policy guidance and legislation emerges. It should also be noted that further non-substantive amendments to the Plan and its supporting documents will be undertaken to ensure its content is complete ahead of the consultation on the Draft Deposit LDP. It will also ensure the Plan is up to date and reflects the latest factual and evidential position. Note: this includes the inclusion of the Housing Trajectory (Appendix 7) and the finalised Monitoring and Implementation Framework.

4. Deposit LDP Structure

The Draft Deposit Revised LDP as appended to this report consists of a written statement and a proposals map detailing its policies and proposals on a geographical base. Its structure and format is broadly as follows:

- **Introduction:** General background information regarding the Carmarthenshire LDP including outlining the role of the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in the plan-making process.
- **Policy Context:** Sets out the LDP's alignment with, and regard to, National, Regional and Local policy context.
- **Key Issues and Drivers:** Outlines issues identified in relation to the LDP.
- **Vision and Objectives:** Presents the LDP's Vision and accompanying Objectives conveying the sort of place that it is envisaged Carmarthenshire should become. It is the role of the Objectives to set the context for the delivery of the vision.
- **Strategy and Strategic Policies:** Outlines the LDP's strategic direction, growth requirements which together with the spatial and settlement framework and the strategic policies provides the context for detailed, specific policies.
- **Specific Policies:** Detailed policies dealing with specific policy areas and providing general development management policies against which all development proposals within the County will be assessed. These policies set out residential, employment and other land use allocations, areas designated for specific protection, and policies (including criteria policies) guiding the use of land and development within the Plan area. They form a firm basis for the rational and consistent consideration of planning applications and appeals. Policies are aligned to the strategic policies and include a reasoned justification.

- **Implementation and Monitoring:** Identifies and incorporates key targets, details the Plan's performance and measures how it will be monitored.
- **Proposals Map and Constraints Map on a Geographical Base-** The Proposals Map together with inset maps of specific settlements or development areas identify policies and proposals on a geographical base.

The **Proposals Map and the Constraints Map** in respect of the Revised Draft Deposit LDP are available through the links below. It should be noted that whilst the maps are substantively complete, further relevant map layers will be included along with refinements of the lines and accuracy of the mapping.

The Proposal and Constraints Maps can be viewed through the following links:

Proposals Map:

<https://carmarthenshire.opus4.co.uk/planning/localplan/maps/carldpprop>

Constraints Map:

<https://carmarthenshire.opus4.co.uk/planning/localplan/maps/carldpconstraints>

5. Supporting Documents

5.1 Sustainability Appraisal – Strategic Environmental Assessment

The publication of the Draft Deposit Revised LDP will be accompanied by a suite of evidential and other documents. Key amongst these is the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) which incorporates the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The SA is required by Section 62 (6a) of the Planning Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, while the SEA is a requirement of the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC1. An SEA is a mandatory requirement for plans/programmes. A copy of the SA on the Draft deposit Revised LDP is appended to this report.

5.2 Habitat Regulations Assessment

A further key document is the Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening (HRA) Report. The HRA is a legal requirement under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the 'Habitats Regulations'). The plan making authority must undertake HRA of their development plan to determine whether the policies and proposals in the plan are likely to have significant effects on the integrity of any European designated site. A copy of the HRA on the Draft deposit Revised LDP is appended to this report.

Both of the above documents are in draft form and will be subject to consultation alongside the Deposit Revised LDP. They are prepared to supplement and critically evaluate the content of the Plan in an objective manner. As such they respond to the content of the Plan and make



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recommendations as and where appropriate. Both documents are appended to this report in their emerging form. They will be finalised ahead of their publishing as part of the scheduled public consultation. In relation to the HRA, the iterative nature of the plan making process, together with the ongoing evidence gathering, means that aspects of the assessment's conclusions and recommendations will not be finalised until the publication of the Plan (together with the HRA itself) for public consultation in December 2019.

6. Supplementary Planning Guidance

As part of the preparation and implementation of the Revised LDP, a series of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) documents will be prepared and adopted.

SPG is produced to provide further detail on certain policies and proposals contained within the LDP. They help ensure certain policies and proposals are better understood and applied more effectively.

In this respect, two SPG's have been produced in draft form to accompany the publication of the Draft Deposit Revised LDP. These SPG's will also be subject to the public consultation scheduled for December 2019. The production of these 2 SPG's reflects the strategic importance of both policy areas in demonstrating the deliverability of the Plan – most notably in the Llanelli / Burry Port and Cross Hands areas. The 2 SPG's are as follows:

Caeaeu Mynydd Mawr SAC SPG – This reflects an updated iteration of the existing SPG and the latest updated evidence. It should be noted the implementation of the SPG and its requirements arise directly from the provisions of the Habitat Regulations. Failure to implement its provisions would prevent development within its spatial area from being delivered and would thus undermine the Council's strategic regeneration ambitions, most notably in the Cross Hands area.

Burry Inlet SPG – This SPG reflects the progress on implementing a policy of surface water removal from the combined system feeding into the Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Works. The SPG will upon adoption replace the current Memorandum of Understanding and will maintain the betterment requirement currently operating.

It should be noted that an SPG does not have the same status as adopted development plan policies. However, the Welsh Government advises that they may be taken into account as a material consideration in determining planning applications. Within the context of the Revised LDP, the SPGs seek to consolidate and elaborate upon the policies and provisions of the Plan itself as the plan making process proceeds.

Reference should be made to Appendix 3 of the Deposit LDP for a list of SPG's, together with a timeframe for their production.

These will be presented to Council as and where appropriate.

7. Preparatory Considerations

Whilst the LDP plays a key role in shaping decision making and the location and nature of developments within the County, it is prepared and operated within the national framework set



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through legislation and by Planning Policy Wales and accompanying Technical Advice Notes. In this respect the Plan must have regard to National Planning Policy and legislation including the Well-being and Future Generations Act 2015, Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The process for the preparation of the LDP is set within statutory regulations, with further procedural guidance contained within the LDP Manual as prepared by the Welsh Government. The preparation and content of the LDP at the EIP will be assessed against three tests of soundness set out in national policy, namely:

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

Failure of the Revised LDP to comply with the 3 tests of soundness will result in it not being adopted. The full content of the tests of soundness are appended to this report.

It should also be noted that the Inspector's findings following the EIP is binding on the Authority.

Due regard will also need to be had to the emerging National Development Framework for Wales and the requirements for LDPs to conform to its content.

It should be noted that if the Draft Revised LDP were not to be approved at the meeting of County Council on the 13th November 2019 then this may result in:

- Undue delays and slippage with the timetable. In respect reference is made to the Minister's letter setting the expectations on the timescales for the preparation of the Plan.
- The risk that the County will be left with no Plan at the end of 2021 (when the current LDP expires) resulting in vulnerability to speculative developments non-controlled.
- Requirements to update evidence with resultant cost implications.

8. Next Steps

Following the Council's deliberations, the Draft Deposit Revised LDP (including 2 draft SPGs) and the Draft SA and HRA will be published for formal public consultation with copies of the documentation available on the Council's website and at locations as appropriate across the County as set out within the Delivery Agreement. Supporting evidence and background documents will also be published as appropriate.

The Draft Deposit Revised LDP and its supporting documents are scheduled to be published for public consultation towards the end of December 2019. Any representations received along

with the Draft Deposit LDP will be reported back to Council for consideration ahead of the LDP's submission to the Welsh Government for EIP.

All consultation responses will along with the evidence and Plan documents be forwarded for consideration by the Inspector as part of the EIP.

The Revised LDP is scheduled for submission to the Welsh Government in August 2020 (Key Stage 5 of the LDP preparatory process), with the Examination (Key Stage 6) scheduled to commence in October 2020. In this respect, the Delivery Agreement identifies the timing of both Key Stage 5 and 6 as indicative. Consequently a revised Delivery Agreement will be prepared in accordance with regulatory requirements to ensure the timetable remains up-to-date. This will be reported to full Council in due course.

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

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?	YES
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IMPLICATIONS

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

Signed: L Quelch

Head of Planning

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

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

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

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

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

2. Legal

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

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

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

Reference is made to the emerging National Development Framework which sets out a high level spatial strategy for Wales. The Revised LDP will be required to comply with its provisions. The NDF is scheduled for adoption in September 2020.

3. Finance

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

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

4. ICT

Requirements in relation to ICT will seek to utilise existing resources.

6. Physical Assets

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

7. Staffing Implications

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

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: L Quelch

Head of Planning

(Please specify the outcomes of consultations undertaken where they arise against the following headings)

1. Scrutiny Committee

16th October 2019 – Community Scrutiny

2. Local Member(s)

The content of the Draft Deposit LDP, its supporting documents and the proposed SPG will be subject to full public consultation. Members will be engaged throughout the Plan making process.

3. Community / Town Council

The content of the Draft Deposit LDP, its supporting documents and the proposed SPG will be subject to full public consultation. Town/Community Councils(s) are a specific consultee at statutory stages throughout the Plan making process.

4. Relevant Partners

The content of the Draft Deposit LDP, its supporting documents and the proposed SPG will be subject to full public consultation. Contributions have and continue will be sought throughout the revision process. A range of partners are identified as specific and general consultees throughout the Plan making process.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

The content of the Draft Deposit LDP, its supporting documents and the proposed SPG will be subject to full public consultation. Internal contributions have and continue will be sought throughout the Plan making process.

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

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

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Adopted Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan		http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/planning/policies-development-plans/local-development-plan/
Annual Monitoring Reports		https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/planning-policy/annual-monitoring-report-amr/#.XW2KZ-hKjIU
LDP Review Report		http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1213042/ldp-review-report-english-version.pdf
Delivery Agreement		https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1215059/delivery-agreement-agreed-by-welsh-government.pdf
Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy		https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/local-development-plan-2018-2033/preferred-strategy-pre-deposit-public-consultation/#.XW2JhuhKjIU
Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment		https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/local-development-plan-2018-2033/sustainability-appraisal-and-habitats-regulations-assessment/#.XW2J7uhKjIU
Evidence Base		https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/local-development-plan-2018-2033/development-of-an-evidence-base/#.XcFfSEb7SUK

Deposit - Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033

Draft for Reporting

Foreword

To be inserted

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How to View and Comment on the Deposit Revised LDP

The consultation on this Deposit Revised LDP is an important step in planning for the future of Carmarthenshire. It provides an important opportunity for anyone interested in how Carmarthenshire and its communities will develop and grow in the years to come to understand and comment on the plan's policies and proposals over the plan period. This LDP as part of the planning system has a fundamental role in delivering sustainable development and in creating healthy, cohesive and economically viable and vibrant communities. It must help in the process of balancing and integrating conflicting objectives in order to meet current development needs while safeguarding those of the future. The plan recognises the needs of the area be they social, environmental or economic and in doing so seeks to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development by setting out policies and proposals which reflect those sustainability objectives and the need to protect the environment as guiding and facilitating investment decisions as well as the delivery of services and infrastructure.

It is important to note that the LDP does not 'plan for everything', and is as such part of a broader set of strategies and investment programmes. Consequently whilst the LDP seeks to draw together influences and reflect them where relevant there are aspects around certain provision the Plan cannot dictate or control. These include investments and long terms plans from other public bodies.

In using this Plan and commenting on its content the preferred approach is through the LDP online consultation portal which can be accessed through the Revised LDP webpage¹. The portal is interactive and allows you to view and comment on the plan as you read it. By utilising the portal respondents can ensure a speedy access to their submission and will be able to view other representations submitted (as they are published). Alternatively, a pdf will be available for download.

¹ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/local-development-plan-2018-2033#.XV-ruOhKiUk>

Copies of this Deposit LDP together with the supporting consultation documents are available for inspection at the Councils customer service centres and at all public libraries during normal opening hours.

A standard consultation response form has also been prepared and is available on request for those unable to access the web portal.

Please submit your comments via the online portal. Alternatively please send completed consultation representation forms to:

forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Or post them to:

Head of Planning,

Planning Division,

Environment Department,

Carmarthenshire County Council,

3 Spilman Street

Carmarthen

SA31 1LE

Representations or comments must be submitted no later than XX XXXXXXXX 2020.

Anything submitted after this date will not be considered.

Further guidance or information is available on the LDP web-page or from the Forward Planning Section on 01267 228818 or by emailing

forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

1. Introduction

1.1 The Council is responsible for preparing and keeping up-to-date the Local Development Plan (LDP)². The LDP sets out planning policies and allocates sites for different types of development. The Council is also responsible for development management which involves the processing and determination of planning applications with the LDP guiding and managing development by providing the foundation for consistent and clear decision making. In meeting the above responsibilities we are in the process of preparing a Revised LDP. Once adopted, we will use this LDP for assessing planning applications through until 2033 but will continue to monitor and review its content to ensure it remains relevant and is working as intended.

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

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

1.4 In ensuring that the adopted LDP remains up to date, a review was undertaken into its content with the outcomes published in the Review Report³. This review, whilst finding that many aspects of the adopted LDP are functioning effectively, also identified that there were issues in relation to parts of the Plan and its strategy. The Review Report showed that

² The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Local Development Plan (LDP) Regulations 2005 sets the framework and legal context for the preparation of Local Development Plans in Wales.

³ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1213042/ldp-review-report-english-version.pdf>

parts of this strategy were not being delivered as intended, with the level and spatial distribution of growth requiring further consideration. It concluded that we start the preparation of a revised LDP to replace the existing adopted Plan. The Revised LDP 2018 – 2033 will replace the current adopted Plan which is currently scheduled for adoption in December 2021.

2. What is the Deposit Plan?

2.1 This Deposit Revised LDP is part of a set of documents which we are required to prepare in the process of producing the Revised LDP for Carmarthenshire. It represents an integral stage in preparing the Development Plan for Carmarthenshire and follows the publication of the Delivery Agreement as approved by the Welsh Government on the 28th June 2018⁴, and the Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy published for consultation in December 2018.

2.2 This Deposit LDP takes forward the evidence gathering, stakeholder engagement and Pre-Deposit work undertaken to date, including that contained within the Preferred Strategy and looks to develop on its strategic direction through more detailed land use policies and proposals (including the allocation of land for development).

2.3 The Deposit LDP consists of a written statement detailing its policies and proposals and a proposals map on a geographical base. Its structure and format is broadly as follows:

- **Introduction:** General background information regarding the Carmarthenshire LDP including outlining the role of the SA/SEA and HRA in the plan-making process.
- **Policy Context:** Sets out the LDP's alignment with, and regard to National, Regional and Local policy context.
- **Key Issues and Drivers:** Outlines issues identified in relation to the LDP.
- **Vision and Strategic Objectives:** Presents the LDP's Vision and accompanying Strategic Objectives conveying the sort of place that it is envisaged Carmarthenshire should become. It is the role of the Strategic Objectives to set the context for the delivery of the vision.
- **Strategy and Strategic Policies:** Outlines the LDP's strategic direction, which together with the spatial and settlement framework and the strategic policies provides the context for detailed, specific policies.
- **Specific Policies:** Detailed policies dealing with specific policy areas and providing general development management policies against which all development proposals within the County will be assessed. These policies set out residential, employment

⁴ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/local-development-plan-2018-2033/delivery-agreement/#.W3bSe-aouUk>

and other land use allocations, areas designated for specific protection, and policies (including criteria policies) guiding the use of land and development within the Plan area. They form a firm basis for the rational and consistent consideration of planning applications and appeals. Policies are aligned to the strategic policies and include a reasoned justification.

- **Implementation and Monitoring:** Identifies and incorporates key targets, details the Plan's performance and measures how it will be monitored.
Technical and background information providing detail to support the content of the Plan, or to provide information to assist in its interpretation.
- **Proposals Map on a Geographical Base** - The Proposals Map together with inset maps of specific settlements or development areas identify policies and proposals on a geographical base.

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

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

2.6 In preparing this Deposit LDP regard has been had to other spatial and thematic documents and strategies produced at a national and regional level, together with those with a local emphasis. The Plan's preparatory process recognised the importance attached to corporate compatibility and synergy, along with the need to consider the relationship between the LDP and the Well-being Plan⁵. The LDP is also integral to the Council's Corporate Strategy⁶.

2.7 A Sustainability Appraisal of the Deposit LDP has been published as a separate document along with the Habitat Regulations Assessment Report. Both these documents are available for consultation with comments welcomed on their content. Further information on these is as follows:

⁵ Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan: The Carmarthenshire We Want – 2018 – 2023
<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/862/Carmarthenshire%20Well-being%20Plan%20final%20290118.pdf>

⁶ Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: The Council's New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023
<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1214849/corporate-strategy-2018-23.pdf>

Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA)

2.8 The undertaking of the SA/SEA is an integral part of LDP preparation and is mandatory under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The SA/SEA has considered the LDP's social and economic effects as well as the environmental aspects considering range of factors including Health (inc. Mental Health) and the Welsh language. In accordance with the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC) and as part of the LDP's preparatory process, the Authority is required to undertake a formal environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

2.9 The SA/SEA has facilitated a rigorous examination of the sustainability issues, challenges and opportunities (including environmental problems as required by the SEA Directive) facing Carmarthenshire. In doing so, it is interwoven into the preparation of this LDP and was central to the development of the Issues and Objectives, as well as the identification of a strategy and to the LDP.

2.10 The key stages in the preparation of the SA/SEA can be viewed here.

Habitat Regulations Assessment

2.11 In accordance with European Directive 92/43/EEC (The Habitats Directive) competent authorities (in this case the Council) are required to undertake an Appropriate Assessment when a land use plan, either alone, or in combination with the effects of other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on one or more European designated sites.

2.12 In preparing this LDP, the Council has endeavoured to adapt the Plan to ensure that the integrity of the European Designated sites would not be adversely affected. The Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) covers the following:

- Determining likely significant effects of a development plan on European Sites where applicable;
- Scoping which policies/plans require Appropriate Assessment and how it will be carried out;
- Undertaking, where necessary, the Appropriate Assessment; and,
- Applying the "site integrity test" to determine whether development plans or elements within them have any alternative solutions or if there are imperative reasons for pursuing a development in the public interest.

2.13 The HRA is prepared in parallel with the LDP as an integrated and iterative process. It plays an important role in the formulation of the LDP and its policies and provisions. In this respect, the LDP presents policies and proposals which ensure that the requirements of the regulations are satisfied, and that the integrity of the European Designated sites are not adversely affected.

2.14 The key stages in the preparation of the HRA can be viewed [here](#).

3. Influences on the Plan

Overview

3.1 Whilst the LDP plays a key role in shaping decision making and the location and nature of developments within the County, it is prepared and operated within the national framework set through legislation and by Planning Policy Wales⁷ and accompanying Technical Advice Notes⁸.

3.2 The process itself for the preparation of the LDP is set within statutory regulations, with further procedural guidance contained within the LDP Manual as prepared by the Welsh Government. The preparation and content of the LDP will be assessed against three tests of soundness⁹ namely:

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

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

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

⁷ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-10.pdf>

⁸ <https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/tans/?lang=en>

⁹ To be adopted, a Local Development Plan must be determined 'sound' by the examination Inspector (section 64 of the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act). Tests of soundness and checks are identified in Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 and the Approved Revised LDP Delivery Agreement.

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

3.6 There have been a number of significant contextual changes in Welsh legislation since the adoption of the current LDP. These include the publication of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Perhaps most significant however, is the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. This represents a big change, with the Plan required to contribute to its aims of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales as part of carrying out sustainable development. This has in itself prompted changes in national planning policy as set out within PPW with the publication of Edition 10 in December 2018.

3.7 A further landmark development in the planning and development plan system in Wales is the emerging National Development Framework¹⁰. This essentially represents the development plan for Wales, setting out the direction for development in Wales from 2020 – 2040. Whilst still in draft form at the time of preparing this document appropriate regard will be had to its emerging content and notably the National Development Framework (NDF) ‘Outcomes’ in preparing this Revised LDP.

3.8 In this respect the Revised LDP will be required to conform to the content of the adopted NDF. Consequently its progress and content ahead of its anticipated adoption in September 2020 will be monitored with this Plan required to respond accordingly.

3.9 The Plan takes into consideration the national well-being goals and objectives, the content of the Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan¹¹ as well as the Council’s own well-being objectives¹² in its policies and proposals.

¹⁰ National Development Framework 2020 – 2040: Consultation Draft

¹¹ Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan: The Carmarthenshire We Want – 2018 - 2023

¹² The 15 Well-being Objectives are defined within – Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: The Council’s New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023 (<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1214849/corporate-strategy-18-23.pdf>)

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

1. It supersedes the 2015-20 Corporate Strategy;
2. It incorporates our Improvement Objectives as required by the Local Government Measure 2009;
3. It includes our Well-being Objectives as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. For the first time in Wales, there is a shared vision and set of goals for all public bodies to work towards, our Well-being Objectives are set to maximise our contribution to these,
4. It includes Carmarthenshire County Council's Executive Board key projects and programmes for the next 5 years as set out in 'Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years'.

3.11 The Plan in recognising the diversity of Carmarthenshire also has important regard to a number of Council Plans and initiatives aimed specifically at the issues affecting our rural areas, notably in relations to the findings of the Councils Rural Affairs Task Group and its 55 recommendations. The Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward report considers the issues affecting the rural communities in Carmarthenshire and to identify actions the Council, in partnership with other public bodies and organisations, can take in addressing those issues to ensure and support rural regeneration in future years¹³.

3.12 The Task Group identified a number of key areas that influence the issues facing rural communities in Carmarthenshire as follows, and are reflected in the report's findings:

- Economic Development
- Planning and Housing
- Education and Skills
- Broadband and Digital Skills
- Tourism
- Transport and Highways

¹³ Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward (June 2019): Report and Recommendations of the Carmarthenshire Rural Affairs Task Group. <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/moving-rural-carmarthenshire-forward/>

- Agriculture and Food
- Community Resilience, Access to Services and Third Sector
- Renewable Energy
- Environment and Waste
- The Way Forward.

3.13 A key recommendation emerging from Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward related to the rejuvenation of Ten Towns across rural Carmarthenshire. Part of this initiative includes working with the local communities and stakeholders in ten identified rural towns (and their surrounding communities) to develop individual plans that aim to deliver long-term strategic visions to secure their economic, cultural, social and environmental sustainability. The ten rural towns identified are as follows:

- Llandovery
- Llandeilo
- St. Clears
- Whitland
- Newcastle Emlyn
- Laugharne
- Cwmamman
- Llanybydder
- Kidwelly
- Cross Hands

3.14 This Deposit Plan also reflects the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report¹⁴ giving full and careful consideration of all the relevant factors it identified. As we continue the process of preparing the Plan, the SA and the requirements for producing the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) will help us in developing the LDP in a way which ensures it takes on board those sustainability and environmental values.

3.15 Such contextual changes, the findings of the Review Report and changes in evidence have proved integral in informing how the Revised Plan is prepared, and its

¹⁴ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/local-development-plan-2018-2033/sustainability-appraisal-strategic-environmental-assessment/#.W4klWuaouUk>

direction both strategically through Preferred Strategy, but also at a detailed policy level within this Deposit Plan.

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

4. Carmarthenshire - Strategic Context

Overview

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

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

4.3 Within the County there are key economic drivers including the investments at Cross Hands in relation to the food park and the Cross Hands East employment site. The signing of the £1.3billion city deal in 2017 and the progress in delivering the associated projects - Yr Egin Creative Cluster in Carmarthen and the Llanelli Well-being and Life Sciences project - reinforces Carmarthenshire's strategic and regional importance. Carmarthenshire is a County with a diverse character with the agricultural economy and landscape of the rural areas juxtaposed with the urban and post-industrial south-eastern area.

4.4 As a primarily rural County, the population density is low at 78 persons per sq. kilometre, compared with 140 persons per sq. kilometre for Wales as a whole. This sparsity of population is reflective of the largely rural communities as opposed to the south and east of the County where 65% of the population reside on 35% of the land.

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

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

Well-being and Sustainable Development

4.7 The Plan has been prepared with full consideration of the content of the Well-being of Future Generations Act and the Council’s duties to work towards Wales’ seven wellbeing goals and the need to contribute to sustainable development and management of natural resources (see Figure 1).



Figure 1: Seven Well-being Goals

4.8 The Well-being of Future Generations Act also establishes ‘Five Ways of Working’ which public bodies need to demonstrate they have carried out in undertaking their sustainable development duty.

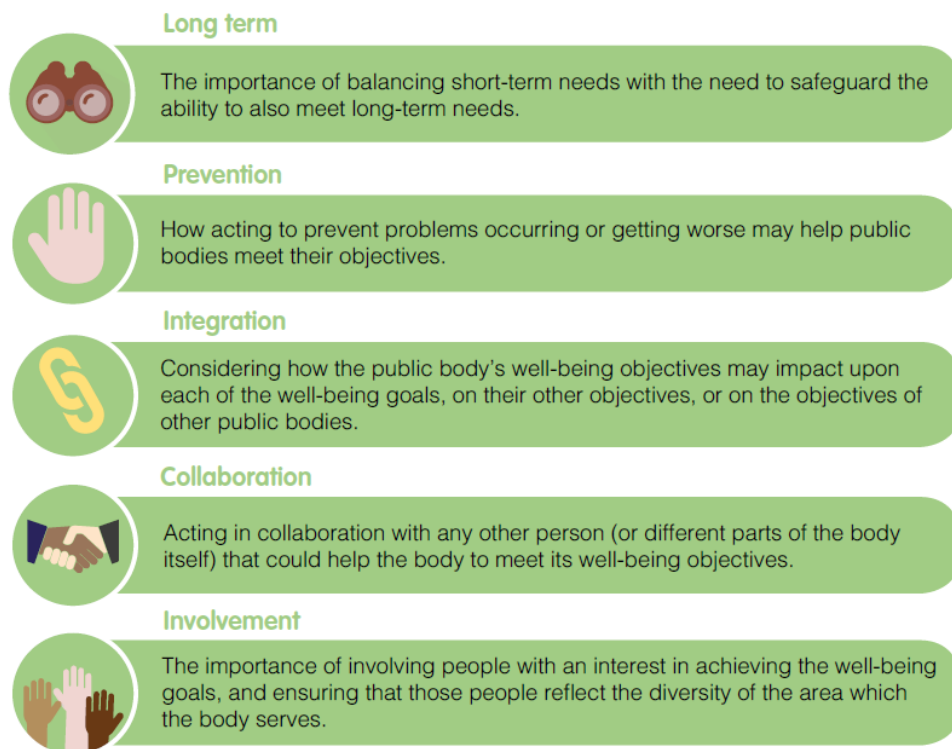


Figure 2: Five Ways of Working

4.9 PPW identifies that the plan-led approach is the most effective way to secure sustainable development (through the planning system) and it is essential that plans are adopted and kept under review. In this respect legislation secures a presumption in favour of sustainable development in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise to ensure that social, economic, cultural and environmental issues are balanced and integrated.

4.10 As referenced above the Deposit LDP has been subject to Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) with the purpose of improve the extent to which the Plan achieves and contributes to sustainable development, in so far as is possible through the land use planning system. The SA has been an iterative process throughout the Plan's preparation and this is reflected in the Plan's growth strategy, policies and proposals.

4.11 Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The concept can be interpreted in many ways, but at its core is an approach to development that looks to

balance different, often competing, needs against an awareness of environmental, social, economic and cultural limitations.

4.12 Although environmental considerations are central to the principle of sustainable development, it is also about ensuring a strong, healthy and just society, and meeting the needs of all people now and in the future. This includes promoting personal well-being, social cohesion and creating equal opportunities.

4.13 The Well-being of Future Generations Act places a duty on public bodies to carry out sustainable development and requires an improvement in the delivery of all four aspects of well-being: social, economic, environmental and cultural.

4.14 The Carmarthenshire Well-being Assessment (March 2017) looked at the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing in Carmarthenshire through different life stages and provides a summary of the key findings. The findings of this assessment form the basis of the objectives and actions identified in the Well-being Plan for Carmarthenshire. The Assessment can be viewed via the following link: www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales The Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan outlines the Public Service Board's local objectives for improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the County and the steps it proposes to take to meet them. Carmarthenshire's Well-being Plan covers a period between 2018-2023, with objectives and actions identified to look at delivery on a longer term basis of up to 20-years.

4.15 The Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan will focus on the delivery of four objectives:



Healthy Habits

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



Early Intervention

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



Strong Connections

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



Prosperous People and Places

To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county

Figure 3: Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan: Four Objectives

Strategic Planning Context

4.16 The Plan sits within the framework of other relevant National Planning Policy and Guidance, and other regional and local policies and strategies. These are set out in the Appendices to the Plan.

4.17 Of particular note is Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition 10 which sets out the national land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. It is supplemented by Technical Advice Notes (TANs); procedural advice given in circulars; and policy clarification letters.

4.18 National Planning Policy and Guidance is not repeated within the policies of the plan, but must be taken into account when developing proposals and in the consideration of planning applications.

4.19 The Deposit LDP has regard to the Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) which provides an overarching policy context for spatial planning and development in Wales. First published in 2004 and updated in 2008, the WSP sets out to ensure that proposals throughout Wales are integrated and sustainable with individual actions being supportive of each other and in compliance with the shared vision for the area.

4.20 Carmarthenshire is situated within three areas identified in the WSP:

- Pembrokeshire - The Haven;
- Swansea Bay - Waterfront and the Western Valleys; and,
- Central Wales.

4.21 The WSP remains a material consideration in the preparation of the LDP.

4.22 However, it is referenced within the context of the preparation of the emerging National Development Framework (NDF) for Wales which will replace the WSP. In this respect it is noted that the consultation on the Draft NDF will close on the 1st November 2019. The adopted NDF is scheduled for publication in September 2020 and its content will be further considered as the Plan progresses towards adoption.

4.23 The plan has and will continue to take account of the strategic regional objectives both as currently set out within the WSP but also within the emerging NDF. In this respect both align with the strategic approach set out through the Swansea Bay City Region which was launched in 2013.

4.24 The creation of the Swansea Bay City Region brought together a wide, diverse and contrasting area with the focus on driving investment and job creation opportunities. This was further progressed through the signing of the £1.3billion city deal in 2017 further reinforcing the regions ambitions and Carmarthenshire's strategic and regional importance. The Swansea Bay City Deal is being led by the four regional local authorities - Carmarthenshire Council, Swansea Council, Neath Port Talbot Council and Pembrokeshire Council - together with the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg and Hywel Dda University Health Boards, Swansea University, the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, and private sector partners.

4.25 The total investment package is made up of £241 million UK and Welsh Government funding, £396 million other public sector investment, and £637 million from the private sector. Over the next 15 years, the City Deal will seek to boost the regional economy by £1.8bn and generate almost 10,000 new, high-quality jobs.

4.26 The City Deal projects are based on key themes of Economic Acceleration, Life Science and Well-being, Energy, and Smart Manufacturing. Each project will be supported by world class digital infrastructure and a Skills and Talent initiative that will give local people a pathway to access the jobs that will be created.

4.27 The ambitions nature within the region and of that of the City Deal are reflected within the Council’s own strategic outlook. In this respect the Councils regeneration plan seeks to provide a strategic framework for the delivery of regeneration projects across the County building on the partnership led approach in creating economically vibrant communities¹⁵.



Figure 4: Swansea Bay City Deal

Social and Cultural

4.28 Carmarthenshire is home to around 6% of Wales’ total population with 186,452 people. Since 2001, the County has seen its population grow by 12,800 people, a 7.4%

¹⁵ A strategic regeneration plan for Carmarthenshire 2015-2030 – Transformations - <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1212060/strategic-regeneration-plan-for-carmarthenshire-2015-2030-pdf.pdf>

increase in 16 years. The highest level of population growth was recorded before 2008, with the years since showing a lower level of growth.

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

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

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

4.32 The Welsh Government 2014-based household projections estimates that average household sizes are not decreasing as quickly as previous projections suggested. This higher estimate of household sizes coupled with the changes in population growth within the County has resulted in a much lower anticipated household requirement from that identified in the existing adopted LDP. This revised LDP seeks to place these projections within a Carmarthenshire context and develop a set of projections for change and growth that reflect the needs and aspirations for Carmarthenshire and its communities.

4.33 There are significant variations across the County in terms of social indicators of deprivation, including access to health, education and community services and facilities; and housing quality. Some communities lack a social hub and/or key facilities to act as a community focus. Others have a range of services and facilities that contribute to vibrant community life. A more equitable distribution is needed. This to some extent reflects the rural character of the County. In this context many rural communities access facilities in nearby

settlement or higher order centres. This is reflective of a pattern of rural life now common across Wales. This need to reflect this pattern and recognise the need to sustain such rural communities is a key factor across the County and within this plan.

4.34 With 78,048 Welsh speakers amongst its population, Carmarthenshire is the county with the highest number of Welsh speakers in Wales and has the fourth highest proportion of Welsh speakers at 43.9% (2011 Census data). There is therefore a clear strategic focus on the central role it plays within Carmarthenshire and its communities.

4.35 The image below shows the distribution of Welsh speakers per Electoral ward as recorded in the 2011 Census data. Whilst there is no obvious concentration of Welsh speakers in any particular area, it is apparent that a number of wards with a higher proportion of Welsh speakers are located in the Amman and Gwendraeth Valleys which are located in the cluster identified as the ‘Amman and Upper Gwendraeth’.

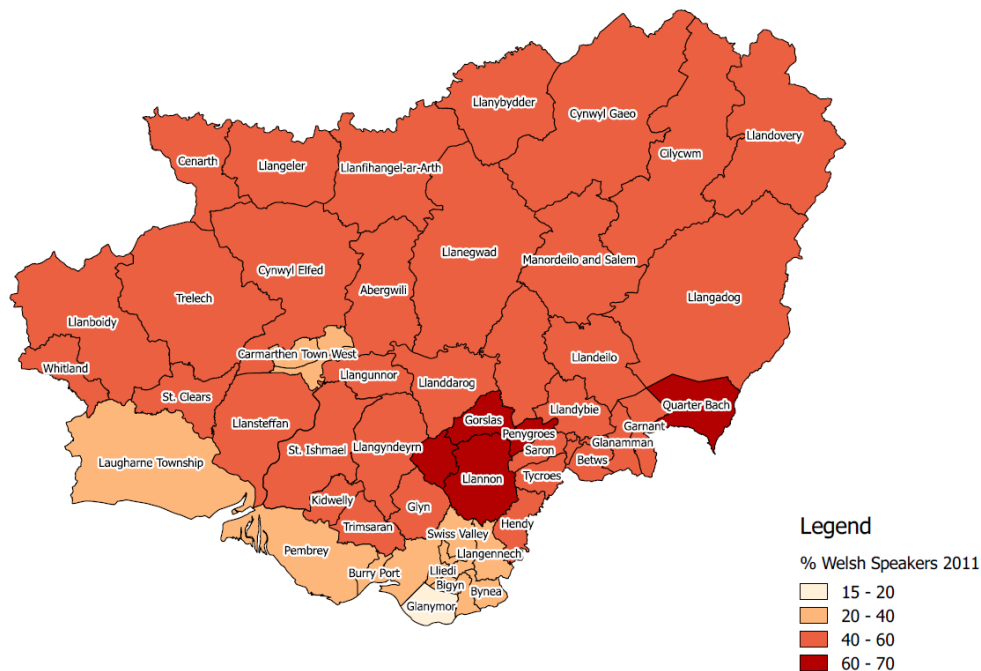


Figure 5: % of Welsh speakers in Carmarthenshire Electoral Wards (Census 2011 figures)

4.36 It is however noted that the proportion of Welsh speakers in Carmarthenshire has been steadily declining since the turn of the last century and the decline in proportion of Welsh speakers in Carmarthenshire has been recorded by every Census since 1901. More recently, during the period between the 1991 and 2011 Censuses, the percentage of Welsh speakers in Carmarthenshire has decreased from 54.9% to 43.9%. Consequently, and given

the Welsh languages importance, including to the social fabric, across our communities it is important that it is recognised and safeguarded.

Economic

4.37 The Council's corporate ambitions for growth and regeneration as expressed through its regeneration strategy and the Swansea City Deal indicates a potential for a minimum of 5,295 new jobs. This reflects an ambitious County strategically positioned at the gateway to west Wales and central to the City Deal.

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

4.39 This growth potential is also in part recognised within the emerging NDF and the overlap into the south west of the County of the South West National Growth Area with its focus on Swansea Bay and the Llanelli Area as well as the secondary town of Carmarthen¹⁶.

4.40 A buoyant rural economy is needed to support the overall growth of the County, and to help sustain community life. Sustainable tourism provides a key means of delivering this growth and providing good quality local jobs, as do the opportunities presented through farm diversification schemes.

4.41 Employment land opportunities are required for a range of potential enterprises and investments, from small-scale local concerns to large-scale strategic development areas that may appeal to inward investors. Such opportunities can be delivered through existing employment land and through new sustainable allocations in appropriate locations.

4.42 With the over-representation of public sector jobs within the county, the additional jobs required over the *Plan period* will need to be delivered through development that promotes and diversifies growth across sectors, and re-orientates the economy towards high quality, skilled and knowledge based sectors.

¹⁶ National Development Framework 2020 – 2040 (Consultation Draft)

4.43 The LDP invitation for candidate sites saw the submission of over 40 sites for employment or mixed use. Whilst some of these are allocations in the first LDP and have been carried forward into the Revised LDP, others might be appropriate as unallocated 'reserve' sites which could, where they are appropriate and sustainable, potentially serve as locations for future employment and job creation.

Environment

4.44 The richness of Carmarthenshire's natural and cultural environment is an important spatial consideration in planning for the future of the County, particularly in terms of the potential for growth and the siting of development. Carmarthenshire is justly renowned for its magnificent coast, quiet estuaries, steep wooded valleys and rugged uplands. Throughout much of the rest of the county there is a patchwork of woodlands and fields, bounded by the hedge-banks that are frequently of historic importance. The sea and seabed around the Carmarthenshire coast are also rich in species, some of which are of considerable economic importance. This natural beauty of the county is a major factor on which the local tourism and recreation industries depend. Biodiversity is therefore fundamental to the physical, economic and spiritual well-being of all who live and work in Carmarthenshire.

4.45 The local plan area includes sites designated at the international level to protect and enhance important habitats and species, as well as striking landscapes and distinctive historic towns and villages. There are a number of designated sites for nature conservation and biodiversity importance, including 8 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), 3 Special Protection Areas (SPA), 1 Ramsar site, 81 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), 5 National Nature Reserves (NNR), 5 Local Nature Reserves (LNR) and 7 registered landscapes.

4.46 SSSI's alone cover some 17,088 Ha, and range in size from small fields to large areas of mountain sides and long rivers. 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.

4.47 The importance of the County's built heritage is borne out by the 27 conservation areas, 366 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (ranging from Prehistoric to post-Medieval/Modern features of cultural historic interest) and the large number of listed buildings.

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

Connections

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

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

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

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

Table 1

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

5. Issues Identification

5.1 The Revised LDP needs to be strategic, concise and distinctive to our County. Focusing on the key issues facing our County has helped us achieve this.¹⁷ In preparing the revised LDP we have sought to review and update our understanding of the relevant issues.

5.2 The key issues are grouped under the national well-being goals. This means that the issues are framed within the context of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015¹⁸. This ensures that social, economic and environmental interests are embedded into the Plan making process.

5.3 The SA Scoping report, as well as the work undertaken by the Public Service Board as part of the “Carmarthenshire We Want”¹⁹ process, has informed the issues. The Carmarthenshire Wellbeing Plan 2018 – 2033²⁰ has also been a key aspect of this work.

5.4 We have engaged and researched extensively as part of the conversation around issues generation. This includes elected Members, Town and Community Councils, Key Stakeholder Forum, policy review, LDP review report, corporate objectives/strategies, online surveys and the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process²¹.

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

5.6 The 33 summary issues are as follows. Further detail is set out within the Issues Vision and Objectives Topic Paper²²:

¹⁷ Welsh Government Local Development Plan Manual – Edition 2 August 2015, Section 6.1.1

¹⁸ Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

¹⁹ <http://www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales/>

²⁰ <http://www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales/media/8331/carmarthenshire-well-being-plan-final-may-2018.pdf>

²¹ Detailed information, including the engagement undertaken is set out within the Issues Vision and Objectives Topic Paper.

²² Detailed information is set out within the Issues Vision and Objectives Topic Paper.

A Prosperous Carmarthenshire

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

A Resilient Carmarthenshire

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

A Healthier Carmarthenshire

- 9 An ageing population and the out-migration of the younger population.
- 10 60% of adults reported as being overweight or obese.
- 11 Community life, education and public services indicate wellbeing in rural areas.
- 12 Beauty, peace and quiet, open green spaces and fresh air are also contributors to happiness in rural areas.
- 13 Air Quality Management Areas in Carmarthen, Llanelli and Llandeilo.
- 14 “Our big NHS change” and any implications.

A More Equal Carmarthenshire

- 15 Rural and urban deprivation.
- 16 Over 1 in 3 households are living in poverty.
- 17 Council's target to provide 1,000 affordable homes.

A Carmarthenshire of Cohesive Communities

- 18 Lack of new homes being built in some Service Centres and Local Service Centres.
- 19 Lack of a five year supply of housing land and the need for a housing mix.
- 20 Changes in population and household forecasts indicate that significantly less homes are needed through to 2033.
- 21 Housing sites not being brought forward and built
- 22 A predominantly rural county where 60% of the population live in rural areas.
- 23 Ensuring infrastructure capacity can support development, including highways.

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

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

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

A Carmarthenshire of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

27 Disused buildings across the County.

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

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

30 Important archaeological sites and historic features

31 Highest number of Welsh speakers in Wales

A Globally Responsible Carmarthenshire

32 Emerging national and regional considerations including Brexit, the National Development Framework and Strategic Development Plans. Planning Policy Wales (Edition 10) was published in December 2018.

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

6. A Vision for ‘One Carmarthenshire’

6.1 The Revised LDP needs to be underpinned by a concise, long-term vision and strategy. In order to achieve this, a clear Vision has been developed that is built on consensus. The Strategic Vision outlines how the County is planned to develop, change or be conserved up to 2033.²³

6.2 The Revised LDP vision directly incorporates the vision set out in the Council’s Corporate Strategy *“Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire - the next 5 years – 2018-2023”*²⁴. Whilst there is no vision to directly draw upon from the Carmarthenshire Wellbeing Plan, the Revised LDP vision reflects its four well-being objectives which are (1) *Healthy Habits* (2) *Early Intervention* (3) *Strong Connections* and (4) *Prosperous People and Places*.

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

6.4 A *“One Carmarthenshire”* approach recognises the need to balance conflicting demands and interests and provides a platform for consensus and shared ownership of the Revised LDP. The Revised LDP vision also recognises the Swansea Bay City Deal and this sets the tone for Plan to be positive and deliverable whilst allowing for appropriate aspiration.

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 (including the Welsh language) are valued and respected for residents and visitors alike.

²³ Planning Policy Wales, Edition 9 (Section 2.2.1) and Welsh Government Local Development Plan Manual – Edition 2 – August 2015, Section 6.1.1

²⁴ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/moving-forward-in-carmarthenshire-the-next-5-years/>

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.

7. Strategic Objectives

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

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

7.3 The Carmarthenshire Well Being Plan's wellbeing objectives have been utilised to group the Revised LDP's Strategic Objectives. This ensures that a local interpretation of wellbeing is interwoven into the strategic objectives and the Plan's strategy from the outset. Whilst not directly identified as Revised LDP strategic objectives in themselves, the Council's wellbeing objectives, as outlined within the Corporate Strategy "*Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire - the next 5 years – 2018-2023*" have played an informing role²⁵.

7.4 The Revised LDP strategic objectives are sufficiently aspirational and ambitious but are also deliverable within a spatial planning context. They respond and deliver upon the Plan's key issues and provide a platform for delivering its vision. They provide a platform for a Sound Plan, notably in terms of their fit, appropriateness and deliverability²⁶

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

²⁵ The Issues Vision and Objectives Topic Paper contains compatibility assessments between the Revised LDP strategic objectives, the Revised LDP strategic objectives and the Council's wellbeing objectives and the Revised LDP strategic objectives against the Sustainability Appraisal framework.

²⁶ Paragraph 8.2.1.2 of the Welsh Government Local Development Plan Manual – Edition 2

7.6 The Revised LDP strategic objectives are below.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SO8 To contribute to the delivery of an accessible integrated and sustainable transport system, including links to alternative transport methods.	
LDP Issues addressed	22 ,23 , 24, 26, 32
Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound	✓
Aspirational and Ambitious	✓

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

SO9 To protect and enhance the diverse character, distinctiveness, safety and vibrancy of the County's communities by promoting a place making approach and a sense of place.	
LDP Issues addressed	8, 26, 28, 31, 32
Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound	✓
Aspirational and Ambitious	✓

SO10 To make provision for an appropriate number and mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities.	
LDP Issues addressed	3, 17, 18,19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26,28, 29, 32
Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound	✓
Aspirational and Ambitious	✓

SO11 To assist in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Welsh Language and the County's unique cultural identity, assets and social fabric.	
LDP Issues addressed	3, 17, 18, 20, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32
Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound	✓
Aspirational and Ambitious	✓

SO12 To encourage investment & innovation in rural and urban areas by making adequate provision to meet employment need and to contribute at a regional level to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal.	
LDP Issues addressed	1, 2, 3, 4, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 32
Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound	✓
Aspirational and Ambitious	✓

SO13 To make provision for sustainable & high quality all year round tourism related initiatives.	
LDP Issues addressed	4, 25, 26, 32
Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound	✓
Aspirational and Ambitious	✓

SO14 To reflect the requirements associated with the delivery of new development, both in terms of hard and soft infrastructure (including broadband).	
LDP Issues addressed	23, 24, 25, 26, 32
Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound	✓
Aspirational and Ambitious	✓

Table 2

THE REVISED LDP - DRAFT VISION AND PROCESS

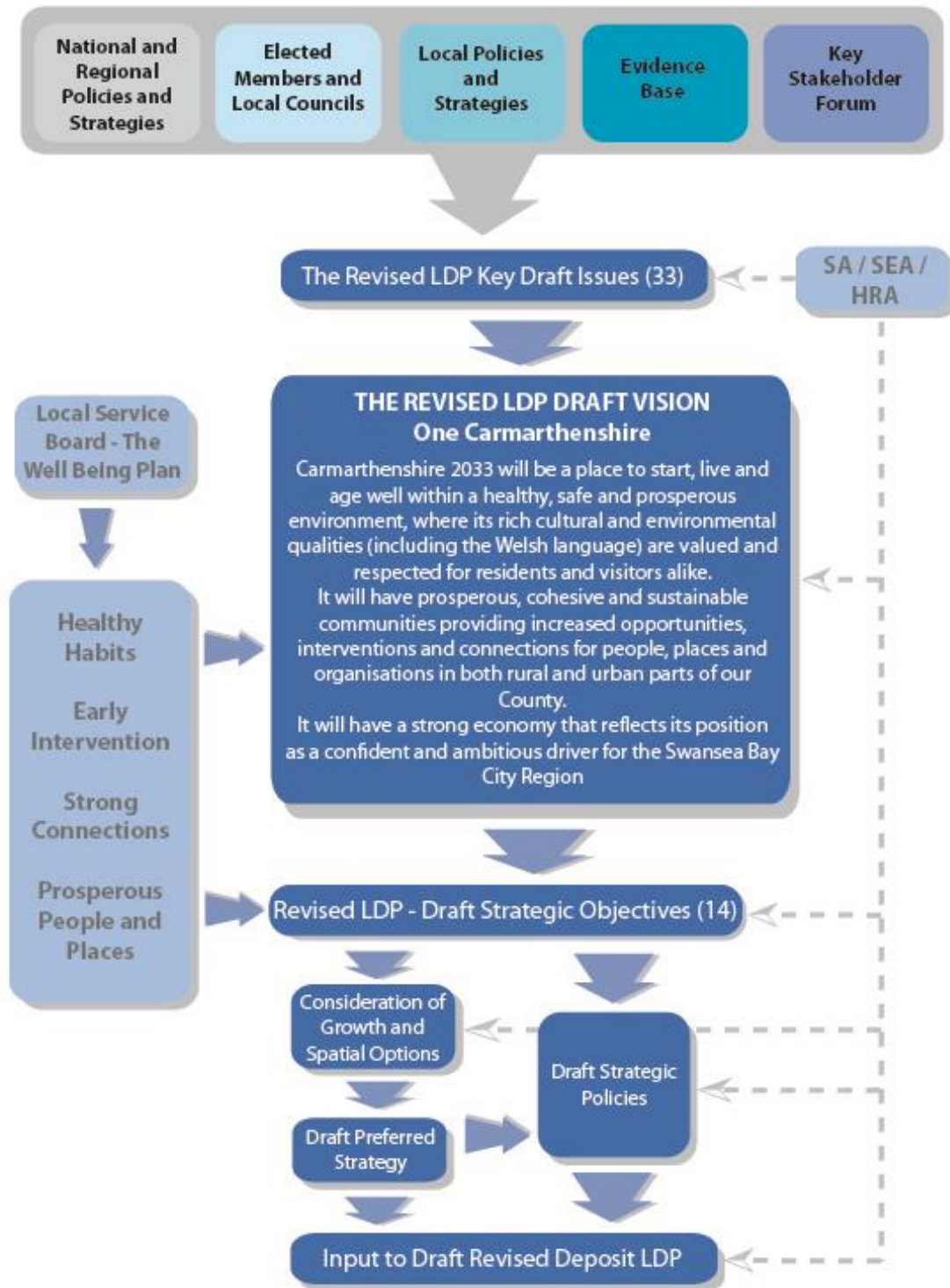


Figure 6

8. Strategic Growth and Spatial Options

Strategic Growth Options

8.1 To inform the future direction of population and household growth within Carmarthenshire for the revised LDP period 2018-2033, the Council has undertaken a review of demographic and household formation patterns for the Plan area. A Population and Household Forecast Paper (2018) was published as part of the evidence base for the Preferred Strategy, and a further addendum (2019) is published with this Deposit LDP. This addendum provides further demographic scenario outcomes of population-led and employment-led growth options in light of changing circumstances. Each scenario is considered against the 2011 Census vacancy rate, in addition to a variant vacancy rate calculated from Carmarthenshire's council tax records, which is calculated as 3.4%. This variant vacancy rate has been determined to be the most appropriate figure to be used within the demographic scenarios.

8.2 The Population and Household Forecast Paper also identifies the links between population growth and estimated employment growth. This is correlated by identifying how population growth and variances in the labour force and demographics supports job opportunities and economic growth. The entire collection of demographic growth options are considered below.

WG 2014-based Projection (2018 Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+3,207**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+3,254**

New Homes requirement: **3,367 homes**

Jobs Creation Value per annum: **-55 jobs**

Conclusion

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

WG 2014-based (10 year average migration) Projection (2018 Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+10,842**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+6,322**

New Homes requirement: **6,542 homes**

Jobs Creation Value: **198 jobs per year**

Conclusion

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

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

Population Growth Short Term (2018 Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+10,691**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+6,807**

New Homes requirement: **7,044 homes**

Jobs Creation Value: **126 jobs per year**

Conclusion

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

Population Growth 10yr (2018 Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+11,755**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+6,992**

New Homes requirement: **7,236 homes**

Jobs Creation Value: **178 jobs per year**

Conclusion

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

Population Growth Long Term (2018 Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+17,567**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+9,555**

New Homes requirement: **9,887 homes**

Jobs Creation Value: **353 jobs per year**

Conclusion

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

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

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

Population Growth Pre-Recession Scenario (2018 Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+26,811**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+13,616**

New Homes requirement: **14,090 homes**

Jobs Creation Value: **632 jobs per year**

Conclusion

Utilising this projection scenario for the revised LDP would be commensurate to the growth strategy within the adopted LDP. Whilst this scenario would be ambitious in driving

economic aspirations, setting such a high growth requirement through the PG Pre-Recession scenario would result in an undeliverable and unsustainable growth strategy.

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

PG Long Term (2019 Addendum Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+17,881**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+9,726**

New Homes requirement: **10,065 homes**

Jobs Creation Value: **439 jobs per year**

Conclusion

This projection would provide a positive outlook and provide an appropriate provision for housing delivery within the county. The increase in migration to Carmarthenshire evidenced in the 2018 mid-year estimates slightly increases both the population and household projection from that considered in the PG Long Term 2018 report scenario. The housing requirement numbers are not markedly different from those considered the favoured option in the Preferred Strategy, and it would allow the flexibility to drive sustainable housing growth and support the economic ambitions of the county.

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

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

PG 10yr (2019 Addendum Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+15,115**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+8,538**

New Homes requirement: **8,835 homes**

Jobs Creation Value: **354 jobs per year**

Conclusion

On balance, utilising this scenario would provide a positive outlook and provide an appropriate provision for housing delivery within the county. It would allow the flexibility to

drive sustainable housing growth and support the economic ambitions of the county. The relationship between job creation and population increase is more positive than the scenario identified within the Preferred Strategy as the household requirement is lower, with the proportional growth of the working age population being higher.

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

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

PG Short Term (2019 Addendum Report)

Projected population change between 2018-2033: **+14,133**

Projected Household change between 2018-2033: **+8,474**

New Homes requirement: **8,769 homes**

Jobs Creation Value: **288 jobs per year**

Conclusion

On balance, utilising this scenario would provide a positive outlook and provide an appropriate provision for housing delivery within the county. It would allow the flexibility to drive sustainable housing growth, but has a lesser impact on supporting the economic ambitions of the county than other scenarios. A job creation value of 288 jobs per year, or 4,320 jobs over the LDP period would not meet the ambitions of the Council's Regeneration Plan.

The PG Short Term scenario in the 2019 is much higher than that considered in the 2018 report as it uses a 4 years of data instead of 6 years. This shows the volatility of trends based assumption over a shorter time period.

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

8.3 Two further options were considered as a basis for considering housing growth within the County. These focused on employment led scenarios namely: Commuting Ratio Fixed (CR Fixed) and Commuting Ratio Reducing (CR Reducing). These sought to deliver growth options based on a benchmark job requirement which comes from the Carmarthenshire Employment Sectoral Study.

8.4 Utilising the employment-led scenarios would result in an undeliverable and unsustainable growth strategy for the county with both options eclipsing the housing growth requirement set out in the adopted LDP (19,690 and 17,396 dwellings respectively).

8.5 Whilst these scenarios would be ambitious in driving economic aspirations, setting such a high growth requirement would result in an undeliverable and unsustainable growth strategy. These scenario would not deliver the Plan's Vision and Strategic Objectives

Identifying the Preferred Strategic Growth Option

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

- Welsh Government - Planning Policy Wales;
- The Council's Strategic Regeneration Plan 2015 – 2030 – Transformations;
- Swansea Bay City Deal;
- The Council's New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023;
- The Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan: the Carmarthenshire we want 2018-2033;
- The Council's Well-being Objectives;
- The Council's Affordable Housing Delivery Plan; and
- Local Housing Market Assessment²⁷, and
- The Council's Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years.

8.7 It is proposed to use the PG 10yr scenario from the 2019 Edge Analytics Report and utilise the alternative vacancy rate of 3.4% to underpin the future growth requirements for this revised LDP. This scenario identifies the population and household growth outside the Brecon Beacons National Park Area and projects an overall population increase of 15,115 (8.1%), with the requirement for 8,835 new homes over the revised LDP period 2018-2033. This equates to 589 new homes per year. This scenario will assist in the delivery of the

²⁷ Regional Local Housing Market Assessment is being undertaken which will inform the revised LDP as it progresses through the preparatory process.

Swansea Bay City Region Deal and the Council's Corporate Strategy, regeneration and job creation objectives.

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

Spatial Options

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

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

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

8.12 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.

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

8.14 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.

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

8.16 The tables below provide an explanation of each of the spatial options as considered. This is followed by an identified Preferred Spatial Option.

Option 1 – Current LDP Option
<p>Description</p> <p>Utilising the settlement hierarchy to allow for a proportional distribution of development based on sustainability principles</p>
<p>Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected</p> <p>This Option is based on the 4 tier settlement hierarchy.</p>
<p>Summary Assessment</p> <p>This option focusses growth proportionally across a hierarchy underpinned by the principles of sustainability. In doing so, this option:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages the dispersal of employment, housing and other types of development to identified settlements and village groups or clusters in a manner reflective of their existing scale, population and of the availability of facilities and services. • Reflects the diversity of the County and growth is apportioned appropriately to urban and rural areas. • Focusses the majority of employment growth in the larger towns and villages.
<p>Conclusion</p> <p>This option represents a continuation of the existing LDP strategy and as such reference is had to the results of annual monitoring and the review report. Whilst both indicate successes in the application of the strategy they also identify weaknesses in the delivery of growth in aspects of the settlement hierarchy.</p> <p>It is recognised that elements of the strategy have been successful however, it is also clear that a review and revised approach may be needed to address not only its shortcomings but contextual changes.</p>

Option 2 – Infrastructure and Transport Network Option

Description

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

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

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

Summary Assessment

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

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

Conclusion

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

Option 3 – Dispersal Option

Description

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

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

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

Summary Assessment

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

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

Conclusion

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

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

Option 4 – Community Led Option

Description

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

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

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

Summary Assessment

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

This option will encourage growth in those areas which play a significant role in the wider community; this is most likely to be through the provision of facilities and services rather than the existing scale of the settlement or the existing population numbers. This option would also seek to reflect the needs of the communities, including their demand for housing. This acknowledges the individual characteristics of each settlement and seeks to identify the role which settlements play within their locality and on a county-wide basis.

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

Conclusion

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

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

Option 5 – Swansea Bay City Region Influence Option

Description

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

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

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

Summary Assessment

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

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

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

Conclusion

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

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

Option 6 – Market Led Option

Description

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

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

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

Summary Assessment

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

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

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

Conclusion

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

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

The Preferred Spatial Option

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

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

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

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

Preferred Option - Balanced Community and Sustainable Growth Strategy

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

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

- It will recognise that growth should be deliverable and orientated to a community's needs and market demand.

9. A New Strategy

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

9.2 The preparation of the Deposit LDP has been informed by national and regional guidance with plans and strategies at all levels contributing, where appropriate to the development of an emerging evidence and knowledge base. Engagement has also played a central role in preparing this Deposit LDP.

A New Spatial Approach

9.3 The Revised LDP recognises the diversity that exists within the County and the need to reflect this in its strategic approach. The Spatial Strategy identifies a settlement hierarchy but sets it within a settlement framework grouped under six clusters. These clusters, and the distribution of growth will focus on sustainable principles, but will also recognise the respective role, function and contribution each settlement has within its particular clusters. Growth will be distributed accordingly to identified centres, whilst the role of smaller settlements within Carmarthenshire to deliver local and sustainable growth is also noted.

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

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

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

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

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

Deliverable Growth

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

9.10 This LDP will provide the opportunity to deliver 8,835 homes over the Plan period. This is the equivalent of 589 homes per year from 2018 to 2033. This would allow for new homes to be provided in a sustainable manner which supports the aspirations of our communities and provides appropriate flexibility to respond to the Council's affordable housing objectives. This ambitious but deliverable agenda for Carmarthenshire will allow the Plan to build upon the approximately 536 homes being provided per year under the current adopted LDP²⁸.

9.11 In delivering the number of homes set above, this Preferred Strategy includes an additional flexibility as part of its supply (uplift) to ensure the delivery of sustainable growth and to overcome any potential unforeseen deliverability issues. A 15% flexibility through a further 593 homes, is included. This equates to a housing supply of 10,160 dwellings to deliver the 8,835 homes.

²⁸ Completions data 2015 – 2018 (Adopted LDP Annual Monitoring Report 2017 -2018)

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

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

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

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

Rural Communities

9.16 The rural aspects and settlements of the County have an important role to play in improving the sustainability of the wider geographical area of the county. The Plan's strategy and settlement framework reflects the significant role which the rural communities play by supporting growth of a proportionate scale which can make a positive contribution towards the long-term sustainability and cohesiveness of rural communities and the rural economy.

9.17 The Plan does however, recognise that the location and level of growth in rural areas and communities needs to be proportionate and appropriate, and that an excessive level of development would be to the detriment of such areas. In addressing some of these impacts within the Revised LDP, the Council has undertaken a Rural Housing Needs Assessment which seeks to balance growth against some of the key issues which rural settlements face. The Plan therefore seeks to provide a level of growth required to retain and enhance the services and facilities provided in the County's rural settlements.

9.18 The Plan also recognises that development can, if sited and delivered at the appropriate scale, also promote the Welsh language areas and enhance rural employment opportunities.

9.19 The plan will seek to control the scale or rate of growth to ensure the impacts on the local infrastructure, the vitality of the Welsh language and the sustainability of the countryside and natural environment are satisfactorily absorbed and mitigated.

Rural Economy

9.20 There is a clear recognition that a strong rural economy is essential to support sustainable and vibrant rural communities.

9.21 New enterprises and the expansion of existing business are important in contributing to the growth and stability of rural areas. Many commercial and light manufacturing activities can be located in rural areas without causing unacceptable disturbance or other adverse effects. However, the scale of such uses must also be appropriate. The Plan seeks to recognise these values.

Regeneration and the Economy

9.22 Carmarthenshire has, and remains a County which places regeneration and economic growth as an integral part of its strategic ambitions. Its track record in driving and attracting investment has enabled a series of significant developments to be attracted to the County, not least the most recent in the form of the life sciences and wellness proposal in Llanelli and the Yr Egin S4C development in Carmarthen.

9.23 Such opportunities have not just driven enhancements within the traditional employments centres, but it has seen significant commercial developments, new public realms, building enhancements and new infrastructure improving the offer and fabric of the County's communities.

9.24 Whilst many of these interventions have had positive outcomes delivering an economically diverse and sustainable County, it means there are no opportunities for the County to rest on its laurels. Indeed, the challenging environment in retail affecting some of our town centres requires a variation in approach which reflects a move to 'living' and diverse centres. This is encapsulated within Llanelli Town Centre where the work of the Task Force as part of a broader regeneration centred approach has seen the introduction of a Local Development Order.

9.25 In retail terms, the Plan recognises the important regional role performed by Carmarthen and will seek to ensure its vibrancy and viability is maintained and enhanced.

9.26 The Plan will reflect the important contribution of other retail centres but also the important function performed by smaller convenience and comparison provision across what is a diverse set of settlements and communities.

9.27 The Plan will seek to maximise investment, and job creation across a range of sectors but not restricted to traditional employment but also within the tourism and service sectors. In this respect the Plan seeks to provide a positive framework for the creation of an enhanced economic base with appropriate opportunities for employment and commercial growth.

9.28 The Council is committed to using positive tools such as LDO's where prudent and appropriate to facilitate and enable regeneration and economic development opportunities.

Sustainable Development, Well-being and Climate Change

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

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

9.31 The LDP will promote the principles of sustainability by:

- Protecting and enhancing biodiversity, townscapes and landscapes;
- Minimising energy demand and consumption by facilitating the delivery of carbon neutral buildings and homes, including the promotion of the efficient use of resources including directing development to previously developed land wherever possible;
- Distributing and locating development in accordance with the settlement framework with a view to reducing unwarranted reliance of the private motor car.

It will promote sustainable and 'green' travel alternatives building on advances in technology and promotes accessibility to alternative means of travel;

- The promotion of sustainable waste management;
- The promotion of sustainable water management (including ensuring a sustainable supply of water resources and water quality, promoting sustainable drainage modes and addressing flooding issues). This includes reducing the vulnerability of communities by ensuring that development is not located in flood risk areas;
- Promote the enhancement of wellbeing and social inclusion by supporting healthy, accessible and cohesive communities;
- Supporting the development of a resilient economy and facilitating appropriate future growth; and,
- The promoting and safeguarding the Welsh language and culture.

9.32 The Revised LDP recognises the role of the planning system in making development resilient to climate change, decarbonising society and developing a circular economy. In this respect, a circular economy is one which aims to keep materials, products and components in use for as long as possible, and its principles are a key tenet of PPW 10. Regard will be given to the environmental, social and economic benefits of taking such an approach, most notably the increased value and productivity of materials, financial savings for the construction sector and the prevention of waste.

Placemaking, Infrastructure and Cohesive Communities

9.33 The growth of our communities provides a positive opportunity to develop and deliver a planned and coherent set of developments centred on the needs of communities and providing places where people will ultimately live, work and spend their leisure time. It is only through such a positive approach that we can create an environment with economic opportunity that opportunities for retention of our young people can be fulfilled.

9.34 The LDP seeks to sustain and enhance existing communities whilst also creating new and sustainable developments. This concept of placemaking is as embedded in PPW and will form a key guiding principle in the future growth of our county and its communities. In this respect placemaking should be seen as part of a sustainable agenda involving all of those with a professional or personal interest in the built and natural environment, which

focuses on developing plans, making decisions and delivering developments which contribute to the creation and enhancement of sustainable places²⁹.

9.35 The Plan recognises the following:



Figure 7: What is Placemaking?³⁰

9.36 The County supports an extensive *green space network*, which is vital to economic, environmental and community well-being. Green Infrastructure refers to utilising elements of the natural environment, such as ecological features, green space, open space, water management systems to the benefit of the social, economic and environmental health of an area. Whilst the Green Infrastructure approach identifies the natural environment as an asset which developers can utilise to bring about economic growth, it also provides the means whereby these ‘assets’ can be protected and enhanced. The plan seeks to set a positive agenda through which the value of Green Infrastructure to the County and its communities can be recognised. In this respect green infrastructure systems are seen as a key elements in delivering sustainable development.

9.37 Examples of green infrastructure ‘assets’ include, for example parks and gardens, amenity green space (e.g. play areas and sports fields), allotments, cemeteries, urban green space, green corridors (e.g. rivers, canals, cycle paths), sites of ecological, geological and landscape value, and functional green space such as sustainable urban drainage systems and flood storage areas.

²⁹ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – paragraph 2.6

³⁰ Source: Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10

9.38 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016, provides a context for the delivery of multi-functional green infrastructure. Its provision can make a significant contribution to the sustainable management of natural resources, and in particular to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and the resilience of ecosystems.

9.39 PPW 10 emphasises that the planning system should protect and enhance green infrastructure assets and networks. The plan adopts a strategic and proactive approach to green infrastructure and biodiversity by producing up to date inventories and maps of existing green infrastructure and ecological assets and networks and integrates policies into the Plan.

9.40 The Plan seeks to recognise the rich diversity of Carmarthenshire recognising that this can also pose challenges given the rural characteristics of the County. The Plan will take a balanced view with appropriate regard to the sustainability merits or otherwise of the settlement as well as the respective availability of suitable infrastructure including open space and leisure provision. Where infrastructure is currently inadequate, or the quality is poor, this is not always a justification for resisting development. In the current economic climate, new development can be the most realistic means of addressing such deficiencies or inequalities.

9.41 The council will utilise planning obligations along with a close co-operative arrangement with infrastructure providers, to work with developers to ensure a co-ordinated approach in the delivery of necessary supporting infrastructure.

9.42 The impact of transport accessibility and constraints in the road transport network are important consideration in creating cohesive and sustainable communities. The accessibility by sustainable transport modes including public transport, cycling and walking provide communities with a choice of using more sustainable and Active Travel modes. This can help ensure connectivity is available but is considered within the backdrop of a predominately rural and spatially diverse county. The recognition that such areas will maintain a high dependency on the private motor car is noted, however it is recognised that this Plan can provide interventions to help enable a transition to a more sustainable approach to transport. In this respect the improvements in technology for Ultra Low Emission Vehicles is noted and reflected within this Plan.

9.43 The relationship between transport and peak time pollution issues in certain areas have been recognised through the designation of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA). Such considerations and wider pollution aspects will be considered through the provisions of this Plan and will be considerations in development proposals.

9.44 The availability of modern, fast, secure and affordable telecommunications are an increasingly essential component of modern lives. In particular the impact that poor access to fast and secure broadband on inclusivity and on the creation of prosperous and economically viable communities is noted and recognised in this Plan. Indeed this is recognised within the Swansea Bay City Region.

9.45 Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) are responsible for the supply and treatment of water within the County. DCWW are content with the level of growth set out within this Plan, but have requested that larger developments in the Llanelli area be subject to a requirement to undertake compensatory surface water removal from the sewer system as part of the granting of planning permission. As a result, this Plan includes a specific policy intervention to this effect. Further information on the Policy's implementation is set out within Supplementary Planning Guidance.

9.46 The Plan recognised the propensity and impacts associated with flood risk across the County and the need to adopt a sustainable approach to flood risk management and avoidance. Consequently to Plan's policies and proposals appropriately considers and provides a framework for the consideration of such matters alongside those set out in national planning policy.

Environmental Qualities and Areas for Protection

9.47 This LDP focuses development in established settlements recognising the need to protect the countryside, whilst also making appropriate provision for certain uses (including exceptions proposals) where a rural location is considered essential.

9.48 It seeks to protect and enhance the nature conservation and biodiversity value of Carmarthenshire, including its rich tapestry of habitats and species. It also seeks to protect and enhance the built and historic environment of the County, those features which contribute to its character and the area's high quality landscapes.

9.49 In this respect the Plan recognises the importance of protecting and enhancing the environment, be it the natural environment or the historic built environment. The value of national and international designations is recognised as are those areas of local value. The need to balance the requirements for growth against the need to protect and enhance the environmental qualities is a central challenge and one which the Strategy seeks to address.

9.50 The Plan also reflects the need to safeguard the distinctiveness and character of areas within the County. In this respect the role of placemaking and how developments relate to their surroundings is a strong feature of this Plan.

A New Strategy - Key Components

9.51 The key components of the strategy are as follows:

- Provide for 10,160 new homes to deliver a housing requirement of 8,835 homes;
- Provide opportunities to deliver a minimum of 5,295 new jobs in the County in supporting the Regeneration and strategic economic and employment ambitions within the County and region;
- Provide sufficient employment land to support economic growth and job creation;
- Promotes a settlement framework which supports cohesion between settlements and communities;
- Distribute development in accordance with the settlement hierarchy, reflecting the sustainability and functional attributes of settlements, their services and facilities as well as their ability to accommodate growth;
- To respect and enhance the rich and diverse environmental qualities of the County;
- To reflect the needs of rural areas and the rural economy;
- Recognise the cultural and linguistic character of the County;
- Contribute to the delivery of physical and social regeneration opportunities and provides for a diverse and cohesive range of settlements and communities;
- Reflect the diversity across the County, and within its settlements and communities;
- Provide for employment both through allocated sites and through policy provisions across the County recognising the need to sustain and enhance rural economies;
- Focus retail change in established centres whilst providing opportunities for provision throughout the hierarchy in a way which will assist in improving accessibility to services and facilities and help in achieving viable, self-supporting settlements and sustainable communities;
- Recognise the contribution of 'previously developed land' and utilises it as appropriate whilst recognising the County's largely rural context;

- To provide opportunities to cater for the County's visitor economy;
- Protect and enhances the natural, historic and built conservation qualities of Carmarthenshire and its high value landscapes; and,
- Contribute to an integrated transport network both within the County and region. Seeks to make efficient use of the existing road and rail network by reflecting that the public transport network can afford the opportunity for consolidation and improvement of service thus maintaining and improving accessibility. Promote opportunities for active travel - through access alternative means of transport including walking and cycling.

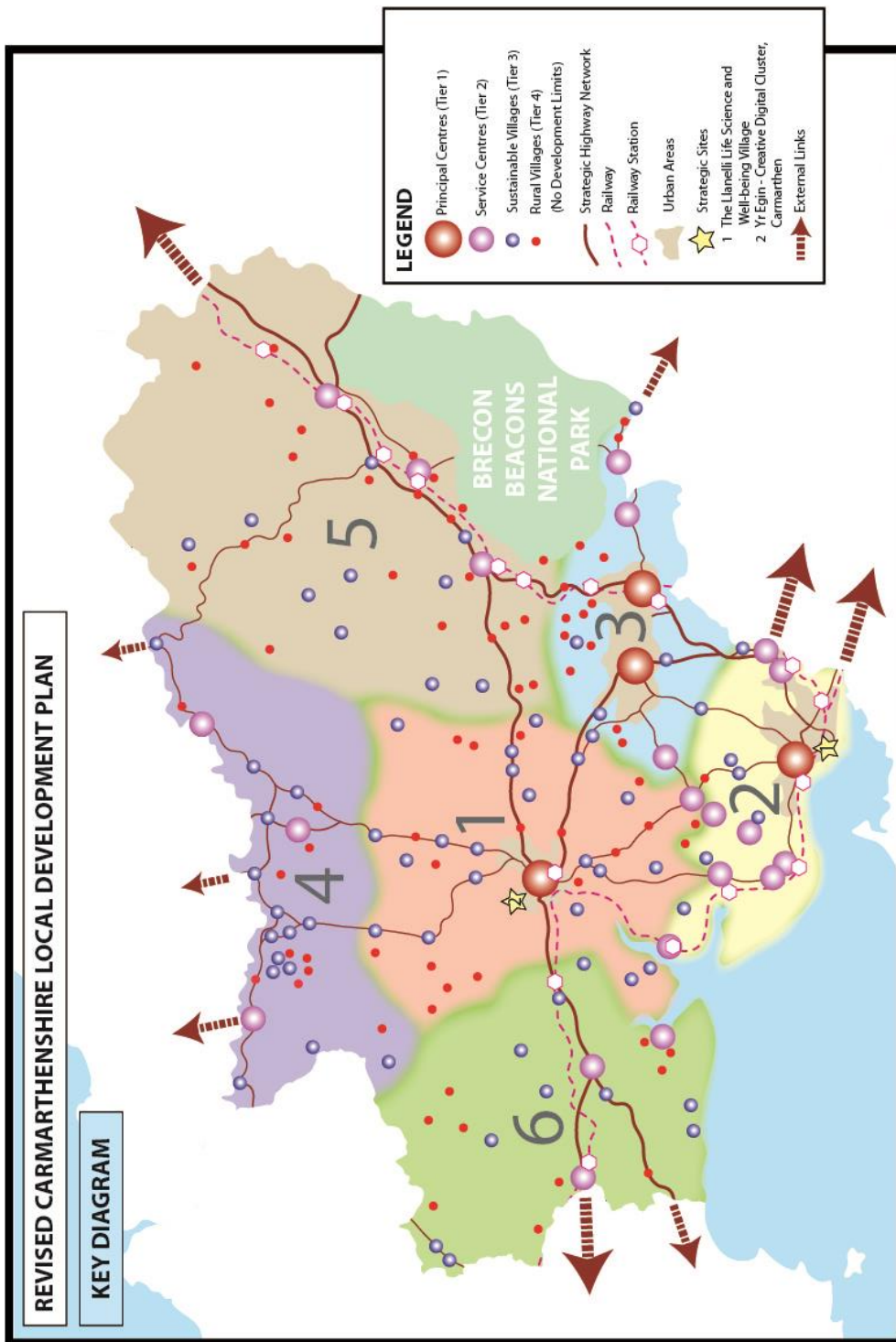


Figure 8

10. The Clusters

10.1 Figure 8 above sets out both the key diagram and identifies the subdivision of the Plan areas into identified clusters with each containing component settlements as defined within the settlement framework set out within Strategic Policy SP16. The clusters subdivided the Plan area into six geographical areas, each with a principle or service centre supporting or supported by a network of other settlements.

10.2 The defined clusters are as follows:

1. Carmarthen and its Rural Areas
2. Llanelli and the Southern Gwendraeth Area
3. Amman and Upper Gwendraeth
4. Teifi
5. Upper Tywi Valley
6. Western Carmarthenshire

Carmarthen and its Rural Areas

10.3 The Carmarthen and its Rural Areas cluster is characterised by a rural theme with settlements ranging from the regional centre of Carmarthen through market towns to small and large villages within a rural backdrop. The settlements are located in rural landscapes which are predominately dominated by the agricultural economy.

10.4 Siting at the heart of both the County and the region, it is located on a series of strategic highway and rail routes centred on the historic market town of Carmarthen. As a regional centre with its associated functions, Carmarthen remains a focus for the delivery of new homes and jobs and also as a vibrant retail centre, with public sector as a core employer. Future opportunities for growth will focus on providing a wider range and mix of development sites. It is anticipated that Carmarthen will receive a large portion of the cluster's development but with the need to sustainable rural settlements and the economy reflected in the distribution of growth.

10.5 The role of Carmarthen across the region and in relation to its hinterland is reflected through its identification as a 'regional growth area' within the Mid and South West Wales region as defined within the Draft NDF³¹.

10.6 Surrounding the town are a number of rural and well connected villages which relate to Carmarthen as the larger settlement, by virtue of road linkages, public transport, and access to services and facilities. These make an important contribution to the wider cluster often acting as places where people live and work.

10.7 The area is widely visited and has a number of tourist attractions including the National Botanic Gardens of Wales in Llanarthne, Brechfa Forest which offers mountain biking and walking trails, The Gwili Steam Railway, and Llansteffan beach and castle.

Llanelli and the Southern Gwendraeth Area

10.8 This cluster along the Llanelli coastline retains a strong developmental focus, with its regeneration potential recognised within the Transformations Strategy, City Deal and current Adopted LDP. This has been further reinforced through the content of the Draft NDF which identified Llanelli specifically as a 'national growth area'.

10.9 It is located in the south east of the County, which is predominantly urbanised in nature. It has direct accessibility to the M4 and with strong connections by rail. Its location on key infrastructure routes, geographical position and its close proximity to Swansea ensures its strategic importance not only to Carmarthenshire but also regionally and nationally.

10.10 Llanelli remains the focus for delivery within this area, along with villages within its urban outskirts. The service centres which fall within this cluster are key components in the delivery of new homes and jobs given their overarching relationship to the rest of the cluster. This cluster has the highest population density within the county.

10.11 Despite the urban and post-industrial character often associated with this area the area is set within a rural backdrop with many of the larger settlements providing a focus for jobs, services and homes as well as supporting those rural settlements and communities. In

³¹ National Development Framework 2020 – 2040: Consultation Draft

this respect 'Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward'³² identifies Kidwelly as one of the Ten identified rural towns referenced in Chapter 3. This reflects not only the role of the settlement but the diversity that characterises the cluster area.

10.12 The area is a strong contributor in terms of retail with varying scales of retail offer within the settlements within the cluster. Whilst its tourism potential is noted including the Ffos Las Racecourse in Trimsaran and the Millennium Coastal Path and Pembrey Country Park along its southern coastline.

10.13 Llanelli sees the majority of major employment opportunities. It retains an ongoing reputation as a base for traditional manufacturing sector, however the area's broadening sectoral base is reflected in the contrasting employment offers at Bynea, Dafen and Delta Lakes.

Amman and Upper Gwendraeth

10.14 Whilst predominantly urban and post-industrial in nature, the area can in part be characterised by a series of inter related settlements. The delivery of new homes and jobs has been focused upon the A48 corridor, with Cross Hands and nearby settlements a key focus. This reflects its position on a key part of the strategic network connecting Carmarthenshire to the rest of West Wales and Pembrokeshire, but also critically Cardiff, Swansea, and mid Wales as well as across the border to England. It has grown as a centre and with a focus for investment in jobs, homes and services. Ammanford is an established centre having been established as an industrial base. Following the decline in its employment base its role in supporting the surrounding communities has evolved – it now plays an important service centre role, providing localised retail, employment, education and leisure facilities.

10.15 Despite the urban and post-industrial character often associated with this area, it is set within a rural backdrop with many of the larger settlements providing a focus for jobs, services and homes as well as supporting those rural settlements and communities. In this

³² Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward (June 2019): Report and Recommendations of the Carmarthenshire Rural Affairs Task Group. <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/moving-rural-carmarthenshire-forward/>

respect Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward³³ identifies Cwmamman (consisting of the settlements of Glanamau and Garnant) and Cross Hands as two of the Ten identified 'rural towns' referenced in Chapter 3. This reflects not only the role of the settlements but the diversity that characterises the cluster area.

10.16 Glanamau/Garnant evolved around the industrial activities associated with the tinsplate works and the coal mining in the area. The settlement however sit in a largely rural context flanked on one side by the Black Mountain and the other by Betws Mountain.

10.17 Cross Hands as a former mining community has developed over recent decades through its position on the A48 strategic transport route. Nevertheless its origin is a rural one and along with other settlements within the Ammanford/Cross Hands Principal Centre (Strategic Policy SP16) and those across the cluster interact with the rural communities and settlements.

10.18 The post-industrial Amman and Gwendraeth Valleys (upper) are seen as key linguistic heartlands of the Welsh language and are key components in defining the sense of place and cultural identity. These Valley settlements play a localised service centre function rather than being a primary focus for new development. The area's natural environment also contributes to its character, with the Caeau Mynydd Mawr project an integral component in mediating and balancing conflicting demands.

Teifi Valley

10.19 The area's predominately rural character and lower population base, is reflected in the classification of the settlements within the area. Whilst not containing a tier 1 Principal Centre the important contribution within the County is reflected in the identification of a cluster across the area. In this respect it is recognised that such rural areas and their settlements play an important role across what is a diverse County delivering homes and jobs and providing services for their communities.

10.20 Newcastle Emlyn performs an important service centre role for the area (particularly in terms of education, employment and localised retail) as opposed to being a focus for new

³³ Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward (June 2019): Report and Recommendations of the Carmarthenshire Rural Affairs Task Group. <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/moving-rural-carmarthenshire-forward/>

development. The close cross border relationship of the area to those communities in Ceredigion is noted, as is the role that settlements such as Llandysul, Lampeter and Cardigan play to the communities in this area. This relationship is recognised in various policy documents, and is a key consideration in the distribution and supply of homes within the Deposit LDP. It is recognised that many of the settlements within this cluster look to Carmarthen as the principal centre for retail, administrative, health, and job opportunities outside of those often associated with rural areas. This does not however detract from its potential to develop to serve its community's needs.

10.21 The area's spatial position, developmental constraints and housing needs, reflect the diversity of the County as a whole. In this respect the rural character requires a different approach in the provision of homes and jobs that those predominately more urban areas. The Plan seeks to respond to this difference and the areas role in accommodating growth.

10.22 Newcastle Emlyn and Llanybydder are two of the Ten 'rural towns'³⁴ reflecting the role and function of the settlements and their contribution within the wider community and cluster area.

Upper Tywi Valley

10.23 The area's predominately rural character and lower population base, is reflected in the classification of the settlements within the area. Whilst not containing a tier 1 Principal Centre the important contribution within the County is reflected in the identification of a cluster across the area. In this respect it is recognised that such rural areas and their settlements play an important role across what is a diverse County delivering homes and jobs and providing services for their communities.

10.24 Llandeilo, Llandovery and Llangadog perform the key service centre roles within this cluster, and supports the social, employment, education and localised retail offer for the smaller settlements. The area is well connected to the wider transport network via the A40, A476 and Heart of Wales Railway.

³⁴ Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward (June 2019): Report and Recommendations of the Carmarthenshire Rural Affairs Task Group. <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/moving-rural-carmarthenshire-forward/>

10.25 Consideration of the area's spatial position, developmental constraints (e.g. flood risk and landscape quality), and housing need may assist in understanding and guiding any future role that the area could play in development terms. The area's attractive setting is shaped and influenced by the river valley.

10.26 Whilst many of the settlements within this cluster looks to Carmarthen or Ammanford / Cross Hands as the major centres for larger retail and employment offers, the role and function of Llandeilo and Llandovery within 'Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward'³⁵ as two of the Ten identified 'rural towns' referenced in Chapter 3 reflects their contribution in providing services, homes and jobs in serving the wider community and cluster area.

Western Carmarthenshire

10.27 The area's predominately rural character and lower population base, is reflected in the classification of the settlements within the area. Whilst not containing a tier 1 Principal Centre the important contribution within the County is reflected in the identification of a cluster across the area. In this respect it is recognised that such rural areas and their settlements play an important role across what is a diverse County delivering homes and jobs and providing services for their communities.

10.28 With its links to West Wales, this cluster has traditionally seen development focused on the settlements of St. Clears and Whitland. These settlements predominately perform the key service centre roles within this cluster and support the social, employment, education and localised retail offer for the smaller settlements. The area is well connected to the wider transport network via the A40, A477 and the London – Fishguard railway route. The north western area of the cluster also enjoys good road links on the A478 to Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, integrating with the wider region.

10.29 Its relationship to Pembrokeshire and its attractive coastline has seen a strong tourism offer develop with settlements, with Laugharne and Pendine making an important contribution to the overall sense of place and to the visitor economy. In terms of tourism, the offer in this character area (coastal based) is generally distinct from activity based

³⁵ Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward (June 2019): Report and Recommendations of the Carmarthenshire Rural Affairs Task Group. <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/moving-rural-carmarthenshire-forward/>

tourism in the rural north of the County and those larger scale attractions in the Llanelli and the Southern Gwendraeth Area.

10.30 Whilst many of the settlements within this cluster looks to Carmarthen, or cross border into Pembrokeshire for larger retail and employment offers, the role and function of St. Clears and Whitland is reflected within 'Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward'³⁶ as two of the Ten identified 'rural towns' identified. This recognises their contribution in providing services, homes and jobs in serving the wider community and cluster area.

³⁶ Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward (June 2019): Report and Recommendations of the Carmarthenshire Rural Affairs Task Group. <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/moving-rural-carmarthenshire-forward/>

11 Policies

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Strategic Policy – SP 1: Strategic Growth

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

- 10,160 new homes to meet the identified housing requirement of 8,835.**
- A minimum of 77.93ha of allocated employment land.**

The focus on regeneration and growth reflects the Council's core strategic ambitions with development distributed in a sustainable manner consistent with the spatial strategy and settlement framework.

11.7 This Revised LDP puts at its heart the creation of a balanced and cohesive County. It recognises that to deliver this the County's role as a strong and economic driver for growth both locally and regionally, places Carmarthenshire at the centre of a prosperous and sustainable Wales. The Plan's strategy for growth is formulated on the basis of sustainable development principles and in accordance with the goals and aspirations of the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

11.8 The strategic approach builds on the corporate emphasis on regeneration and the opportunities presented through the City Deal and other regeneration and investment opportunities, whilst also recognising the opportunities presented through the rural economy and diverse needs of communities across the County. The strategy therefore, has a recognition of the role employment plays in creating a prosperous County - with appropriate growth of housing with jobs and employment opportunities.

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

- The Swansea Bay City Deal;
- Transformations – Carmarthenshire Regeneration Plan; and
- Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: The Council's New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2033.
- Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward 2019

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

11.11 By ensuring that our housing growth requirements are reflective of, and are in support of our economic ambitions, it allows for a co-ordinated and integrated approach to ensure that the shared role for economic growth is not in isolation of housing and vice a versa.

11.12 This approach requires the development of a balanced set of population and household projections that develop on the Welsh Government 2014-based projections but applies the ambitions of Carmarthenshire for its communities. This is to ensure there is a sufficient supply of homes to support the delivery of our economic ambitions and the needs of our communities.

11.13 The population and household trends, set through the Welsh Government's 2014-based projections, have been derived from demographic patterns during a recessionary period. They do not reflect the positive ambitions of the County and the Region over the plan period. Consideration must also be given to the rates of housing completions over the preceding years, which are far above the WG 2014 projection requirements. This strategy and its growth levels are intended to be ambitious but deliverable, and reflect wider objectives than this Revised LDP alone.

11.14 This Strategy will seek to distribute growth through a sustainable settlement hierarchy derived from the preferred spatial option. It recognises the diversity across the County and its rich environmental, biodiversity, natural and built landscape credentials. In delivering this strategy, it also recognises the role Carmarthenshire's rural areas as well as its urban areas contribute in delivering its vision for 'One Carmarthenshire'.

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

SG1: Regeneration and Mixed Use Sites

Provision is made for mixed use allocations for the following sites:

Site Ref.	Location and Proposed Uses
PrC1/MU1	West Carmarthen, Carmarthen Mix of uses consisting of residential (an allowance for 700 new homes within this plan period), employment, community facilities and amenity. A key deliverability indicator is the Carmarthen West Link Road which is now completed and open.
PrC1/MU2	Pibwrlwyd, Carmarthen

	Includes a mix of uses reflecting its strategic location and contribution to Carmarthen. Uses include employment, commercial leisure, education associated with Coleg Sir Gar and residential (an allowance is made for 245 new homes).
PrC2/MU1	Former Old Castle Works, Llanelli Mix of uses focused on the visitor economy, heritage and leisure. The site is not considered appropriate for residential development.
PrC2/MU2	Trostre Gateway, Llanelli Mix of uses reflecting its prominent location. Such uses include commercial and residential. An allowance is made for 35 new homes.
PrC3/MU1	Emlyn Brickworks, Penygroes Provides for the regeneration of a previously developed site. A key deliverability indicator is the Cross Hands Economic Link Road which is under construction. Provision is made for the delivery of community focused development along with 177 new homes.
SeC4/MU1	Burry Port Waterfront Mix of uses focused on appropriate retail provision along with commercial / tourism related uses. The site is not considered appropriate for residential development.
SeC16/MU1	Beechwood, Llandeilo

	Includes a mix of uses reflecting its strategic location and contribution to Llandeilo. Uses include a mix of appropriate employment, commercial and retail. Site forms part of a larger area which has been identified as a C2 flood risk zone. Applications will need to satisfy all requirements in this respect.
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Table 3: Regeneration and Mixed Use

11.16 The above and their identified uses will, where appropriate, be further considered through SPG in the form of development briefs. These briefs will address the development of the sites in greater detail in a comprehensive and coordinated way ensuring that proposals are integrated in terms of the phasing of different elements and the provision of key deliverability drivers such as infrastructure provision.

SG2: Reserve Sites

Reserve Sites will be released for development in the event that the allocated sites (identified under policies HOM1, EME1 and SG1) fail to contribute as expected to the delivery of the Plan’s strategy, or where there is a requirement to react to a material and significant contextual change – including but not exclusively related to changes in National Planning Policy.

The decision to release a site or remove an existing allocated site arising from non-delivery will be made by the Local Planning Authority in accordance with the monitoring framework. It must also be subject to a resolution arising from the content of the LDP Review Report.

Site Ref:	Description
SG2/1	Former Morlais Colliery, Llangennech The site’s potential strategic contribution incorporating employment and residential based proposals is within the context of Swansea Bay and Llanelli’s position within the emerging National Development Framework.
SG2/2	Land adjacent to Silver Terrace, Burry Port The site offers potential for the provision of employment floor space with a live / work element.
SG2/3	Cross Hands Employment Zone A strategically positioned site adjacent to an established employment hub that can accommodate any future demand for large units in excess of 10,000 sqm. The site is close to the facilities within the Cross Hands and the strategic highway network.
SG2/4	Former Ennis Caravans, Cross Hands Located in the Principal Centre in Cross Hands, this previously developed site presents opportunities for future residential development. Its non-inclusion as an allocation reflects doubts over immediate delivery, however its potential contribution will be monitored and reviewed with its future contribution considered in line with this policy.
SG2/5	Nant y Caws Waste Management Site A strategically positioned site already utilised for the sustainable management of waste. It offers the future opportunity to potentially harness energy from waste

	and also renewable energy, both of which could help to create a district energy scheme. Future opportunities could be set out through the development of a masterplan for the site.
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Table 4: Reserve Sites

Proposals for development on Reserve Sites, including as part of mixed use development must:

- i. be brought forward in line with an agreed masterplan, in accordance with the provisions of this Plan and cover the whole of the Reserve Site.**
- ii. the site does not lead to over provision which would jeopardise the delivery of allocated and deliverable sites.**

11.17 Specific evidence should be provided that clearly shows, to the satisfaction of the local planning authority, that development proposals accord with the following LDP policies:

- PSD1: Sustainability and High Quality Design
- PSD2: Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods

- PSD3: Green Infrastructure Network
- PSD4: Green Infrastructure – Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows
- TRA1: Transport and Highways Infrastructural Improvements
- TRA2: Active Travel
- SP8: Infrastructure
- INF1: Planning Obligations

11.18 The need for reserve sites will be closely monitored through take-up of allocated sites as part of the monitoring framework of this Plan and reported through the Annual Monitoring Report arrangements. In the event that the allocated sites (identified under policies HOM1, EME1 and EMP5) fail to contribute as expected to the delivery of the Plan's strategy, then the decision to utilise a Reserve Site will be subject to a resolution by County Council at the time of reporting of the LDP Review Report.

11.19 The need to identify an alternative range of reserve sites is necessary to ensure that the LDP strategy provides sufficient flexibility in the event that development on allocated and existing commitments stalls. Reference is also made to the emerging NDF and potential for a Strategic Development Plan (SDP).

11.20 The purpose of this Policy is to establish the principle of mixed use development (inc. housing) on these sites and stimulate the market to resolve issues and bring forward the sites when necessary.

SG3: Pembrey Peninsula

High quality proposals that contribute towards unlocking the potential of the Peninsula as a destination to stay, play, and work will be supported where they respect the area's role, function and sense of place.

Proposals should build upon established uses and features within this expansive coastal location in recognition of the area's natural and built historic qualities.

11.21 The Peninsula consists of some 1,780 hectares along the A484 and London to Fishguard Rail Line transportation corridor. It extends from the outskirts of the historic town of Kidwelly on the mouth of the Gwendraeth Fach to its north. The east is bordered by the A484, London to Fishguard Rail line and the Pinged flats. The south / south-east is bordered by the Millennium Coastal Park.

11.22 Whilst the Peninsula is well placed to attract an integrated and strategic package of regeneration and investment, it is also an ecologically sensitive area that is subject to a range of developmental considerations.

11.23 The sense of place is framed by a contrasting range of uses and features. These include Pembrey Country Park to the south, with the motor racing circuit and airport to the north.

11.24 The area continues to function as a key resource for residents, visitors and biodiversity alike. In this regard, development proposals that would unduly compromise the ongoing resource for our future generations would not be supported.

11.25 The Council will prepare Supplementary Planning Guidance to provide further elaboration upon the provisions of this policy and the future opportunities within the Peninsula.

Strategic Policy – SP 2: Retail and Town Centres

Proposals for retail development will be considered in accordance with the following retail hierarchy and the provisions below:

Sub Regional - High Order Town Centre	Carmarthen
Mid Order Town Centres	Llanelli Ammanford
Lower Order Town Centres	Burry Port Llandeilo Llandovery Newcastle Emlyn St. Clears Whitland

- a) Proposals in respect of Carmarthen Town Centre will be permitted where they accord with the provisions of Policy RTC1 (and the following where appropriate).
- b) The vitality, viability and attractiveness of our retail centres will be maintained and enhanced along with the range of their existing uses, including local markets. Proposals which widen the range of use and encourage convenient

and accessible shopping, service, public service and employment/business opportunities will be supported.

- c) Proposals for convenience stores of an appropriate scale will be permitted in the designated Mid and Lower Order Town Centres where they are located within or immediately adjoining the defined town centre boundary and are subject to:
 - 1) The submission of an impact assessment to demonstrate that the proposal would not have an adverse effect on the vitality and viability of the existing retail centre, and
 - 2) Evidence of a sequential test having been applied to the site selection.
- d) Proposals will be supported which, where applicable:
 - 1) Provide opportunities for independent retail and commercial sectors;
 - 2) Support and do not undermine the continued retail function of the mid order town centres;
 - 3) Promote and diversify the education, leisure, cultural facilities and the night-time economy;
 - 4) Provide for the creation of high quality public spaces and environmental improvements including the preservation and enhancement of the distinctive local character of the historic built and natural environment, and a commitment to high quality design;
 - 5) Improve places for pedestrians, cyclists and disabled including enhancing public transport, accessibility, car parking, signage and the street scene;

6) Protect, enhance and integrate with the green infrastructure network.

Outside of the above town centres the following forms of retail and shopping provision will be permitted:

- 1) New non-food retail warehouse units (including garden centres, car showrooms and drive-thru coffee shops) and appropriate leisure facilities on designated retail parks where supported by:**
 - i. an impact assessment demonstrating that the proposal would not cause harm to established town centres;**
 - ii. evidence that a sequential approach has been undertaken indicating that there is no suitable available and sustainable sites in locations within or immediately adjoining defined town centres;**
 - iii. evidence of quantitative, qualitative and/or other relevant need for the development;**
 - iv. evidence of the site's accessibility to sustainable modes of transport.**
- 2) Specialist retail and trade centre proposals within employment sites;**
- 3) Proposals for small local convenience shopping facilities in rural and urban areas within the development limits where they are of a scale appropriate to that settlement. Rural retail proposals will be considered in accordance with policy RTC3.**

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

11.27 In general, local provision represents goods and services required on a day-to-day basis (convenience items) and for which residents may make short journeys frequently, whilst the larger centres not only provide such facilities but also more specialised items (comparison goods) sought less frequently and for which shoppers are prepared to travel further. Traditionally, shopping provision has evolved in a hierarchy of centres with overlapping catchments reflecting their size and importance.

11.28 It is this pattern of retail provision which characterises Carmarthenshire with the traditionally larger centres of Carmarthen, Llanelli and Ammanford historically serving larger catchment areas with a broad and specialised range of goods and items.

11.29 In defining a retail hierarchy, regard has been given to the respective roles and functions of the larger towns and small villages. In this respect it is acknowledged that whilst the range of shopping provision

Throughout the hierarchy plays an essential role, the Principal Centres of Carmarthen, Llanelli and Ammanford, provide the focus of town centre based retail activity. However, it is also recognised that each of these centres perform different roles within the context of their communities and wider geographical functions. In this respect, Carmarthen town centre fulfils a sub-regional function whilst Ammanford and Llanelli town centres are more focused on serving its surrounding communities.

11.30 It is acknowledged however, that despite their inherent differences each centre has, and is experiencing different challenges as the future role of the high street changes in response to different retail pressures. In this respect TAN4 makes provision for the application of appropriate policies to those centres based on their characteristics and sustainability. In responding to this locally-driven approach, variations in respect of what constitutes a higher and lower order centre allows for a more focused but flexible response based on their different scales and characteristics. It also enables the Plan to respond to changing economic circumstances and to seek to address variations in retail activity.

11.31 In characterising higher order retail and commercial centres, TAN4 identifies them as being accessible to a large number of people, and the scale and diverse range of uses present will reflect the needs of a population – this is normally greater than the local community. With such centres typically characterised by combinations of shops, offices, financial &

professional services, food and drink establishments, hotels, education facilities, entertainment and leisure, non-residential institutions as well as residential (TAN4 para. 4.2).

11.32 Alternatively, lower order centres are characterised by smaller scale provision and fewer uses, with the intention of primarily serving the needs of a local community. These would typically include shops, financial and professional services, food and drink, and non-residential institutions of an appropriate scale, but depending on the centre may include other uses (TAN4 para 4.3).

11.33 In relation to the previous status of both Llanelli and Ammanford it is clear that their high streets have experienced challenging times with both retaining important, albeit slightly diminished retail roles. In further considering where their future along with that of Carmarthen may lie in terms of the retail hierarchy, it is important to consider how they will develop and their future role as well as how the Plan seeks to respond to a potential decline in that centre.

11.34 Whilst not immune to those challenges, Carmarthen has retained a sub-regional role and has a strong national presence on its high street as well as a variety of local stores. The centre continues to serve a range of needs for the population beyond its local community. In this respect it is

readily characterised as a higher order retail centre by the provisions above.

11.35 In relation to both Llanelli and Ammanford, the occupation of the town centre by national operators remains at a reduced level and with the town centre offer increasingly reflective of one that serves a more localised community. This coupled with the challenges around turnover of retail units, and issues around vacancy rates, requires a re-evaluation of their previous high order centre status. Both Ammanford and the Llanelli town centres have attracted significant interventions in regeneration terms, with Task Forces established to face some of the challenges prevalent in both centres, with the latter also being subject to a focused Local Development Order.

11.36 The changing dynamics within the retail offer for both these centres brings added focus on the need for the hierarchy and the retail policies to provide a locally driven response to their issues. Consequently, the hierarchy has been established with appropriate policies to allow for different types of retail and commercial context between the Plan's three Principal Centres. These will allow a more flexible approach in relation to how these centres develop in the future.

11.37 The smaller towns or market towns of, for example, Newcastle Emlyn, Llandeilo and St Clears with their smaller local catchments typically

meet local needs with some specialised provision. This is supplemented by often larger villages which may provide essential items required to meet day to day needs.

11.38 Similarly to many areas, out-of-centre shopping with large retail warehouses (including bulky goods) has participated in changing retail trends and have in certain instances challenged the vibrancy and role of existing and established town centres. Whilst these challenges are recognised it is also noted that they can present opportunities in broadening the retail offer.

11.39 The retail strategy of the LDP reflects the social, economic and environmental principles of sustainable development which underpins the Plan. It also seeks to reflect the changing nature of retailing and the need for traditional town centres to adapt to such changes. The Strategy seeks to:

1. Protect and enhance the roles of the retail centres to ensure their continued attractiveness as town centres, shopping, commercial and leisure destinations and to protect local retail provision established in the county as well as the local businesses behind them. The challenge will be to maintain their competitiveness and market share whilst understanding the needs of each centre and their respective role and contribution in retail terms;

2. Locate and guide retail provision to sustainable locations which are accessible by public transport or active travel routes in order to minimise the need for travel;
3. In smaller lower order centres, ensure that local communities have reasonable access to a satisfactory range of high street facilities and services, particularly convenience goods (food and other essential day-to-day requirements); and,
4. In the larger villages, maintain the viability of the village shop and other local facilities.

11.40 The Updated Retail Study (2015) for Carmarthenshire examined retail issues across the County and assessed the capacity for growth across the retail sectors. It was prepared to provide evidence in respect of policy formulation and to inform the identification of a retail hierarchy for the Plan area to guide decision making, as required by PPW. Consequently, the "town centres first" principle in tandem with a sequential approach to the selection of sites will be used to promote town centres as the principal locations for new retail, office, leisure and health facilities. In doing so, the aim will be to create more reasons why people should visit such centres with a resultant increase in social and economic activity thereby retaining its viability.

11.41 Allowing for the variations in the hierarchy, retail will be expected to continue as the principal activity in all three sub-regional and mid order

centres. However, this is only one of the factors which contribute to their wellbeing. Retail policies cannot be divorced from the broader functions of the larger towns as centres for other services and facilities, including food and drink establishments (cafes, restaurants, public houses, etc.) and commercial leisure developments. This diversity of uses in town centres assists in promoting their continued viability and - particularly with regard to leisure and residential uses - contributes to the vitality of a successful evening economy and their role as living town centres.

11.42 Provision outside the sub-regional and mid order centres, including local village shops, make an important contribution to the retail function of Carmarthenshire. In this respect, those centres fulfilling a convenience retail need and smaller scale day to day shopping need provide diversity consistent with the objectives of sustaining communities and minimising the need to travel. These settlements and their retail offer can complement the established retail function of those higher up the hierarchy as well as contributing to the implementation of the Plan's Strategy. Proposals for convenience retail outside of the town centre boundary in such centres will be required to appropriately evidence the retail need so as to ensure the retailing activities within the town centres are not undermined.

11.43 The LDP policies also seek to ensure that retail, non-retail and leisure developments are located in the most appropriate locations. Generally, the most appropriate locations are within existing centres, which

are accessible by a range of means of transport, and can promote linked trips to other uses in the centre. Developers will be required to search thoroughly for sites within centres before considering less centrally located ones.

11.44 Further guidance in respect of national planning policy is contained within PPW: Edition 10 - Chapter 4 Active and Social Places and within TAN4 Retailing and Town Centres.

11.45 PPW Ed. 10 gives specific recognition for the role local and village shops and public houses play within communities and the potential impact of their loss. Consequently, reference should therefore be made to policy RTC3 below.

11.46 Proposals for retail activity within rural Carmarthenshire should be considered in accordance with policy RTC3.

11.47 Town Centres are not always capable of accommodating particular types of retailing such as bulky goods owing to the requirements for large sites and buildings and the implications for traffic generation and parking. As a consequence, such outlets have been permitted in out-of-centre locations in accordance with national guidance, either in the form of individual units or collectively on retail parks. In view of the increasing pressures for such outlets, the Revised LDP seeks to address the issue of

retail parks and defines the criteria to be applied to prospective developments. In this respect, the policies relating to retail parks promote the co-location of appropriate retail facilities and reducing the proliferation of separate retail destinations within the County. Such a strategy is more sustainable in transport terms, and will allow retail businesses to benefit from the collective attraction of co-location.

11.48 The Plan recognises that certain types of retail and leisure facilities cannot be suitably accommodated within town centre locations and that Regional Centres (Retail Parks) can play a role in accommodating this need. However, the scale, type and location of retail development should not undermine the attractiveness, vitality and viability of existing town centres.

11.49 A sequential approach should be adopted which means that first preference should be for existing town centre locations as listed in the retail hierarchy, and then for sites immediately adjoining town centres. If there are no suitable available sites in these locations, only then may development in other non-town centre and edge of centre locations including but not exclusive to the following existing regional centres (retail parks) will be considered:

11.50 Regional Centres: (Retail Parks)

- Stephens Way and Parc Pensarn, Carmarthen;

- Parc Trostre and Parc Pemberton, Llanelli;
- Cross Hands Retail Park.
- Maes Yr Eithin Retail Park, Cross Hands

11.51 Carmarthen and Llanelli have significant retail provision on retail parks located outside of the respective town centres. The principal retail parks in Carmarthen are at Stephens Way and Parc Pensarn which provide for a range of bulky and non-bulky goods.

11.52 Llanelli is served by Parc Trostre and Parc Pemberton with the former exhibiting a large number of units predominantly occupied by 'high street multiples'. Parc Pemberton is by contrast mainly focused around DIY, electrical and furniture reflecting a bulky goods restriction which does not apply to Parc Trostre.

11.53 The retail park at Cross Hands, whilst smaller in scale to those in Carmarthen and Llanelli, provides an important complementary role to the town centre provisions in Ammanford through its predominantly DIY, electrical and furniture offer.

11.54 The applicant will be required to submit an impact assessment to demonstrate that the proposal would not cause harm to established town centres. The assessment should also take into consideration the cumulative effects of recently completed development and outstanding planning

permissions. The assessment should outline the type of retail offer proposed by the applicant and how this could impact upon competing retail provision which exists in the nearby town centres and whether it could result in the diversion of trade from the town centre.

11.55 New proposals will be required to clearly demonstrate that there is additional need for new retail warehouse units offering the range of goods anticipated.

RTC1: Carmarthen Town Centre

Proposals will be permitted where they maintain and enhance the vitality, viability and attractiveness of Carmarthen Town Centre.

Retail and applicable leisure uses, which maintain, enhance and diversify the town centre should be sequentially located within the Primary Town Centre Retail Area. Proposals for the development of retail frontage for non-retail uses within the Primary Town Centre Retail Area will only be permitted where it would contribute to maintaining and enhancing the vitality and viability of the area's retail function.

Proposals for retail and other town centre uses, which support its growth as a sub-regional retail town centre (including leisure, civic, cultural, education, business, health and residential) within the Secondary Town Centre Retail Area will be permitted where they would not:

- a) **undermine the retail function of the centre, or have a detrimental effect upon the vitality or viability of the area; and**
- b) **create a level of non-retail ground floor frontage detrimental to the retail character and function of the area.**

Regard should be had to the provisions of Strategic Policy SP2.

11.56 The revised LDP seeks to consolidate the role of Carmarthen as a sub-regional retail centre serving wider catchment areas for comparison retail. In this regard, it has a history as a well performing town centre with a strong retail offer. In this respect the policy seeks to safeguard its retail role whilst reflecting the changing nature of the high street and shopping habits.

11.57 A large market town, Carmarthen serves a wide range of communities both locally and within the broader region offering a mix of national high street names with smaller local and niche retail stores. Its retail and commercial offer has been enhanced in recent years through the development of St Catherine's Walk which is anchored by a Debenhams store and the multi-screen cinema, which adds to the centre's commercial and leisure offer and visitor appeal.

11.58 The policy, through the designation of Primary and Secondary town centre retail areas recognises that the important role of retail (A1) uses and the proportion within these areas.

11.59 It also recognises the benefits of a diversity of uses in town centres. However, a high prevalence of non-retail provision, particularly within the **Primary Town Centre Retail Area**, can be to the detriment of the area resulting in a reduced retail offer and the creation of "dead frontages" removing the interest for passing shoppers and reducing footfall. The policy seeks to ensure that the retail frontage, retains the attractiveness of the current diversity of uses.

11.60 In this respect, the main function of the **Primary Town Centre Retail Area** is retail (A1) with the **Secondary Town Centre Retail Area** representing the principal areas where other town centre services such as leisure, restaurants, financial services etc., which add interest and vitality, should be located.

11.61 Proposals involving the change of use and / or re-development of a ground floor frontage to residential use are not considered compatible with a 'town centre' location.

11.62 Areas defined as **Secondary Town Centre Retail Area** generally relate to those streets which are adjacent to, and/or link areas of **Primary Town Centre Retail Area**. In setting out the considerations in respect of non-retail proposals, the policy allows and encourages a diversity of uses in town centres beyond the **Primary Town Centre Retail Area**. The Revised LDP seeks to strike a balance between protecting the overall retail

character of the town centre and providing a diversity of uses. In so doing, it is recognised that its character and identity is augmented by the presence of independent traders operating from the more peripheral streets and in locations and that these can be susceptible to competition. It is however recognised that diversification enables other beneficial, economic uses to complement the retailing presence and to maintain the physical fabric and appearance of streets and buildings which may otherwise be susceptible to decline.

11.63 The potential for appropriate diversification within the town centre retail area enabled through this policy, provides for the contribution these areas can make in increasing its overall attractiveness. The introduction of complementary retail, leisure and business offers can contribute to a broader appeal, nevertheless, the policy recognises the importance of a strong retail element and seeks to maintain the vitality and viability of the towns retail offer.

RTC2: Protection of Local Shops and Facilities

Proposals which would result in the loss of a local shop or service (including Public Houses) outside of the Town Centres identified within Strategic Policy SP2 will only be permitted where:

- a) Its loss would not be detrimental to the social and economic fabric of the community;**

- b) There is another shop or service of a similar compatible use available for customers within the settlement or within a convenient walking distance.**

In the absence of an alternative provision, proposals resulting in the loss of the local shop, or service will only be permitted where all reasonable attempts have been made to market the business for sale or let over a 12 month period and have failed.

11.64 In seeking to define and create sustainable communities the Plan identifies and recognises the contribution of local services. These include such facilities as shops, post offices, public houses, petrol filling stations, which will contribute to the future viability of settlements and communities, both in terms of providing a service but also in offering 'meeting places' where community interaction can occur and community spirit can be enhanced. Moreover, the LDP supports local retail provision and the economic benefits which they present within the communities with regards their

11.65 The Council also recognises the importance of community facilities and services where there is a strong local dependence on them. Such services are vital to the economic wellbeing of the communities and also promote social inclusion, particularly amongst the less mobile members of a community.

11.66 It is acknowledged that the rural settlements are the most vulnerable to the loss of such facilities. Factors such as demand and the high value of

residential land in the rural areas, often results in pressure from property owners to change the use or redevelop such facilities for residential purposes, even where the business is thriving. The income from a shop or other activity may be less than can be gained from an alternative development. This policy seeks to moderate pressures for change by ensuring that unless there are reasonable alternative facilities, and if the shop or facility is viable at appropriate rent levels, then its loss will not be allowed.

11.67 Whilst the policy seeks to protect against the loss of facilities, provision is made for those circumstances where it can be demonstrated that such facilities are no longer needed or are not viable.

11.68 A walkable distance for the purposes of this policy is as contained within the Manual for Streets: Department for Transport/Communities and Local Government/WAG – 2007¹. This identifies that 'Walkable neighbourhoods are typically characterised by having a range of facilities within 10 minutes (up to about 800m) walking distance of residential areas which residents may access comfortably on foot'.

11.69 Marketing of premises for the purposes of this policy can be defined as advertised within an appropriate industry publication or where

¹ Manual for Streets: Paragraph 4.4
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/341513/pdfmanforstreets.pdf

appropriate, through local estate agents over a reasonable period and for a reasonable price.

RTC3: Retail in Rural Areas

Proposals for ancillary small scale shops or extensions to existing shops outside development boundaries will be permitted where they conform to the following:

- a) It represents a subordinate element of an existing business activity on the site;**
- b) It will not result in significant harm to the viability of nearby village shops;**
- c) It would not have an adverse impact on the character, setting and appearance of the area and the surrounding landscape and where appropriate, townscape;**
- d) It is accessible via sustainable means of transport;**
- e) Access and parking arrangements are satisfactory and the development will not significantly harm highway safety.**

11.70 Proposals for new shops in rural areas which are ancillary to other uses can often provide an important contribution to the rural economy. Such provision, be they in the form of farm shops (that will help to meet the

demand for fresh produce), craft shops and shops linked to petrol stations, not only service a local requirement but are also a source of employment.

11.71 Whilst such provision has the potential to provide a service to rural communities it must be reflective of its rural context. In this regard, the shop should be related to and subordinate to an existing business.

11.72 It is recognised that shops in rural areas can create additional employment opportunities and aid rural economic diversification as well as providing a service to local communities.

11.73 The Council may seek to use planning conditions to limit the range of goods sold or restrict the amount of floor space where appropriate, to prevent any significant harm to nearby retail activity. Regard will also be had to the potential for the proposal to operate on a seasonal basis where it is not desirable for it to operate throughout the year.

11.74 Shops ancillary to other uses, such as farm shops that will help to meet the demand for fresh produce, craft shops and shops linked to petrol stations, can as identified play an important role in rural areas by providing new sources of jobs and services. However, in assessing such proposals the regard will be had to the potential impact on nearby retail and commercial centres and notably village shops². Consideration will be given

to the use of planning conditions to limit the range of goods sold or restrict the amount of floor space if this allows the development to proceed.

² Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – paragraph 4..3.42

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

11.75 Socio-economic issues including poverty and deprivation facing both rural and urban parts of our County is recognised within this Plan’s “One Carmarthenshire” vision. To this end, this Plan seeks to tackle these issues by maximising opportunities for everyone to maintain or increase their prosperity and sense of wellbeing.

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

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

- **Strategic Policy – SP 3:** Providing New Homes
- **Strategic Policy – SP 4:** Affordable Homes
- **Strategic Policy – SP 5:** Strategic Sites
- **Strategic Policy – SP 6:** Employment and the Economy
- **Strategic Policy – SP 7:** Welsh Language and Culture

- **Strategic Policy – SP 8:** Infrastructure
- **Strategic Policy – SP 9:** Gypsy and Traveller Provision
- **Strategic Policy – SP 10:** The Visitor Economy
- **Strategic Policy – SP 11:** Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design

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

Strategic Policy – SP 3: A Sustainable Approach to Providing New Homes

In order to ensure the overall housing requirement of 8,835 homes for the plan period is met, provision is made for 10,160 new homes in accordance with the settlement framework in order to promote the creation and enhancement of sustainable communities.

The sustainable approach to the provision of new homes reflects the following principles:

- a) **Creating places through the identified settlement framework reflecting the character and context of that cluster or settlement;**
- b) **Allocating sites for new homes in established settlements;**
- c) **Supporting windfall residential development on appropriate sites within settlements, with a focus on the re-use of previously developed land; and**
- d) **Provision of appropriate affordable housing opportunities to meet identified local need.**

Proposals within the defined development limits will be permitted subject to the policies and proposals of this Plan. There will be a presumption against inappropriate housing development outside of the defined limits except where they are subject to the policies of this Plan.

³ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10

11.79 It is an aim of the Plan to facilitate the delivery of the required number and range of quality new homes, which will meet the identified housing needs and promote cohesive communities that are attractive, safe, well connected, and provide accessibility to cultural and leisure facilities, community services and employment opportunities.

11.80 The Plan's Strategy and its sustainable approach to the provision of new homes has been formulated on the basis of sustainable development principles. This accords with the goals and aspirations of the Well-Being and Future Generations Act and national planning policy³. It is focussed on meeting housing needs across the County's diverse communities in a way which is sustainable, respects the environmental qualities of the County and its cultural and Welsh language characteristics.

11.81 The LDP seeks to promote a sense of place through the promotion of cohesive communities that are attractive, safe, well connected, and offer a range of opportunities for accessing services noting the rural character of parts of the County.

11.82 The housing requirement figure for the County is based on the Population Growth (PG) – 10yr projection scenario highlighted within the 2019 Edge Analytics report⁴. This scenario projects a housing

⁴ Edge Analytics – Carmarthenshire Population and Household Forecast Addendum 2019

requirement which would support the economic ambitions of the County through supporting job creation, and seeks to play its part in re-addressing the imbalance of an ageing population within Carmarthenshire. The rationale for using this preferred growth option also considers the past build rates within the County over the previous 12 years, and allows an ambitious, yet sound basis on which to deliver the Council's overall strategic aims.

11.83 This Plan factors in a number of housing supply components to meet this housing need, together with a flexibility (uplift) to ensure that the overall aim of the strategic policy to provide new homes is met. The housing supply is made up of the following components:

- Housing Allocations (5+ homes)
 - Land bank Commitments
 - Completed Dwellings
- Windfall Allowance
 - Small Site Component (less than 5 homes)
 - Windfall Component (5+ Homes)
- Flexibility (+15%)

11.84 The largest component of housing supply is sites allocated for residential development. Housing allocations will be identified within the specific housing policies, or included as part of mixed use allocations.

11.85 The specific policies will consider the developments which have been commenced or committed since the base date of the revised LDP, and they will be continually monitored through the work undertaken as part of the Joint Housing Land Availability (JHLA) Study and the Housing Trajectory Paper (Appendix 7).

Windfall

11.86 The windfall allowance is made up of the following factors:

1. Potential contributions of sites of less than five dwellings (small sites) within the defined settlements.
2. Windfall allowance through sites of five or more dwellings which have traditionally made an important contribution to housing delivery within Carmarthenshire.

11.87 Windfall developments will be considered on their individual merits and against the policies and proposals of this Plan. It is recognised that it is not always practicable or appropriate to allocate every site for development within the Principal Centres and Service Centres. Indeed within smaller settlements there will often be sites suitable for

Housing Allocations

development which are not identified as allocations – with their contribution to housing land supply identified through the windfall allowance.

HOM1: Housing Allocations

Land is allocated for residential development on the following sites.

Site Ref	Site Name	Total Units in Plan Period	Total Affordable Units in Plan period	Delivery Timescale Year 1-5 Year 6-10 Year 11-15	Units beyond the Plan Period
Cluster 1					
Carmarthen					
PrC1/h1	Former Health Authority Buildings, Penlan Road	8			
PrC1/h2	Springfield Road	29			
PrC1/h3	113 Priory Street	37			
PrC1/h4	Land off Parc y Delyn	35			
PrC1/h5	East of Devereaux Drive	10			
PrC1/h6	Dolgwili Road	26			
PrC1/h7	Penybont Farm, Llysonnen Road	9			
PrC1/h8	Llansteffan Road	50			
PrC1/h9	Mounthill	5			
PrC1/h10	Brynhyfryd	20			
PrC1/h11	Rhiw Babell extension	16			
PrC1/h12	Castell Pigyn Road, Abergwili	35			
PrC1/h13	Land south of Pant Glas, Bronwydd Road	13			
PrC1/h14	Bronwydd Road (south)	23			
PrC1/MU1	West Carmarthen	700			
PrC1/MU2	Pibwrlwyd	245			
Pontyates / Meinciau / Ponthenri					
SeC1/h1	Lime Grove	19			

SeC1/h2	Land to the rear of Brynderi	7			
SeC1/h3	Land adjoining Tabernacle Chapel	11			
SeC1/h4	Cae Canfas, Heol Llanelli	8			
SeC1/h5	Land at 8 Heol Llanelli	6			
Ferryside					
SeC1/h1	Caradog Court	12			
SeC1/h2	Land to the rear of Parc y Ffynnon	12			
Cynwyl Elfed					
SuV1/h1	Adjacent Fron Heulog	8			
SuV1/h2	Land adj. Lleine	13			
Llansteffan					
SuV3/h1	Land to the rear of Maesgriffith	19			
Bronwydd					
SuV4/h1	Land at Troed Rhiw farm	6			
Cwmffrwd					
SuV5/h1	Land at Maesglasnant	20			
Llangain					
SuV8/h1	South of Dol y Dderwen	36			
Idole / Pentrepoeth					
SuV9	No Allocation	0			
Peniel					
SuV10/h1	South of Pentre	10			
SuV10/h2	Aberdeuddwr / Pantyfedwen	38			

Alltwallis					
SuV11/h1	Land at Alltwallis School	12			
Llanpumsaint					
SuV12/h1	Adj. Gwyn Villa	20			
Rhydargaeau					
SuV14/h1	Cefn Farm	33			
Llanarthne					
SuV15/h1	Llanarthne School	10			
Capel Dewi					
SuV16/h1	Llwynddewi Road	8			
Nantagaredig					
SuV17/h1	Rear of former joinery, Station Road	30			
Pontargothi					
SuV18/h1	Land off A40, Pontargothi	15			
Llanddarog					
SuV19/h1	Land Opp. Village Hall	16			
SuV19/h2	Land adj. and the r/o Haulfan	10			
Porthyrhyd					
SuV20/h1	Land adjacent to Llwynhenry Farm	6			
Total for Cluster		1646			
Cluster 2					
Llanelli					
PrC2/h1	Beech Grove, Pwll	10			

PrC2/h2	Former Laboratory Pen y Fai Lane	10			
PrC2/h3	Parc y Strade, Llanelli West	94			
PrC2/h4	North Dock (inc former Pontrilas)	210			
PrC2/h5	The Avenue, Morfa	35			
PrC2/h6	107 Station Road	7			
PrC2/h7	13-15 Station Road	9			
PrC2/h8	2-4 Coleshill Terrace	9			
PrC2/h9	3-5 Goring Road	8			
PrC2/h10	Land adjacent The Dell, Furnace	13			
PrC2/h11	Brynmefys, Furnace	54			
PrC2/h12	Llys yr Hen Felin, Town Centre	27			
PrC2/h13	Land off Frondeg Terrace	29			
PrC2/h14	Rear of 22c,22d and 22e Llwynhendy Road	6			
PrC2/h15	Maesarddafen Road /Erw Las,Llwynhendy	94			
PrC2/h16	Ynys Las, Llwynhendy	45			
PrC2/h17	Adjacent 73 Parc Gitto, Llwynhendy	10			
PrC2/h18	Dylan, Trallwm	32			
PrC2/h19	Genwen, Bryn	260			
PrC2/h20	Harddfafan, Bryn	6			
PrC2/h21	Maes Y Bryn, Bryn	34			
PrC2/h22	Cwm y Nant, Dafen	280			
PrC2/h23	Dafen East Gateway	150			
PrC2/SS1	Wellness and Life Science Village (strategic site), South Llanelli	240			
PrC2/MU2	Trostre Gateway (mixed use)	35			
Kidwelly					

SeC3/h1	Land adjacent to Brodawel	9			
SeC3/h2	Land off Priory Street	20			
SeC3/h3	Land to the rear of Park View Drive	24			
SeC3/h4	Land at Former Dinas Yard	80			
Burry Port					
SeC4/h1	Gwdig Farm	105			
SeC4/h2	Burry Port Harbourside	364			
SeC4/h3	Glanmor Terrace	32			
Pembrey					
Sec5/h1	Garreglwyd	14			
Sec5/h2	Cwrt Farm	100			
Hendy / Fforest					
SeC6/h1	Adjacent Clos Ty Gwyn	20			
SeC6/h2	Land between Clayton Road and East of Bronallt Road	39			
SeC6/h3	Coed y Bronallt	8			
SeC6/h4	Adjacent to Clos Benallt Fawr, Fforest	35			
SeC6/h5	Fforest Garage	17			
Llangennech					
SeC7/h1	Box Farm	7			
SeC7/h2	Aber Llwhchr	10			
SeC7/h3	Golwg Yr Afon	50			
SeC7/h4	Opposite Parc Morlais	35			
SeC7/h5	Maesydderwen	5			
Trimsaran / Carway					
SeC8/h1	Ffos Las	233			
SeC8/h2	Land to the rear of Cae Linda	50			

Mynyddygarreg					
SuV22/h1	Land opposite Parc y Garreg	30			
SuV22/h2	Land adjacent to Ty Newydd, Meinciau Road	8			
SuV22/h3	Land at Llangadog Road	12			
Five Roads / Horeb					
SuV23/h1	Clos y Parc	20			
SuV23/h2	Adjacent Little Croft	25			
Total for Cluster		3059			
Cluster 3					
Ammanford (inc Betws and Penybanc)					
PrC3/h1	Land at r/o No 16-20 & 24-30 Betws Road	8			
PrC3/h2	Former Petrol Station, Wind Street	6			
PrC3/h3	Land at Gwynfryn Fawr	28			
PrC3/h4	Tirychen Farm	150			
PrC3/h5	Yr Hen Felin, Pontamman Road	8			
PrC3/h6	Land Adjoining Maes Ifan, Maesquarre Road	18			
Capel Hendre					
PrC3/h7	Delfryn Estate	15			
Cefneithin					
PrC3/h8	Land off Heol y Parc	18			
Cross Hands					
PrC3/h9	Land adjacent to Maesyrfhaf	9			

PrC3/h10	Land to the rear of Gwernllwyn	30			
PrC3/h11	Land east of Carmarthen Road	60			
PrC3/h12	Land adjoining A48 and Heol y Parc	8			
PrC3/h13	Land at Heol Cae POUND	101			
Drefach (Tumble)					
PrC3/h14	Nantydderwen	33			
PrC3/h15	Land off Heol Caegwyn	6			
PrC3/h16	Uwch Gwendraeth	6			
PrC3/h17	Land part of Maesygwern, Heol Caegwyn	23			
Gorslas					
PrC3/h18	Land adjoining Brynlluan	29			
PrC3/h19	Land off Llys y Nant	9			
PrC3/h20	Land north of Maespiode	42			
PrC3/h21	Maespiode	8			
Penygroes					
PrC3/h22	Adj. Pant y Blodau	79			
PrC3/h23	Land at Waterloo Road	15			
PrC3/MU1	Emlyn Brickworks	177			
PrC3/h24	Land between 123 and 137 Waterloo Road	11			
PrC3/h25	Land off Gate Road	8			
Saron					
PrC3/h26	Land off Parc-y-Mynydd	15			

PrC3/h27	Land off Nant-y-Ci Road	18			
Tumble					
PrC3/h28	Land at Factory site between No. 22 & 28 Bethesda Road	30			
PrC3/h29	Central Garage	24			
PrC3/h30	Land off Gwendraeth Road	9			
Tycroes					
PrC3/h31	Land at Fforestfach	17			
PrC3/h32	Land south of Tycroes Road	62			
Brynamman					
SeC9/h1	Land at Ardwyn Road	6			
SeC9/h2	Heol Gelynen	8			
Glanamman / Garnant					
SeC10/h1	Garnant CP School, New School Road	9			
SeC10/h2	Land adj. No 13 Bishop Road	8			
SeC10/h3	Former Glanamman Primary School	7			
SeC10/h4	Former Glanamman Hospital	28			
Pontyberem / Bancffosfelen					
SeC11/h1	Land off Heol Llannon	55			
SeC11/h2	Land at Ffynnon Fach	19			
Llannon					
SuV25/h1	Land north of Clos Rebecca	47			

Llanedi					
SuV26/h1	Rear of 16 Y Garreg Llwyd	11			
Carmel					
SuV27/h1	Land adjacent to Tŷ Newydd	5			
Cwmgwili					
SuV28/h1	Adjacent to Coed y Cadno	18			
Ystradowen					
SuV30/h1	Land off Pant y Brwyn	5			
Total for Cluster		1306			
Cluster 4					
Newcastle Emlyn					
SeC12/h1	Trem y Ddol	17			
SeC12/h2	Heol Dewi	14			
SeC12/h3	Land to r/o Dolcoed	20			
Llanybydder					
SeC13/h1	Adj. Y Neuadd	10			
SeC13/h2	Heol y Dderi	30			
SeC13/h3	Troedybryn	23			
Pencader					
SeC14/h1	Blossom Garage	20			
SeC14/h2	Land adj Maescader	24			
SeC14/h3	Glanawmor	28			
Drefach/Felindre					
SuV31/h1	Parc Puw	12			
SuV31/h2	Parc Meirios	10			
Waungilwen					
SuV32/h1	Opposite Springfield	6			

Llangeler					
SuV33/h1	Land opposite Brogeler	8			
Pentrecwrt					
SuV34/h1	Land adjoining Brynywawr	14			
Saron/Rhos					
SuV35/h1	Land adj. Arwynfa	35			
Llanllwni					
SuV36/h1	Cae Pensarn Helen	6			
SuV36/h2	Land at Bryndulais	10			
Cwmann					
SuV37/h1	R/O Post Office	20			
SuV37/h2	Land south of Cae Coedmor	20			
SuV37/h3	Land adjacent to Lleinau	10			
Capel Iwan					
SuV38/h1	Maes y Bryn	11			
SuV38/h2	Land adj Brynglas	5			
Llanfihangel ar arth					
SuV39/h1	Adj Yr Hendre	7			
Trelech					
SuV40/h1	Clos Y Cynin	8			
Pontyweli					
SuV41/h1	Adj Crug yr Wyn	19			
New Inn					

SuV43/h1	Blossom Inn	8			
Total for Cluster		402			
Cluster 5					
Llandovery					
SeC15/h1	Land to north of Dan y Crug	12			
SeC15/h2	Land adjacent to Bryndeilog, Tywi Avenue (SR/081/006)	8			
Llandeilo					
SeC16/h1	Llandeilo Northern Quarter	27			
SeC16/h2	Thomas Terrace	5			
SeC16/h3	Land adjacent 28 Carmarthen Rd, Llandeilo (SR/080/003)	5			
Llangadog					
SeC17/h1	Land opp. Llangadog C.P School	16			
SeC17/h2	Land off Heol Pendref	8			
Talley					
SuV47/h1	Land adjoining Ffynnon Dawel	7			
Cwrt Henri					
SuV48/h1	Land adjacent to Glasfryn Court	16			
Cwmifor					

SuV51/h1	Opp. Village Hall	8			
Total for Cluster		112			
Cluster 6					
St Clears / Pwll Trap					
SeC18/h1	Adjacent to Britannia Terrace	60			
SeC18/h2	Former Butter Factory	45			
SeC18/h3	Land adjacent to Cefn Maes	50			
SeC18/h4	Land at Heol Llaindelyn	6			
SeC18/h5	Land adjacent to Gwynfa, Station Road	8			
SeC18/h6	Land to the rear of Station Road	25			
SeC18/h7	Land adjacent to Gardde Fields	8			
SeC18/h8	Land at Cae Glas	5			
Whitland					
SeC19/h1	Land at Park View, Trevaughan	8			
SeC19/h2	Land at Whitland Creamery	48			
Laugharne					
SeC20/h1	Pludds Meadow	24			
SeC20/h2	Adj. Laugharne School	42			
SeC20/h3	Land off Clifton Street	6			
Glandy Cross					
SuV55/h1	Land to the r/o Maesglas	9			
SuV55/h2	Land to the north of Cross Inn P.H	6			

Efailwen					
SuV56/h1	Land to the r/o Talar Wen	6			
Meidrim					
SuV58/h1	Land adj. to Lon Dewi	10			
SuV58/h2	Land off Drefach Road	15			
Bancyfelin					
SuV59/h1	Maes y Llewod	17			
SuV59/h2	North of Maes y Llewod	19			
Llangynog					
SuV60/h1	Land at College Bach	6			
Pendine					
SuV61/h1	Land at Nieuport Farm	10			
Llanmiloe					
SuV63/h1	Land at Woodend	28			
Total for Cluster		461			
Overall Housing Allocation		6986			

Table 5: Housing Allocation Table

11.88 The housing land allocations identified through this policy and other provisions of this Plan seek to satisfy the housing land requirements for the County, with their distribution directing them to those settlements in a manner consistent with the overall strategy of the Plan and the principles of sustainability. The Plan however seeks to achieve this through a structured hierarchy and distribution of growth, in a manner which sees the majority of the housing land requirement focused on the sustainable centres of Carmarthen, Llanelli and Ammanford/Cross Hands. Further allocations are distributed across the remainder of the hierarchy.

11.89 Allocated sites capacities have been considered on a site by site basis and not through the application of a fixed standard. Sites within higher order settlements will undoubtedly have higher densities taking into account the type of developer that would bring the site forward, the site layouts of adjacent sites, its own site characteristics and site development factors. The same principles will be considered for more rural settlements which would have lower site densities in general.

11.90 Site numbers highlighted within the Policy HOM1 are intended to be indicative, and they will be subject to further consideration at application stage. Regard will also be had to the policies and provisions of this plan and other relevant design principles.

11.91 Proposals for the development of allocated housing sites submitted in applications for Full Planning or Reserved Matters permissions should be accompanied by a layout of the allocated site in its entirety to ensure the site is developed to its full potential. Reference should also be had to policy PSD2 in relation to masterplanning requirements.

11.92 The Plan will be supported by an Infrastructure Delivery Plan which provides further detail of the phasing, funding and delivery of infrastructure required for each allocated site. In this respect proposals will be required to incorporate appropriate phasing. This will be informed not only by the Infrastructure Delivery Plan but also policy requirements and mitigation in relation to potential impacts on the Welsh language and biodiversity.

HOM2: Housing within Development Limits

Proposals for housing developments on unallocated sites within the development limits of a defined settlement in Tiers 1, 2 and 3 will be permitted, provided they are in accordance with the principles of the Plan's strategy, policies and proposals.

11.93 Sites capable of accommodating five or more dwellings feature as allocated housing sites in the Plan (refer to Policy HOM1). However, within the development limits of defined settlements there may be opportunities

for development on unallocated sites. Within the settlement hierarchy, land that has not been allocated is referred to as a windfall site in relation to housing development. Proposals should reflect the character of the area and be compatible with the provisions of the Plan.

HOM3: Homes in Rural Villages

In those settlements identified as rural villages under Policy SP16, proposals for 1 to 4 dwellings will be permitted for the following:

- **minor infill of a small gap between the existing built form; or,**
- **logical extensions and/or rounding off of the development pattern that fits in with the character of the village form and landscape; or**
- **conversion or the sub-division of large dwellings.**

Such proposals will be subject to other detailed planning considerations set out within LDP policies.

Reference made to the guidance on acceptable plots in the County's rural villages (see below).

Proposals which exceed the 20% cap above the number of existing homes in the settlement, as at the LDP base date will not be permitted except where they conform to Policy AHOM1 in relation to the provision of affordable homes.

11.94 The settlement framework for the Plan area identified in Strategic Policy SP16 recognises and reflects the area's diversity and that of its communities. In identifying the Rural Villages, the Plan seeks to make provision for those settlements which make an important contribution within their community.

11.95 These are often settlements which will have previously exhibited certain services and facilities but which may no longer exist. Whilst it may be argued that their role and function has diminished, they still represent an established community that offers opportunities for small scale and appropriate new homes within rural settings.

11.96 This part of the Plan's rural policy framework seeks to establish a flexible but controlled approach to the delivery of new homes within those settlements. The Plan considers the non-application of development limits, and utilise a criteria based assessment to define small scale housing opportunities in rural villages. This approach ensures that it would support the rural communities and to meet the need for new homes in rural parts of Carmarthenshire at a scale and at locations which maintain the essential character of the countryside.

11.97 In order to reflect the rural character and to prevent unacceptable and potentially detrimental levels of growth, a cap of 20% over and above

the number of existing homes, as of the base date of the Plan in the settlement will be allowed.

11.98 Further guidance in the form of SPG will be published to support the interpretation and application of the above and the policy. The guidance will form part of a suite of SPG to support the support on the design and siting considerations in general and will enable proposals to effectively integrate with, and contribute to the development of cohesive and sustainable communities.

Guidance on Acceptable Plots

1. Infill sites within these rural villages will generally take precedence over other locations (typically these are sites with built development on either side);
2. Where appropriate, sites adjoining a rural village are also acceptable. Such sites will be required to adjoin the boundary of one property which forms part of the rural village group. All proposals which adjoin a group (as opposed to infill sites) will be required to demonstrate the following:

- there is an existing physical or visual feature which provides a boundary for the group - reducing pressure for unacceptable ribbon development or rural sprawl;
- where such a feature does not exist, there should be potential for such a feature to be provided so long as it is in character with the scale and appearance of the group;

3. Proposals located in open fields adjoining a group, which have no physical features to provide containment will not be considered acceptable;
4. Proposals which are located beyond clear physical features which form strong boundaries for a group (e.g. main roads, substantial tree belts, rivers etc.) will not be considered acceptable.

HOM4 - Homes in Non-Defined Rural Settlements

Proposals for new single homes in hamlets, or groups of dwellings (as defined within the supporting text below) which are not identified under Strategic Policy SP16 will be permitted where they meet a local need for affordable housing and conform to the following:

- a) **The site is a small gap capable of accommodating only a single residential unit between existing dwellings, or is an appropriate rounding off of the development pattern;**
- b) **The development is of a scale that is consistent with the character of the settlement;**

- c) **The proposal will not result in an intrusive development in the landscape, and will not introduce a fragmented development pattern, nor create unacceptable ribbon development contrary to the general development pattern of the settlement or group of dwellings;**
- d) **The size of the property reflects the specific need for an affordable dwelling in terms of the size of the house and the number of bedrooms;**
- e) **That the occupancy of the dwelling is restricted both on first occupation and in perpetuity to those who have a need for an affordable dwelling.**

Development within each hamlet or group of houses will be limited to no more than 2 local affordable needs dwellings.

11.99 In providing for our rural areas and their communities the policy seeks to reflect the important role affordable housing can play in meeting the specific needs of a locality. The aim is to allow for development in the countryside of a scale and at locations which maintain the essential character of rural Carmarthenshire whilst providing for the housing needs of local people.

11.100 It is also noted that such provision needs to be delivered within the backdrop of a national agenda centred on sustainability with placemaking at its heart. In this respect reference is made to the provisions of PPW d.10 which requires that all residential development away from existing settlements or centres be strictly controlled. The policy therefore in reflecting the provisions of national policy restricts local affordable need

dwellings in rural areas to established hamlets or groups of dwellings. It also seeks to restrict the potential number of such dwelling to no more than 2 local affordable needs dwellings. This restriction applies to existing planning permissions where they remain valid post plan base date (1st April 2018).

11.101 Whilst the Revised LDP is supported by a robust evidence base it is acknowledged that details of housing need changes over time. Affordable housing proposals will be required to submit evidence demonstrating the specific local need and ensure that the proposal provides for the size, type and tenure of houses required. Proposals to meet speculative local need application will not be considered, rather they should relate to an identified need from individuals/families within the specific area.

11.102 Where available, local housing needs surveys should be utilised in providing this evidence. Alternatively, other forms of evidence may be considered appropriate including Strategic Housing Market Area Assessments and local needs/Lettings registers.

11.103 Occupancy controls will be imposed to ensure that the benefits of affordability are preserved in perpetuity for subsequent occupiers. The definition for Non-defined rural settlements and Local Needs Housing is set out in the Glossary of Terms.

HOM5: Conversion or Subdivision of Existing Dwellings

Proposals for the conversion or sub-division of appropriate dwellings into flats or dwellings of multiple occupation, will be permitted where:

- a) It would not result in an over-intensification of use;
- b) Suitable parking provision is available, or made available;
- c) The architectural quality, character and appearance of the building is, where applicable, safeguarded and its setting not unacceptably harmed.

11.104 This policy seeks to reflect the potential of conversion opportunities in appropriate existing dwellings as alternatives to new build. Such opportunities can often provide additional range and choice to the housing stock and offer alternatives for property owners, where single occupancy of larger dwellings is no longer appropriate.

11.105 Extensions should be subordinate to, and compatible with the size, type and character of the existing dwelling and not result in over development (reference should be made to policy PSD10: Extensions). Proposals will where appropriate be encouraged to incorporate the re-use of materials as part of any development.

HOM6: Specialist Housing

Proposals for new care home developments and extensions to established specialist housing facilities will be permitted within or directly related to the development limits of defined existing settlements (Policy SP16) where:

- a) It reflects the needs of the proposed occupants in respect of their safe and convenient access to shops, services, community facilities and public transport or active travel routes; and,
- b) It provides a suitable and appropriate quality, design and type of accommodation as well as the level of support and care for the intended occupiers

Proposals for specialist housing outside and not directly related to the defined development limits will only be permitted if it can be demonstrated that they are viable and sustainable and where:

- c) It is ancillary to an existing care home and not disproportionate to it in scale; or,
- d) It represents the appropriate conversion of an existing property, which is suitable to the needs of the proposed occupants and accords with both criterion a) and b) above.

11.106 The changing age profile with its continued projected move towards an ageing population over the plan period has the potential to result in an increased requirement in respect of Specialist Housing. Whilst certain requirements for assisted living or support needs will be addressed

through adaptation of existing homes or through existing facilities, the need for the Plan to provide for the consideration for new care homes is recognised. Consequently, this policy seeks to provide a framework for considering proposals to make appropriate allowances for the needs of those requiring care.

11.107 For the purposes of this policy, the definition of Specialist Housing relates to nursing homes, sheltered housing, extra or close care housing (wardened), retirement facilities reflecting continuing care needs and other facilities where care is provided. Where a care home is proposed on a site allocated for residential use in the Plan, consideration will be given to the nature of the proposal and its suitability for the proposed location. The level of independence of residents will be an important consideration with 'closed door' homes not generally being considered appropriate.

11.108 The inclusion of care homes within or adjacent to the development limits ensures that residents have opportunities to integrate into the community with the developments forming part of the urban or built form. Community facilities and services for the purpose of this policy are defined as GP surgeries and shops. The accessibility of such infrastructure and facilities represent an important element of residents' needs.

HOM7: Renovation of Derelict or Abandoned Dwellings

Proposals for the renovation of derelict or abandoned dwellings outside the Development Limits of a defined settlement (Policy SP16) will be permitted where:

- a. It can be demonstrated that a significant part of the original structure is physically sound and substantially intact requiring only a limited amount of structural remedial works;**
- b. The building demonstrates and retains sufficient quality of architectural features and traditional materials with no significant loss of the character and integrity of the original structure;**
- c. There are no adverse effects on the setting or integrity of the historic environment.**

In exceptional instances where it can be demonstrated that the original dwelling played a recognised and significant role in the history, culture, and development of Carmarthenshire, the use of photographic or documentary evidence may be accepted as a means to illustrate the original details of the dwelling.

11.109 The renovation of abandoned dwellings can make a small but important contribution to the needs of an area. The architectural value of a number of derelict or abandoned dwellings often reflects the traditional vernacular and should be recognised in the submission of such proposals.

Extensions, access requirements or other aspects associated with the proposal should be sympathetic to the character of the original building and the landscape. Proposals which seek to make a positive contribution to the landscape qualities of the area will be encouraged.

11.110 Proposals which fail to satisfy the above (including re-build) will be considered as development in the open countryside and determined accordingly.

HOM8: Residential Caravans

Proposals for individual residential caravans will be permitted where:

- a. **The caravan is required to temporarily house an essential worker, in agriculture, forestry or other appropriate employment undertaking who must live on the spot rather than in a nearby settlement; or,**
- b. **The caravan is temporarily required in conjunction with the construction of a single dwelling on a self-build plot, or during the construction of a replacement dwelling; and,**
- c. **The caravan or mobile home will be located close to other buildings where possible and will not cause significant access, parking, infrastructural or amenity problems; and,**
- d. **They will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the Plan's wider landscape or nature conservation objectives.**

11.111 The siting of a caravan/mobile home required in conjunction with the above will be conditioned to ensure its removal once its operational requirements have ceased. The period of any temporary consent will be assessed against the particulars of each application. In the case of deciding the timescale required for the siting of caravans/mobile homes in connection with the construction of a self-build dwelling, the duration of expected construction work will be the determining factor.

HOM9: Ancillary Residential Development

Proposals for ancillary residential accommodation in the form of an annexe will be supported where:

- a) **It is to be used solely either by an independent relative or an individual with a reliance on the household, where an element of independence is to be provided; reliant in part on the main dwelling for facilities;**
- b) **Complementary to the main dwelling and strictly limited in terms of size, scale and floor area to reflect the needs of the user;**
- c) **Located within the existing curtilage of the main dwelling with no separate garden area, vehicle access, or segregated car parking;**
- d) **Designed to be subordinate to, and respects and enhances the character of the main dwelling.**

Proposals for such accommodation should be physically attached and designed as an extension to the main dwelling with a linking internal doorway(s).

The accommodation will only be permitted where it is in the same ownership as the main dwelling. Future occupancy will be tied to the beneficial ownership of the main dwelling by means of a S106 agreement and/or Unilateral Undertaking.

11.112 Ancillary residential accommodation can provide a valuable function enabling a relative to live with their family whilst maintaining a degree of independence. Such accommodation however requires a level of control to ensure that it serves an ancillary function and does not result in the creation of a separate self-contained dwelling.

11.113 Any proposal should reflect its ancillary function and not include the full range of facilities associated with an independent dwelling nor should it be designed in a way that would make it capable of being converted or occupied as an independent dwelling. Proposals should be designed to reflect the occupant's identified essential needs, with basic provisions reflective of its ancillary purpose. In respect of a single occupant this would normally consist of one en-suite bedroom and a living area with small kitchenette.

11.114 The annexe will be required to be in the same ownership as the main dwelling with any application accompanied by details of its occupants, including their relationship and/or dependency with the main dwelling occupants, and ownership details of the annexe.

11.115 Annexes will normally only be permitted in the form of an extension to the main dwelling. Regard will be had to the need of the occupant in respect of the size of any outbuilding proposed for conversion. In this regard it may only be acceptable to convert part of the building to ensure the conversion provides only limited facilities commensurate with its ancillary purpose.

11.116 The annexe should not displace an existing use which would require the construction of a further alternative building to enable that use to continue. New build detached annexes will only be considered where it is satisfactorily demonstrated that an extension or conversion is not appropriate or possible, and will not be permitted at locations outside of the defined settlement limits.

Strategic Policy – SP 4: Affordable Homes Strategy

The Plan will maximise the delivery of affordable homes up to 2033 through the provision of a minimum of 1,500 affordable homes. This will support the development and enhancement of sustainable, balanced communities.

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

11.118 This policy seeks to reflect the requirements set out in TAN 2 – Planning and Affordable Housing (2006) which seeks to put ‘secure mechanisms in place to ensure that affordable housing is accessible to those who cannot afford market housing, both on first occupation and for subsequent occupants.’

11.119 There are two main types of affordable housing as defined in TAN2:

- Social Rented Housing: provided by local authorities and registered social landlords; and

- Intermediate Housing: where prices or rents are above those of social rented housing but below market housing prices or rents⁵.

11.120 In assessing the need for affordable dwellings, regard is given to the most up to date Carmarthenshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA). The 2019 LHMA identifies a 76% / 24% split in the requirement of households requiring market housing and those households requiring affordable housing. For the benefit of the LHMA, the County has been split into 4 Affordable Housing Action Areas, and a significant proportion of the number of the households requiring affordable housing fall within the Llanelli Action Area (47%). The LHMA also identifies the type and size of the housing required throughout the County with a requirement of 1-bed housing need in Llanelli, while in general the County requires the development of 2-bed and 3-bed housing to meet the affordable need. In analysing this data, there is a strong correlation between the location of affordable housing need and the distribution of proposed housing growth set out within the LDP strategy and settlement framework (see policy SP16).

11.121 Whilst the LDP and planning system seeks to support the delivery of affordable homes, it is only one of few mechanisms used to

⁵ Technical Advice Note (TAN) 2: Planning and Affordable Housing 2006 – Paragraph 5.2

meet this need. This is reflected in the Council's Affordable Housing Delivery Plan 2016-2020 which sets out a five year vision for delivering affordable housing. The LDP's contribution to the target is set out in SP4 through:

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

11.122 Reference is also made to the Carmarthenshire Rural Needs Study 2019 which identifies a higher proportion of larger dwellings within the rural areas that contribute to higher house prices.⁶ The LDP looks to support the growth of more affordable units within the rural communities to promote development for first time buyers or those in low income households.

AHOM1: Provision of Affordable Homes

On-site Contributions

An on-site contribution towards affordable housing will be required on all market housing allocations and windfall sites of 10 or more homes to meet the affordable housing target set out in Policy SP4. The percentage target level for affordable housing is based on the scale of development:

- **sites comprising 10 – 19 homes will be required to provide an affordable housing contribution of 10 - 15%;**
- **sites comprising 20-50 homes will be required to provide an affordable housing contribution of 17 – 23%;**
- **sites of 51 homes or more will be required to provide an affordable housing contribution of 20 – 25%.**

The higher percentage in each range applies to sites in the Council's Community Network Area with the highest average household income; and the lower percentage to the Community Network Area with the lowest average household income.

Where adjacent and related residential proposals result in combined numbers meeting or exceeding the above thresholds, the Council will seek an element of affordable housing based on applying the above target percentages to the aggregate number of dwellings.

Proposals will be required to ensure that the dwelling remains affordable for all subsequent occupants in perpetuity.

Commuted Sums

A commuted sum towards affordable housing will be required from proposals comprising 1 – 9 dwellings. Commuted sum charges will be based on floor space (cost per sq.m).

Proposals for single dwellings categorised as 3-bed, 4-person dwellings or smaller, and less than 84 square metres will be exempt.

Only in exceptional circumstances, where the above requirements cannot be achieved due to their impacts upon a proposal's financial viability, a variation may be agreed on a case-by-case basis.

11.123 Policies AHOM1 and AHOM2 aim to assist the Council to meet its housing need and in particular to deliver the affordable housing need identified in Policy SP4.

11.124 The policy sets out the affordable housing contributions to be provided which varies according to the scale of the proposed development. The requirements of the policy reflect the findings of the Revised LDP's Viability Study and takes into consideration other factors such as the LHMA, past delivery rates and the need for flexibility to allow for variances between sites.

11.125 The Policy's requirements for on-site contributions apply to all proposed housing developments located within settlement boundaries with a capacity to deliver a net increase of 10 dwellings or more new homes. Those sites which fall outside of the settlement boundaries will be subject to the requirements of Policy AHOM2.

11.126 The policy's requirements for commuted sums apply to all proposed open market proposals resulting in a net increase of 1 – 9 new dwellings, with the exception on single dwellings which are categorised as 3-bed, 4-person homes and not exceeding 84 square metres in internal, habitable floor space.

11.127 The mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenure required to be provided on each site will vary according to the specific needs of the locality at the time of application. This will need to take into consideration the latest information on housing need from the LHMA, alongside any relevant local information such as the Council's waiting list and any recently delivered affordable housing units within the area.

AHOM2: Affordable Housing- Exceptions Sites

Proposals for 100% affordable housing development on sites immediately adjacent to the Development Limits of defined settlements (Tiers 1-3 in Policy SP16), will, in exceptional circumstances be permitted where it is to meet a genuine identified local need (as defined within the Glossary of Terms) and where:

- a) The site represents a logical extension to the development limits and is of a scale appropriate, and in keeping with the character of the settlement;**
- b) The benefits of the initial affordability will be retained for all subsequent occupants;**
- c) It is of a size, scale and design compatible with an affordable dwelling and available to low or moderate income groups;**
- d) There are no market housing schemes within the settlement being, or projected to be available which include a requirement for affordable housing.**

11.128 The granting of planning permission will be subject to conditions or planning obligations which ensure the affordable housing remains available to meet future local affordable housing needs. For clarity, development sites which include 100% affordable housing must accord with the criteria of this policy. Exceptions sites will only be permitted where satisfactory evidence is available which supports the provision.

11.129 Exceptions sites should not generally be considered in a settlement where existing allocations are being brought forward and an element of affordability is being provided as part of that development. Evidence will be required to demonstrate that no schemes on allocated sites are projected to commence within a reasonable time period.

11.130 Further information is provided through national policy in the form of PPW, TAN2: Planning and Affordable Housing and TAN6: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities. Further elaboration and guidance on the implementation and interpretation of affordable housing will be set out in forthcoming SPG.

Strategic Policy – SP 5: Strategic Sites

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

The Life Science and Well-being Village, Llanelli (PrC2/SS1); and Yr Egin – Creative Digital Cluster, Carmarthen (PrC1/SS1)

Life Science and Well-being Village, Llanelli

11.131 The Life Science and Well-being Village will provide facilities and services which promote and improve well-being, integrate business development, education, healthcare, leisure, tourism, wellness support and research in life-sciences in one location, and deliver transformational social and economic benefits. Outline planning permission was issued in August 2019 under application reference S/36948.

11.132 The village will include an institute of life science providing space for research and development into new medical devices and healthcare technologies. The institute will also offer large office, laboratory and

⁹ <https://www.swanseabaycitydeal.wales/projects/life-science-and-well-being-village/>

clinical spaces for growing new regional companies as well as opportunities for business start-ups.

11.133 There will be a wellness hub which will include a leisure centre, outdoor sports facilities, recreation opportunities and well-being promotion activities. There will be assisted living, a care home and dedicated housing for people with cognitive impairment or in medical rehabilitation. An allowance has been made for 240 ‘C3 use class’ units from this strategic site under LDP policy HOM1.

11.134 There will be a life science and well-being centre where a range of wellness services from health, public, private and third sectors will be available in one location. The centre will also include training opportunities which will be developed to meet skills shortages.⁹

11.135 This world leading development will be situated along the Llanelli coastline. It will be the largest ever regeneration project in South West Wales, and aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people across the region, creating up to 2,000 high quality, well paid jobs and boosting the economy by £467 million over 15 years. It will be interlinked and integrated within the natural landscape, set around a freshwater lake and located within walking distance of the Millennium Coastal Park.¹⁰

¹⁰ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/development-and-investment/delta-lakes/#.XX-L4uaou70>

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

11.137 In noting the strategic context, this project remains firmly rooted in the promotion of wellness at a local level.

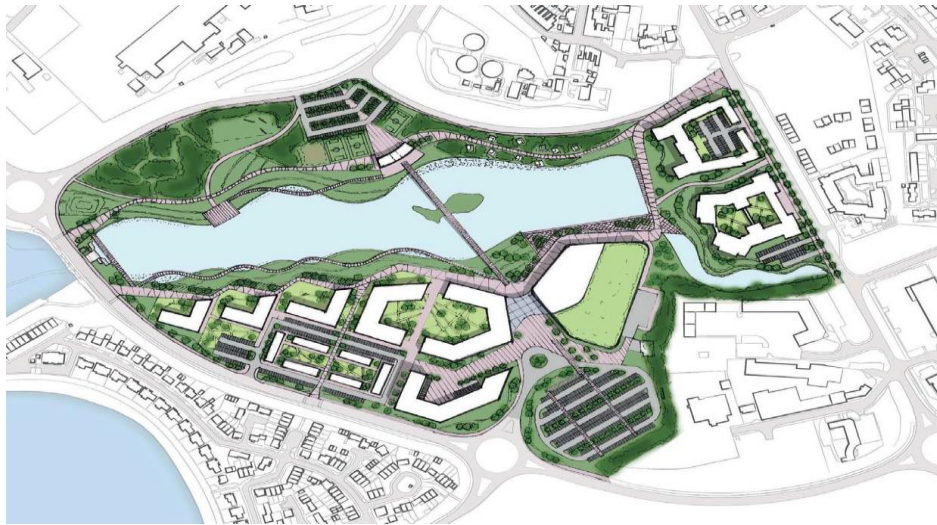


Figure 9: Carmarthenshire County Council – extract from indicative masterplan for the proposed wellness and life science village

Yr Egin – Creative Digital Cluster, Carmarthen

11.138 Yr Egin project provides a new digital and creative cluster in Carmarthen; provides start up and development space for creative digital companies, and promotes the Welsh Language.

11.139 The project will be the base for the Welsh language broadcaster S4C and will provide start up and development space for creative and digital companies.

11.140 By taking advantage of the new infrastructure proposals of the Internet Coast, Yr Egin will create major and positive change in the creative and digital economy of Wales.¹¹

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



Figure 10: Carmarthenshire County Council – Yr Egin Site Masterplan

Strategic Policy – SP 6: Employment and the Economy

Sufficient land has been allocated for the provision of 77.93 hectares of employment provision for the Plan period in accordance with the Plan’s Settlement Framework (Policy SP16) and sustainability principles.

The sustainable approach to the provision of employment land reflects the following:

- 1) The allocation and delivery of:**
 - **The Llanelli Life Science and Well-being Village and**
 - **Yr Egin – Creative Digital Cluster, Carmarthen;**
- 2) Allocating employment land in sustainable location which accords with the sustainability principles of the Plan;**
- 3) Safeguard existing employment sites – recognising their contribution as part of the employment portfolio in meeting ongoing need;**
- 4) Supporting small scale sustainable employment developments and enterprises in lower tiered settlements. Ensuring support is provided to entrepreneurship as part of the creation of a diverse and growing economy;**
- 5) Allow appropriate small scale employment opportunities and rural enterprises in the countryside to support rural communities and to deliver a diverse and sustainable rural economy.**

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

11.143 The Deal will see three specific projects for Carmarthenshire – two of which are related to physical developments. These are the Wellness and Life Science Village at Delta Lakes, Llanelli and a creative industry project at Yr Egin in Carmarthen. The third project relates to a skills and talent initiative which is centred within Carmarthenshire, and supports skills development within the region.

11.144 The Council has undertaken evidence gathering to provide an understanding of the future employment need notably around the Welsh Government’s nine priority sectors.¹² Further evidence has been prepared in conjunction with Pembrokeshire County Council to establish quantitative analysis of forecast demand for employment sites and supplemented by market and employer evidence in relation to market demand.

11.145 The sub-regional study seeks to achieve a balance between fulfilling the requirements of Technical Advice Note 23 on Economic Development (February 2014), whilst placing a strong emphasis on flexibility, realism of sector growth and ability to meet demand at a regional scale.

11.146 TAN 23 considers that 'land provision targets may be higher than anticipated demand, to allow for the chance to meet demand. The Practice Guidance to the TAN (August 2015) considers, that where justified, land provision targets maybe higher than anticipated demand, to allow for the chance that the assessments are too low and to ensure that no opportunities are missed. In acknowledging the importance of not solely relying on employment forecasts when identifying a portfolio of employment land, the study emphasises the demand and confidence of indigenous businesses to remain and grow, and a desire by stakeholders to preserve locational advantages and strategic assets for future growth.

11.147 In recognition of the above, the study has identified a portfolio of sites within the study area which are considered to offer strategic benefits and opportunity for growth and job creation.

Employment Hierarchy

11.148 Whilst the strategic focus is associated with the Swansea Bay City Deal and the potential generation of 'valued added' jobs, the LDP will provide a range of sites and opportunities for potential inward investment and relocations. This includes potential sites for larger employers as well as sites to accommodate smaller scale uses with the policy framework also providing scope for new and start-up businesses.

11.149 In considering the level of employment land allocations in relation to the LDP, further regard has also been had to a range of considerations to ensure that the level of provision is reflective of not only a range of deliverable sites but also that they are based upon a robust understanding of their character and site areas.

11.150 The emphasis on the Principal Centres not only reflects their sustainability credentials but also their historic legacy. It is also (particularly in relation to Llanelli) indicative of the relatively high unemployment rates and levels of deprivation and of a strong commitment to address the problems. The distribution of employment land is also well-aligned with the sustainable locations within the County which are accessible by public transport or active travel routes which minimise the need for travel.

11.151 The following table sets out the employment land provision contained within the policy.

	<u>A. LDP Allocation</u>
PC1 - Carmarthen	19.14
PC2 - Llanelli	15.77
PC3 – Ammanford/ Cross Hands	35.48
Service Centres	7.54
Sustainable Villages*	0
Rural Villages*	0
Total	77.93

Table 6: Employment Land Provision

*Note - Employment provision within these areas will be delivered through policy intervention

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

EME1: Employment- Safeguarding of Employment Sites

Sites identified for employment purposes through policy SP6 and existing employment sites will be safeguarded for such uses (B1, B2, B8 and those identified through relevant policy provisions).

Exceptionally, proposals which result in their loss will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:

- a. **The site or premises is no longer required or suitable for employment use;**
- b. **The proposed use could not reasonably be located elsewhere in accordance with the policies of this Plan;**
- c. **There is sufficient quantity, quality and variety of employment land or premises that can be brought forward to meet the employment needs of the County and the local area;**
- d. **There is no economically viable industrial or business employment uses for the site and premises;**
- e. **An employment use would be incompatible with adjoining/surrounding uses;**
- f. **Where applicable the proposed uses are complimentary to the primary employment use of the surrounding area and will not cause an unacceptable impact on the operations of existing businesses.**

11.153 This policy seeks to ensure that existing employment sites are protected from alternative uses. In order to maintain an adequate supply of employment land which provides for a range and choice of potential uses, this policy seeks to protect defined employment areas from competing uses which should be in better and potentially more appropriate locations.

11.154 In recognition of the pressures on employment areas from alternative uses (non-Class B), the policy accepts that some flexibility may

in some instances be required. Such uses are often partial B class uses combining a small scale retail element with predominantly business, industrial or storage use, or are sui generis. It is also accepted that in meeting the needs of such uses, employment areas are often likely to be more acceptable than other locations such as residential areas, or even town centres. Any retail element will be expected to be ancillary to the primary use, and for trade purposes as opposed to the public.

11.155 Development proposals will, where necessary be required to incorporate appropriate measures to protect the amenity of neighbouring or nearby properties. Such measures may include the identification of buffer zones and suitable landscaping proposals.

11.156 Where appropriate, planning conditions will be imposed to prevent the loss of employment as the primary use.

EME2 Employment – Extensions and Intensification

Proposals for extensions and/or intensification of existing employment enterprises will be permitted provided that:

- a) The development proposals are not likely to cause environmental damage or prejudice other redevelopment proposals;**

- b) The proposal does not extend and/or intensify a use or activity that might result in adverse amenity issues, or may not be compatible, with neighbouring uses;**
- c) The development proposals are of an appropriate scale and form compatible with its location;**

Proposals for the expansion of existing rural enterprises will be supported subject to the above provisions and the policies and proposals of this Plan.

11.157 Proposals which seek to extend and/or intensify a use or activity will not be favourably considered if they are not compatible with surrounding uses, or likely to result in adverse amenity issues which would prejudice other redevelopment proposals.

11.158 Appropriate expansions of existing businesses can contribute significantly to the local economy, and the re-development of existing sites where it will improve the quality of employment floor space particularly in meeting modern employment needs, will be supported.

11.159 This policy makes provisions for, and supports the rural economy and the appropriate expansion of established rural enterprises.¹³

¹³ (TAN 6 Para 3.1.3)

Reference should also be made to PPW and TAN23 Economic Development.

EME3: Employment Proposals on Allocated Sites

Proposals for B1, B2 and B8 employment development will be permitted on the following allocated employment sites where they comply with the proposed use of the site:

LDP Ref	Site Name	Location	Use Class	Ha.
PrC1/E1	Cillefwr Industrial Estate	Carmarthen	B1, B2, B8	4.62
PrC1/MU1	West Carmarthen	Carmarthen	B1, B2, B8	4.53
PrC1/MU2	Pibwrlwyd	Carmarthen	B1, B2, B8	8.95
PrC1/SS1	Yr Egin	Carmarthen	B2	1.04
PrC2/E1	North Dock	Llanelli	B2	0.84
PrC2/E2	Dafen	Llanelli	B1, B2, B8	14.93
PrC3/E1	Cross Hands East	Ammanford / Cross Hands	B1, B2, B8	8.70
PrC3/E2	Cross Hands West Food Park	Ammanford / Cross Hands	B1,B2,B8	7.31
PrC3/E3	Cross Hands Business Park	Ammanford / Cross Hands	B1,B2,B8	4.73
PrC3/E4	Meadows Road, Cross Hands	Ammanford / Cross Hands	B1,B2,B8	1.09

PrC3/E5	Parc Menter, Cross Hands	Ammanford / Cross Hands	B1,B2,B8	0.09
PrC3/E6	Capel Hendre Industrial Estate	Ammanford / Cross Hands	B1,B2,B8	2.88
PrC3/E7	Parc Hendre, Capel Hendre ¹	Ammanford / Cross Hands	B1,B2,B8	9.86
PrC3/E8	Cilyrychen Industrial Estate	Cilyrychen	B1,B2,B8	0.82
SeC4/E1	Dyfatty	Burry Port	B1,B2,B8	3.28
SeC13/E1	Old Foundry	Llanybydder	B1,B8	0.40
SeC16/MU1 & SeC16/E1	Beechwood Industrial Estate	Llandeilo / Rhosmaen	B1,B2,B8	1.25
SeC16/E2	Former Market Hall	Llandeilo	B1	0.20
SeC18/E1	St Clears Business Park	St Clears	B1,B8	0.44
SeC19/E1	Whitland Industrial Estate	Whitland	B1,B8	0.49
SeC19/E2	Land South of Former Creamery	Whitland	B1,B2,B8	1.48
			Total	77.93

Table 7: Employment Proposals on Allocated Sites

Note:

Sites which offer the potential to accommodate In-Building Waste Management Facilities. A notional total figure of 20-30 ha of land is potentially available on these sites. Added to this figure are the potential capacity available at Nantycaws Waste Management Site, as well as possible land that may become available on existing employment, waste and other non-allocated sites during the Plan period.

11.160 The total figure in the above table includes notional figures for B use employment on Mixed Use sites (Policy SG1) and Strategic sites (Policy SP5).

11.161 Where appropriate other employment and ancillary uses will be permitted on allocated employment sites where the proposed development complements and enhances the site's role as identified in the Employment Site Allocation table.

11.162 Policy EME3 also enables the provision of complementary ancillary employment uses that fall outside the B use classes where this improves site viability and enables new site development. Ancillary uses that might be complementary include day nurseries, training centres, waste recycling and vehicle repairs. Retail uses will be considered against the LDP's retail policies.

EME4: Employment Proposals on Non-Allocated Sites

Proposals for employment development on non-allocated sites, but within the development limits of a defined settlement will be permitted where:

- a) it is demonstrated that no other suitable existing or allocated employment sites or previously developed land can reasonably accommodate the proposal;**

- b) the development proposals are of an appropriate scale and form, and are not detrimental to the respective character and appearance of the townscape/ landscape;**
- c) The development is compatible with its location and with neighbouring uses.**

Employment proposals outside the development limits of a defined settlement (Policy SP16) will be permitted where:

- d) The proposal is directly related to a settlement or hamlet; or**
- e) The proposal is supported by a business case which demonstrates that its location is justified; and**
- f) The proposal is appropriate in scale and nature to its location;**

11.163 It is evident that not all employment proposals will be appropriately accommodated on allocated employment sites. Policy EME4 therefore supports the economy by enabling, in both urban and rural areas, the provision of economic opportunities on non-allocated sites.

11.164 Within the development limits of a defined settlements, the policy requires proposals to demonstrate their locational requirement through a sequential approach to site selection. In the first instance, they must look to proposed and existing allocations to cater for employment need. Only then should non-allocated sites be considered.

11.165 For proposals outside the development limits of a defined settlement, they must show that they are directly related to a settlement or

hamlet, or supported by a business case which justifies its location. The Plan recognises that small-scale enterprises have a vital role to play in the rural economy, and contribute to both local and national competitiveness and prosperity. Many commercial and light manufacturing activities can be appropriately located in rural areas without causing unacceptable disturbance or other adverse effects. In this respect, the development of small businesses would address any local need for employment accommodation.

11.166 Reference is made to policies RD3 Farm Diversification, RD4 Conversion and Re-use of Rural Buildings for Non Residential Use and EME5 Home Working for further opportunities for employment undertakings outside development limits.

EME5: Home Working

Proposals for home working (where planning permission is required) will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that it would be compatible with adjacent land uses, and that it would not result in any adverse impacts on local amenity and/or the character of the area.

11.167 The policy relates to small businesses operating from home providing for considerations resulting from the increasing trend for home working (for now and the future).

11.168 This Plan recognises that such businesses can play an important role in developing and supporting a diverse economy across the Plan area. It is recognised that many small businesses are started by individuals working from their own homes, and that such instances are likely to increase as technological innovations increase. In considering home working within the context of planning, it is recognised that it does not necessarily require planning permission. For instance, planning permission will not normally be required where the use for business purposes proposed for part of the house does not result in a change to the overall character of the property and its use as a dwelling.

11.169 Generally the requirement for planning permission results where the business activity ceases to be ancillary to its use as a dwelling or where the residential character of the property is altered. Where such businesses are of a scale and intensity where planning permission will be required, the Council will have regard to the implications of the proposal on surrounding properties and on the likely access and parking arrangements emanating from the nature of the proposal.

11.170 PPW encourages the growth of self-employment and micro businesses in rural areas. The policy seeks to adopt a supportive approach to home working and proposals where a planning permission is required (including change of use).

1.171 In considering proposals for rural enterprises regard should be had to the provisions of national policy in the form of PPW and TAN6 and Policy EME4.

Strategic Policy – SP 7: Welsh Language and Culture

The Plan supports development proposals which safeguard, promote and enhance 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. All development proposals subject to WL1, will be expected to identify measures which enhance the interests of the Welsh language and culture.

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

11.173 Carmarthenshire in its entirety is considered to be an area of linguistic sensitivity. The 2011 Census indicates that 19.0% of the Welsh population are able to speak Welsh, whilst the correlating figure for Carmarthenshire stands at 43.9%. In terms of the geographical breakdown of the proportion of speakers across the County, this is lowest in the Glanymor electoral ward where 19.2% speak Welsh, and highest in Quarter Bach where 68.7% speak Welsh. The proportion of Welsh

speakers is higher than the national average across each ward in the County, and it is largely for this reason Carmarthenshire in its entirety is considered to be linguistically sensitive. Additionally, the most recent Census data has shown a substantial decrease in the number of Welsh speakers across the County illustrating the language’s vulnerability in Carmarthenshire.

11.174 The Plan seeks to ‘promote the Welsh language and culture’¹⁵ and is committed to contributing to the Welsh Government’s long-term aim of achieving 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050¹⁶. To deliver on this aim, the Council will support, promote and enhance the Welsh language as a viable community language by ensuring that there are sufficient and proportionate employment and housing opportunities to sustain both the rural and urban communities in the County and by implementing an effective monitoring framework. In doing so, the Plan seeks to ensure that the local population have the opportunity to remain in Carmarthenshire rather than leave in search of work opportunities and housing, as well as the opportunity to return. Through aiming for sustainable growth, the Plan will also maximise opportunities for non-Welsh speakers who move to the County to be integrated into community life at a scale and pace that will not undermine the vitality and viability of the Welsh language and culture.

¹⁶ Cymraeg 2050 A Million Welsh Speakers, Welsh Government (2017)

11.175 The need to safeguard, promote and enhance the Welsh language applies to developments proposed across the County and is not restricted to specific areas within the County. Development proposals will be required to acknowledge the official status of the Welsh language and commit to treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

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

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

WL1: Welsh Language and New Developments

All development proposals throughout Carmarthenshire will be required to safeguard and promote the Welsh language.

Allocated Sites

The following development proposals will be required to submit a Language Action Plan, setting out the measures to be taken to safeguard, promote and enhance the Welsh language:

- a) Residential developments of 10 or more homes in the Principal Centres and Service Centres;**
- b) Residential developments of 5 or more homes in the Sustainable Villages; and,**
- c) Retail, commercial or industrial developments with a total floorspace of 1,000 sqm or more.**

Windfall Sites

The following proposals on windfall sites will be required to submit a Welsh Language Impact Assessment in support of a planning application as well as a Language Action Plan setting out the measures to be taken to safeguard, promote and enhance the Welsh language:

- d) Developments of 10 or more homes in the Principal Centres and Service Centres;**
- e) Developments of 5 or more homes in the Sustainable Villages; and,**
- f) Retail, commercial or industrial developments with a total floorspace of 1,000 sqm or more.**

Proposals which do not accord with the Plan's housing trajectory (Appendix 7) will be required to provide a phasing plan outlining the timescales for delivering the homes proposed on the site, and demonstrate that they would not have a

negative impact upon the Welsh language which cannot be mitigated.

Residential developments for 10 or more homes on both allocated and windfall sites will be required to positively contribute towards the vitality and viability of Welsh language community groups and Welsh language learning opportunities.

11.178 The Welsh Language Action Plan sets out the measures to be taken to safeguard, promote and enhance the Welsh language. The the Welsh Language Action Plan should also outline how the development proposes to make a positive contribution towards the community's Welsh language groups. This could, amongst others, include providing support and funding towards organisations and bodies that provide activities, facilities and education for Welsh speakers and learners, and support and funding towards Welsh language classes. Welsh Language Impact Assessments (WLIA) will be required to outline the anticipated impacts of the proposed development upon the Welsh language in the County. Guidance on how to produce a WLIA are contained within the Welsh Language Supplementary Planning Guidance.¹⁷

11.179 Whilst support for projects can be provided through financial contributions, they may also be provided through other means. Planning

permission will be subject to conditions or legal agreements to secure the implementation of the mitigation and enhancement measures proposed within the Action Plan. Further guidance on the content of Welsh Language Action Plans will be provided through Supplementary Planning Guidance.

11.180 The LDP's housing trajectory is outlined in Appendix 7 of the Plan. The impacts of the scale, location and rate of development have been assessed in accordance with the agreed trajectory. Proposals for developments which do not accord with the timescales of the trajectory are consequently not fully assessed. Such proposals will therefore be required to be supported by a phasing plan outlining the number of dwellings to be delivered within each financial year. In such cases, planning permission may be subject to a condition to secure the agreed phasing of delivery where considered necessary.

11.181 For the avoidance of doubt, it should be noted that criterion a, b, d and e noted above should be informed by the LDP's settlement hierarchy as outlined by Policy SP16. The Plan's Strategy provides for organic growth on a small scale within the Rural Villages. It is considered that incremental development on this scale can make a positive contribution towards the sustainable growth of the Welsh language in rural

communities, and any negative impacts are likely to be absorbed by the community. Development of any greater scale is unlikely to be compatible with the Plan's Strategy, and their impacts are therefore unassessed and unknown. In the event that such proposals are presented for consideration, they will need to be accompanied by a full assessment of their likely effects upon the Welsh language.

11.182 The SA/SEA of the LDP is required to assess the likely effects of the LDP upon the Welsh language. This is done iteratively at key stages throughout the Plan's production. The likely anticipated effects are presented in the SA/SEA reports, and further information is available within the LDP's evidence base.

11.183 The LDP provides further guidance on the provision of bilingual advertisements in Policy PSD9 – Advertisements. In order to promote the cultural identity and to safeguard the local linguistic character of Carmarthenshire, the Council will encourage bilingual marketing of new housing and commercial developments as well as encourage Welsh street and development names.

Strategic Policy – SP 8: Infrastructure

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

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.

Where new or improved infrastructure is required which does not form part of an infrastructure provider's improvement programme it may be permitted. In such instances it will be required to satisfactorily demonstrate that adequate arrangements and funding are made available to deliver the required infrastructure.

The delivery of new or improved infrastructure, or other facilities or services to support the requirements of the site, must be undertaken in a timely manner to meet the needs of communities prior to, or from the commencement of, the relevant phases.

necessity to support the ongoing needs and demands of a development and Carmarthenshire's communities.

11.185 A range of infrastructure may be required, and these will vary greatly according to the nature or type, scale, location and existing infrastructure provision. In considering the needs of development proposals the following infrastructure, services and facilities may be required:

- Roads and other transport facilities including sustainable transport, public transport, walking and cycling routes
- Schools and other educational and training facilities
- Affordable Housing
- Health
- Public open spaces and green infrastructure
- Flood defences
- Leisure, sporting and recreation
- Utility services
- Biodiversity and environmental protection and enhancement
- Community facilities
- Digital Infrastructure
- Welsh language support
- Other facilities and services considered necessary

11.184 The provision of appropriate infrastructure, services and facilities is vital to ensure the delivery of the Plan's policies and proposals.

Appropriate infrastructure is key to facilitate development but is also a

11.186 The Plan seeks to ensure that the infrastructure, services and facilities needed to support development is delivered in a timely manner prior to, or upon commencement, of the development, or where appropriate phased through the development process. The Plan encourages the delivery of infrastructure is undertaken in a coordinated manner with minimal disruption caused to existing communities.

11.187 Contributions to infrastructure will be secured through conditions or Planning Obligations in accordance with the legislative and policy framework provided.¹⁸ Reference should be made to Policy INF1: Planning Obligations.

11.188 Developers should have regard to Appendix 9: Housing Trajectory and to the emerging implementation and delivery evidence which provides additional information in respect of the delivery and infrastructural requirements of the LDP's key sites. Regard should also be to the requirements of Policy PSD2: Masterplanning. Developers are encouraged to enter into early dialogue with the Council in order to identify the infrastructure required to deliver and support a proposed scheme.

¹⁸ Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended); Planning Policy Wales; Welsh Office Circular 13/97 Planning Obligations

INF1: Planning Obligations

Where necessary, planning obligations will be sought to ensure that the effects of developments are fully addressed in order to make the development acceptable. Contributions will be required to deliver or fund improvements to infrastructure, community facilities and other services and facilities to address requirements or impacts arising from new developments.

Where applicable, contributions will also be sought towards the future and ongoing maintenance of such provision.

In instances where there is a dispute regarding matters relating to the financial viability of delivering the requirements, the applicant will be required to meet the Council's costs of securing an independent financial viability appraisal / assessment.

11.189 The requirements of planning obligations will take into consideration the financial viability of a proposed development. In instances where there is dispute regarding the impact which the requirements have upon the financial viability of the scheme, the applicant will be required to meet the costs of securing an independent

viability appraisal, completed by a suitably qualified and approved third party.

11.190 The planning obligations required will be considered on a case by case basis subject to the nature of the proposal and the requirements emerging from it. There may be instances where all required obligations cannot be secured due to their impact upon the scheme's financial viability. In such cases, the infrastructural priorities for that site will need to be identified. Whilst the priorities can vary according to the specific needs of each site and their communities it should be noted that the requirements of Policy NE4 Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area will be prioritised above other contributions in respect of sites within the SPG Area. In all other instances, it is generally considered that the priority for the Authority will be the provision of affordable housing and in most cases its provision will be prioritised above other contributions.

INF2: Healthy Communities

Proposals for development which provide for active travel, accessible useable green spaces and infrastructure, and which seek to reduce health inequalities through encouraging healthy lifestyles, addressing the social determinants of health

¹⁹ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 (paragraph 3.24)

and providing accessible health care facilities will be supported.

Proposals for development specified within the supporting text below will be required to submit a Health Impact Assessment in accordance with the sequential approach.

11.191 The links between health and well-being and planning are reflected in legislation and national planning policy. In this respect PPW seeks to provide a framework for the delivery of a series of National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes. This holistic approach to the planning and design of development and spaces reflects a focus on positive outcomes promoting people's prosperity, health, happiness, and wellbeing. The promotion of physical and mental health and well-being as a Facilitate Accessible and Healthy Environments Outcome reflects these links between health, well-being and planning and the need to reflect any potential effects that may arise from the planning process.

11.192 Health Impact Assessment (HIA) can make a valuable contribution when proposing or making decisions on new development. Evidence on health impacts can help the planning system develop stronger and more coherent approaches towards maximising health and well-being¹⁹. The Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 sets out provisions for

making improvements to health including for the Welsh Ministers to publish a national strategy on tackling obesity and to make regulations about the carrying out of health impact assessments by public bodies.

11.193 HIAs assess the impact of any change or amendment to a policy, service, plan, procedure or programme on the health of the population and on the distribution of those effects within the population, particularly within vulnerable groups. Undertaking a HIA produces information on how negative impacts on health can be reduced and positive health gains can be encouraged. Such evidence on health impacts can help the planning system develop stronger and more coherent approaches towards maximising health and well-being.

11.194 It is important that proposals take into account a wide range of health and well-being related factors as part of the formulation and preparation of any scheme or development. It is important that these are considered from the outset. Consequently, developers are encouraged to engage with the local planning authority and other stakeholders, such as the Local Health Board (LHB) as early as possible in preparing development proposals. A HIA should be provided to accompany any application for opencast coal working.

²⁰ Health Impact Assessments A Practical Guide - Wales HIA Support Unit

Healthy Communities: HIA Sequential Checklist

11.195 To assist in the promotion of physical and mental health and well-being, the following sequential approach should be considered by developers followed to determine the requirement for, and potential scope and content of a HIA. This requirement applies to major developments are defined in planning legislation as:

- Residential developments of 10 or more dwellings or 0.5 hectares or more;
- The provision of a building or buildings where the floor space to be created by the development is 1,000 square metres or more; or
- Development carried out on a site having an area of 1 hectare or more

11.196 The following sequential approach in considering the need to a HIA reflects the guidance set out within Health Impact Assessments a Practical Guide²⁰.

- STEP 1: Screening – Deciding whether to undertake a HIA
Screening takes an initial look at the potential impacts of the proposal on the local population and any specific vulnerable groups defined within it. It should highlight any potential health

risks or benefits and any groups that may be particularly affected. The outcome of screening is a decision whether or not to undertake HIA and, if so, to determine what type of HIA will be required. It should also provide an explanation of how the decision was reached.

- STEP 2: Scoping – Determining the focus, methods and work plan. This stage involves asking a number of questions and making a number of decisions to establish the terms of reference, roles and responsibilities and agreed plan for the HIA.
- STEP 3: Appraisal of Evidence – Identifying the health impacts. This is the key stage of health impact assessment. The purpose is to gather information about the potential nature, size, likelihood and distribution of the proposal's health impacts. It also provides an opportunity to suggest possible ways of maximising the health benefits and minimising the risks, particularly to those whose health may be most vulnerable or the most disadvantaged population groups. It also provides an opportunity to identify and suggest actions that might address 'gaps' in the proposal or plan.

Although HIA is not in itself a research method, it draws upon a range of sources of information and methods for collecting and

analysing data, to which appropriate methodological rules and procedures will apply.

- STEP 4: Reporting and Recommendations - Once the evidence and data has been collected, a set of recommendations should be developed, informed by the previous stages of the HIA. These recommendations should aim to maximize any potential health and well-being benefits and mitigate potential negative impacts. They can be an opportunity to 'fill in' any identified gaps within the proposal and readdress any health (or other) inequalities that may be caused.

Recommendations need to be:

- Clear and concise
- Realistic
- Achievable
- Manageable in number
- Impartial
- Reflective of all evidence and representatives' views
- Agreed by consensus

Reference should be made to guidance in the form of SPG.

Not all the health and well-being related issues will be relevant to all types of developments and the Council recognises the need for a balanced approach to the determination of development proposals where health related matters are one of many other material considerations. Developers will be expected to utilise the sequential approach specified above to identify what is relevant and ensure it is included in the supporting documentation accompanying any proposal as appropriate.

INF3: Broadband and Telecommunications

The Council will work with the telecommunications industry and the communications regulator Ofcom to maximise access to reliable super-fast broadband, wireless hotspots and improved mobile availability for all residents and businesses, assisting them (where appropriate) in delivering their investment plans to address any infrastructure deficiencies.

New major developments must be served by a high speed and reliable broadband connection to the premises.

Smaller developments should provide access to the most viable high-speed connection as well as additional ducting for future Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) or other provision.

Exceptions will be made where applicants have shown through consultation with broadband infrastructure providers, that this would not be possible, practical or economically viable. In such cases, an equivalent developer contribution towards off-site works may be sought which could enable greater future access.

11.197 The policy seeks to reflect the demands of a modern Wales for reliable fast and high capacity communication networks. In this respect it supports the Welsh Government's objective to offer fast and reliable broadband to every property in Wales and to support the deployment of mobile infrastructure across the country²¹. It seeks to reflect the context of broadband infrastructure as an essential service and one which can help support and develop the local economy as well as vibrant and inclusive communities.

11.198 In applying the policy, it should be noted that BT Openreach and other providers offer superfast broadband connection for all new developments, either free of charge, or as part of a co-funded partnership including community funded partnerships. FTTP shall be provided free of charge to housing developments with one hundred or more dwellings. Developments smaller than this may have to provide contributions to

²¹ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – Paragraph 5.2.2

ensure FTTP connection, or shall be provided copper connections for free.

11.199 In supporting the delivery of full fibre, BT Openreach have set UK wide targets, and provide guidance and support to developers in building full FTTP networks to new residential or mixed residential/commercial sites.

11.200 The policy also recognises that in a small proportion of cases, broadband will not be able to be provided to new developments due to their very rural location. The policy therefore includes the potential to provide a sum of money to contribute towards an alternative solution. However, wherever possible the solution should include the development making necessary provision for on-site infrastructure to facilitate the improvements.

11.201 The provision of high-speed and reliable broadband within rural areas will assist in supporting the delivery of the Plan's strategy through providing additional opportunities to boost the rural economy and economic diversification.

INF4: Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Surface Water Disposal

Proposals that drain to Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Works and are defined as major under Article 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 will be subject to a requirement to remove a quantifiable amount of surface water from the combined sewer system as set out within the Burry Inlet Supplementary Planning Guidance.

11.202 Within the Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) catchment, there are concerns that the connection of foul flows generated by new development introduces the risk of deterioration in the water quality of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site (CBEEMS). This is due to the fact that the majority of the sewer system in the Llanelli WWTW area is combined (surface and foul flows).

11.203 Whilst Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) have confirmed that there is sufficient capacity within Llanelli WWTW to deliver this Plan's identified growth, they have also requested that relevant developments within the Llanelli WWTW catchment be subject to a requirement to undertake compensatory surface water removal from the system as part of the granting of planning permission.

11.204 There is concern that introducing additional foul flow can lead to overloading to the WWTW, as well as an increasing the frequency of discharges from storm sewerage overflows out to the CBEEMS during significant rainfall. There can also be potential localised flooding issues resulting from these issues.

11.205 The Burry Inlet SPG has been prepared to provide specific guidance in relation to the consideration of relevant development proposals located within the Llanelli WWTW catchment. Whilst Llanelli (Principal Centre) and Burry Port (Service Centre) are identified as a focus for growth in this Plan, they are also subject to high level environmental considerations, not least the water quality of the (CBEEMS). Reference can also be made to LDP policy CCH3: Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources.

11.206 The Burry Inlet SPG has been built on consensus and seeks to provide certainty for stakeholders and developers alike. Its primary function is to assist in the delivery of growth as set out within this Plan. It provides a mechanism for the requirement for compensatory surface water removal to be undertaken by relevant developments. This is designed to allow development to contribute towards an overall betterment in the position, whilst alleviating concerns that proposals will be subject to objections by key stakeholders – notably DCWW and Natural Resources Wales.

11.207 There is a long established partnership approach with regards to this matter, including a Memorandum of Understanding.

11.208 The SPG also provides clarification on instances where Carmarthenshire County Council is the applicant and seeks to utilise surplus betterment it has previously accrued on the surface water removal register.

Strategic Policy – SP 9: Gypsy and Traveller Provision

The following Local Authority sites are allocated to meet the identified need for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and to allow for the potential future expansion of Gypsy and Traveller Households:

Site Ref:	Location	Type of Need
PrC2/GT1	Land at Penyfan, Trostre, Llanelli	Residential
PrC/GT2	Penybryn (extension), Bynea, Llanelli	Residential

Table 8: Gypsy and Traveller Provision

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

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

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

11.212 The GTAA also looked at the accommodation needs for Travelling Showpeople within Carmarthenshire. This element of the assessment identified 8 authorised or tolerated pitches and 1 unauthorised pitch for Travelling Show people within the county. In considering the future projection, the assessment identifies a requirement of 5 additional pitches in the first five years of the assessment.

11.213 In accordance with the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, the Council must undertake a new GTAA every five years. In order to ensure the Plan is informed in terms of Gypsy and Traveller need for the Plan period through to 2033, the Council is undertaking a revised GTAA.

The outcomes of this Assessment will be utilised to inform the preparation of this Plan as it becomes available.

11.214 The requirement and take-up of pitches will also be closely monitored as part of the monitoring framework of this plan and reported through the Annual Monitoring Report arrangements.

GTP1: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

1. Proposals for new Gypsy and Traveller sites, or extensions to existing authorised sites within the development limits of a defined settlement will be permitted where:

- a) The necessary range of facilities and services, including existing community, social, and educational provisions, and public transport is accessible or can be readily provided;**
- b) The proposal will have no significant adverse impacts on the amenity of residents and adjoining land uses;**

- c) The site is capable of being serviced with water, electricity, sewage and waste disposal;**
- d) There is no adverse effect on its surroundings, landscape/townscape or the setting and integrity of the historic environment.**

2. New, or extensions to existing authorised sites outside the development limits of defined settlements will be permitted in accordance with the above, where it can be demonstrated that there are no suitable pitches available on existing authorised sites, within the development limits of a defined settlement (relating to where the need has been identified), or that there is no opportunity to appropriately extend those sites.

Proposals for a transit or touring site will be considered where they have good connections to the Strategic Road Network.

11.215 The policy provides the framework and context for the consideration and assessment of proposals for new sites, and extensions to Gypsy and Traveller sites (and for Travelling Show People) reflecting the provisions defined within primary legislation²².

11.216 The design of any sites will be required to have regard to the provisions of the appropriate Welsh Government Design Guidance²³.

²² Housing (Wales) Act 2014

²³ Welsh Government Circular 005/2018: Planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople Sites

11.217 This guidance will be a material consideration in the determination of any planning applications submitted. In relation to any site being developed by a public body, including the local authority, the provisions of Welsh Government Guidance: Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites will apply.

11.218 Proposals must give consideration to vehicular access from the public highway; as well as provision for parking, turning and services on site; and road safety for occupants and visitors.

11.219 Landscaping and planting with appropriate trees and shrubs should be used to blend sites into their surroundings, give structure and privacy, and maintain visual amenity. Excessive hard landscaping, high walls, or fences should be avoided as these can lead to a site's isolation from the wider community.

11.220 Proposals will need to have regard to local infrastructure and demonstrate that the site is able to provide sufficient facilities and access to utilities. The scale of proposals should be proportionate to its surroundings and to the local community. Further guidance should be sought from Welsh Government's Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Guidance.

11.221 Applications will be expected to include evidence to demonstrate that the new site or the extension to an existing site is required at that location. Such information should include evidence demonstrating a lack of availability of suitable permanent or transit pitches on existing sites, or an opportunity to extend those sites to meet the required need.

11.222 The 2015 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) assessed the need for transit sites or emergency stopping places for the Travelling Community who either travel permanently or for part of the year. The assessment sought to analyse records of unauthorised sites and encampments with data from the Traveller Caravan Count was also considered. Analysis of the recorded number of authorised and unauthorised caravans in Carmarthenshire decreased.

11.223 The Welsh Government introduced a new monitoring mechanism to track and identify illegal transit encampments. The AMR for 2018/19 identified a number of illegal encampments, but none were for transit purposes. Consequently the data does not indicate any clear pattern as yet which requires intervention through the identification of a transit site. Reference should be had to the monitoring framework of the plan.

11.224 In relation to the needs arising for Travelling Showpeople as indicated through the GTAA, there is at present no spatial correlation with that need which would enable the identification of a suitably located site. The plan seeks to provide the appropriate flexibility to meet that need through the provisions of the above policy and liaison with the community to identify any specific locational need.

Strategic Policy – SP 10: The Visitor Economy

Proposals for tourism and visitor economy related developments will be supported where they:

- a) exhibit high quality design and placemaking principles;**
- b) contribute to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment;**
- c) add value to our visitor economy; and,**
- d) are sustainably and appropriately located.**

11.225 Tourism is a key component of Carmarthenshire’s economy. It is a major source of employment and revenue supporting over 6,176 full time equivalent jobs either directly or indirectly. It generates over £441m revenue to the County’s economy annually.²⁴

11.226 The County is home to a wide range of attractions, including Ffos Las Racecourse, the National Botanic Gardens and Pembrey Country Park. Carmarthenshire is the “cycling hub of Wales”, with the Cycling Strategy capturing the Council’s aspirations to be a national lead in the provision of cycling infrastructure events and development.²⁵

11.227 Tourism is a dynamic industry with a wide demographic / customer base. Carmarthenshire is well poised to capitalise on the

²⁴ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/tourism/statistics-and-trends/#.W59p--mQy70>

sector’s potential given that it is a beautiful county located within a four hour drive of London and within easy reach of Ireland via sea. The ever changing demands and trends within the sector do however provide challenges in terms of drafting 15 year land use planning policies. The tourism offer within Carmarthenshire ranges from those natural features such as rights of way / walking to well-established renowned national attractions. The County’s heritage and activity tourism potential is renowned, whilst its outstanding natural environment could appeal to the wellness tourism sector.

11.228 SP10 sets the framework for a policy approach within the Revised LDP that is sufficiently responsive and flexible to market demand up to 2033, whilst also seeking to protect the very communities, landscape and townscape that makes Carmarthenshire a fantastic place to visit and enjoy. Whilst the strategic policy provides the overarching context, specific policies provide detail. This includes clarifying any role that the settlement limits of defined settlements play in informing the determination of proposals.

11.229 In interpreting SP10, it should be noted that tourism related developments includes new, as well as extensions to existing facilities.

²⁵ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/tourism/tourism-priorities/cycling/#.W59p3umQy70>

11.230 Extensions to existing facilities should be subordinate in scale and function to the existing facility and proposals that constitute substantive extensions should be construed as new development.

Adding Value

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

Respecting the County's social, economic and environmental fabric

11.232 All parts of the County possess qualities that contribute to the overall sense of place. These include landscape, nature conservation, social fabric and built environment. These are assets which must be

protected for our future generations and cannot be unduly compromised by tourism related development.

11.233 There should also be an emphasis on high quality in all aspects of proposals, particularly design. In considering the acceptability of proposals, consideration will be given to location, siting, design and scale, access to the primary and core highway network and the impact of any resultant traffic generation. Furthermore, the extent to which the site is serviceable by public transport, walking and cycling are important considerations. The scale, size and type of any proposals will be appraised along with siting and impact. Proposals should reflect the character and appearance of the area with appropriate landscaping and screening utilised as required.

Sustainably located

11.234 In recognising market demand, tourism related development should be directed to sustainable locations. Reference is made to the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy for Planning²⁶. Regard should be had to the LDP spatial strategy in determining the appropriateness of any location. In this respect the scale and nature of the proposal will be important considerations, as will its siting, appropriateness and its spatial

²⁶ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 - Section 4

context. The specific policies provide further guidance on the implementation of this spatially driven approach.

11.235 Tourism related proposals should reflect the character of the area and the impacts on the vicinity of the site as part of a place making approach. A recognition of the sense of place within the vicinity of the proposal should be implicit within the context of the cluster based approach which groups the settlement framework. In spatial terms, this would indicate that those larger scale high trip generating tourism proposals lend themselves to being situated in the south of the County where the infrastructure is in place to support them.

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

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

11.238 Some tourism related developments, by their very nature, must be located in the countryside. It is important that these developments do not

have any significant negative impact on the landscape, natural environment or amenity. In terms of the detailed policies for the Revised LDP, the emphasis is on providing clarification on the 2 notable challenges and opportunities facing the visitor economy in Carmarthenshire which are attractions (somewhere to go) and accommodation (somewhere to stay).

VE1: Visitor Attractions and Facilities

1. Proposals for high quality visitor attractions and facilities, including appropriate extensions to existing facilities will be permitted where they are located within, or directly related to a defined settlement (Policy SP16).

2. All other proposals for high quality visitor attraction and facilities not considered under Point 1 above will be permitted, where they are demonstrably reliant on the specific attributes of the site / open countryside location. Proposals should demonstrate that the following sequential approach has been undertaken where the adaptation and re-use of an existing building has been considered in the first instance; then previously developed land; then a greenfield location.

All proposals should reflect and respect the role and function and sense of place of the area, most notably in terms of scale, type, character, design, layout and appearance.

Where appropriate, proposals should be accessible by various modes of transport - especially sustainable modes of transport - such as walking, cycling and public transport.

11.239 This policy acknowledges the economic opportunities afforded by the tourism sector but also emphasises the importance of maintaining the social, economic and environmental integrity of the County. There should be no social, economic and environmental harm arising from the proposal and satisfactory levels of accessibility must be in place.

11.240 The provision of a range and choice of attractions and facilities can assist in unlocking the County's visitor economy potential. 'Rainy day' attractions offer particular potential to counter issues of seasonality, whilst job creation opportunities should also be maximised. Dual use facilities – i.e. attractions that are open to day trippers and the local community, offer potential wider benefits. Proposals that seek to align with a wider network of attractions within the County do provide potential to broaden the overall offer as well as increase the length of stay and amount of monetary spend in Carmarthenshire's visitor economy.

11.241 Proposals that are not located within or directly related to a settlement defined in Policy SP16 should demonstrate that the specific location is essential both in terms of the viability and feasibility of the development. The applicant will need to demonstrate why the specific location is essential and why the proposal is highly dependent on the

attributes of the site. This could be done by clarifying how the site / proposal is visually, functionally and spatially connected to a defined feature. This could include a natural, historic, or man-made features (e.g. an established facility).

11.242 Proposals that are not located within or directly related to a settlement defined in Policy SP16 should first look at re-using or extending existing buildings. Should there be no existing building to accommodate the new proposal, previously developed land should be considered, followed lastly by greenfield sites.

11.243 Where relevant, the Council will seek the submission of a tourism supporting statement. Such a statement provides a mechanism for the applicant to demonstrate the policy alignment of the proposal. A statement can also provide an applicant with the opportunity to fully demonstrate the economic credentials of the proposal (as commensurate with size/scale etc).

Policy VE2: Permanent Holiday Accommodation

1. Proposals for high quality serviced holiday accommodation, including appropriate extensions to existing accommodation, will be permitted where they are located within, or directly related to a defined settlement (Policy SP16).

2. Proposals for serviced and self-catering accommodation that are located outside of the above locations will only be permitted where they consist of the re-use and adaptation (including conversion) of existing buildings. Proposals for the re-use and adaptation (including conversion) of existing buildings should comply with the following criteria:

- a) the form, bulk and general design of the proposal, including any extensions, respect the rural character and appearance of the building;**
- b) the original building is structurally sound and any rebuilding works, necessitated by poor structural conditions and/ or the need for new openings in walls, do not involve substantial reconstruction;**
- c) where applicable, the architectural character and traditional materials have been retained and the proposal does not result in the loss of the original structure's character, or that the construction of the building is of sufficient quality not to require substantive or wholesale refurbishment;**
- d) the proposal conforms with criteria a), b) and c) of Policy RD4.**

All proposals set out above should reflect and respect the role and function and sense of place of the area, most notably in terms of scale, type, character, design, layout and appearance - as well as those uses already located in the vicinity of the site.

11.244 This policy acknowledges the benefits of a diverse accommodation offer in terms of providing a range and choice of places to stay. The potential contribution of high quality hotels and other serviced accommodation in augmenting and broadening the County's service sector economy is duly noted. This can offer a range of economic benefits, whilst also allowing the County to broaden its offer and appeal to wider demographic / customer bases, and secure an increased amount and duration of visitor spend.

11.245 This policy applies to a variety of different types from large high quality hotels to small bed and breakfast accommodation.

11.246 Where planning permission is given for permanent holiday accommodation, the Council will consider the attachment of conditions restricting the use to holiday accommodation only. Seasonal occupancy conditions may also be used to prevent the permanent residential occupation of such accommodation.

11.247 Buildings that are of a substandard modern utilitarian construction (including materials such as single skin concrete block work, portal framed buildings clad in metal sheeting) or buildings of substandard quality and / or incongruous appearance will not generally be considered appropriate for conversion to holiday accommodation. Reference should

also be made to Policy RD4: Conversion and Re-use of Rural Buildings for Non Residential use.

11.248 Where relevant, the Council will seek the submission of a tourism supporting statement. Such a statement provides a mechanism for the applicant to demonstrate the policy alignment of the proposal.

11.249 Reference is made to Policy RD3: Farm Diversification which provides the policy framework for farm diversification projects that seek to positively contribute to, and strengthen the rural economy.

Policy VE3: Touring Caravan, Camping and Glamping Sites

Proposals for new sites, and for extensions, improvements or the intensification of existing sites, will be permitted where they reflect and respect the role and function and sense of place of the area, as well as the following:

- (a) they are of high quality in terms of design, layout and appearance, and will not have an unacceptable adverse effect upon the surrounding landscape and/or townscape;**
- (b) they will not result in an excessive area of hard standing, and the accommodation units can easily be removed from the site;**
- (c) they will not result in an over concentration of sites within the area;**

- (d) they are suitably located in relation to the main highway network and adequate access can be provided without detriment to the natural and built environment;**
- (e) the accommodation is used for touring purposes only, with occupation limited to holiday use.**

Proposals which include a need for ancillary structures should demonstrate that a sequential approach has been considered, commencing with the re-use of existing buildings, followed by the need to construct new buildings.

New buildings will only be permitted where they are appropriate in terms of their siting, need and scale.

11.250 This policy recognises that appropriate high quality proposals should be supported. This recognises the need to provide a diverse accommodation offer in terms of providing a range and choice of places to stay within the County.

11.251 This policy provides for consideration of proposals for touring caravans, tents, glamping pods and units, trailer tents and motorcaravans / homes – i.e non-permanent visitor accommodation.

11.252 In responding to emerging trends within the sector, this policy also allows for the consideration of glamping accommodation units. These may not present as traditional tents and are also unlikely to fit into the

statutory definition of a caravan. Glamping accommodation can include tepees, pods, yurts, wigwams etc. For such a unit to be considered as non-permanent, it should have a limited physical anchoring / connection to the ground and should be transient and low impact. The unit should be easily removable from the site. The use of concrete bases is not considered appropriate, whilst any timber platforms or decking should be capable of being easily removed from the site. The unit should provide basic holiday accommodation only – e.g. sleeping, eating and seating.

11.253 The Council will consider the use of conditions – including restricting the use to holiday accommodation only, or to limit the operational period of the site. There is an expectation that the site can be restored its original state and that any accommodation units are removed from the site when it is closed.

11.254 Whilst the non-permanent nature of proposals considered under this policy mean that they are likely to have less of an impact on the landscape and environment than static units, they must still sit satisfactorily within the landscape and/or townscape. The Council will need to be satisfied that there is no adverse impact, particularly from a landscape capacity point of view. There should be an emphasis on well screened proposals where units can be readily assimilated into the landscape without the need for excessive man made features such as hard-standing and fencing. Due regard should be given to LDP policies

SP 11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places and PSD1: Sustainable and High Quality Design.

11.255 Where relevant, the Council will seek the submission of a tourism supporting statement. Such a statement provides a mechanism for the applicant to demonstrate the policy alignment of the proposal. Within the context of this policy, it is likely that the Council will seek a landscaping scheme to allow for an appraisal of setting, site layout, and screening. It will also allow the applicant to elaborate upon the economic benefits of the proposal (as commensurate with size/scale etc).

Policy VE4: Static Caravan and Chalet Sites

- 1. Proposals for new Static Caravan and Chalet Sites will be permitted where:**
 - a) they are directly related to a defined settlement (Policy SP16), or, they are located or demonstrate a spatial and functional relationship with a relevant existing tourism facility or attraction;**
 - b) they are of high quality in terms of design, layout and appearance, and will not have an unacceptable adverse effect upon the surrounding landscape and/or townscape;**
 - c) they will not lead to a significant and unacceptable intensification in the provision of sites in the locality;**

d) they are suitably located in relation to the main highway network and adequate access can be provided.

2. Proposals for the enhancement and extension of existing sites will be permitted where:

e) it will increase the vitality, sustainability and environmental quality of the site;

f) it will not result in an unacceptable increase in the density of units and/or the overall scale of the site.

g) it will not have an unacceptable harm on the surrounding landscape and / or townscape;

h) it provides (where appropriate) for the significant improvement of the overall quality, appearance and setting of the site.

11.256 This policy recognises that appropriate high quality proposals should be supported. This recognises the need to provide a diverse accommodation offer in terms of providing a range and choice of places to stay within the County.

11.257 The Council will consider the application of conditions – including restricting the use to holiday accommodation only and / or to limit the operational period of the site. It is likely to be on rare occasions that sites

will possess those features that would allow them to stay open in the winter months.

11.258 Where appropriate, the Council will require site operators to maintain an up to date register of the names of all owner/occupiers of the static units and their main home address in order to ensure that the holiday units do not become the owner/occupier's main place of residence.

11.259 The underpinning design principle for static visitor accommodation should be high quality – notably in terms of layout and appearance. Proposals should be sited in unobtrusive locations which are suitably screened by existing landscape features and/or where the units can be readily assimilated into the landscape in a way which does not significantly harm the visual quality of the landscape, seascape or townscape. Due regard should be given to LDP policies SP 11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places and PSD1: Sustainable and High Quality Design.

11.260 The demonstration of a spatial and functional relationship with a relevant existing tourism facility or attraction should be proportionate to the size and nature of the proposal. It is considered that proposals for static holiday accommodation that are of a sporadic and unrelated nature are highly unlikely to be able to demonstrate the required relationship.

11.261 Many existing static units are located in visually sensitive areas, particularly along Carmarthenshire's coastline. The policy seeks to promote improvements and upgrade the standard of visitor accommodation on existing sites, and to reduce the impact of these sites on the landscape / seascape. Such proposals should satisfy the policies and provisions of the Plan as a whole.

11.262 The policy seeks to reflect the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 in that it recognises the risks posed by flood risk and /or erosion emerging from coastal change. To this end, reference should be made to LDP policy NE7: Coastal Change Management Area in terms of the potential relocation of a static caravan(s), chalet(s) or permanent other visitor accommodation unit(s).

11.263 Where relevant, the Council will seek the submission of a tourism supporting statement. Such a statement provides a mechanism for the applicant to demonstrate the policy alignment of the proposal. Within the context of this policy, it is likely that the Council will seek a landscaping scheme to allow for an appraisal of setting, site layout, and screening, as well as an improvement plan for extensions. Issues of landscape capacity are also noted. The statement should also allow the opportunity for the applicant to elaborate upon the economic benefits of the proposal (as commensurate with size/scale).

Strategic Policy – SP 11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places

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

In order to achieve this, all development should:

- a) **Contribute towards the creation of attractive, cohesive, safe places and public spaces, which enhance the health and well-being or quality of life of residents and communities, including safeguarding amenity, landscaping, the public realm and the provision of open space and recreation;**
- b) **The design, layout and orientation of proposed building(s), and the spaces between and around them, should create an attractive, legible, healthy, accessible and safe environment;**
- c) **Retain and enhance the network of green infrastructure including where appropriate including incorporating new opportunities to enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity (including the incorporation of local features);**
- d) **Be adaptable to climate change and maximise opportunities for sustainable construction techniques, resource efficiency and contribute towards increase low carbon and renewable energy generation.**
- e) **Utilise materials and resources appropriate to the area within which it is located;**
- f) **Exhibit and demonstrate a clear understanding of the existing natural and built heritage, local character and sense of place;**
- g) **Contribute to, or create opportunities for Active Travel and access to public transport;**
- h) **Consider and where appropriate incorporate new, and/or enhance existing connections to essential social infrastructure and community facilities;**
- i) **Be accessible and integrated allowing permeability and ease of movement which promotes the interests of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport which ensures ease of access for all;**
- j) **Have regard to the generation, treatment and disposal of waste;**
- k) **Manage water sustainably, including incorporating sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) into design of any development proposals.**

11.264 Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government (WG). Its central objective is to promote and provide a framework for sustainable development within Wales.

11.265 A key component of this national policy agenda, and the sustainable development objectives which underpin it, relates to the need to embrace placemaking as part of the plan making and decision making

process. National planning policy identifies Sustainable Places as the goal of the land use planning system in Wales. PPW states that; they are the output of the planning system rather than the process of achieving them. All development decisions, either through development plans policy choices or individual development management decisions should seek to contribute towards the making of sustainable places and improved well-being²⁷.

11.266 The WG is committed to promoting more sustainable forms of development, and their sustainable development scheme, One Wales: One Planet, (2009) sets out their approach to sustainable development. Through the planning system in Wales, good design can be used to play a major role in delivering sustainable forms of development with the Revised LDP committed to taking forward the sustainable placemaking agenda through its policies recognising the role new developments in potentially contributing to the making of places, and the areas qualities. The approach seeks to accord with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 promoting social inclusion, equality of opportunity and access for all as well as the health and well-being of our communities.

11.267 Achieving good design and creating an effective sense of place requires an understanding of the relationship between all elements of the

²⁷ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – Paragraph 2.2

natural and built environment. Design is a fundamental component in creating sustainable development, which is itself at the forefront of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.

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

11.269 The policy integrates key elements of sustainable placemaking which contribute to the delivery of the Plan's Vision of creating prosperous, cohesive and sustainable communities. It also recognises the role that the County's unique environmental and historic and cultural qualities play in defining a healthy, safe and prosperous environment. The role of the Green Infrastructure and its network of multifunctional open spaces is an important component as is its provisions for health and well-being and enhanced opportunities for Active Travel and promotes improved.

11.270 There are environmental, social, as well as economic benefits to creating a well-designed development. Designing a high quality environment is an essential ingredient to achieving economic prosperity

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

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

11.272 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (Schedule 3) establishes Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SABs) and requires

²⁸ Carmarthenshire County Council Webpages – Sustainable Drainage Systems - <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/sustainable-drainage-approval-body-sab/#.XZ2soOaou70>

new developments to include Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) features that comply with national standards.

11.273 Whilst the SuDS consenting process forms part of a separate regulatory regime to planning, this Plan recognises the importance of the consideration of SuDS forming part of the design concept from the outset as part of a placemaking approach. In this regard, this Plan recognises that SuDS can be used effectively in both rural and urban areas to support new development and redevelopment, whilst reducing the risk of surface water flooding and creating opportunities for improved water quality, bio-diverse rich habitats and new community recreational spaces.

11.274 Developers are advised to contact with the Council's SAB at a timely stage in order to clarify and scope requirements. ²⁸

PSD1: Sustainable and High Quality Design

Development proposals shall demonstrate effective delivery of site specific design and sustainability objectives. Development shall deliver quality design solutions which are appropriate to the specific site, local area and nature of development.

Proposals shall clearly demonstrate:

- a) **A positive understanding of local characteristics through consideration of: the landscape; built environment; and historic and cultural context. This should fully inform the delivery of high-quality design protecting, enhancing, and responding to the identified characteristics, including the:**
 - i. **layout and landscape design scheme;**
 - ii. **form, scale, dimensions, materials and detailing of all built elements and surfaces.**
- b) **Where issues of ground instability can be satisfactorily overcome in an environmentally acceptable manner which minimises excavation and filling and utilises the existing site topography.**
- c) **High-quality design solutions which deliver solutions in relation to buildings and spaces and their inter-relationships, and delivers a effective, safe and inclusive site layout and efficient use of site area;**
- d) **That the development will not result in significant adverse impacts to the amenity of adjacent land uses, properties, residents or the community; and any potential adverse impacts have been avoided, minimised and mitigated.**
- e) **High-quality landscapes and built environments which:**
 - iii. **retain, protect and integrates the existing landscape, built environment, ecological and green infrastructure network**
 - iv. **enhances the visual amenity and character and creates an attractive public realm with a clear and legible sense of place.**
 - v. **minimises potential adverse visual impacts**
- f) **That the development delivers or contributes to:**
 - vi. **safe and efficient connections to existing access networks including active travel and public transport network;**
 - vii. **legible access routes and surfaces which promote effective accessibility for all and ease of movement into and through the site;**
 - viii. **provision of appropriate onsite standards including parking and servicing.**
- g) **That the development delivers sustainable and resilient measures for the treatment and disposal of surface and foul water; which are fully integrated into the site layout and maximise opportunities for the provision of additional**

value through functions which deliver landscape, ecological and green infrastructure policy objectives

- h) That design solutions are deliverable for the lifetime of the proposed development.**
- i) It includes, where applicable, provision for the appropriate management and eradication of invasive species**

11.275 This plan and the policy seeks to ensure development proposals exhibit high quality and sustainable design principles which are reflective of the local context. High quality design sits at the heart of our ambitions for the creation of prosperous, cohesive and sustainable communities. An important part of this is putting in place a design-led regeneration approach which provides for high quality developments and designs in a way which recognises local distinctiveness, and the relationship between the existing built form and new developments.

11.276 The Plan seeks to reflect the provisions of national policy and the embedding of sustainable development within the plan recognising that new homes and developments should be provided in a way which is consistent with sustainability principles. Matters such as the layout, scale, form, massing, height, density, materials and specific detailing (including the colour pallet) are important components. However it is recognised

that these cannot be prescriptive and will vary across development and the Plan area.

11.277 Creating good design should not be limited solely to the physical appearance of buildings and specific structural details alone will not create a successful place. Rather, the potential mix of uses within a development and/or buildings, spaces (including important vistas and gaps) and the wider community relate to one another are of equal importance if the development is to deliver the sense of place desired.

11.278 This policy in conjunction with SP11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places, PSD3: Green Infrastructure Network and PSD2: Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods together with other plan policies set an overarching framework for high design quality in development, conservation and enhancement proposals within the County.

11.279 The County's historic buildings, townscape and landscape should be treated as an asset and positively conserved and enhanced for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. Further guidance on the development and preservation of historic and cultural identities can be found within Strategic Policy SP14.

11.280 Proposals should reflect the need to protect the qualities of the area and the amenity of those who work in, live in and visit the area. The siting and nature of uses should be considered in the light of their potential to cause an unacceptable nuisance. Considerations of amenity can relate to all forms of development across the County. Consequently, the policy seeks to respect, and where appropriate, protect the amenity of existing residents.

11.281 The siting, layout and detailed design of development will often be critically important to the success of efforts to provide genuine alternatives to car travel. Good site locations and well-designed developments can increase the sites legibility and access to pedestrian, cycling and public transport routes thus reducing the amount of car traffic and speeds. This Plan, and other strategies ensure that new developments achieve social, economic and environmental sustainability, creating cohesive and socially inclusive places which reinforce local identity.

11.282 Poor quality design can not only undermine the character, qualities and appearance of an area, but can also impact on the amenity of existing residents and their quality of life. Design solutions should consider such impacts in relation to: visual impact, loss of light, overlooking/privacy, disturbance and the likely implications of traffic movements or operational considerations.

11.283 Proposals should also consider the quality of life of potential occupants of the development. The size of living spaces is also considered important in maintaining an appropriate living standard including providing for healthy and attractive environments to live. It should be noted that such considerations will apply to conversions where there is a potential for an over intensification of use giving rise to cramped living conditions.

11.284 Design and Access Statement (DAS) should, where appropriate, be submitted to accompany planning applications. The DAS should include the detail necessary to ensure the application and the design considerations of any development are fully expressed having regard to policy provisions and their context.

11.285 Proposals for developments of over 100 homes will be required to have regard to the provisions of Policy PSD2: Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods. The policy will be further expanded upon by SPG including specific guidance on Placemaking and Design Principles. Green Infrastructure and its network of multifunctional open spaces will be an integral part of any effective design solution. Consequently proposals will be expected to have appropriate regard to Policy PSD3: Green Infrastructure Network.

11.286 Natural surveillance is an important consideration in ensuring safer places and more inclusive developments and communities.

11.287 The Plan recognises that unstable land can occur for a number of reasons, albeit they often fall within the following categories:

1. The effects of underground cavities – whether of natural origin or due to mining or civil engineering works;
2. Unstable slopes – these may be natural (e.g. eroding coastlines) or man-made (such as quarries, cuttings or embankments) or,
3. Ground compression – this may be of natural origin due to peat, alluvial, estuarine or marine soils; or due to human activities e.g. made ground, landfill or restored opencast mines; and ground subject to movement due to shrinking and swelling clays.

11.288 In those areas where land instability is known, development proposals must be accompanied by a scoping report, which will identify the nature of the (potential) instability. The report should be sufficiently detailed in order for the local authority and any other statutory agency to ascertain whether:

- a) there is no potential threat for a development to go ahead;
- b) instability problems cannot be overcome; or

c) measures could be implemented to overcome identified problems. A detailed stability report will be required to accompany the application which:

1. Is produced by a “competent person”, most appropriately a geotechnical specialist able to demonstrate relevant specialist experience in the assessment and evaluation of instability; and
2. Identifies the measures required to mitigate against the identified risk(s).

11.289 It is important that proposals are designed for the lifetime of the development. Proposals should identify maintenance responsibility, and the funding arrangements for maintenance for the lifetime of the proposed development.

PSD2: Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods

For proposals where the development is for 50 homes or more, there will be a requirement to submit a comprehensive and integrated ‘masterplan’ for the entire site demonstrating a coherent and coordinated approach to creating neighbourhoods in accordance with placemaking and good design principles. Consideration should be given to the following guiding principles (where appropriate):

- a) **A breakdown of densities across the site reflecting the physical characteristics of the site and the character and appearance of the surrounding community. Higher density developments will be expected to relate directly to public transport corridors and reflect the settlement's position within the settlement framework (Strategic Policy SP16);**
- b) **How they will contribute to the delivery of sustainable transport choices including active travel and accessibility to public transport;**
- c) **How the proposal integrates and links effectively into the surrounding community including links within and through the site for sustainable transport choices. Proposals should seek to establish good legibility and connectivity both within the site and linking to the wider area;**
- d) **The provision of facilities to meet the social and community needs of the development and where appropriate the wider community;**
- e) **Include responsive solutions reflecting the local context and the opportunities for sustainable construction techniques;**
- f) **Integration of the network of green infrastructure and connected open spaces in providing a cohesive and integrated environment for people, wildlife and open spaces for sports, recreation and play;**
- g) **Sympathetic integration of landscape form, biodiversity and built and historic features within and surrounding the site into the development. Proposals will be expected to look outwards beyond the site boundary**

- (and not just within the site) in delivering high quality sustainable neighbourhoods;**
- h) **A phasing plan for the delivery of the development along with timely provision of supporting infrastructure;**
- i) **Reflect the linguistic and cultural identity of the County and contribute towards safeguarding and promoting the Welsh language;**
- j) **Include innovative and creative solutions in relation to resource efficiency, low carbon development and renewable energy generation;**
- k) **Integrate site features arising from SUD's as part of the development and consider the additional value or functions which these may provide.**

11.290 The policy sets out a masterplanning as a requirement for developments in delivering a holistic placemaking approach for all allocated and windfall sites of 50 or more homes. A masterplan for all sites allocated for 50 homes or more will need to be agreed prior to granting planning permission relating to these sites.

11.291 The policy recognises the benefits that can arise from effective masterplanning not only in terms of the quality of environment and sense of place it can create, but also as an opportunity to integrate all the relevant developmental considerations and requirements into a single expression of the proposals form.

11.292 Utilising this approach proposals will be able to express in a clear and coherent way how factors such as the new, or enhancement of existing, infrastructure can add value to existing and future residents, forming and guiding future provision. Such an approach will provide greater certainty and integrate opportunities for a connected living, legible streets, a sequence of open spaces and Green Infrastructure and developments that fit their surroundings.

11.293 Masterplanning proposals should consider and plan for the effective and integrated phasing of the development taking into account different tenure mixes and the suitable provision of facilities at appropriate stages in a sites development. This will ensure a development is comprehensively planned with cohesive and sustainable communities at their heart.

11.294 The masterplan should be considered at outline planning application stage with its parameters and content agreed, to which a future reserved matters applications should accord.

PSD3: Green Infrastructure Network

Development proposals will be required to integrate, protect and maintain existing GI assets and to enhance the extent, quality, connectivity and multi-functionality of the green infrastructure network. Where the loss or damage of existing

green infrastructure is unavoidable, appropriate mitigation and compensation will be required.

All developments should seek to maximise as far as practicable, the amount of green infrastructure on the site, as well as the interconnectedness of green infrastructure within and around the site to the wider green infrastructure network. They should also take opportunities to achieve multi-functionality by bringing green infrastructure functions together.

All major developments will be required to submit a Green Infrastructure Assessment.

11.295 This policy aims to ensure that Carmarthenshire's green infrastructure assets are valued, protected, enhanced and managed through a green infrastructure network. At the landscape scale green infrastructure assets can comprise entire ecosystems such as wetlands, woodlands, heathlands and waterways. At a local scale, it might comprise of parks, fields, footpaths, Public Rights of Way, cycle ways, common land, open access land, canals, allotments, cemeteries, landscaped areas and gardens. At smaller scales, individual urban interventions such as street trees, roadside verges, and green roofs can all contribute to green infrastructure networks.

11.296 Green Infrastructure Assessment will be required to demonstrate:

- a) the location, quality and condition of all existing GI assets and landscape and ecological elements and features on, and adjacent to the site, and those subject to:
- i. potential impacts from the development, and details of how the impacts have been avoided and minimised through specific design and protection measures.
 - ii. unavoidable impacts from the development, and details of how the impacts have been mitigated, or compensated for within the proposed development layout and landscape design scheme;
- b) effective design solutions which maximise opportunities to: enhance the quality and extent of existing; and enable the creation of new GI assets and landscape and ecological elements and features, to enhance the connectivity and multi-functionality of the GI network

11.297 When appropriately planned, designed and managed, green infrastructure has the potential to deliver a wide range of benefits for people and wildlife. By considering the multiple functions that a GI asset can provide simultaneously, it can significantly reduce costs for individuals, businesses and public bodies, whilst enhancing the quality of life and health of residents, workers and visitors to Carmarthenshire.

11.298 These functions that green infrastructure can provide fit broadly under the following themes:

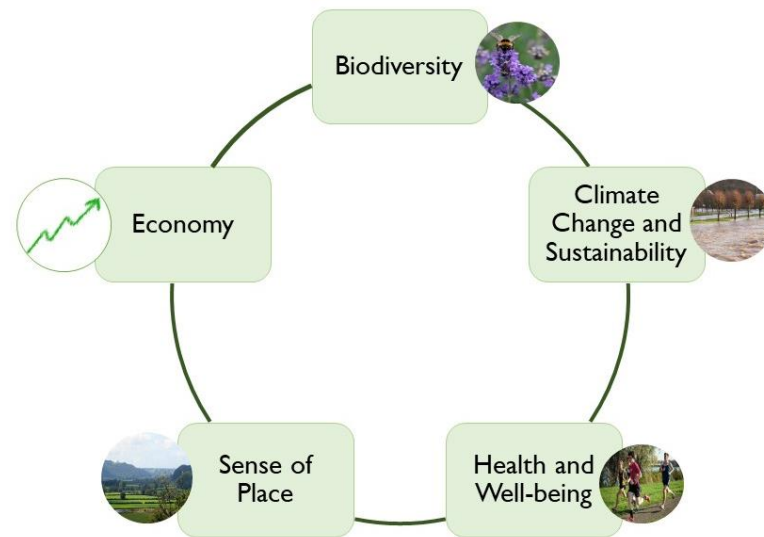


Figure 11: Green Infrastructure

Biodiversity: GI can improve connectivity between existing areas of nature, reducing habitat fragmentation and loss and increasing ecological resilience. Development proposals will conserve and enhance on-site biodiversity, and habitat networks within and adjacent to the site. This should include identifying ways to minimise or reverse the fragmentation of habitats, and to improve habitat connectivity through the promotion of wildlife corridors and identifying opportunities for land rehabilitation, landscape management and the creation of new or improved habitats.

Sense of place: Incorporating GI features into new development is an important component of the WG placemaking approach and can

contribute to the unique sense of place of an area or settlement.

Retaining existing features into proposals helps to create places that are distinct and can help to soften the impact of change by creating a sense of continuity that acknowledges local identity. Green infrastructure is integral to place-making and therefore must be part of the development design process from the outset, rather than being relegated to 'left over' land.

Climate Change: GI can play a vital part in efforts to combat, mitigate and adapt to climate change, and will play an increasingly important role in climate-proofing both urban and rural areas. Increasing the green cover of our towns and cities can provide a number of benefits towards tackling climate change. These include carbon sequestration and storage, heat amelioration and reduction of flood risk as well as mitigating climate change induced reductions in air and water quality. Development should as far as possible seek to maximise these benefits, with prioritisation of benefits to be considered in the following areas:

- Within flood zones as identified by Natural Resources Wales, the provision of capacity for water storage in the event of a flood
- Within the Principle Centres, the provision of relief from high temperatures through increased canopy cover and efficient use of surfaces to maximise the provision of green infrastructure including through green roofs and green walls.

- Within areas of poor average resident health, the provision of opportunities for physical activity.
- Within Air Quality Management Zones, the provision of removal of air pollutants through suitable tree and foliage planting.

Development proposals will also integrate naturalised SuDS into the design of green infrastructure, and should as far as possible, ensure that SuDS provision is multifunctional.

Health and Well-being: Green infrastructure can be an effective means of enhancing health and well-being, through linking dwellings, workplaces and community facilities and providing high quality, accessible green spaces. Development should seek to maximise the benefits, and where appropriate public use, of green infrastructure, with emphasis on promoting healthier communities. Development proposals will meet local accessibility, quality and quantity standards for open space, and be designed to cater for the needs of the community. Development proposals will maintain and enhance the quality and connectivity of access networks, integrating active travel routes (linking workplaces, schools, community facilities and public transport hubs) and recreation routes into green infrastructure.

Economy: Protecting and investing in GI can support economic success and sustainable growth. GI can attract inward investment, making a local

area more attractive to businesses and visitors. It can also save developers money as GI assets have the potential to satisfy a number of requirements in a multifunctional solution e.g. open space and SuDS. To this end development should seek to identify and maximise the quality, use and multifunctionality of green infrastructure provision on site.

11.299 Consequently further guidance on Green Infrastructure as part of development will be prepared as SPG in support of the placemaking agenda and the creation of high quality and biodiverse living environments.

PSD4: Green Infrastructure – Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows

Proposals for development should retain and extend tree cover where important to the amenity, natural environment and the built form. Proposals should retain existing trees, woodland and hedgerows and, where loss is unavoidable provide appropriate replacement throughout the development.

Where there is an unavoidable loss of trees on site, replacement trees will be required to be planted on site at a rate of two new trees for each tree lost. The planting of new, additional trees is also supported and encouraged as part of new developments.

Development proposals will not be permitted where they have an adverse impact on trees, woodlands and hedgerows which are:

- a) Protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO);**
- b) Ancient woodlands including individual ancient and veteran trees;**
- c) Important to the setting and character of a conservation area.**

Tree survey information should be submitted with all planning applications, where trees are present on site. The tree survey information should include protection, mitigation and management measures.

11.300 The policy recognises the important contribution trees, woodlands and hedgerows can have to the environment and to our communities. Trees and woodlands play an important role within the plan area and are intrinsic to the landscape and urban character whilst providing habitat and increasing climate change resilience.

11.301 Their contribution within the urban form is particularly recognised. They help to trap air pollutants, provide shading, absorb rainwater and filter noise. They also provide extensive areas of habitat for wildlife, especially mature trees. Carmarthenshire's Green infrastructure network reflects tier importance in the urban realm and within our towns and villages - in both public and private spaces, along linear routes and waterways, and in amenity areas.

11.302 We consider their retention and additional new planting to be an important part in creating a cohesive and healthy communities within a valued and biodiverse rural and landscape context. All planning applications should be accompanied by a tree survey where trees are present on site. This should include protection, mitigation and management measures. Appropriate management measures must be implemented to protect newly planted and existing trees, woodlands and/or hedgerows.

11.303 The policy reflects the links through quality placemaking and Green Infrastructure. Consequently further guidance on Trees and planting as part of new developments will be prepared as SPG in support of the placemaking agenda and the creation of high quality and biodiverse living environments.

11.304 New trees planted should be of a species native to, and of a maturity respective to the site to the Council's satisfaction.

PSD5: Development and the Circular Economy

Development proposals will be required to demonstrate, via the submission of a natural materials management plan, how the generation of waste has been minimised and any waste

generated managed in order to keep resources in use for as long as possible in:

- a. the layout and design of the development;**
- b. any demolition and construction phase;**
- c. respect of any opportunities for utilising waste for re-use and recycling;**
- d. respect of any opportunities for utilising residual waste as a source of fuel.**

11.305 A key element within PPW Ed10 is the move towards embracing a more circular economy in Wales. A circular economy is one which aims to keep materials, products and components in use for as long as possible. There are environmental, social and economic benefits of taking such an approach, most notably the increased value and productivity of materials, financial savings for the construction sector and the prevention of waste.

11.306 In order to facilitate the requirements of this policy, development proposals will need to be accompanied by a natural materials management plan. The Plan should identify all the natural materials on the site prior to the development, these may be existing buildings to be demolished or the natural ground to be disturbed. It should explain how the generation of waste from these materials will be minimised and that the design and layout has given full consideration to ensuring that a cut and fill balance is as close to neutral as possible.

11.307 Development proposals will be encouraged that incorporate design features and materials which enable flexibility and adaptability throughout the design life of a building and which will enable re-use of the materials upon deconstruction.

11.308 Where appropriate, the use of locally sourced, alternative or recycled materials will be encouraged, including the reuse and recycling of secondary aggregates, construction, demolition and excavation waste, incinerator bottom ash and other appropriate recycled materials.

11.309 Construction sites inevitably require a degree of cut and fill engineering operations. As part of site treatment, the cut and fill balance of materials excavated should be assessed so as to avoid the creation of waste which cannot be effectively re-used due to lack of suitable storage facilities. As part of the natural resources management plan developers should design proposals to achieve an earthwork balance which seeks to minimise cut and fill or which may provide for remediation of land elsewhere in the area.

11.310 The Planning Authority will encourage innovative approaches to recycling, particularly those which bring multiple benefits such as reducing energy costs and associated emissions. This may include the practice of on-site recycling on minerals sites and the recycling of

construction and demolition waste in conjunction with other suitable uses, such as within builder's merchant yards.

11.311 In circumstances where reuse or recycling of the waste is not possible, the applicant will need to provide evidence to show where the residual waste will be disposed. Options that will be encouraged include the potential for utilising the waste as a source of fuel, such as in high efficiency energy recovery from waste, possibly linked to district heating systems.

PSD6: Community Facilities

Proposals for new and improved community facilities, including health and education facilities will be supported where it accords with the following:

- a) It would be readily accessible to the local community it is intended to serve by public transport, walking and cycling;**
- b) It is within, or is directly related to a settlement identified in Policy SP16: Sustainable Distribution;**
- c) It would not unduly harm the amenities nearby residential properties;**
- d) It would not detract from the character and appearance of the area;**
- e) It will not lead to unacceptable parking or traffic problems;**

f) It is designed with appropriate flexibility and adaptability to accommodate additional community uses without compromising its primary intended use.

11.312 Providing a range of community facilities that are accessible to as many people as possible is fundamental in terms of securing sustainable communities. Such facilities are valuable not only in terms of the amenity they provide, but are also important in generating employment and attracting people to live within an area. Community facilities contribute significantly to the well-being, quality of life, enjoyment and inclusivity of settlements and communities within the County. In this regard, their potential loss should be carefully considered given consequential impacts in terms of sustainability and community identity. The protection and retention of community facilities should, wherever feasible, be considered and responsive approaches adopted to assist in their retention.

11.313 The above policy also recognises the potential for development where it occurs to place a strain on existing facilities. Consequently, the adequacy of existing facilities such as healthcare is an important consideration. As a result, the policy seeks to ensure that adequate facilities are provided to meet the future demands of local communities.

11.314 The policy seeks to encourage the potential for dual use of facilities, particularly where the additional activity would assist in broadening service delivery and enhancing viability and usage.

Establishing the viability of a facility, within the context of changing demographic characteristics, condition and maintenance and shifting patterns of demand may mean that some facilities no longer meet requirements. In such circumstances, alternative forms of provision and usage may be appropriate. Such a determination should be informed, where appropriate, by local evidence, the facility/service provider and the local community.

11.315 The promotion of accessibility to formal and informal recreation and leisure is an important consideration for the LDP. Sports fields, allotments, parks and wider natural based amenities such as waterways and woodlands provide opportunities for potential health benefits and add to a community's sense of place, as well as integrating green infrastructure into the urban form.

11.316 They also have potential to mitigate against the causes and effects of climate change, and can provide arenas for social interaction and community cohesion. Reference should be made to policy PSD7 in respect of Recreation and Open Space.

11.317 The relationship between the access to healthcare facilities and new development is recognised and reference should be had to Policy INF2: Healthy Communities.

11.318 The provision of community facilities will be supported where they accord with Strategic Policy SP16: Sustainable Distribution Settlement Framework. The siting of proposals for the provision of new educational and health facilities will be supported on sites within and immediately adjacent to the limits of defined settlements where they are in accordance with the strategy and policies of this LDP.

11.319 The Council may seek developer contributions through planning obligations to mitigate the impacts of particular developments, and to facilitate the delivery of the Plan policies and proposals.

PSD7: Protection of Open Space

Provision will be made to protect and wherever possible enhance accessibility to open space.

Proposals which result in the loss of existing open space will only be permitted where:

- a) It is demonstrated that there is provision of at least equivalent value available within the settlement, or appropriately accessible location; and,**
- b) It would not cause or exacerbate a deficiency of open space; or,**
- c) The re-development of a small part of the site would allow for the retention and improvement of the majority of the facility; or,**

d) A satisfactory financial contribution towards compensatory provision is provided as an acceptable alternative facility.

11.320 Definitions of open space and a clarification of the County's accessibility standards are provided within the Carmarthenshire Open Space Assessment with additional information also provided in the Carmarthenshire Green Infrastructure Assessment. For the purposes of this Plan, open space is defined as areas including playing fields, equipped children's play areas, outdoor sports facilities, informal recreation and amenity or play space (i.e. natural green space, play space and public open space).

11.321 The identified open space provision in the County is mapped and assessed within the Carmarthenshire Open Space Assessment. It should however be noted that there may be additional areas of open space which are not reflected in the Assessment which make a valuable contribution towards the provision of open space within the community. Whilst these areas are not mapped as part of the LDP, they would nevertheless be afforded protection under this policy where considered appropriate.

11.322 Whilst the protection of existing open space is a key aspect of the above policy, it also provides a measure of flexibility. The consideration of changing demographic characteristics, the condition and vitality of

existing provision, and any shifting patterns in need may mean that existing open space is no longer meeting requirements. There may be a surplus of provision identified or there may be scope to improve the existing provision to meet the local community's needs through development. In such circumstances, the policy seeks to allow for the enhancement or alteration of provision within the settlement as and where appropriate.

11.323 Where proposals have the potential to materially and adversely impact upon existing provision, the applicant will need to demonstrate that alternative provision is available to achieve the accessibility standards. The Open Space Assessment should be referred to for this purpose; the amount, location and type of open space should all be factored into the identification of alternative provision of 'equivalent value'. With regards to the changing patterns in need and use, consideration should be given to consulting with the Sports Council for Wales, alongside the Council's Leisure and Parks Services, the relevant Town and Community Councils, as well as other service providers and organisations with responsibility for the provision and maintenance of open space in the locality. It should be noted that it will be the responsibility of the applicant to provide sufficient information to demonstrate a proposal's compliance with this policy.

11.324 These open spaces make an important contribution to the Green Infrastructure of the County by providing areas for recreation, reducing the impact of climate change, improving health and well-being and enhancing biodiversity and connectivity, amongst other benefits. Regard should be had to Policy PSD3: Green Infrastructure Network and the need to maximise the amount of green infrastructure within a site and to achieve multi-functionality by bringing green infrastructure functions together.

PSD8: Provision of New Open Space

All new residential developments of ten or more homes will be required to contribute towards open space in accordance with the Council's open space standards.

In the event that the standards cannot be met on site, or where there is sufficient existing provision already available to service the development, then a commuted sum will be sought where appropriate.

11.325 The Carmarthenshire Open Space Assessment sets out the current provision of open space across the Plan area and the standards which the Council and developers should aim to deliver. This policy provides the means to achieve these standards which take into consideration the quantity, function and accessibility of provision. Further detail is outlined in the Open Space Assessment.

11.326 In determining whether or not there is a need for a contribution, the quantity, accessibility, quality and type of open space provision will need to be considered. Where there is an existing deficiency within a community and the proposed development is likely to exacerbate the situation then a contribution will be required. Equally, a contribution will be required in circumstances where the proposed development would result in a deficiency.

11.327 With regards the Natural Greenspace, Play Space and Public Open Space provision, the Council applies the following standards:

Natural Greenspace

1. No person should live more than 400m¹ from their nearest area of Natural Greenspace (of at least 0.5ha).
2. There should be at least one Natural Greenspace of 20ha or more, within 2km of every home.
3. There should be at least one Natural Greenspace site of 100ha or more, within 5km of every home.
4. There should be at least one Natural Greenspace site of 500ha or more, within 10km of every home.
5. There should be at least 2ha of Natural Greenspace for every 1000 of population.

Play Space

1. There should be at least 2.4ha of Play Space for every 1000 or population
2. At least 1.6ha of the 2.4ha should be Outdoor Sports Facilities

3. At least 0.8ha of the 2.4ha should be Children's Play Facilities
4. Everybody should live within 1,200m of Outdoor Sports Facilities
5. Everybody should live within 400m² of Children's Play Facilities

Public Open Space

1. There should be at least 0.8ha of Parks and Gardens for every 1000 of population
2. There should be at least 0.6ha of Amenity Green Space for every 1000 of population
3. Everybody should be within 700m of a Park or formal Garden
4. Everybody should be within 480m of an Amenity Greenspace

11.328 In addition to the quantitative and accessibility standards, regard should be had to the quality of the existing provision, taking into consideration its condition, its requirements for future maintenance and its suitability for all members of the community.

11.329 In situations where the standards can be met by existing open space provision which is of a suitable quality then a supporting statement will be required from the applicant to evidence this. In such circumstances, the Council may seek a commuted sum towards the maintenance or upgrade of existing nearby open space provision where considered necessary.

11.330 There may be situations where the standards cannot be met, for example, where the site cannot practically accommodate onsite provision of open space due to physical or design constraints, or where it would

render the development wholly unviable. In such circumstances a supporting statement should be provided by the developer to clarify why the standards cannot be adhered to on site and the Local Planning Authority may seek commuted sums towards the maintenance of existing open space instead. Reference should be made to Policy INF1 with regards to planning obligations and developer contributions.

11.331 It is acknowledged that there may be additional areas of open space which are not reflected in the Assessment which make a valuable contribution towards the provision of open space within the community, this may be particularly applicable to areas of informal recreation use. Additionally, it is acknowledged that whilst open space areas have been categorised as specific types of provision they are on occasions capable of meeting the function of other types of open space. Under such circumstances, they may be considered as making a positive contribution towards multiple types of open space.

11.332 Where open space provision forms part of a planning application, the applicant should stipulate how the future management and maintenance of any open space provision has been taken into account. Reference should be made to Policy PSD1 for further guidance.

PSD9: Advertisements

Proposals for advertisements (which are subject to planning control) will be strictly controlled and will be expected to comply with the following:

- a) That their design, scale, materials and siting have full regard to the building, structure or land on which they are displayed;**
- b) There are no adverse effects on the landscape / townscape, or the setting and integrity of the historic environment;**
- c) That they do not constitute a hazard to public safety especially when sited on roads;**
- d) That they safeguard, and positively enhance the Welsh language in the County by providing bilingual signage. Regard should also be had to the provisions of Policy SP7 - The Welsh Language.**

Proposals for poster hoardings and advertisement signs should not lead to the proliferation or concentration of individually acceptable signs within the countryside.

New developments and streets will be expected to have Welsh names.

11.333 In order to promote the cultural identity of the Plan area, the Council will support and promote the provision of Welsh and English bilingual information signs, notice and information boards, displays and advertisement signs for tourist attractions and facilities. Private

developers of tourism and leisure facilities will also be encouraged to publicise their business ventures through both the Welsh and English languages. Advertisements will not be required to provide the branding or company name bilingually, however, all ancillary or additional wording provided on signage in the public domain proposed in a planning application will required to be provided bilingually.

11.334 Bilingual signage and advertisement proposals which seek to combine several essential advertisements within one sign will be encouraged.

PSD10: Extensions

Proposals for the extension of existing residential dwellings / use class C3 (which require planning permission) whether buildings, other structures or a particular land use must comply with the following:

- a) The scale of the proposed extension is subordinate, or compatible to the size, type and character of the existing development, and does not result in over development of the site, nor lead to reduced and inadequate areas of parking, utility, vehicle turning, amenity or garden space;**
- b) The external appearance (including materials used) of the proposed extension in terms of design is sympathetic and complementary to that of the existing development;**

- c) There are no adverse effects on the natural environment, landscape/townscape or the setting and integrity of the historic environment;**
- d) It promote the principles of placemaking as set out within policy SP11;**
- e) The local environment and the amenities of neighbouring developments are not adversely affected by the proposed extension;**
- f) The use to be made of the proposed extension is compatible with the existing building, structure or land use.**

11.335 Proposals should be of a high standard of design and respectful in terms of siting, size and the use of materials to complement the character and appearance of the existing building or structure and its surroundings and appropriate to the use of the existing building.

11.336 To ensure that where the existing development is of a poor design, the Council will require that any extension is of a higher quality design and/ or materials. Regard should be had to the provisions of Policy SP11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places and PSD1: Sustainable and High Quality Design.

PSD11: Noise Pollution

Proposals that will lead to a detrimental impact from noise pollution will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that appropriate mitigation measures will be implemented, and

Incorporated into the development to minimise the adverse effects.

Noise sensitive developments will be permitted where they will not be adversely impacted by existing noise generating uses.

11.337 The concept of soundscapes recognises the positive role that they play in creating a sense of place, rather than solely focusing on noise as a form of pollution.²⁹

11.338 The emphasis should be on considering the potential impact of soundscapes on proposed developments (and in turn the potential impact of proposed developments on soundscapes) at an early stage. To this end, this Plan places an emphasis on stakeholders giving due consideration to these matters as an integral part of the design process from the outset. As such, these matters should not be seen as 'technical' considerations that are considered separately or an 'add on' later on in the design evolution / planning application.

11.339 This Plan embraces the agent of change principle embedded into national policy³⁰. To this end, this Plan recognises the importance of the change inceptor considering the potential impact of the development proposal on change receptors.

²⁹ Welsh Government Written Statement: Noise and soundscape action plan 2018-2023

³⁰ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – paragraph 7.23

11.340 In noting the potential economic benefit of night-time economy related proposals, the health and well-being of local residents should not be unduly compromised. A placemaking approach, which seeks to build consensus at an early stage, can provide a means to mediate these potentially conflicting interests.

11.341 Furthermore, noise sensitive developments such as housing, schools, and hospitals located near to transport infrastructure should, wherever possible, be designed to limit noise levels within, and around the development.³¹ Where appropriate, effective and appropriate mitigation should be implemented, and incorporated into the development to minimise the effects.

11.342 Green infrastructure can be an effective means of enhancing health and well-being, through linking dwellings, workplaces and community facilities and providing high quality, accessible green spaces. Reference should be made to Policy PSD3: Green Infrastructure Networks.

³¹ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – paragraph 6.7.19

11.343 Changes to soundscapes can also have impacts on species sensitive to noise disturbance. As always, proposals should satisfy the policies and provisions of the Plan as a whole. Specific reference may be made however to Strategic Policy 13 –Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment (most notably in relation to sites of international importance to nature conservation).

PSD12: Light and Air Pollution

Proposals that will lead to a detrimental impact from light and / or air pollution will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that appropriate mitigation measures will be implemented, and incorporated into the development to minimise the adverse effects.

Light

11.344 National policy recognises the negative impacts that light pollution can have on people, biodiversity and ecosystem resilience. In this respect PPW requires that authorities adopt policies in respect of lighting and the control of light pollution³⁷.

11.345 Parts of Carmarthenshire are still relatively undeveloped with a limited impact from lighting on the night sky. In interpreting this policy, any lighting should be carefully designed and considered to minimise the

³⁷ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – paragraph 6.8.

impact on adjoining areas. Reference should also be made to the Wales Tranquil Areas Map, 2009.

11.346 In all development, (and in public spaces especially) there should be sensitive management of light, and exposure to airborne pollution should be kept as low as reasonably practicable.

11.347 Light pollution can have negative impacts on species that are particularly sensitive to disturbance. Likewise, many species and habitats can be sensitive to air pollution. As always, proposals should satisfy the policies and provisions of the Plan as a whole. Specific reference may be made however to Strategic Policy 13 –Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment (most notably in relation to sites of international importance to nature conservation).

11.348 There are particular opportunities to acknowledge and embrace green infrastructure as part of a placemaking approach. In this regard, reference should be made to Policy PSD3: Green Infrastructure Networks.

11.349 Air quality and its environmental, health and quality of life implications are recognised through national guidance.³⁸ This is also reflected within the Sustainability Appraisal objectives and the HRA screening report.

11.350 Whilst air quality in general within the County is good, there are three designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's) – one in Llandeilo, one in Llanelli and one in Carmarthen. Reference may be made to the Council's Action Plan(s), whilst the boundaries of these AQMA's are shown on this Plan's Constraints Map.

11.351 Developers should be aware of the importance of early engagement with the Council, particularly in terms of the potential requirement for the undertaking of an Air Quality Assessment. Whilst this Plan is not prescriptive in relation to the instances that such an assessment will be required, it is considered that the scale and location of the proposal are key determinants in this regard.

11.352 Any Air Quality Assessment should highlight the required mitigation so that any risks to amenity, biodiversity and health are suitably mediated. The identification of such mitigation should seek to reflect the

³⁸ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – paragraph 6.7

opportunities provided by green infrastructure as part of a placemaking approach. Reference should be made to Policy PSD3: Green Infrastructure Networks.

11.353 It should be noted that the potential requirement for the undertaking of an Air Quality Assessment is not limited to sites within or adjacent to the County's AQMA's. Proposals will be subject to consideration on a case by case basis, however for proposals situated within the AQMA's the Council's Development Management Officers are likely to consult with the Council's Environmental Health Practitioners on a routine basis. Timely engagement with the Council is advised and relevant guidance referred to as appropriate.

11.354 This Plan recognises the potential inter-relationship between air quality and the integrity of the County's sites of international importance to nature conservation. Many of these sites feature habitats that are sensitive to declining air quality.

11.355 As always, proposals should satisfy the policies and provisions of the Plan as a whole. Specific reference may be made however to Strategic Policy 13 –Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment (most notably in relation to sites of international importance to nature

conservation) as well as Policy INF 2 - Healthy Communities. There are particular opportunities to acknowledge and embrace green infrastructure as part of a placemaking approach. In this regard, reference should be made to Policy PSD3: Green Infrastructure Networks.

PSD13: Contaminated Land

Proposals will be permitted where it is demonstrated that any actual or potential risks can be suitably mitigated so that there is no residual adverse impact upon human health and the environment.

11.356 Carmarthenshire has a rich and diverse industrial legacy, including a wide range of industries such as mining, tin plate manufacturing, gas works, and tanneries.. All of these processes have the potential to have caused contamination of the ground, ground waters or other sensitive receptors. The Council has identified a number of sites where there is a potential for contamination to remain, or where there is no evidence to confirm that adequate remediation has taken place. In these areas, further investigation may be necessary. It is understood at the time of writing that a Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy is in the process of being reviewed and updated by the Council.

11.357 The Council has a responsibility to identify contaminated land and ensure that it is managed in an appropriate manner, as set out in the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

11.358 The Council will need to be satisfied that the risks in respect of the proposed development site are fully understood and that remediation to the necessary standards is achievable³⁹. Work should not commence on site until appropriate remediation has been completed. The potential impacts on historic and natural environments will be considered in determining any proposal, with any submission to be accompanied by appropriate information.

11.359 Contaminated land is defined under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 Section 78A(2) as: 'Any land which appears to the local authority in whose area it is situated to be in such a condition, by reason of substances in, on or under the land, that

- significant harm is being caused or there is a significant possibility of such harm being caused; or
- pollution of controlled waters is being, or is likely to be, caused.'

11.360 Where applicable, due consideration will be given to the impact of any remediation operation on natural and historic environments with the relative benefits and need for the proposal weighed against the relative importance of the historic or natural interest of the site.

11.361 Timely engagement with the Council is advised in identifying any requirements as part of development proposals, both in terms of identifying risk and control / mitigation measures.

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

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

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

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

Strategic Policy – SP 12: Rural Development

The Plan supports development proposals which will contribute towards the sustainability of the County's rural communities. Development proposals in rural areas should demonstrate that they support the role of the rural settlements

in the settlement hierarchy to meet the housing, employment and social needs of Carmarthenshire's rural communities.

Development proposals in the countryside beyond identified settlements will be supported where it accords with the policies of this Plan.

11.364 The rural settlements of the County have an important role to play in improving the sustainability of the wider geographical area in which they are located as well as the County's overall sustainability. The Plan's strategy and settlement hierarchy reflects the significant role which the rural communities play through supporting growth of a proportionate scale which can make a positive contribution towards the long-term sustainability of the rural economy and rural communities.

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

Welsh language and the sustainability of the countryside and natural environment.

11.366 National planning policy has historically sought to restrict unnecessary development in countryside locations, principally to prevent sporadic and unsustainable growth and to maximise use of infrastructure, resources and services more commonly available in established urban areas.

11.367 Whilst this principle remains relevant and applicable, there is an enhanced recognition of the countryside as a place of work, as a home for many, a place to visit for others and a vital ecosystem for everyone. The Plan is committed to addressing and safeguarding the needs of rural communities. To this end the Council established a Rural Affairs Task Group with the aim of assessing the needs of rural communities and taking positive steps to address these. This Plan supports the aims of the Task Group principally through policies relating to the provision of housing and affordable housing; the economy and employment; the Welsh language and the natural environment. Development proposals will need to demonstrate that they accord with these policies as well as the provisions of national planning policy.

11.368 PPW Ed.10 recognises that the countryside is a dynamic and multi-purpose resource. It identifies that in line with sustainable

development and the national planning principles it should be preserved and where possible enhanced. However, it also reflects the need to balance this against the economic, social and recreational needs of local communities and visitors.

11.369 PPW identifies that fostering adaptability and resilience will be a key aim for rural places in the face of the considerable challenge of maintaining the vibrancy of communities and availability of services as well as contributing to the Cohesive Communities national well-being goal.

11.370 There is a clear recognition that rural areas exhibit challenges in relation to access to sustainable means of transport and the expectation of PPW in relation to access to active travel connections and sustainable functional linkages. This is reflected in the development of the settlement hierarchy as a whole.

11.371 This understanding of diversity is reflected within PPW in its consideration of sustainable transport requirements. Para 4.1.16 recognises there is a need to reflect different approaches to sustainable transport in defining growth within rural settlements.

11.372 This Revised LDP recognises the diversity that exists within the County and the need to reflect this in its strategic approach. The Spatial Strategy identifies a settlement hierarchy but sets it within a settlement

framework grouped under six clusters. These, and the distribution of growth will focus on sustainable principles, but will also recognise the respective role, function and contribution of settlements within particular clusters.

The Rural Economy

11.373 National policy recognises that a strong rural economy is essential to support sustainable and vibrant rural communities. In this respect the establishment of new enterprises and the expansion of existing business is crucial to the growth and stability of rural areas.

11.374 Regard should be had to the impact of such developments, however as noted within PPW, many commercial and light manufacturing activities can be located in rural areas without causing unacceptable disturbance or other adverse effects.

11.375 Whilst there remains a focus on the identification or allocation of sites to meet an employment need it is also recognised that opportunities will also be required for small scale proposals where the need is not met by a specific allocations. These small-scale enterprises are an important contributor to the rural economy.

⁴³ TAN6: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities - <https://gweddill.gov.wales/docs/desh/policy/100722tan6en.pdf>

11.376 Reference should be had to the provisions of policy SP6 and its expression of the sustainable distribution of employment land provision.

Rural Enterprise Dwellings

11.377 As noted through national policy a rural enterprise dwelling is required where it 'is to enable rural enterprise workers to live at or close to their place of work'. This includes encouraging younger people to manage farm businesses and supporting the diversification of established farms.

11.378 It is not the role or intention of the Revised LDP to replicate the provisions of national planning policy. Consequently reference should be had to the provisions of PPW and Technical Advice Note 6 (TAN6)⁴³ in the determination of applications for new rural enterprise dwellings. National policy clearly states that such proposals should be carefully examined to ensure that there is a genuine need.

11.379 Applications for rural enterprise dwellings should be accompanied by a rural enterprise dwelling appraisal, with permission only granted where it provides conclusive evidence of the need for the dwelling.

11.380 In order to ensure that rural enterprise dwellings are retained for their intended purpose PPW para 4.2.37 requires that a condition restricting the occupancy of the property must be applied and that the dwelling be classified as affordable housing (definition as set out within TAN 2: Planning and Affordable Housing). Where appropriate consideration will also be given to the use of a legal agreement (section 106) as a means of retaining the property's purpose as an Enterprise Dwelling. This will ensure that the dwelling remains available to meet local affordable housing need should its original justification cease.

11.381 In circumstances where a planning application is received to lift existing agricultural occupancy conditions or where enforcement action is being taken for non-compliance with the condition, consideration will be given to the replacement of an agricultural occupancy condition with the rural enterprise dwelling condition set out in TAN6: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities⁴⁴.

11.382 Proposals for One Planet Developments in the countryside will be required to provide for the occupants minimum needs in terms of income, food, energy and waste assimilation over a period of 5 years⁴⁵. Any proposal should be supported by an evidenced management plan, in

⁴⁴ TAN6: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities - Paragraph 4.13.1

⁴⁵ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – Paragraph 4.2.39

those instances where this cannot be demonstrated any proposal will be considered against the policies and provisions of this LDP and national policy in relation to developments in the countryside. Reference will be had to the provisions of TAN6 and with regard to the requirements of the One Planet Development Practice Guide⁴⁶.

11.383 In assessing the suitability of a site for a One Planet Development, the applicant will be expected to have regard to its potential landscape and biodiversity impact, the ability to be effectively screened as well as being sufficiently near to Active Travel Routes or public transport.

RD1: Replacement Dwelling in the Open Countryside

Proposals for the replacement of existing dwellings in the countryside will be permitted provided that:

- a) the existing dwelling is not a traditional farmhouse, cottage or other building that is important to the visual and intrinsic character of the landscape;**
- b) the original dwelling has not been demolished, abandoned or fallen into a state of disrepair and no longer has the appearance of a dwelling;**
- c) the design of the replacement dwelling is of a form, bulk, size and scale that respects its location and setting;**

⁴⁶ One Planet Development Practice Guide -

<https://gweddill.gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/guidanceandleaflets/oneplanet/?lang=en>

- d) the proposal does not require an unacceptable extension to the existing established residential garden area;

Proposals for any outbuildings should be modest in size and sensitively located and that adequate ancillary garage and storage space can be achieved for the dwelling.

Proposals in relation to the replacement of a traditional farmhouse, cottage or other building subject to the provisions of criterion a) above will only be permitted where, the applicant provides sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the re-use of the building is not economically viable or that it is of a structural condition that precludes its effective re-use.

11.384 The policy recognises and reflects the rural character of the County and the range and condition of the housing stock. It seeks to provide opportunity and scope for the provision of replacement dwellings in a manner which ensures that the County retains its traditional character, whilst also not detracting from the special qualities of rural Carmarthenshire.

11.385 Specific consideration should be given to the acceptability of a proposals' visual impact on the landscape. In this respect, its scale and design (including the extent of the residential curtilage) should not be to the detriment of the character and quality of the area.

RD2: Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Residential Use

Proposals for the conversion and re-use of suitable rural buildings for residential use will be permitted where:

- a) there is satisfactory evidence that employment or business use of the building is not viable;
- b) the existing use has ceased and its re-use would not result in the need for an additional building;
- c) the form, bulk and general design of the proposal, including any extensions, respect the rural character and appearance of the building;
- d) the proposal, including its curtilage and access arrangements, are in scale with, and sympathetic to, the surrounding landscape and does not require the provision of unsightly and intrusive infrastructure and ancillary buildings;
- e) the building is capable of accommodating adequate living and ancillary space (including garages). Proposals for extensions should be proportionate and reflective of the scale, character and appearance of the original building;
- f) the original building is structurally sound and any rebuilding works, necessitated by poor structural conditions and/ or the need for new openings in walls, do not involve substantial reconstruction;⁴⁷
- g) where applicable, the architectural character and traditional materials have been retained and the proposal does not result in the loss of the original

structure's character, or that the construction of the building is of sufficient quality not to require wholesale or substantive refurbishment.

Proposals relating to buildings which are of a substandard modern utilitarian construction will not generally be considered appropriate for residential conversion.

11.386 The re-use and adaptation (including conversion) of an industrial, commercial, agricultural or other building in the countryside to a residential use will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that every reasonable effort has been made to continue or establish a business/commercial use or community activity, as set out in criterion a) above.

11.387 Residential proposals may be favourably considered where they form part of a proposed scheme for business re-use. Conditions may be imposed which require that the works necessary for the establishment of the business/enterprise have been completed prior to the occupation of the residential element. Furthermore, a condition or planning obligation tying the residential unit to operation of the enterprise may also be utilised as appropriate.

11.388 Only those buildings which are of an appropriate architectural quality and/or which incorporate traditional materials will be considered. Proposals for buildings of a modern, utilitarian construction such as portal

framed units, temporary structures or those which utilise materials such as concrete block work, metal or other sheet cladding finishes will not generally be considered appropriate for conversion.

11.389 The Council will need to be satisfied that adequate living and storage (including garaging) space can be achieved without the necessity for significant extensions to the building. Proposals for future expansion of units will not generally be considered appropriate. Similarly, the Council will consider the withdrawal of normal permitted development rights to construct extensions and ancillary buildings.

11.390 Reference should be made to SPG in relation to the the Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings.

RD3: Farm Diversification

Proposals for farm diversification developments which strengthen the rural economy will be permitted where:

- a. It is compatible with, complements and supports the principal agricultural activities of the existing working farm;**
- b. It is of a scale and nature appropriate to the existing farm operation;**
- c. It has appropriate regard to the highways and transport infrastructure;**

- d. **It would not have an adverse impact on the character, setting and appearance of the area and the surrounding landscape.**

Proposals should give priority to the conversion of suitable existing buildings on the working farm. Where justified, new buildings will be permitted where they are integrated with, or linked to the existing working farm complex and not detrimental to the respective character and appearance of the area and surrounding landscape.

11.391 Diversification in rural areas can often add to the income streams and economic viability of farms, strengthen the rural economy and add to wider employment opportunities.

11.392 Farm diversification proposals are intended to supplement and support the continuation of the existing farming activity. Proposals should be accompanied by evidence detailing a justification for the use and its relationship with the existing farming activity.

11.393 Where a proposal incorporates farm shops they often have to import goods possibly from other local suppliers. In determining proposals made under this policy, consideration will be given to restricting the broad types of produce sold and to the volume of sales. Consideration will also be given to the scale of the operation notably where an unrestricted use would result in an adverse effect on the vitality and viability of nearby retail activities.

11.394 In considering proposals for farm diversification it is acknowledged that their rural context means that they cannot always be well served by public transport. Consequently, whilst its availability will be taken into account when considering the nature and scale of the proposal, the potential for certain diversification proposals which can only be accessible by private car is acknowledged. Such proposals should have regard to the sustainable transport hierarchy.

11.395 Where appropriate, legal agreements will be used to tie agricultural buildings to the land if re-use is associated with farm diversification where fragmentation of the agricultural unit is likely to occur.

RD4: Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Non Residential Use

Proposals for the conversion of rural buildings for business use will be permitted where:

- a) the building is suitable for the specific use;**
- b) There is sufficient land and storage space attached for the functional needs of the proposed use (including parking provision);**
- c) the conversion and proposed use, or the use of surrounding land for the provision of access, parking facilities, ancillary structures, on site facilities or storage would not result in an adverse impact on the character of**

- the area, nearby uses or impact on the viability of similar uses within the locality;**
- d) the existing building is structurally sound and functionally suitable for the proposed use;**
- e) any extension is reflective of the scale of the original building.**

11.396 National Planning Policy recognises the essential contribution of a strong rural economy to supporting sustainable and vibrant rural communities. It seeks to provide a positive agenda for the potential for the re-use of existing buildings in rural areas for business purposes.

RD5: Equestrian Facilities

Development proposals for stabling, equestrian facilities or use of land for equestrian activities will be permitted where:

- a) the facility is grouped within an existing farm complex, or is sited as close as possible to existing buildings;**
- b) the proposed use will be of an intensity appropriate to its environment and setting;**
- c) the development will not have an adverse impact on the landscape or nature conservation interests; and**
- d) suitable access and parking can be provided for horse boxes and proposed the level of commercial activity;**
- e) commercial facilities have suitable access to the highway network.**

11.397 Proposals for stables and associated equestrian facilities are normally associated with a countryside location. Planning permission will generally be required for the development of stables, unless the horses are part of the agricultural activity, or the stable is within the curtilage of a dwelling (reflecting potential permitted development rights).

11.398 Proposals which have no adverse landscape and/or environmental impact will be supported. In this respect, proposals will be expected to demonstrate how the development fits within its countryside setting and the regard it has to the settlement framework and its setting, including existing buildings.

11.399 The erection of a ménage for private domestic use should be designed so that it has no adverse effect upon the landscape, is well related to existing buildings, and of an appropriate scale.

11.400 Commercial stables and ménages will be considered appropriate as rural businesses where these can be accommodated without harm to the character of the area, and are considered acceptable in highways terms.

Strategic Policy – SP 13: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment

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

Proposals must reflect the role an ecologically connected environment has in protecting and enhancing biodiversity, defining the landscape, contribute to Well-being and the principles of the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources.

All development proposals should be considered in accordance with National Policy (PPW and TAN5) where a proposal for development would result in a significant adverse effect on a European designated site. Development that would result in unacceptable adverse environmental effects will not be permitted.

11.401 Carmarthenshire has a rich and diverse natural environment with a number of designated sites and protected species. This policy seeks to recognise the quality and value of the natural environment and landscapes across the Plan area, and their fundamental role in defining the County’s identity, character and distinctiveness. The recognition of the considerable merits of green infrastructure for maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecological networks is implicit. Reference is made to Green Infrastructure Network policy PSD3.

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

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

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

11.405 A Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) has been undertaken to assess the impacts of the Plan on European protected sites, including those being considered for designation.

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

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

NE1: Regional and Local Designations

Proposals for development that will result in unacceptable harm to a Local Nature Reserve (LNR), or Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS) will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:

- a) **there are exceptional circumstances, where the reasons for the development or land use change clearly outweighs the need to safeguard the biodiversity and nature conservation interests of the site;**

- b) **that any unacceptable harm can be reduced as far as possible in line with the mitigation hierarchy, by**
 - i. **ensuring effective avoidance, minimisation or mitigation; or,**
 - ii. **where this is not feasible, that sufficient compensatory measures can be put in place that are of comparable or greater ecological value to that lost through development.**
- c) **The designation of such sites will, where appropriate, be supported.**

11.408 LNRs and RIGS identify areas which are of local importance for nature conservation and geological value, and can include sites that contain a variety of habitat types or which support a range of species. Protection of these sites can make an important contribution to the Council's duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. These features are also valuable with regards to their contribution to the quality of the local environment and to enabling adaption and resilience to climate change.

11.409 In circumstances where the need for a development might outweigh the need to protect a particular site, then impact will be avoided, minimised and mitigated as far as possible. Where residual impacts remain, measures will be put in place to ensure that alternative wildlife habitat provision or habitat creation is provided in order to ensure that

there is no net loss in overall conservation value of the area or feature. Where appropriate, the authority will consider the use of conditions and/or planning obligations to provide appropriate mitigation and/or compensation measures.

11.410 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation Value (SINCs) offer significant potential as a biodiversity resource. Whilst there are no SINCs identified within the plan area, it remains an objective of the authority to actively explore their designation. Any future designation of SINCs will be in accordance with emerging SPG detailing the revised methodology for underpinning their identification. This SPG will be produced concurrently with the adoption of the Plan.

NE2: Biodiversity

Proposals for development should seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity.

Proposals for development will not be permitted where they would result in an adverse impact on priority species, habitats and features of recognised principal importance to the conservation of biodiversity and nature conservation, (namely those protected by Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 , except where it can be demonstrated that:

- a) **There are exceptional circumstances, where the reasons for the development or land use change clearly**

outweighs the need to safeguard the biodiversity and nature conservation interests of the site; and,

- b) **that any unacceptable harm can be reduced as far as possible in line with the mitigation hierarchy, by**
 - i. **ensuring effective avoidance, minimisation or mitigation; or,**
 - ii. **where this is not feasible, that sufficient compensatory measures can be put in place that are of comparable or greater ecological value to that lost through development.**

11.411 This policy seeks to ensure that the habitats and species identified within Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 are suitably protected from harmful development and that the Council fulfils its obligation to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience. Full reference should be made to the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity SPG. This SPG includes guidance to developers and should assist in the implementation of this policy and the LDP. The role of habitats and associated areas as connectivity pathways, 'ecological networks' or 'animal corridor networks' will, where applicable, be considered (reference should be made to Policy NE3).

11.412 Where required, management plans detailing matters such as mitigation measures should be produced as part of any application, and agreed with the authority prior to permission being granted. Proposed

mitigation should be accompanied by an agreed monitoring regime.

Mitigation may include careful design and scheduling of work, with phasing considered so that the timing of any works minimises disturbance.

11.413 Where required, development proposals should seek to enhance biodiversity. Where biodiversity enhancement is required and not proposed as part of an application, significant weight will be given to its absence, and unless other significant material considerations indicate otherwise it will be necessary to refuse permission⁴⁸. Proposals for development will be required to assess the attributes of ecosystem resilience in line with the framework outlined in paragraph 6.4.9 of PPW10 and will be expected to protect and enhance these attributes post development.

11.414 In exceptional circumstances, the need for a development might outweigh the need to protect a particular site. In such instances, then impact will be avoided, minimised and mitigated as far as possible and where residual impacts remain, measures will be put in place to ensure that alternative wildlife habitat provision or habitat creation is provided in order to ensure that there is no net loss in overall biodiversity of the area or feature.

⁴⁸ Chief Planning Officer' Letter - Guidance on securing biodiversity enhancements in development proposals 2019.

11.415 The location and scale of a development, including the nature of the habitats on the site and the surrounding area will be a consideration in the nature of any management required.

11.416 The potential impacts, either individually or cumulatively of a development, should be carefully considered in determining any proposal. In this regard, the impact of noise, vibration, drainage, lighting, traffic and air quality considerations may have implications during construction or once any development is completed.

11.417 The use of planning conditions and/or planning obligations will be considered where appropriate.

NE3: Corridors, Networks and Features of Distinctiveness

Development proposals will be expected to maintain and enhance ecological corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness. Proposals which include provision for the retention and appropriate management of such features will be supported.

Proposals that result in an adverse effect on the connectivity or integrity of ecological corridors, networks or features of distinctiveness will only be permitted where:

- a) There are exceptional circumstances, where the reasons for the development or land use change clearly outweighs the need to safeguard the biodiversity and nature conservation interests of the site; and**
- b) that any unacceptable harm can be reduced as far as possible in line with the mitigation hierarchy, by**
 - i. ensuring effective avoidance, minimisation or mitigation; or,**
 - ii. where this is not feasible, that sufficient compensatory measures can be put in place that are of comparable or greater ecological value to that lost through development.**

11.418 This policy seeks to ensure the appropriate protection and management of ecological corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness. These include features which, because of their linear and continuous structure or their functions as ‘stepping stones’ or ‘wildlife corridors’ are essential for reducing habitat fragmentation and encouraging ecological migration, dispersal or genetic exchange.

Protection of these features can make an important contribution to the Council’s duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

These are also valuable with regards to their contribution to the quality of

the local environment and to enabling adaption and resilience to climate change.

11.419 Features which contribute include: hedgerows, ditches and banks, stone walls, streams, tree belts, woodlands, veteran trees, parklands, green lanes, river corridors, lakes, ponds, road verges, or habitat mosaics or networks of other locally important habitats including peat bogs, heath-land, wetlands, saltmarshes, sand dunes and species rich grass lands.

11.420 Providing ecological connectivity is an important ecosystem service of the *Green Infrastructure network* and its protection and/or enhancement accords with Policy PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network. In identifying these features and in implementing this policy, reference should be made to the Green Infrastructure Assessment and accompanying mapping.

NE4: Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area

Proposals will be permitted where they accord with the Council’s commitment to promote and contribute to the delivery of the Conservation Objectives of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation (CMM SAC) in line with the Habitats Regulations. Proposals located within the SPG Area will be required to contribute towards increasing the quality and amount of available habitat for the Marsh Fritillary butterfly

within the SPG Area. The SPG Area is defined on the Proposals Map.

In order to achieve these objectives, and to mitigate for the loss of potential supporting habitat and connectivity for the marsh fritillary butterfly that may result through the development, the Council will (where applicable) seek to secure Planning Obligations (in accordance with LDP policy INF1 and the provisions of the SPG for the CMM SAC) from relevant developments within the SPG area.

11.421 Developments can proceed within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area subject to there being no demonstrable likely significant effect upon the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation (CMM SAC). To this end, the Council will (where appropriate) seek developer contributions to fund the Council's delivery of habitat management project within the SPG Area. Further information is set out within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Supplementary Planning Guidance (CMM SAC SPG).

11.422 In providing certainty and spatial focus, the CMM SPG clarifies expectations on all parties. The SPG provides a mechanism for developers to seek to mitigate the impact of their proposals on the SAC through contributing to the Council's CMM habitat management project. In order to ensure the LDP's compliance with the Habitats Regulations, the Council will (where appropriate) give priority to securing obligations in respect of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC for proposals located within the

CMM SPG Area. The Council may also (where appropriate) seek further detailed information from developers so as to inform the determination of planning applications.

11.423 The Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area is identified on the proposals Map. The SPG is informed by robust evidence. Whilst the SPG does not advocate a rigid / blanket approach to calculating the amount of developer contributions required by the Council, it does set out a charging schedule which must form the starting point for all negotiations. Reference should be made to the SPG in terms of any proposed 'in kind' contributions.

11.424 Exceptionally, and in strict accordance with the provisions of the SPG, the agreed contribution amount may be subject to negotiation.

NE5: Coastal Management

Proposals for coastal management schemes will be permitted, provided that:

- a) The need for the development is appropriately justified;**
- b) The development is in keeping with the surrounding environment;**
- c) It protects, enhances, and where appropriate, creates walking linkages to the All Wales Coast Path and the footpath network;**

d) The scheme will not result in increased erosion, flooding or land instability.

Proposals will be encouraged to provide additional Active Travel routes to link communities and existing paths to the All Wales Coast Path.

11.425 Coastal defence schemes play an important role in protecting the County's population, assets and resources from tidal flooding and erosion.

This policy seeks to ensure that coastal management schemes are constructed in appropriate locations, and do not adversely impact upon the surrounding landscape. Schemes will be required to pay regard to the protection of species and habitats in line with Strategic Policy SP13.

11.426 Encouragement will be given to incorporating appropriate public access and recreational facilities within schemes.

11.427 New coastal management schemes will not be permitted for the purpose of enabling new development in areas of flood risk or coastal erosion.

11.428 Proposals will be expected to take account of the contents of the South Wales (Lavernock Point to St Ann's Head) Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2). The SMP seeks to reduce these risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environments, and sets out how the coast should be managed in the future through a number of sustainable long-

term coastal erosion and coastal flood risk management policies for the coast.

11.429 Specific reference is made to Policy NE7: Coastal Change Management Area and its context in relation to developments within, or affected by the SMP 'no active intervention' and 'managed realignment' policies.

11.430 The proposals contained within this LDP have been prepared with due regard to the policies set out in SMP2.

NE6: Coastal Development

1. Proposals in all coastal locations will only be permitted provided that:

- a) They have taken into account matters associated with coastal change;**
- b) They will not unacceptably harm the seascape through inappropriate scale, mass and design.**

2. Development proposals in undeveloped coastal locations will only be permitted provided that:

- c) It is necessary for them to be sited at a coastal location;**

- d) **They are part of a necessary coastal management scheme;**
- e) **They do not increase the risk of erosion, flooding or land instability;**
- f) **They would not result in the need for new coastal protection measures;**
- g) **They protect and enhance the landscape, seascape, biodiversity and historic environment.**

11.431 Carmarthenshire has an extensive area of coastline, stretching from the mouth of the River Loughor to Marros. The coastal area can be defined as areas where the land and adjacent sea are considered mutually interdependent.

11.432 The undeveloped coast will rarely be considered the most appropriate location for development, and any proposals should have regard to the contents of SMP2, in addition to other policies of the Plan.

11.433 Matters associated with coastal change include: the risks of erosion, flooding, land instability, the preferred approaches to address such risks, and the impacts on biodiversity and ecological resilience.

11.434 Reference is made to policy NE7: Coastal Change Management Area and its context in relation to developments within, or affected by the SMP2 'no active intervention' and 'managed realignment' policies.

NE7: Coastal Change Management Area

The Coastal Change Management Area (CCMA) has been defined as those areas where the SMP2 identifies a policy of 'no active intervention' and 'managed realignment'.

Proposals for development located within the identified CCMA should not have an adverse impact on rates of coastal change elsewhere, and will be subject to the following:

1. New Residential Development

Proposals for any residential use within the CCMA will not be supported.

2. Relocation of Existing Residential Dwellings

Proposals for the relocation of existing residential dwellings located within the CCMA will be permitted where:

- a) **The development replaces a permanent dwelling which is affected or threatened by erosion and/or coastal flood risk within 20 years of the date of the proposal; and**
- b) **The relocated dwelling is located an appropriate distance inland with regard to CCMA and other information in the**

Shoreline Management Plan, and it is in a location that is:

- i. in the case of an agricultural dwelling, within the farm holding or within or immediately adjacent to existing settlements, or**
 - ii. within or immediately adjacent to existing settlements close to the location from which it was displaced;**
 - iii in the case of a static caravan(s), chalet(s) or permanent other visitor accommodation unit(s) - within, adjacent or within an acceptable proximity to the existing site.**
- c) The site of the existing dwelling is cleared of any buildings or residential paraphernalia and made safe; and,**
- d) The new dwelling is comparable in size to that which it is to replace; and,**
- e) The proposal recognises the respective sense of place within the area and should not have a detrimental impact on the landscape, townscape, seascape and/or biodiversity of the area; and**

3. Non-Residential Buildings

Proposals for the following types of new non-residential development will be permitted within the CCMA predicted as being at risk from coastal change, subject to an acceptable Flood Consequence Assessment and Stability Assessment:

i. development directly linked to the coastal area (e.g. beach huts, cafés, tea rooms, shops, short let holiday accommodation, static and touring caravan sites, camping sites, leisure activities); and

ii. development providing substantial economic and social benefits to the community; and

iii. where it can be demonstrated that there will be no increased risk to life, or any significant risk to property.

Redevelopment of, or extensions to, existing non-residential property or intensification of existing non-residential land uses on sites within the CCMA, will be permitted where it can be demonstrated through a suitable Flood Consequences Assessment and Stability Assessment that there will be no increased risk to life, nor any significant risk to property (where appropriate).

4. Extensions to Existing Dwellings and Infrastructure

Proposals for the following types of development will be permitted in the CCMA, subject to a suitable Flood Consequences Assessment and/or Stability Assessment:

1) Limited residential extensions that are closely related to the existing scale of the property;

2) Ancillary development within the residential curtilage of existing dwellings;

3) Key community and other infrastructure (including roads), which is required to be located within the CCMA to provide the intended benefit for the wider community will be permitted where it is accompanied by clear plans to manage the impact of coastal change on it and the services it provides.

11.435 As with policy RE6, regard should be had to SMP2 which sets a range of policies for the coastline, which are ‘hold the line’, ‘no active intervention’ or ‘managed realignment’, per policy epoch (namely: up to 2025, 2026 - 2055, and 2056 - 2105).

11.436 The SMP2 can be viewed at www.southwalescoast.org. PPW states that Local Authorities should help reduce the risk of flooding and the impact of coastal erosion by avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas.

11.437 The CCMA represents where the accepted SMP2 policy is for ‘no active intervention’ or ‘managed realignment’ during the Plan period.

11.438 New residential development is not considered suitable in the CCMA. This reflects the level of risk of coastal erosion and flooding in these areas. The implementation of this approach will apply equally to proposals to change of use of other permanent buildings to residential accommodation and replacement dwellings, and is part of a precautionary approach which is guided by the policy considerations set out within the SMP2.

11.439 The type of residential use this applies to includes individual dwellings, flats above existing commercial properties, sheltered housing, student accommodation, hostels, shared housing for disabled people, nursing homes and care homes, residential education, static caravans and chalets (including those associated within leisure and tourism) where they are connected to infrastructure and part of an established and fully serviced site and training centres.

11.440 Planning conditions will be applied, or a planning obligation will be secured where there is a need to: limit the planned life of a development or seasonal use; remove a time-limited development or existing dwellings on cessation of use; review relevant planning permissions; manage the occupancy of a relocated dwelling.

11.441 To enable coastal communities to adapt to coastal change, the Policy facilitates the relocation and replacement of permanent dwellings to alternative locations safe from coastal erosion. It seeks to ensure coastal communities remain sustainable by maintaining levels of housing stock and reducing risk to people and property.

11.442 Where an extension to a residential property requires permission, they will be supported where it can be demonstrated that the benefits to the homeowner outweigh any increase in risk to the property. However, consideration must be given to the wellbeing of the occupants, risk to life as a result of flooding, or erosion.

11.443 Non-residential development will be subject to the timeframe anticipated for loss of the property as a result of coastal erosion. This would apply to proposals for uses such as community facilities, business uses, sports pitches and playing fields. The risk assessment should fully consider the benefits against the risks associated with utilising a property with a potentially limited lifespan.

11.444 Where appropriate, a time limited planning permissions may be used to control the planned life-time of a new development. This would allow control over the future of the development and potential risk to property and people where this is appropriate.

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

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

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

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

11.446 The Plan area also contains discovered, and yet to be discovered archaeological sites and features. The Policy and the Plan aims, in conjunction with primary legislation on the built environment and historic buildings to safeguard the cultural integrity of the historic settlements, features and buildings within the Plan area. Where applicable, it also looks to contribute to the enhancement of the historic and built environment. This recognises that our historic assets are irreplaceable resources and

their conservation provides social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits.

11.447 The County's historic buildings, townscape and landscape should be regarded as assets and positively conserved and enhanced for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. These are not only affected by change and neglect, but also by changes to their setting. As such, this is an important consideration in making decisions on proposals which may have an effect.

11.448 Many elements of the County's built and historic environment are protected through legislation or other policy provisions, and as such do not require policies in the revised LDP. The Plan does not therefore include policies in relation to facets of the built heritage such as Scheduled Monuments as they are adequately protected elsewhere.

11.449 There are however aspects relating to the protection of the historic environment which may be addressed through the revised LDP, particularly those pertaining to local features and local buildings.

11.450 Clear guidance and legislation in respect of the following is contained within PPW: Edition 10 – Chapter 6: Conserving the Historic Environment, and Policy SP13 – Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural

11.451 Environment which recognises the importance of such areas and features of the County:

- Historic Parks and Gardens⁴⁹ - Many parks and gardens are historically significant and are listed in the Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales Register. These areas are also defined on the LDP Proposals Map;
- Historic Landscapes⁵⁰
- Archaeological Remains⁵¹
- Enabling Developments⁵² - PPW sets out the provisions through which an enabling proposal would be considered
- Scheduled Monuments - These are defined on the Proposals Map

11.452 The authority will prepare SPG as appropriate and where required with regard to the Historic and Built Environment.

Policy BHE1: Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas

- 1. Proposals in respect of a listed building will only be permitted where they accord with the following:**
 - a) Proposals for the alteration and/or extension to a listed building, or its curtilage will be required to ensure that the special architectural character, or historic interest is preserved or enhanced;**
 - b) The change of use of a listed building, or its curtilage will only be permitted where it contributes to the retention of a building or its sustainable re-use, whilst avoiding an adverse effect on its character, special interest or structural integrity;**
 - c) Proposals for the total or substantial demolition of a listed building will only be permitted where there is the strongest justification and convincing evidence that the proposal is necessary;**
 - d) Proposals which have a relationship to, or impact upon the setting of a listed building, or its curtilage must ensure that the setting is preserved or enhanced.**

⁴⁹ Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – Paragraphs 6.1.18 and 6.1.19. Further information on the consideration of historic parks and gardens in the determination of planning applications can be found in Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (<https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/tans/tan-24/?lang=en>) and Cadw best-practice guidance: Managing Change to Registered Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales (<http://cadw.gov.wales/docs/cadw/publications/historicenvironment/20170531Managing%20Change%20to%20Registered%20Historic%20Parks%20&%20Gardens%20in%20Wales%2026922%20EN.pdf>).

⁵⁰ Further information on the register of historic landscapes and its use in the determination of planning applications can be found in Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment. <https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/tans/tan-24/?lang=en>

⁵¹ Further information on the consideration of archaeological remains through the planning process, including desk-based assessment, field evaluation and the consideration of unforeseen archaeological remains, can be found in Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment. <https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/tans/tan-24/?lang=en>

⁵² Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – Paragraphs 6.1.30 - 6.1.32.

2. **Developments within or adjacent to a conservation area will be permitted, where it would preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the conservation area, or its setting.**

3. New developments in conservation areas should be of a high standard of design which responds to the area's special characteristics and features.

11.453 Where a proposal is for a new building within a conservation area, it should have regard to the following:

- Important views, vistas, street scenes, roof-scapes, trees, open spaces, gaps and other features that contribute to the character or appearance of the conservation area;
- Historically significant boundaries or other elements that contribute to the established form of development;
- The relationship to existing buildings and spaces, and settlement for;
- Scale, height and density, architectural design, and materials.

BHE2: Landscape Character

Development proposals should relate to the specific landscape and visual characteristics of the local area, ensuring that the overall integrity of landscape character is maintained by:

- a) identifying, protecting and, where appropriate, enhancing the distinctive landscape and historical, cultural, ecological and geological heritage, including natural and man-made elements associated with existing landscape character;**
- b) protecting international and national landscape designations;**
- c) preserving local distinctiveness, sense of place and setting;**
- d) respecting and conserving specific landscape features, and integrating the principles of placemaking and Green Infrastructure;**
- e) protecting key landscape views and vistas.**

11.454 Carmarthenshire is characterised by a diverse and high quality landscape resources and areas of notable visual value. It also includes a range of international and national landscapes designations.

11.455 The County's key landscape attributes are varied and include upland areas, coastal plains and river valleys of high landscape value and ecological importance. These provide significant environmental, economic and social benefits and help to create a sense of place.

11.456 The Policy seeks to protect, maintain and where appropriate enhance the character and quality of Carmarthenshire's landscape with those features which contribute to the County's distinctive character afforded appropriate levels of protection with their significance highlighted using the former Countryside Council for Wales' (CCW) LANDMAP resource.

Note: LANDMAP is a Geographical Information System based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and evaluated into a nationally consistent data set.

11.457 The policy, therefore, will be supported by a Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) on LANDMAP Landscape Character Assessment. This SPG will build on the work undertaken and policy provisions in respect of Placemaking and Green Infrastructure in developing an integrated suite of guidance documents to guide development proposals.

11.458 This SPG will identify and describe distinctive landscape character areas and types throughout the plan area.

11.459 In this respect the purpose of the policy is to reflect the specific distinctiveness, qualities and sensitivities of the County's landscape components.

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

11.460 This Revised LDP seeks to understand and recognise the role a of community and sense of place by seeking to distribute new development in manner that recognises and respects the role and function of our settlements.

11.461 By distributing growth in a sustainable manner it recognises the value of connectivity. The Plan seeks to assist in the creation of connected communities that are resilient, vibrant and can foster a well-being amongst residents.

11.462 Through the creation of a resilient, connected and sustainable County, the Plan seeks to reflect the challenges facing our communities and the need to respond positively. It sets a framework to contribute to tackling climate change and develops a strategy and policy agenda centred on sustainable development, whilst acknowledging the diversity of the County.

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

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

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

Strategic Policy – SP 15: Climate Change

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

- a) **Contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions by reflecting sustainable transport principles and minimising 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;**
- e) **Contribute towards the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure assets and networks as carbon sinks**

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.

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

11.466 The changing climate and the impacts for Wales predicted by the UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) present the planning system with serious challenges. In addressing them, Planning Policy Wales

(PPW) outlines a series of objectives which should be taken into account during the preparation of a development plan.

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

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

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

including a flood consequences assessment and/or topographical survey) to the satisfaction of NRW. Regard should be had to Policy CH4: Flood Risk Management and Avoidance as contained within this Plan.

11.470 Developments will be expected to exhibit good design principles to promote the efficient use of resources, including minimising waste and pollution generation, and maximising energy efficiency and the efficient use of other resources. Reference should be had to policy SP19 in relation to the waste and the waste hierarchy and minimisation of waste.

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

11.472 The Welsh Government is committed to using the planning system to optimise renewable energy and low carbon energy generation. PPW states that Local Planning Authorities can make a positive provision by considering the contribution that their area can make towards developing and facilitating renewable and low carbon energy, and enable this contribution to be delivered. Renewable energy targets have been

set by the Welsh Government, one target is for Wales to be generating 70% of its electricity consumption from renewable energy by 2030.

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

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

CCH1: Renewable Energy

Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy development and associated infrastructure, either on their own, cumulatively or in combination with existing, approved or proposed development will be permitted provided they accord with the following:

- a. The development will not result in demonstrable harm to statutorily protected sites and species, and habitats and species identified in Section 7 of the Environment Act;
- b. The development will not have an unacceptable impact on roads, rail or aviation safety; electromagnetic interference to communications installations, radar or air traffic control systems, emergency services communications or other telecommunications systems;
- c. Proposals will not cause an unreasonable risk or nuisance to, and impact upon the amenities of, nearby residents or other members of the public, and will not result in unacceptable loss of public accessibility to the area;
- d. Proposals should be accompanied with appropriate mitigation measures, including satisfactory restoration of land following decommissioning.

1. Proposals for Large Scale Wind Farms:

Large scale wind farms of 25MW and over will be permitted within and adjoining Strategic Search Areas, subject to them meeting criteria a to d.

2. Proposals in Local Search Areas:

Proposals for wind farms of between 5MW and 25MW, and solar developments of between 5MW and 50MW will be permitted in identified Local Search Areas, subject to them meeting criteria a to d.

3. Proposals Outside Strategic Search Areas and Local Search Areas:

Proposals outside search areas must not prejudice the purpose of these areas and should comply with criteria a to d.

- e. The development will not have an unacceptable impact on visual amenity or landscape character through: the number, scale, size, design and siting of turbines and associated infrastructure;
- f. The development will not have an unacceptable impact upon areas designated for their landscape value;
- g. Wind turbine developments should not have unacceptable cumulative impacts in relation to existing wind turbines, those which have permission or are proposed.

11.475 This Policy applies to all renewable and low carbon energy developments that require planning permission, and sets out the criteria against which proposals will be assessed. These developments include onshore windfarms, wind turbines, solar technology, biomass, energy from waste, hydro-power and combined heat and power.

11.476 This Policy supports the Welsh Government’s commitment to reduce our reliance on energy generated from fossil fuels and actively managing the transition to a low carbon economy.

Renewable Energy Assessment

11.477 A Renewable Energy Assessment (REA) was undertaken to inform and evidence this policy and to identify the potential for renewable energy generation within the area. The method of the REA has followed that set out by the Welsh Government, and will assist in meeting the

targets set out in PPW10. The REA consists of a high-level, strategic assessment of the potential for different scales of renewable and low-carbon energy generation in different locations.

11.478 Tables 9 and 10 detail the realistic renewable energy contributions that could be made towards meeting a proportion of the total demand for energy within the Authority.

Table 9: Resource Summary for Renewable Electricity

Energy Technology	Capacity Factor Assumed	Existing		Additional Potential 2033		Total Installed Capacity 2033 (MW)	Total Energy Generated 2033 (MWh)
		Installed Capacity (MW)	Energy Generated (MWh)	Installed Capacity (MW)	Energy Generated (MWh)		
Wind Power (existing include SSAs)	0.27	164.1	388,129	71.4	168,875	235.5	557,004
Existing Biomass (CHP)	0.90	-	-	-	-	-	-
Energy from Waste with CHP	0.90	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hydropower	0.37	6.6	21,392	0.2	486	6.8	21,878
Landfill Gas	0.60	2.3	12,089	-	-	2.3	12,089
Solar PV Farms	0.10	126.5	110,814	156.7	137,246	283.2	248,060
Other including animal slurry, poultry litter & sewage gas (AD with CHP)	0.42	1.0	3,679	1.3	3,642	2.3	7,321
BIR	0.10	29.4	25,792	12.9	20,323	52.6	46,115
Total	-	333	561,895	242	330,572	583	892,467
Electrical energy demand 2008			923,148	Projected electrical energy demand			917,386
Percentage electricity demand met by renewable energy resource			61%				97%

Energy Technology	Capacity Factor Assumed	Existing		Additional Potential 2033		Total Installed Capacity	Total Energy Generated
		Installed Capacity (MW)	Energy Generated (MWh)	Installed Capacity (MW)	Energy Generated (MWh)	2033 (MW)	2033 (MWh)
Existing Biomass (CHP)	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biomass Boilers, Wood	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	-
Energy from Waste with CHP	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other including animal slurry, poultry litter and sewage gas (AD with CHP)	0.50	0.2	986	2.0	6,570	2.2	7,556
Landfill Gas (with CHP)	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	-
BIR	0.20	35.0	61,292	13.7	24,046	48.7	85,338
Total	-	35.2	62,278	15.7	30,616	50.9	92,894
Thermal energy demand 2008			2,130,266	Projected electrical energy demand			1,493,795
Percentage thermal demand met by renewable energy resource			3%				6%

Table 10: Resource Summary for Renewable Heat

Strategic Search Areas

11.479 TAN 8: Planning for Renewable Energy defines Strategic Search Areas (SSAs) and these areas are considered to be the most appropriate locations for large scale wind farm development. Carmarthenshire has two SSAs, Area G: Brechfa Forest and Area E: Pontardawe. The principle of large scale wind turbine development and associated landscape change is accepted within SSAs.

11.480 Brechfa Forest can be described as an extensive area of continuous forest, ranging from conifer plantations across upland plateaux to ancient broadleaved woodlands in steep, narrow valleys. The forest is a working forest and is a popular site for outdoor recreation. Two wind farms are currently operational within the forest, Alltwalis and Brechfa West. Further large scale wind farms should be directed to this SSA, and will be supported provided that they accord with criteria iv – vii.

11.481 Area E: Pontardawe largely falls within Neath Port Talbot and Swansea administrative boundaries. Mynydd y Betws wind farm, which is located within Carmarthenshire now operates within part of Area E: Pontardawe.

Local Search Areas

11.482 The REA has assessed the potential for the Authority to deliver renewable energy, and has concluded that larger scale electricity generation from solar and wind may be viable in parts of the Authority. These areas are set out in the REA, and are annotated on the Proposals Map as Local Search Areas (LSAs). LSAs are identified by applying a series of assumptions and by undertaking a mapping exercise that used layers of constraints. These areas are considered to be the least constrained areas within the Authority in order to deliver energy.

11.483 Three Wind LSAs have been identified as being suitable for wind farm developments of between 5MW and 25MW, and four Solar PV LSAs between 5MW and 50MW. LSAs are identified to encourage developers to further investigate the potential for wind farms in these areas. Further site specific assessments will be required to assist any planning application for such developments.

11.483 Land within LSAs will not be safeguarded for energy generation, however, there will be a prioritisation for such developments where there are simultaneously competing interests.

Other Technologies

11.484 Whilst the REA recognises that wind and solar technologies have the most potential to deliver renewable energy within the County,

proposals for other renewable energy technologies, including biomass, energy from waste, hydro power, and landfill gas will also be favourably considered, subject to meeting the provisions of this policy.

Locational Considerations

11.485 In assessing the cumulative impact of proposals, any unacceptable harm to the landscape, visual impact, noise, ecology and surface and groundwaters will also be considered against other renewable energy and low carbon developments.

11.486 The amenity of residents and occupants of nearby properties should be considered, and any potential nuisance arising from the development and its associated infrastructure should be minimised. Proposals that would result in unacceptable nuisance arising from the operation of such development, such as noise, safety risk, radio, telecommunications or aviation interference, shadow flicker from wind turbines and glint and glare from solar panels will not be permitted.

11.487 Proposals will be required to ensure that they do not give rise to problems of highway safety or have a detrimental effect on the highway network as a result of construction and maintenance traffic. In siting development, existing bridleways and footpaths shall be safeguarded with no permanent loss to their length and quality. Temporary and appropriate re-routing of public rights of way during construction will be

required. Encouragement will be given to enhancing existing and providing new recreational facilities.

11.488 Supplementary Planning Guidance will be produced to expand on the provisions of this policy.

Policy CCH2 – Electric Vehicle Charging Points

Proposals for development will be required to include the installation of an electrical socket suitable for charging electric vehicles

1. Residential Development

Houses	Where houses are provided with a garage, driveway or dedicated parking bay, one standard EV Charging Unit* should be provided per dwelling.
Flats (non-dedicated parking bays)	Where flatted development has integrated parking bays (under croft or parking court) proposals should include at least one dedicated bay with Fast EV Charging Unit to service the development.

2. Non-Residential Development

For non-residential developments where car parking is provided, at least 10% of those bays should have ULEV charging point. Rapid charging points for

electric vehicles, should be provided where the local electricity network is technically able to support this.

11.489 National policy in the form of Planning Policy Wales sets an agenda which seeks to progress towards a shift to low or zero emissions means of road transport. In this respect, it recognises the role of electrical charging points in delivering that shift^[1].

11.490 In taking this view it advocates adopting a sustainable approach which balances short-term needs against long-term objectives in relation to considerations such as reduced public exposure to airborne pollution, noise pollution etc. as part of the preparation of development plans.

11.491 As reflected in figure 12 below, Welsh Government policy sets out a sustainable transport hierarchy in relation to new development. This hierarchy recognises the role of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles in decarbonising transport, particularly in rural areas^[2].



Figure 12: The Sustainable Transport Hierarchy for Planning

11.492 This LDP recognises the diversity of communities across Carmarthenshire noting in particular the largely rural characteristics that typify much of its area. As reflected in PPW such areas often require different approaches to sustainable transport with new development needing to reflect local circumstances. For example, in developing the LDP strategy regard has been had to the potential for growth within rural areas and the identification of sites has had regard to the hierarchy including measures to encourage the use of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles. In this regard the above policy provides a clear focus on

^[1] Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – Paragraph 6.78

^[2] Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 – Paragraph 4.1.11

access to such vehicles as a positive policy objective for developments across the authority including in rural communities.

11.493 The Plan recognises the impacts of climate change and the move to decarbonisation with the need to promote access to alternative means of transport in accordance with the provisions of national policy. 35% of Carmarthenshire's residents live in rural areas with 65% of the land area classified as rural. The rural nature of much of Carmarthenshire has therefore been a key consideration in developing the strategy and the distribution of growth.

11.494 Rurality is a particular challenge for public transport, with the sparse populations in most rural areas and communities, served by a low frequency service.

11.495 Whilst it is recognised that the promotion of sustainable transport and indeed the eventual decarbonisation of transport can be achieved in many urban areas it must not further dislocate the connections between urban and rural communities^[3]. In relation to our communities within rural areas the Plan seeks to deliver a sustainable development in a way

^[3] Re-energising Wales: Decarbonising Transport in Wales – Institute of Welsh Affairs (June 2018)

which references and integrates new and alternative transport approaches including the promotion of ultra-low emission vehicles. Where a home has a dedicated parking space in the form of a garage or a driveway/parking bay as a minimum requirement a 16 Amp socket should be provided either in a garage or in close proximity to a dedicated car parking place. In the absence of a garage, a wall mounted external socket should be provided.

11.496 Proposals for non-residential and commercial developments should include as a minimum requirement charging points for 10% of car parking spaces. In implementing this requirement regard will be had to the provisions of PPW Edition 10: Paragraph 4.1.39. Note:32 Amp socket. Commercial standalone charging units provide 2 chargers.

CCH3: Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources

Proposals for development will be permitted where they do not compromise or lead to a deterioration in either the water resource or the quality of controlled waters. Proposals will,

www.iwa.wales/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/IWA_Decarbonising_Transport-1.pdf

where appropriate, be expected to contribute towards improvements to water quality.

Watercourses will be safeguarded through ecological buffer zones or corridors to protect aspects such as riparian habitats and species, water quality, and provide for flood plain capacity. Proposals will be permitted where they do not have an adverse impact on nature conservation, fisheries, public access, or water related recreation use of the rivers in the County.

Development proposals must make efficient use of water resources and where appropriate, contribute towards improvements to water quality. SuDS must be implemented where appropriate with approval required through the Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB).

11.497 Water as a resource is extremely valuable and matters such as pollutants, flood prevention, groundwater and the protection and the enhancement of aquatic ecosystems are all important considerations reflected by legislation and guidance. The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) (WFD) sets out the requirements in relation to the water environment and full regard should be had to its content.

11.498 Water pollution and consequent poor water quality can be from a single source, or from diffuse sources, such as from agricultural and urban runoff. The WFD has provided the opportunity to work with partner

organisations, particularly Natural Resources Wales, to recognise the need to improve the whole water environment and promote the sustainable use of water for the benefit of both people and wildlife. River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) have been prepared which set out environmental objectives and standards, and a programme of measures by which they can be achieved.

11.499 Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) are responsible for the supply and treatment of water within the County. DCWW continue to meet increased demand for sewerage services through legislative and regulatory mechanisms, and supply/demand investment as set out within the Asset Management Programme (AMP). The AMP investment will support future growth and regeneration.

11.500 With regards to the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site (CBEEMS), reference should be made to Policy INF4. The Burry Inlet SPG has been prepared to elaborate upon this Plan. It seeks to balance environmental and developmental considerations with a view to facilitating the delivery of growth within the revised LDP up to 2033.

11.501 The recognition that there are environmental considerations in relation to growth is a key concept of sustainable development. Given that the impact of the Plan's allocations and commitments has already been considered by the Authority and deliverability established, this

Policy simply provides a means to explore project or application level matters on a site by site basis, as and where appropriate. This Policy seeks to provide the Authority with a means to consider the merits of proposals that come forward within the Plan period that are not currently identified within the Plan.

11.502 Water quality can be improved through a number of measures including the effective design, construction and operation of sewerage systems, the use of wetlands or greenspace for flood alleviation, and the use of SuDS. The promotion of agricultural good practice would also contribute to improvements in quality. Where appropriate and applicable to the planning system, this Plan identifies measures that can be taken forward.

11.503 Proposals should seek wherever possible to incorporate water conservation techniques including rainwater harvesting and grey-water recycling.

11.504 The water resources requirements for Carmarthenshire are supplied entirely by DCWW, and the county lies within the Tywi conjunctive use system (Tywi WRZ). The most recent DCWW Resource Management Plan predicts that the Tywi WRZ will be in surplus throughout the period of the LDP, based on the projected increase in household numbers within Carmarthenshire of 14.6% between 2014 and

2039, with an increase from 82,751 to 89,532 between 2018 and 2033. This overall growth forecast exceeds the growth provided for in the LDP.

11.505 Matters relating to abstraction and water supply will need to be continually monitored, to ensure that the growth identified within this LDP is commensurate with the availability of the resource, over and above the protection allowed through this policy.

11.506 The Council will continue to work with and consult NRW and DCWW on development proposals as appropriate. The Council will also consult NRW on development proposals in the vicinity of river corridors and estuaries. Prospective developers should seek the advice and consent of NRW when appropriate. Where proposals relate to a main river or ordinary watercourse, the requirement for an appropriate buffer adjoining both banks should be incorporated into any proposals to protect and encourage local biodiversity.

11.507 As always, proposals should satisfy the policies and provisions of the Plan as a whole. Specific reference may be made however to Strategic Policy 13 –Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment, most notably in relation to sites of international importance to nature conservation. There are particular opportunities to acknowledge and embrace green infrastructure as part of a placemaking approach.

CH4: Flood Risk Management and Avoidance

Proposals for development located within areas of identified flood risk will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, where:

- a) **In areas at risk of fluvial, pluvial, coastal and reservoir flooding, where it can be demonstrated that the development meets the justification tests set out within National Policy⁵⁴ and is supported by robust technical evidential statement.**
- b) **Where it would not have a detrimental effect on the integrity of existing fluvial, pluvial or coastal flood defences, or would impede access to existing and future defences for maintenance and emergency purposes;**
- c) **it would not lead to an unacceptable increase in the risk of flooding on the site or elsewhere will not be permitted; or,**
- d) **In areas subject to flood risk from localised sources, a drainage strategy is submitted which demonstrates to the Council's satisfaction that the impacts can be managed or alleviated.**

Proposals should seek to incorporate effective and environmentally sympathetic flood risk mitigation measures, such as SuDS.

Proposals where there is the potential for floodplain reconnection should be incorporated into the development to

⁵⁴ As identified within Technical Advice Note 15 (2004) – Development Advice Maps

ensure that opportunities are maximised, and that floodplain storage and water flow are not adversely affected.

11.508 The majority of Carmarthenshire's settlements are located by rivers or the coast. This reflects the historical development pattern and whilst the Plan cannot influence the spatial patterns of the past, it can help shape the decisions with the wellbeing of future generations in mind.

11.509 Whilst an understanding and recognition of river and tidal flooding has been implicit in planning practice for many years, there is now an increasing awareness of other sources of flooding – notably surface water. These other sources can impact upon settlements that are not close to a river or the coast.

11.510 The policy, and the strategic direction of the Plan recognises and reflects the need for a sustainable approach to flood risk. As such, this Plan priorities the protection of the undeveloped or unobstructed floodplain from development and seeks to prevent the cumulative effects of incremental development⁵⁵. However, it also seeks to recognise that the dynamics of flood risk are complex and extend beyond the on-site connotations in respect of the siting of an individual development.

⁵⁵ Planning Policy Wales Edition 10: Paragraph 6.6.25

11.511 The Plan has regard to the provisions of national planning policy on flood risk and a precautionary approach has been taken in formulating policies which identify land use allocations and site specific proposals. The Plan also looks to recognise the dynamic nature of flood risk but also their vital contribution to the environmental qualities, biodiversity, green infrastructure network, and the intrinsic landscape value of the County.

11.512 The contribution of natural channel processes is recognised and the policy encourages floodplain reconnection. Consequently, developments and notably new infrastructure should be designed in a way which does not result in the net loss of floodplain storage, impede water flows or increase flood risk elsewhere⁵⁶. Regard should be had to the Working with Natural Processes (WWNP) Floodplain Reconnection Potential⁵⁷.

11.513 National policy in respect of flood risk is set out within Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk (2004). The fluvial and tidal flood risk areas are set out on the accompanying Development Advice Maps (DAM). These areas are categorised as 4 zones, namely Zone A, Zone B, and more notably Zones C1 and C2 which are more susceptible to flooding.

11.514 Development will only be considered in areas at a high risk of flooding where it can be demonstrated that the site can comply with the justification and assessment requirements set out in TAN 15. Only less vulnerable development will be permitted within Zone C2. Where a development is proposed in an area of identified flood risk an accompanying technical evidential statement must be provided to satisfy the provisions of TAN15 and show clearly that the new development will alleviate the threat and consequences of flooding.

CCH5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy in New Developments

Development proposals that connect to existing sources of renewable energy, district heating networks, or use low carbon technology will be supported.

Development proposals that include: residential development of 100 or more homes; or development with a total floorspace of 1000sq m or more; will be required to submit an Energy Assessment to determine the feasibility of incorporating such a scheme, and where viable, would be required to implement the scheme.

57

<http://lle.gov.wales/catalogue/item/WWNPFloodplainReconnectionPotentialWales/?lang=en>

Major developments that consume significant energy will be encouraged to facilitate the development of, and/or connection to proposed District Heating and Cooling Networks.

11.515 This policy seeks to encourage the incorporation of renewable and low carbon energy in all new developments.

11.516 An Energy Assessment will investigate the potential to incorporate and use low carbon technology, or to use existing sources of renewable energy or district heating networks. Assessments will be required to demonstrate how the development can make a contribution towards increased levels of energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources.

11.517 Further guidance will be provided in the Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Supplementary Planning Guidance.

CCH6: Climate Change – Forest, Woodland and Tree Planting

Support will be given to proposals for the creation and protection of new woodland, forests, tree belts and corridors where they seek to promote delivery of the national and local climate change and decarbonisation ambitions.

Proposals for tree planting which seeks to contribute to a reduction of flood risk will also be supported.

11.518 The Welsh Government has identified a target to increase woodland cover in Wales by at least 2,000 hectares per annum from 2020. This policy seeks to reflect this national objective and the commitment to the creation of a national forest. There are opportunities to create links to green infrastructure, incorporate active travel facilities and enhance tourism and leisure opportunities, as well as promoting enhanced biodiversity, connectivity and ecosystems resilience.

11.519 Trees, forest and woodland provides a range of ecosystem services, such as improving air quality, providing a cooling effect and shade in summer, reducing noise, carbon sequestration and increasing resilience to climate change trees, forests and woodlands also offer aesthetic and amenity value, and can act as landmark features within our settlements and open countryside. They contribute to nature conservation and increase biodiversity, and often have historic and recreational value. They also help to generate a feeling of ‘well-being’.

11.520 The planting of trees, woodlands and forests can assist in tackling issues around flood risk, providing a soft engineering solution which can

be undertaken in isolation or in conjunction with hard infrastructure (man-made structures).

11.521 Trees are recognised as a reducer of flood risk from the top to bottom. The leaves reduce flooding in two ways: evaporation; and, slow the flow rate of water into rivers. Whereas the roots assists in draining water reducing the amount reaching the river, whilst also holding soil in place reducing soil entering the river and affecting its flow. Proposals will be expected to demonstrate how they will contribute to flood risk alleviation.

11.522 The Plan supports the planting of a type, scale, design, age composition and species mix that is appropriate to the locality. Proposals will be required to consider the impact on the landscape or nature conservation value of an area or its built historic heritage. Where an impact is adverse the proposal will not be supported.

Strategic Policy – SP16: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework

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

	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3	Cluster 4	Cluster 5	Cluster 6
Tier 1 – Principal Centre	Carmarthen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Llanelli 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ammanford/ Crosshands 			
Tier 2 – Service Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pontyates / Meinciau / Ponthenri ▪ Ferryside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kidwelly ▪ Burry Port ▪ Pembrey ▪ Hendy / Fforest ▪ Llangennech ▪ Trimsaran/ Carway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brynamman • Glanamman / Garnant • Pontyberem / Bancffosfelen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Newcastle Emlyn ▪ Llanybydder ▪ Pencader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Llandovery ▪ Llandeilo / Rhosmaen / Ffairfach ▪ Llangadog 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ St Clears/ Pwll Trap ▪ Whitland ▪ Laugharne
Tier 3 – Sustainable Villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cynwyl Elfed ▪ Llanybri ▪ Llansteffan ▪ Bronwydd ▪ Cwmffrwd ▪ Llangyndeyrn ▪ Brechfa ▪ Llangain ▪ Idole / Pentrepoeth ▪ Peniel ▪ Alltwalis ▪ Llanpumsaint ▪ Llandyfaelog ▪ Rhydargaeau ▪ Llanarthne ▪ Capel Dewi ▪ Nantgaredig ▪ Pontarothi ▪ Llanddarog ▪ Porthyrhyd ▪ Cwmduad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mynyddygarreg ▪ Five Roads / Horeb ▪ Llansaint / Broadway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmel ▪ Cwmgwili ▪ Foelgastell ▪ Ystradowen ▪ Llannon ▪ Llanedi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drefach / Felindre ▪ Waungilwen ▪ Llangeler ▪ Pentrecwrt ▪ Saron/Rhos ▪ Llanllwni ▪ Cwmann ▪ Capel Iwan ▪ Llanfihangel ar arth ▪ Trelech ▪ Pontyweli ▪ Cenarth ▪ New Inn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Caio ▪ Ffarmers ▪ Llansawel ▪ Talley ▪ Cwrt Henri ▪ Llanfynydd ▪ Llanwrda ▪ Cwmifor ▪ Salem ▪ Abergorlech 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Llanboidy ▪ Glandy Cross ▪ Efailwen ▪ Llangynin ▪ Meidrim ▪ Bancyfelin ▪ Llangynog ▪ Pendine ▪ Llanddowror ▪ Llanmiloe

	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3	Cluster 4	Cluster 5	Cluster 6
Tier 4 – Rural Villages (No development limits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hermon ▪ Abernant ▪ Blaenycloed ▪ Bancycapel ▪ Nantycaws ▪ Croesyceiliog ▪ Crwbin ▪ Felingwm Uchaf ▪ Felingwm Isaf ▪ Llanegwad ▪ Pontantwn ▪ Nebo ▪ Talog ▪ Penybont ▪ Whitemill ▪ Pont-newydd ▪ Pontarsais 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cynheidre ▪ Four Roads ▪ Penymynydd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capel Seion ▪ Derwydd ▪ Heol Ddu ▪ Maesybont ▪ Milo ▪ Pantllyn ▪ Pentregwenlais ▪ Temple Bar ▪ Cefnbrynbrain ▪ Rhosamman ▪ Drefach (Llandyfan) ▪ Stag and Pheasant ▪ Mynyddcerrig 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Penboyr ▪ Drefelin ▪ Cwmpengraig ▪ Cwmhiraeth ▪ Pentrecagal ▪ Gwyddgrug ▪ Dolgran ▪ Bancyffordd ▪ Bryn Iwan ▪ Pencarreg 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ffaldybrenin ▪ Crugybar ▪ Cwm-du ▪ Ashfield Row ▪ Felindre (Llangadog) ▪ Cynghordy ▪ Golden Grove ▪ Broad Oak ▪ Trapp ▪ Manordeilo ▪ Penybanc ▪ Felindre, (Dryslwyn) ▪ Dryslwyn ▪ Rhydcymerau ▪ Waunystrad Meurig ▪ Bethlehem ▪ Capel Isaac ▪ Llangathen ▪ Llansadwrn ▪ Rhandirmwyn ▪ Porthyrhyd ▪ Pumsaint ▪ Cilycwm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cwmfelin Mynach ▪ Cwmbach ▪ Blaenwaun ▪ Llanglydwen ▪ Cwmfelin Boeth ▪ Cross Inn ▪ Llansadurnen ▪ Broadway ▪ Red Roses ▪ Llanfallteg

Table 11: Settlement hierarchy

11.523 The Plan seeks to distribute growth and development spatially across the County, with settlements allocated to one of 6 clusters within the hierarchy. The cluster based approach is flexible in apportioning new growth and avoids any assumption that every settlement in every tier must contribute towards growth. Regard has also been given to cross boundary settlements, and how they impact on the role and function of Carmarthenshire's border settlements. These include: Pontarddulais, Lampeter, Adpar, Narberth and Llandysul. Reference is made to the evidence base in relation to housing distribution.

11.524 Whilst the majority of development will be directed to the top tiers of the settlement hierarchy, the diversity of the County is recognised and regard will be given to housing in rural areas, and the value such areas play within the County. Within rural villages (Tier 4) and non-defined settlements, new housing development will be limited to small scale opportunities. Reference is made to Policy HOM3 and HOM4 of this Plan.

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

11.526 The following sets out an indicative outline on the nature of development likely by tier including their scale and type:

Principal Centres

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

Service Centres:

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

Sustainable Villages:

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

Rural Villages (No Development Limits):

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

Non Defined Rural Settlements:

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

SD1: Development Limits

Development Limits are defined for those settlements identified as Principal Centres, Service Centres and Sustainable Villages within Strategic Policy SP16.

Proposals within defined Development Limits will be permitted, subject to policies and proposals of this Plan, national policies and other material planning considerations.

11.527 In preparing this Plan, development limits have been defined across all settlements within Tiers 1, 2 and 3 in order to:

- Prevent inappropriate development in the countryside and provide certainty and clarity as to where exceptions proposals (adjacent to limits) may be considered appropriate;
- Prevent coalescence of settlements (or separate parts of the same settlement), ribbon development or a fragmented development.
- Identify those areas within which development proposals would be permitted (see above); and,
 - Promote effective and appropriate use of land concentrating growth within defined settlements.

11.528 Not all land on a Proposals Map and Inset Maps is identified for a particular development, or the subject of a specific policy. Significant areas of land can appear as un-annotated land in the Plan. Proposals for development will be considered on their individual merits against the provisions of this LDP, and other material considerations.

Strategic Policy – SP 17: Transport and Accessibility

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

1. Reducing the need to travel, particularly by private motor car;
2. Addressing social inclusion through increased accessibility to employment, services and facilities;
3. Supporting and, where applicable, enhancing alternatives to the motor car, such as public transport (including park and ride facilities and encouraging the adoption of travel plans) and active travel through cycling and walking;
4. Re-enforcing the function and role of settlements in accordance with the settlement framework;
5. Promoting the efficient use of the transport network;
6. Enhancing accessibility to places of employment, homes, services, facilities and other significant trip generating proposals at locations with access to appropriate transport infrastructure;
7. The incorporation of design and access solutions within developments to promote accessibility;
8. Providing walking and cycling routes, linking in with active travel and green infrastructure networks;
9. Providing for new technological solutions through Ultra Low Emission Vehicles Charging Points in new developments; and,

10. Adopting a sustainable approach to the design, function and layout of new development, including providing appropriate levels of parking.

11.529 The LDP and the Policy recognises the role that movement, connectivity, legibility and their associated transport links play, particularly across a county as diverse as Carmarthenshire. The LDP strategy reflects and promotes the principles of sustainability and accessibility to essential services and facilities with the aim of achieving viable, self-supporting settlements and sustainable communities thus increasing social inclusion, cohesion and economic diversity and vibrancy. The settlement framework reflects the sustainability of settlements and the sustainable transport hierarchy by locating the majority of development where services, jobs, shopping and leisure facilities are located, but also recognising the diversity of the County and its rural communities including the rural areas. The County and its transport network is diverse, with the network connecting people and services, including the highway, public transport, pedestrian and cycle routes and PROWs (including bridleways).

11.530 In achieving the above, the strategy has regard to the highway and rail network along with accessibility to public transport and the potential for growth of settlements reflecting their levels of accessibility. In urban settlements the nature of their connectivity and frequency of transport is reflected through the settlement hierarchy. However, even within some of these settlements there is an inconsistency in the availability of an active

travel network. Across the more rural areas and their communities, a lack of public transport access and the links afforded through active travel networks is inevitably more fragmented consequently this needs to be balanced against a development's potential contribution towards sustaining that community and the rural economy of the area.

11.31 The Plan will seek to guide development in the rural parts of the County to within and adjoining defined settlements, as opposed to sporadic countryside locations except where in accordance with the policies of this plan.

11.532 The Policy highlights the need for improvements to, and expansion of, Active Travel and public transport as part of proposals for development. This reflects the move away from the use of the private motor car. The Policy however also seeks to reflect the potential in terms of reducing harmful emissions through the introduction of Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Charging points in new development (reference should be made to Policy: CCH2).

11.533 This seeks in part to respond to the diversity of the County, accessibility and the aim of reducing the need to travel (and reducing CO₂ emissions) and this remains a challenge for a large part of Carmarthenshire. This challenge is particularly evident when addressing the need to sustain rural areas, and to ensure that their communities do not

suffer social exclusion. This must also relate to a realistic acceptance that the motor car remains an important means of travel in such areas.

11.534 Minimising travel may also be possible through an integrated transport strategy and the development of self-sustaining communities (including the availability of services and facilities) and the availability of alternatives through appropriate initiatives such as 'Bwcabus'. It is recognised that developing public transport as a viable and credible alternative to the use of the private car will assist in the reduction of congestion on key transport corridors. It is however also recognised that as technology progresses the potential impact or otherwise of the private car itself will change.

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

11.536 Where a scheme is identified as requiring further feasibility, design and preparation it is not identified within the LDP. This reflects the potential for an absence of clear indications of delivery.

11.537 The role of the County as a centre for cycling in Wales is recognised and the Council's Cycling Strategy will be considered and where

appropriate reflected as the LDP progresses. In this respect, the role of the cycling network as an economic driver and leisure and tourism asset is recognised. Similarly, its contribution to the promotion of accessibility and benefits to our communities are also recognised, as is the contribution of the public footpath network and bridleways.

11.538 The following table identifies the primary road network, including trunk roads, and the core network. These routes are identified on the constraints map as corridors for movement.

Primary and Core Road Networks

Primary Road Network (corresponds to the identified Strategic network):

M4	A484	A40 (T)
A48	A476	B4310
A4138	A477 (T)	B4335
A474	A4878	B4336
A483 (T)	A4069	B4459
A48 (T)	A482	B4039
A486	A485	B4317

Core Road Network (corresponds to the identified Highway network):

A4066	B4304	B4556
A4068	B4306	B4301
B4299	B4300	B4303
B4333	B4328	B4314
B4310	B4312	B4297

B4337
B4302

B4308
B4368

TRA1: Transport and Highways Infrastructural Improvements

Transport routes, improvements and associated infrastructural facilities which deliver the objectives and priorities of the Joint Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015 – 2020) will be supported.

The improvements to the highway infrastructure as part of the Cross Hands Economic Link Road will be safeguarded with the route identified on the proposals map.

Proposals which maintain and enhance an integrated sustainable transport network will also be supported where they accord with the policies and provisions of this Plan. Development proposals which do not prejudice the efficient implementation of any identified improvement or scheme will be permitted.

11.539 The Regional Transport Plan identifies the Cross Hands Economic Link Road as a Transformational connectivity project for the Swansea Bay City Region.

11.540 Significant progress has been made in the delivery of the Cross Hands Economic Link Road (ELR) with Phase 1 opening as part of facilitating the Cross Hands East Strategic Employment Site. A further

phase between Llandeilo Road and Penygroes is under construction and nearing completion. The final phase between Black Lion Road and Penygroes has planning permission and provides an opportunity to facilitate further development of the former Emlyn Brickworks site in Penygroes. This scheme includes associated earthworks, drainage, lighting, signing etc. together with accommodation works and associated environmental mitigation works.

11.541 The ELR will ease congestion at the A48 Cross Hands Roundabout which is part of the Trans European Network (TENS) as well as improve safety at the "6 ways" junction in Gorslas. The scheme will provide a key link in the highway network to Llandeilo as part of the Swansea to Manchester trunk road.

11.542 The new link road from A40 dual carriageway to College Road near Parc Dewi Sant and Trinity St. David's University was opened in March 2019. This allowed access to education and employment sites as well as delivering infrastructure for future housing growth and facilitating the Yr Egin (S4C) development (see Policy SP5: Strategic Sites).

11.543 Ammanford Distributor Road Phase 2 is identified as part of a long term proposal to assist in economic regeneration of the wider Ammanford and Amman Valley areas. Whilst the LDP does not safeguard or identify this route, it recognises its status within the Joint Transport Plan and the

Council will monitor any progress towards its delivery. The absence of clear indications of delivery and a defined alignment dictate that it is not identified within the Policy or on the proposal map.

11.544 Further schemes identified within the Regional Transport Plan for Carmarthenshire 2015 – 2020 include those schemes listed for 2020 – 2030 and will be reviewed in light of progress updates emanating from the Joint Transport Plan and future strategies:

- Ammanford Economic Regeneration Infrastructure (Wind St/Tirydail) – Junction improvements (completed 2019)
- Carmarthenshire Strategic Transport Corridors and Interchanges - ongoing improvements to main Bus Corridors.
- Carmarthenshire Walking and Cycling Linkages - Continued development of a comprehensive network of Walking & Cycling Linkages such as the Amman Valley Cycleway, Carmarthenshire employment routes and the National Cycle Network to improve access to employment, education and other services as well encouraging tourism and healthy lifestyles.
- A4138 Access into Llanelli incorporating Llanelli/M4 Park and ride/share – Subject to further design and implementation of preferred options from 2019/20.

- Towy Valley Transport Corridor (Towy Valley Cycleway) - Cycleway with links to key attractions including the market towns of Carmarthen and Llandeilo with a phased approach to implementation with the initial phase under construction.
- Llanelli Integrated Transport Interchange – In the Station Road/Copperworks Road areas, this represents a key focal point for transport interchange between a number of modes including the Town’s railway station, key commercial bus routes and a park and ride (rail) facility.
- Sustainable Travel Centres - May include EV charging infrastructure, targeted home zones, interchange improvements, cycle racks and employment centred sustainable travel routes
- Access to Pembrey Country Park - Replace/upgrade the existing single lane road over the Rail Bridge which currently serves Pembrey County Park (PCP).

TRA2: Active Travel

Proposals which enhance walking and cycling access by incorporating the following within the site, and/or making financial contributions towards the delivery of off-site provision, will be supported:

- a) Permeable, legible, direct, convenient, attractive and safe walking and cycling routes connecting the development to: surrounding settlements; public transport nodes; community facilities; commercial and employment areas; tourism facilities; and, leisure opportunities;**
- b) Improvements, connections, and/or extensions to: footpath network and existing PROWs (including bridleways); cycle network and routes; Safe Routes to School; and, routes forming part of the Green Infrastructure network; and**
- c) Facilities that encourage the uptake of walking and cycling, including: appropriate signage; secure and convenient cycle parking; and changing and associated facilities.**

Proposals which have a significant adverse impact on PROW or existing routes identified through the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 will be expected to contribute to the delivery the Council’s Active Travel Plan.

11.545 Development proposals must seek to maximise accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport, by prioritising the provision of appropriate on-site infrastructure and, where necessary, mitigating transport impacts through the provision of off-site measures, such as the development of active travel routes, bus priority infrastructure and financial support for public transport services⁵⁹.

⁵⁹ Planning Policy Wales Edition 10: paragraph 4.110

11.546 The Plan seeks to promote accessibility to alternative means of transport to help reduce car use, and to support the Council in fulfilling its legal duty under the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 to develop, improve and maintain local walking and cycling networks. Proposals will be encouraged to use Standards of good practice including the Active Travel Act Design Standards and other relevant guidance to ensure the design principles reflect and deliver Active Travel. Regard should also be had to the Council's Highways Design Guide.

11.547 In utilising this policy regard should be had to the provisions of the LDP on placemaking and Green Infrastructure. In this respect, the Plan emphasises a commitment to quality environments and design, with active travel and walking and cycling as important components.

11.548 Proposals within rural areas should reflect the national sustainable placemaking outcomes and, where possible, offer good active travel connections to the centres of settlements to reduce the need to travel by car for local journeys⁶⁰.

TRA3: Gwili Railway

Proposals will be permitted where they do not prejudice the following in relation to the Gwili Railway:

- a) The extension of the Gwili Railway northwards to Llanpumsaint;**
- b) The provision of a new station at Glangwili, Carmarthen.**

11.549 Proposals for the Gwili Railway will be considered in light of their effect on local traffic conditions, on the quality of the environment and infrastructural requirements.

11.550 The Gwili Railway is an important tourist attraction and the Council will support the long-term proposals to extend the line northwards ultimately to Llanpumsaint and the provision of a new station as identified within the Policy.

11.551 The safeguarded areas and routes are shown on the Proposals Map.

RA4: Redundant Rail Corridors

Proposals for development which do not prejudice the re-use of redundant rail corridors for potential future recreational and rail development purposes will be supported.

11.552 The Plan area has a number of former railway lines which offer considerable benefit for recreational activities including cycle routes, footpaths and bridleways. Consideration also needs to be given to the potential future re-use of rail routes when considering proposals, which may impact upon the continuity and availability of the route.

TRA5: Highways and Access Standards in Development

Proposals for development will be permitted where they:

- a) **Incorporate the necessary access standards reflecting the road classification and conditions;**
- b) **Include appropriate visibility splays and design features necessary to ensure highway safety and that the ease of movement is maintained, and enhanced where required;**
- c) **Do not generate unacceptable levels of traffic which has a detrimental impact on the surrounding road network, highway safety, or would cause significant harm to the amenity of residents.**
- d) **Will not result in offsite congestion in terms of parking or service provision.**

11.553 Where a development proposal is likely to raise issues in respect of highway capacity of the network, contributions may be required to facilitate appropriate works as part of the granting of any permission.

11.554 In using this policy, reference should also be made to Policy PSD1: Sustainable and High Quality Design and to the content of the Highways Design Guide which will be adopted as SPG.

Strategic Policy SP 18: Mineral Resources

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

- a) Ensuring supply by maintaining an adequate landbank of permitted aggregate reserves (a minimum 10 years for hard crushed rock, and a minimum 7 years for 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.**

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

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

11.557 The South Wales Regional Technical Statement (RTS) 2014 sets out the contribution that each constituent local authority should make towards meeting the regional demand for aggregates (both hard crushed rock, and sand and gravel). The County's landbank figures for crushed rock is notably in excess of the minimum requirements set out in Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) 1: Aggregates, and consequently there is no requirement to allocate new sites for mineral development. The position regarding the landbank for sand and gravel is different as the apportionments and allocations for land-based sand and gravel within Carmarthenshire have been combined with Pembrokeshire, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park and Ceredigion. The RTS states there is an under provision of 2.94 million tonnes of sand and gravel reserves within the region of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire (including the National Park) to cover the period up to 2033 and that these authorities should work collaboratively to address the shortfall and identify specific sites.

11.558 Both Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire County Councils have sought to address the shortfall in sand and gravel reserves later in the Revised Plan period and are working together to achieve this through the potential allocation of a site(s).

11.559 There is a clear direction from the Welsh Government to avoid the continued extraction and consumption of fossil fuels. Therefore, the Authority does not propose to safeguard coal resources. The Council is required to notify the Welsh Government in the event of proposals for coal or petroleum operations that it is not minded to refuse.

MR1: Mineral Proposals

Proposals for mineral extraction will be permitted where there is a proven national, regional or local need for the mineral which cannot be met from existing sources or from secondary or recycled material, and where they would not result in any significant adverse impacts upon public health, the environment, local amenity and the local transport network. Applications for minerals proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:

- a. Suitable access and transport routes have been identified and the potential for minerals to be transported by means other than road has been adequately assessed;**
- b. Noise is demonstrated to be within acceptable levels;**

- c. The best practicable means are identified to control dust, smoke, fumes and to ensure that operations do not cause a deterioration in local air quality or an unacceptable impact on public health;**
- d. Blasting is controlled within acceptable levels;**
- e. Potential impacts on groundwater resources, surface water resources and water supplies are identified and demonstrated to be within acceptable levels;**
- f. There are no unacceptable adverse impacts upon sites of nature conservation importance, and adverse impacts upon sites of historic, cultural and landscape importance are identified and demonstrated to be minimal;**
- g. Effective mitigation measures proposed to minimise any potential effects from subsidence or land instability have been identified and demonstrated to the Council's satisfaction;**
- h. Adverse impact on landscape character and visual amenity is not significant;**
- i. Opportunities for the re-use and/or recycling of mineral waste are maximised;**
- j. Satisfactory proposals have been submitted for restoration, landscaping, after use, and after care of the site.**

11.560 The purpose of the policy is to maintain a balance between meeting national demand for minerals and minimising the potential adverse effects that could result from such operations. Minerals extraction can have positive effects on local areas and communities by providing a source of employment and contributing to the local economy, but at the same time measures have to be put in place to protect local health and amenity and

the environment from any negative effects that may result. Particular consideration should be given to the potential for impacts to groundwater and water resources and also to public health, the environment (including landscape/townscape and historic designations), local amenity, the local transport network and other environmental parameters.

11.561 It is essential to plan mineral operations which are environmentally acceptable from the outset. The use of planning controls, such as conditions, legal obligations, and monitoring and enforcement can ensure effective control of operations at mineral sites. The controls should be used where they are necessary and relevant to the individual circumstances under consideration. Acceptable levels of impact will vary at different mineral sites and will be dependent upon a number of factors. It will be up to the Authority to determine these in respect of each individual planning application.

MR2: Mineral Buffer Zones

Provision has been made for Buffer Zones around all sites with extant planning permission for mineral working.

New sensitive non-mineral development will not normally be permitted within the identified buffer zones. All buffer zones have been identified on the proposals map.

Minerals Technical Advice Note 1: Aggregates

Emerging Draft Deposit LDP

11.562 Buffer zones are used to provide areas of protection around permitted mineral workings where new development which would be sensitive to adverse impact, including residential areas, hospitals, schools, should be resisted. The identification of buffer zones will ensure that there is clear guidance on the proximity of mineral operations to sensitive land uses, and that the potential impact of mineral workings is recognised and planned for in the area around the mineral operations.

11.563 The buffer zone distances of 200m (minimum) around hard rock quarries and 100m (minimum) around sand and gravel extraction sites are set out in *MTAN1: Aggregates*,⁶¹ and 500m buffer zones around coal working sites is set out *MTAN2: Coal*.⁶² Exceptions to these distances will be considered in accordance with the provisions set out in *MTANs 1 & 2*.

MR3: Mineral Safeguarding

Planning permission will not be granted for development proposals where they would permanently sterilise resources of aggregate identified within the mineral safeguarding areas (areas of search) on the proposals map unless:

- a. **The applicant can demonstrate that the extraction of the mineral is impracticable, uneconomic or environmentally unacceptable (including**

⁶² Minerals Technical Advice Note 2: Coal

- compromising amenity and social considerations);**
or
- b. The mineral resource has already been extracted; or**
- c. The mineral can be extracted satisfactorily prior to the development taking place; or**
- d. The development is of a temporary nature and can be completed and the site restored within the timescale that the mineral is likely to be needed; or,**
- e. The nature and location of the development would have no significant impact on the potential working of the resource.**

11.564 PPW stresses the importance of safeguarding mineral resources that meet society's needs now and in the future. This however, does not necessarily indicate a presumption in favour of working the mineral deposits, merely that the location of the mineral is known. The safeguarded areas shown on the Proposals Map relate to the British Geological Survey (BGS) Aggregate Safeguarding Map for South West Wales.

11.565 Development on safeguarded areas may only proceed if the developer can satisfy any of the above criteria. When viewed with other relevant policies of the plan (particularly MPP1), mineral extraction will not be appropriate within or adjacent to settlement development limits. However, in cases where other forms of development are proposed in such areas (and a mineral resource worthy of safeguarding has been identified), prior extraction of the resource should be considered as part of the

application whilst ensuring that any operation does not have any unacceptable adverse impacts upon the environment, human health and local amenity.

11.566 With regard to aggregates (hard rock, and sand and gravel) identified and safeguarded on the proposals map, the extraction of mineral resources will generally not be acceptable within 200 metres of identified settlements in the LDP (for hard rock) and within 100 metres (for sand and gravel).

11.567 At present there are no marine wharves within the County. Potential future proposals, where acceptable, will be protected to safeguard marine sand and gravel supply route(s) into the area. Llanelli Sands' operational site in Burry Port (together with the associated 'marine landing site') will be identified on the Proposals map, and within Appendix 4 of extant mineral sites and safeguarded accordingly.

Strategic Policy – SP 19: Sustainable 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 which have regard to the nearest appropriate installation concept and principles of proximity and self-sufficiency⁶³;
- d) Supporting proposals for new in-building waste management facilities at existing and allocated industrial sites (B2 use) which are identified as suitable for waste management facilities;
- e) Acknowledging that certain types of waste facility may need to be located outside the development limits of settlements;
- f) Ensuring that provision is made for the sustainable management of waste in all new development, including securing opportunities to minimise the production of waste.

Development proposals must ensure that:

⁶³ Article 16 of the EU Waste Framework Directive, 2008

- i. There are no significant, adverse effects upon public health, the environment, local amenity and the local transport network;
- ii. The proposal is compatible with any neighbouring uses or activities.

The co-location of waste management facilities to enable the development of heat networks will be supported, subject to the above criteria; and

Waste related proposals must be supported by an appropriate Waste Planning Assessment.

11.568 Planning issues which must be taken into account when preparing applications for waste developments are set out within Annex C of Technical Advice Note (TAN) 21 Waste (2014). Applications will need to demonstrate how the proposal will contribute towards meeting the objectives in the National Waste Strategy *Towards Zero Waste* and the Collections, Infrastructure and Markets Sector Plan (CIMSP). A Waste Planning Assessment (WPA) should be submitted with all applications for a waste facility classified as a disposal, recovery or recycling facility. The WPA should be appropriate and proportionate to the nature, size and scale

of the development proposed. Further advice is contained within Annex B of TAN 21 Waste.

11.569 Applicants will need to demonstrate how the waste hierarchy has been addressed in their development proposal. Departure from the waste hierarchy will need to be justified through the use of Life Cycle Assessment. This will need to be documented as part of the WPA submitted by the applicant.

11.570 Although it is difficult to accurately predict the future needs for residual mixed waste treatment, recovery and for the disposal of waste, the CIMSP sets out the continued need for increased recovery of residual mixed waste which are incapable of being recycled. Therefore, a need exists to develop more residual waste treatment and recovery facilities and to ensure that sufficient disposal capacity is maintained at a level appropriate to support the overall aims of *Towards Zero Waste*. Reference is made to the annual Waste Planning Monitoring Reports (WPMRs) for the South West Wales region (as identified in TAN 21) which provide information and recommendations on cross border working, particularly in respect of how the region's residual waste is being managed and whether there is sufficient remaining landfill capacity.

11.571 General employment sites (B2 uses) may be suitable for many of the future 'in-building' waste facilities. These facilities would cater for

industrial and commercial waste as well as local authority collected waste. Being mindful of the need to divert waste away from landfill, the opportunities offered by in-building energy from waste facilities to harness energy for heat and/or power from residual municipal waste will be permitted provided that they are compatible with neighbouring uses and meet the criteria set out above. Proposals that incorporate combined heat and power that could contribute toward district heating schemes for large developments will be encouraged. Those sites with the potential to accommodate in-building waste facilities are listed in Policy: SP6. This is in addition to the existing waste management facilities within the County which are listed in Appendix 8. Many of these, such as the Nantycaws waste management site, are well established and are likely to continue to play a role within the Plan period.

11.572 Proposals involving the recycling and re-use of inert construction and demolition wastes as well as mineral and industrial wastes, will be encouraged. Existing active mineral sites (identified on the LDP Proposals Maps, and listed in Appendix 4), or appropriate construction sites will be the preferred locations. B2 employment land allocations might also be options, for example where in-building waste transfer stations or materials recovery facilities capable of dealing with such waste can operate. Compatibility with existing employment uses will be a critical factor when assessing proposals for recycling inert wastes on B2 sites.

11.573 B2 employment sites are not suitable locations for certain types of 'open-air' waste operations, particularly landfill or open-windrow composting. Other types of waste facilities, such as civic amenity (CA) sites, are also sometimes more suited to locations away from built up areas. Proposals for open-windrow composting may be considered suitable as part of farm diversification schemes.

WM1 Sustainable Waste Management and New Development

Development proposals must ensure that provision is made for the sustainable management of waste in all new development, including storage, recycling and by securing opportunities to minimise the production of waste.

11.574 New developments have the opportunity to make a contribution towards meeting the targets set out within the National Waste Strategy for Wales *Towards Zero Waste* (TZW) by incorporating adequate facilities and space for the collection, composting and recycling of waste materials into their design. Applying such an approach will also help to encourage participation in recycling at home, at work and public spaces.

11.575 There are a number of key issues that will need to be addressed in connection with waste management that apply to all types of development:

- **Separation of waste for recycling:** incorporating recycling facilities will help to ensure that waste diversion is easy and convenient to implement;
- **Access:** it is important to design easy and convenient access for both users of waste facilities and those who collect waste. This will also help in promoting recycling and make economic provision of waste services more achievable;
- **Pollution:** It is essential that any design and layout considers the potential impact of these facilities on neighbouring properties, in terms of potential odours, noise and the attraction of vermin;
- **Safety:** Security must be addressed at the design stage to ensure any negative impact on human health is minimised;
- **Visual impact:** it is important to minimise the visual impact of waste and recycling bins and to ensure that they do not detract from the amenity and landscape quality of the area.

11.576 The Council is keen to work with developers to see innovative methods of waste management (including on-site treatment where practicable) incorporated into new residential and other developments.

11.577 Developers should ensure sufficient space is incorporated within their development for the placement of waste containers at the kerbside on collection days, and that the route between the storage area and collection

Point is free from steps, kerbs or other obstructions. Road design and layout standards must take account of the Council's access requirements of waste collection vehicles.

11.578 All businesses are required to have adequate separation and storage facilities for waste. The storage area must meet health and safety requirements for access, lighting and ventilation and also be secure to prevent vandalism and fly tipping. It is also recommended that any storage is developed in consultation with the proposed service provider. Commercial premises will also be expected to recycle, therefore multiple bins/storage containers are likely to be required.

WM2: Landfill Proposals

Proposals for new landfill sites will only be permitted where they can accord with the following:

- a) Additional capacity is required within the South West Wales region (evidence must be provided to show where the material will be sourced):**
- b) The proposal conforms with the waste hierarchy, the concept of the nearest appropriate installation and self-sufficiency;**
- c) There would be no significant adverse impact on:**
 - i. The natural heritage, cultural and historic environment;**

- ii. The geology and hydrogeology of the site;**
- iii. Controlled waters, including water quality and quantity;**
- iv. The amenities of neighbouring occupiers, including the effects of traffic movement and the generation of noise, dust, fumes and odours;**
- v. The local highway network, including access, and highway safety;**
- vi. Public safety, health and well-being;**
- vii. The visual amenity of the site and its environs;**
- viii. Public utilities infrastructure and services; and**
- ix. Good quality agricultural land (Grades 1, 2 or 3a)**

The method of restoration and aftercare, and the proposed after use will need to form part of the landfill proposal and be completed within the lifetime of any permission granted.

11.579 The Welsh Government has a long term aim of eliminating landfilling as far as possible. TZW sets limits on the total amount of residual municipal waste and industrial and commercial waste sent to landfill. However, it is recognised that disposal to landfill will continue in the short to medium term. This is partly due to the way in which waste is collected, the infrastructure capacities currently in place to deal with waste, and the existence of legacy wastes (such as asbestos) and incineration residues, where no safe alternative to ultimate landfill disposal currently exists.

11.580 Each year a Waste Planning Monitoring Report (WPMR) is produced for the South West Wales region which identifies the amount of landfill capacity (voidspace) remaining within the region as a whole. The level (set out within TAN 21 Waste) at which the void in each region is considered sufficient and should be maintained is **5/7 years**. Whilst the latest WPMR for the 2018/19 period identifies sufficient capacity, if the situation changes in subsequent years then potential locations for a new landfill site will need to be considered that would serve the requirements of the region.

11.581 The last remaining landfill site in Carmarthenshire, at Nantycaws, has remaining capacity but is not operational at the present time. It is not clear if or when this situation is going to change during the course of the Plan. In terms of the local authority's collected waste, the residual element is presently being disposed of in landfills, and other treatment facilities, outside of the County (both within and outside the South West Wales region).

11.582 Proposals for new landfill sites will be evaluated in the context of the criteria set out above and with regard to detailed planning considerations set out within TAN 21 Waste - Annex C. Proposals will be carefully assessed to ensure landfill sites do not pose a serious risk to public health, the environment and neighbouring uses.

11.583 Where appropriate and feasible, developers may be required to enter into a S106 Agreement to ensure that proposals include measures to generate energy from landfill gas where methane might otherwise escape into the atmosphere. Ensuring that the restoration and aftercare of a completed landfill site (or cell) takes place to a standard agreed by the Council will also be secured via a S106 Agreement. The final landscaping must be completed by the end date of the planning permission.

11.584 An EIA must be submitted for all applications falling within Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations and, where appropriate, will be requested for any development falling within Schedule 2.

WM3: Agricultural Land – Disposal of Inert Waste

Proposals for the deposit of imported inert waste materials for the improvement of low grade agriculture land will only be permitted where:

- a) It can be demonstrated that the improvement sought is reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within the holding;**
- b) The volume of waste to be deposited is the minimum necessary to achieve the improvement sought;**
- c) Arrangements are in place for the separation and removal of any non-inert waste received in error;**
- d) The extent, thickness and final surface treatment of the deposit is compatible with the surrounding landform.**

11.585 The purpose behind the disposal of inert waste by its deposition on farmland and elsewhere has in the past, on many occasions, been to dispose of waste in the cheapest way possible and avoid payment of landfill tax, rather than to improve agricultural land quality or facilitate other necessary development.

11.586 The main purpose of the proposal should clearly be to improve land quality rather than the disposal of waste. In this regard, the quantity of waste to be deposited should be the minimum required to achieve the proposed improvement. Where this is not the case, the Council will consider the proposal under Policy WM1 above.

11.587 Inert waste is generally sourced from construction, demolition and excavation operations and can include materials such as soils, bricks and concrete. The beneficial use of this waste for agricultural land improvement, where this is necessary, can be categorised as a waste recovery operation. Waste recovery can be defined as any operation the principal result of which is waste serving a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would have otherwise been used to fulfil a particular function, or waste being prepared to fulfil that function, in the plant or wider economy.

11.588 The applicant should demonstrate to the Authority's satisfaction that the proposed waste development is a 'recovery operation'. The Authority will determine whether there is a genuine need for the development, or if the activity is in fact for the 'disposal' of waste to land for any other reason. The key consideration for 'recovery operations' is that the development would have occurred in any event even if the waste was not available. If this is not the case then the operation would be classified as disposal.

11.589 The proposal must demonstrate that the quantity of waste to be used is the minimum amount required and any resulting changes to the landform would be sympathetic to the area. The development should respect the nature conservation and amenity interests of the site and surrounding area, including landscape character and visual amenity.

12. Monitoring and Implementation

Implementation

12.1 In implementing the Revised LDP, the Council will continue to work collaboratively with internal and external partners and organisations, the private sector in order to implement the vast majority of new development proposals, including employment and housing schemes. The monitoring framework notes the bodies and agencies that are likely to contribute towards delivering specific aspects of the Plan.

12.2 In order to deliver new development the existence of appropriate infrastructure including water supply, sewerage, land drainage, gas, electricity and telecommunications is vital to ensuring the delivery of the Plan's policies and proposals. In some cases, where new or improved infrastructure is required to accommodate new development, this can be provided through scheduled works undertaken by utility companies. Where infrastructure improvements are required to cater for new development but are not programmed to take place within the development's timescale, the prospective developers will need to provide or requisition the infrastructure required to allow development to go ahead.

12.3 The Council will continue to work with DCWW and NRW to ensure that new developments do not place significant pressure on existing infrastructure and do not significantly affect the environmental quality. The Council will work in partnership with these agencies and other service providers, utility companies and the private sector, to secure the required infrastructure provision at the optimal time for moving towards achieving the Plan's objectives. This will secure appropriate measures to mitigate the significant adverse effects which new development would have upon the natural environment. SPG and Development Briefs will where necessary provide more detailed information on infrastructure requirements and on working collaboratively to ensure delivery.

12.4 The ability of the private sector, and the public sector to some extent to deliver new development and associated infrastructure improvements, will be heavily influenced by external economic circumstances. For this reason, the rate of development over the plan period is likely to vary.

12.5 The Council will also work closely with Local Authorities across the region to ensure alignment between this LDP and their Strategies and in developing regional strategic arrangements, and in order to ascertain and minimise the likely in-combination effects of this Plan's proposals.

12.6 The following takes the strategic policies set out within this Revised LDP and sets out the mechanisms for their implementation. It outlines the partners and agencies, both internal and external, which will contribute towards their implementation, and where appropriate will outline the tools which will be used, such as SPG and Development Briefs etc.

12.7 The implementation of this Plan will be continually monitored and where appropriate additional mechanisms will be considered to ensure that the best processes are in place, and that the appropriate information is used to inform and guide its implementation.

Monitoring

12.8 This section outlines a monitoring framework which will be used as a tool for measuring the implementation of Revised LDP's policies and proposals. The framework comprises a series of core and local performance indicators intended to monitor the effects and success of the LDP's policies.

12.9 The information gathered through the monitoring framework will be presented in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) which is required to cover the preceding financial year and submitted to the WG by 31st October each year following adoption of the LDP. The AMR is the main mechanism for measuring the implementation and the success of the Plan's policies and will report on issues which impact upon the Plan's objectives. The AMR will also analyse the effectiveness and continued relevance of the Plan's policies in the light of national policy and circumstantial changes. The findings of the AMR could result in amendments to policies in order to improve their effectiveness and in more extreme cases could result in a review of part or of the whole Plan. The report will set out the outcomes of the monitoring framework and the data gathered will, where required, provide a contextual narrative in relation to each finding.

12.10 Irrespective of the AMR's findings the Council will be required to carry out a review of the whole Plan every 4 years. This could result in the production of a replacement/revised Plan or in the alterations of aspects of the Plan.

12.11 LDP Regulations prescribe two core indicators which must be included in the AMR:

- The housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study;
- The number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built in the LPA's area.

12.12 These two indicators and other core indicators which are required by WG are identified by an asterisk in the monitoring framework. Contextual indicators will also be used in the AMR to evaluate if it is actually the Plan which is not achieving the targets or if there are external factors (such as the economy or changes in funding sources etc.) which are outside of the planning system's control which influence the outcomes of the framework.

12.13 The following options are available to the Council in association with each of the indicators and their triggers. The AMR will assess the severity of the situation associated with each indicator and recommend an appropriate response.

Table 12: Monitoring Outcomes

Continue Monitoring (Green)
Where indicators are suggesting that LDP policies are being implemented effectively and there is no cause for a review.
Officer / Member Training Required (Blue)
Where indicators associated with planning applications suggest that policies are not being implemented as they were intended and further officer or Member training is required.
Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) / Development Briefs Required (Purple)
Whilst the Council will be preparing SPG and Development Briefs throughout the Plan period, indicators may suggest that further guidance should be provided to developers on how a policy should be properly interpreted. Additionally, should sites not be coming forward as envisaged, the Council will actively engage with developers / landowners to bring forward Development Briefs on key sites to help commence the development process.
Policy Research / Investigation (Yellow)
Where monitoring indicators suggest the LDP policies are not being as effective as intended, further research and investigation, including the use of contextual indicators (as outlined above) and comparisons with other local authorities and national statistics where appropriate will be undertaken to inform any decision to formally review the policy.
Review Policy (Orange)
Where monitoring indicators suggest that amendments to the LDP would be beneficial, the Council will consider modifying the Plan as appropriate. This may result in a review of Plan policies.
Plan Review (Red)

Where the monitoring indicators suggest the Plan and its strategy is not being implemented. An Investigation into the reasons behind it not being implemented may result in a formal review of the Plan.

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
Strategic Policy - SP1: Strategic Growth							
SO3, SO10	SP1 SP3 HOM1, HOM2, HOM3		Indicator Required by Legislation: Number of net additional open market dwellings and affordable homes built in the Plan area.	To deliver 8,835 dwellings in total during the Plan period - based on an annual completion rate of 589 units and 100 affordable units per year.	Delivery of below the Plan's annual build rate / target for at least two consecutive years.	Local Planning Authority Developers Infrastructure Providers Local Housing Authority	JHLAS
	SP1		Local Indicator: Job creation. Monitored for information purposes.	No target.	No trigger.	Carmarthenshire County Council Developers/ Employers	Carmarthenshire County Council
SO1, SO2, SO3, SO13. SA1, SA2, SA14.	SP1. SG3.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on The Pembrey Peninsula.	Adopt SPG by December 2022.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
Strategic Policy – SP 2: Retail and Town Centres							
	SP2		Vacant Retail Units of commercial properties	Vacancy rates of commercial properties within defined town centre boundary.	Vacancy levels increase	Businesses Carmarthenshire County Council	

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
Strategic Policy – SP 3: A Sustainable Approach to Providing New Homes							
SO3, SO10	SP1 SP3		Indicator required by Legislation: The housing land supply, taken from current JHLAS measured in years' supply.	Housing Land Supply of 5 or more years.	The housing land supply falls below 5 years as determined through the annual JHLAS.	Local Planning Authority.	JHLAS
SO3, SO10, SO12	SP1 SP3 HOM1		Key Indicator: The level of housing completions (private and affordable) monitored against the housing requirement.	Annual completions as per the housing trajectory.	Annual completion levels falling below the levels set out in the housing trajectory for at least two consecutive years.	Local Planning Authority Local Housing Authority Developers	JHLAS
	HOM1		Local Indicator: Number of dwellings delivered on Housing Allocations.	To deliver 6,986 dwellings on allocated sites.	The overall number of new housing units built on allocated sites which fall below the requirement for 2 consecutive years.	Local Planning Authority Local Housing Authority Developers	JHLAS
			Local Indicator: Small Sites (less than 5 units) Allowance – Number of dwellings delivered.	Monitored for information	20% +/- 88.5 dwellings permitted annually on small sites.	Local Planning Authority Local Housing Authority Developers	JHLAS

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
			Local Indicator: Windfall Allowance – number of dwellings delivered on windfall sites (excluding small sites allowance).	Monitored for information	20% +/- 89.5 dwellings permitted annually on windfall sites (+5 no.).	Local Planning Authority Local Housing Authority Developers	JHLAS
SO10 SA1, SA10, SA15	SP3 HOM3		Local Indicator: Net increase in number of new homes in Rural Villages.	The number of open market homes within each Rural Village should not increase by more than 20% of the total of existing number of homes within the settlement.	The net increase of open market homes within a Rural Village exceeds 20% of the total of existing number of homes within the settlement.	Local Planning Authority	JHLAS Carmarthenshire County Council Planning Applications Register
SO10. SA1, SA10, SA11, SA15.	SP3. HOM3.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Homes in Rural Villages	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
Strategic Policy – SP 4: Affordable Homes Strategy							
SO10 SA6, SA10, SA12, SA15	SP4 HOM4, AHOM1, AHOM2		Key Indicator: The level of affordable housing completions.	To deliver 1,500 affordable dwellings in total by 2033.	Delivery of below the Plan's annual build rate / target for at least two consecutive years	Local Planning Authority Local Housing Authority Developers Infrastructure Providers	JHLAS

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
SO10 SA6, SA10, SA12, SA15	SP4 HOM4, AHOM1, AHOM2		Key Indicator: Tenure of affordable housing completions.	Tenure split (social rented and intermediate) in line with need identified in the LHMA.	Non delivery tenure split over at least 2 consecutive years.	Local Planning Authority Local Housing Authority Developers	Carmarthenshire County Council
SO10 SA6, SA10, SA12, SA15	SP4 AHOM1, AHOM2		Key Indicator: Trends (positive and negative) in key determinants of market conditions and viability such as, house prices, land values, build costs.	Viability reflective of the prevalent economic circumstances.	Should average house prices increase or decrease by 5% above the base levels sustained over 1 year.	Carmarthenshire County Council	Council valuers
Strategic Policy – SP 5: Strategic Sites							
	SP3 SP5 SP6		Key Indicator: Life Science and Well-being Village – Delivery of housing element of the site. Delivery of the non-residential component of the site.	Annual completions as per the housing trajectory. Granting of permission for the non-housing component site during the Plan period	Annual completion levels falling below the levels set out in the housing trajectory. Permission for the non-residential component not secured prior to the first review of the Plan.	Carmarthenshire County Council City Deal Developers	JHLAS Carmarthenshire County Council
	SP5 SP6		Key Indicator: Delivery of Yr Egin development.	Granting of permission for the site during the Plan period.	Permission not secured prior to the first review of the Plan.	Carmarthenshire County Council City Deal Developers	Carmarthenshire County Council

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
Strategic Policy – SP 6: Employment and the Economy							
SO3, SO12	SP1 SP5 SP6 SG1		Key Indicator: Take up of employment allocations.	Employment land permitted (Ha) on allocated employment sites.	No permissions on employment land allocations for at least two consecutive years	Carmarthenshire County Council Developers	Carmarthenshire County Council
SO3, SO12	EME1		Local Indicator: Employment land lost to other land uses (includes existing and/or proposed employment sites)	No loss to other uses unless it can be justified through LDP policy.	Permission granted for non-employment uses not in accordance with LDP policy	Carmarthenshire County Council	Carmarthenshire County Council
SO3, SO12	EME4		Local Indicator: Planning permissions for employment uses outside of existing or proposed employment sites where they are contrary to the provisions of Policy EME4	Ensure that employment uses outside of proposed and/or existing employment sites are in accordance with Policy EME4.	Planning permission for employment uses on land outside of proposed and/or existing employment sites where they are contrary to Policy EME4	Carmarthenshire County Council	Carmarthenshire County Council
Strategic Policy – SP 7: Welsh Language and Culture							
SO11. SA1, SA11.	SP7. WL1.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Welsh Language and New Developments.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO11 SA11	SP7 WL1		Local Indicator: Planning applications supported by Welsh	Planning Applications to be supported by relevant	Planning applications not supported by relevant documentation in	Carmarthenshire County Council	Carmarthenshire County Council Planning

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
			Language Action Plans or Welsh Language Impact Assessments.	documentation in accordance with Policy WL1.	accordance with Policy WL1.		Applications Register
SO11 SA11	SP7 WL1		Local Indicator: Welsh speaking % in the County	Increase the proportion of Welsh speakers in the County	No trigger. Monitoring for contextual information.	Carmarthenshire County Council	Census Office of National Statistics Welsh Government Data
Strategic Policy – SP 8: Infrastructure							
SO1, SO14. SA1, SA2, SA5.	SP8. INF4.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on The Burry Inlet.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO14.	SP7. INF1.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Planning Obligations.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO2, SO14. SA1, SA12.	SP7. INF2.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Health Impact Assessments.	Adopt SPG by Summer 2022.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
Strategic Policy – SP 9: Gypsy and Traveller Provision							
	SP9 GTP1		Key Indicator: Gypsy and Traveller sites / pitches built on allocated sites.	To provide the required pitches Identified within the GTAA to be met by 2033.	No planning permission secured on an allocated site.	Local Housing Authority	Carmarthenshire County Council

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
			Local Indicator: Gypsy and Traveller sites / pitches built on unallocated sites	No target	The granting of any planning permission and/or traveller site.	N/A	Carmarthenshire County Council
			Local Indicator: The need for Gypsy and Traveller transit sites	No Gypsy and Traveller site recorded in one settlement for 3 consecutive years	1 unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller site recorded in one settlements for 3 consecutive years	Carmarthenshire County Council	Carmarthenshire County Council
Strategic Policy – SP 10: The Visitor Economy							
SO13. SA1, SA14.	SP10. VE1, VE2, VE3, VE4.		Local Indicator: Total economic impact of tourism in Carmarthenshire £M	Increase in any given calendar year	Decrease over 5 consecutive years.	Carmarthenshire County Council. Partner organisations and the tourism industry	STEAM Report prepared by GTS UK (Carmarthenshire CC Marketing and Media Annual Report)
Strategic Policy – SP 11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places							
SO9. SA1, SA8.	SP11.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Placemaking and Sustainable Places.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO9, SO11. SA1, SA11.	SP11. PSD9.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on advertisements (guidance on bi lingual requirements).	Adopt SPG by Summer 2022.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
SO2, SO9. SA1, SA12.	SP11. PSD8.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Provision of New Open Space.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO1, SO2, SO7, SO9 SA1, SA2, SA3, SA4, SA9	SP11 PSD3, PSD4		Local Indicator: The provision of Green Infrastructure in the County.	No target	No trigger. Monitor for information purposes.	Carmarthenshire County Council	
SO2, SO4 SA9, SA12	SP11 PSD7		Local Indicator: The amount of open space lost to development.	No open space should be lost to development except where in accordance with Policy PSD7.	Open space is lost contrary to the provisions of Policy PSD7.	Carmarthenshire County Council	
Strategic Policy – SP 12: Rural Development							
SO5. SA1, SA8.	SP12. RD4.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Conversion and reuse of rural buildings for residential use.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
Strategic Policy – SP 13: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment							
SO1, SO9. SA1, SA2.	SP13. NE4.		Local Indicator: Secure a minimum of 100 ha of suitable habitat for the Marsh Fritillary Butterfly within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG	Increase in every AMR period in the area of managed habitat in suitable condition	Decline in the area of managed habitat in suitable condition for 4 consecutive AMR periods.	Carmarthenshire County Council. Caeau Mynydd Mawr Project Steering Group.	Carmarthenshire County Council – Performance Improvement Management System (PIMS).

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
			project during the plan period.				
SO1, SO9. SA1, SA2.	SP13. NE4.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Caeau Mynydd Mawr.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO1, SO9. SA1, SA2.	SP13. PSD4.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Trees and planting as part of new developments	Adopt SPG by December 2022.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO1, SO9. SA1, SA2.	SP13. NE1.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation Value (SINCs).	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO1, SO9. SA1, SA2.	SP13. NE2.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
SO1, SO9. SA1, SA2.	SP13. BHE2.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Landscape Character.	Adopt SPG by December 2022.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
Strategic Policy – SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment							
SO5. SA1, SA8.	SP14.		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Archaeology.	Adopt SPG alongside the Plan.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
Strategic Policy – SP 15: Climate Change							
SO7 SA1, SA4	SP15 CCH1		Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Renewable Energy.	Adopt SPG by December 2022.	Failure to progress in accordance with the timetable set.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	
	SP15 CCH1		Local Indicator: To increase the amount of energy and heat produced in the County from renewable sources	Annual increase in the permitted capacity of renewable energy and heat permitted.	No planning applications permitted for renewable energy in one year.	Carmarthenshire County Council.	CCC
Strategic Policy – SP 16: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework							
	SP3 SP16		Key Indicator: Spatial Distribution of Housing	Spatial Distribution to settlement tiers as set out in SP16	Variation of +/- 10% from the expected distribution for at least two consecutive years	Local Planning Authority Local Housing Authority Developers	JHLAS
Strategic Policy – SP 17: Transport and Accessibility							
SO8	TRA1		Local Indicator: Progress toward the implementation of identified road scheme.	Implementation in accordance with the delivery timetables.	The road scheme identified is not delivered in accordance with delivery timetables.	Local Highway Authority	
	SP17 TRA2		Local Indicator: Amount of walking and cycling infrastructure	Increase in the number of schemes implemented.	No schemes delivered over two consecutive years.	Local Highway Authority.	

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
			implemented as part of planning permissions			Local Planning Authority.	
	TRA1		Local Indicator: Implementation of Welsh Government Road Schemes – including Llandeilo Bypass. Monitored for information purposes.	No target	No trigger	Welsh Government	
Strategic Policy – SP 18: Mineral Resources							
SO7	SP18 MR1		Local Indicator: The amount hard rock landbank	Maintain a minimum aggregate landbank of 10 years for hard rock	Less than 10 years hard rock landbank.	Operators Planning Policy and guidance LDP policies Development management and decision making process.	
SO7	SP18 MR1		Local Indicator: The amount sand and gravel landbank	Maintain a minimum landbank for sand and gravel of 7 years.	Less than 7 years sand and gravel landbank.	Operators Planning Policy and guidance LDP policies Development management and	

LDP and SA Objectives	Policy	Indicator Ref:	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger	Implementation	Source
						decision making process.	
SO7	MR2		Local Indicator: Sterilising developments permitted within mineral buffer zones.	No permanent, sterilising development within a mineral buffer zone.	5 permanent, sterilising developments permitted within a mineral buffer zone contrary to Policy over 3 consecutive years.	Planning Policy and guidance LDP policies Development management and decision making process.	
SO7	MR3		Local Indicator: Sterilising developments permitted within a mineral safeguarding areas.	No permanent, sterilising development will be permitted within a mineral safeguarding area.	5 permanent, sterilising developments permitted within a mineral safeguarding area over 3 consecutive years.	Planning Policy and guidance LDP policies Development management and decision making process.	
Strategic Policy – SP 19: Waste Management							
SO7	SP19		Local Indicator: Monitor planning permissions for waste management facilities	Maintain sufficient capacity to meet local need	Information set out within the South West Wales Waste Planning Monitoring Report	Planning Policy and guidance LDP policies Development management and decision making process.	

13. Glossary

Adopted Plan	This is the Final stage of Local Development Plan preparatory process - where the Local Development Plan becomes the statutory Development Plan, for the purposes of the Act.
Adopted	The final confirmation of the development plan as its land use planning policy by the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
Affordable Housing	<p>Housing provided to those whose needs are not met by the open market. Affordable housing should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet the needs of eligible households, including availability at low enough cost for them to afford, determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices; and • include provision for the home to remain affordable for future eligible households, or if a home ceases to be affordable or staircasing to full ownership takes place, any subsidy should generally be recycled to provide replacement affordable housing. <p>This breaks down into two sub-categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social rented housing - provided by local authorities and registered social landlords where rent levels have regard to the Assembly Government's guideline rents and benchmark rents; and • Intermediate housing - where prices or rents are above those of social rented housing but below market housing prices or rents. This can include equity sharing schemes (for example Homebuy). Intermediate housing differs from low cost market housing, which the Assembly Government does not consider to be affordable housing for the purpose of the land use planning system. (TAN 2: Glossary).
Air Quality Management Area	<p>Locations identified where the Council believes that national air quality objectives are not likely to be met and where improvements are needed.</p> <p>The Council is under a legal obligation to declare by Order such sites as Air Quality Management Areas.</p>
Amenity	A positive element or elements that contribute to the overall character or enjoyment of an area. For example, open land, trees, historic buildings and the inter relationship between them, or less tangible factors such as tranquillity.
Anaerobic Digestion	Processes whereby bacteria break down organic material in the absence of air, yielding biogas.
Ancient Woodland	Land that has had a continuous woodland cover since accurate maps were first produced.
Ancillary	Where the use of land or buildings differ from the primary use and is of a lesser importance and are permitted because of their association with the primary use.
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	This will assess the extent to which policies in the local development plan are being successfully implemented (Regulation 37 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005).

Baseline/Pre Change Baseline	A description of the present state of an area against which to measure change.
Biodiversity	The variability among living organisms from all sources including animals, plants, birds, insects and fish, and the habitats of which they are part.
Brownfield land	See definition for Previously Developed Land
Character	A term relating to Conservation Areas or Listed Buildings, but also to the appearance of any urban or rural location in terms of its landscape, townscape or the layout of streets and open spaces, often giving places their own distinct identity.
Candidate Site	Candidate Sites are those nominated by anyone for consideration by the LPA as allocations in an emerging LDP.
Candidate Sites Register	Register of candidate sites prepared following a call for candidate sites by the LPA.
City Region	See Swansea Bay City Region.
Climate Change	Long-term changes in temperature, precipitation, wind and all other aspects of the Earth's climate. Often regarded as a result of human activity and fossil fuel consumption.
Coalescence	The merging or joining up of two separate settlements or of separate elements of settlement.
Commitments	Undeveloped land with current planning permission or land which is currently being developed.
Community	People living in a defined geographical area, or who share other interests and therefore form communities of interest.
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	The Community Infrastructure Levy is a planning charge, introduced by the Planning Act 2008 as a tool for local planning authorities to help deliver infrastructure to support the development of their area. It came into force on 6 April 2010 through the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010. A charge that local authorities can elect to place on new developments in their area to fund strategic infrastructure to support development.
Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)	Sets out the project plan and policies of the LPA for involving local communities, including businesses, in the preparation of local development plans. The CIS is submitted to the Welsh Government as part of the Delivery Agreement for agreement.
Committed Sum	Sums are monies received from developers and ring fenced for on/off-site use, development or maintenance. For example provision of infrastructure, provision and maintenance of open space, etc.
Completions	Planning consents for development which have been constructed or brought into operational use.
Consensus Building	A process of early dialogue with targeted interest groups to understand relevant viewpoints and agree a course of action.
Conservation Area	An area designated by the LPA under legislation which is of a special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which is desirable to preserve or enhance.
Consultation	A formal process in which comments are invited on a particular topic or set of topics, or a draft document.
Contextual Indicator	An indicator used to monitor changes in the context within which the plan is being implemented or prepared.
Controlled Waters	Includes rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, canals, coastal waters, estuaries and groundwater.

Countryside	Land that lies outside the defined settlements, as identified on the Proposals Map, and includes small groups of dwellings that are dispersed across the County.
Defined Settlements	Those settlements identified within Strategic Policy SP16: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework.
Delivery Agreement (DA)	Document comprising the LPA’s timetable for the preparation of the LDP together with its Community Involvement Scheme, submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement.
Density	In the case of residential development, a measurement of either the number of habitable rooms per hectare (or acre) or number of dwellings per hectare (or acre).
Deposit	The term used for the process of publishing the detailed Plan policies and proposals for public consultation. Placing the Plan “on deposit”.
Deposit Documents	These include the deposit LDP, the Sustainability Appraisal report, the initial consultation report, the candidate sites register, the Review Report (if appropriate), any relevant supporting documents.
Design and Access Statement (DAS)	The requirement for a DAS and the content of such documents forms part of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016. Design and Access statements accompany certain applications and must, amongst other things, explain the design principles and concepts that have been applied to the development, demonstrate the steps taken to appraise the context of the development and how the design of the development takes that context into account, explain the policy or approach adopted as to access and how policies relating to access in the development plan have been taken into account, and explain how specific issues which might affect access to the development have been addressed.
Development Limits	A line drawn in order to define the area of a settlement within which development is acceptable in principle subject to detailed consideration of environmental, amenity, access, public service provision and other considerations. Areas outside the limits are regarded as the open countryside.
Directly Related	Sites which are physically, functionally and visually linked to a settlement defined within Strategic Policy SP16.
Ecosystem Resilience	The ability of ecosystems to cope with pressures, disturbances and change – either by resisting them, recovering from them or adapting to them. Achieving ecosystem resilience is about working at larger scales, promoting functional connections between natural places, ensuring they have high natural diversity, are in good condition and increasing their extent. Biodiversity is an essential underpinning element of all resilient ecosystems. All functioning and resilient ecosystems have a characteristic healthy and often rich biodiversity.
Employment Land	Land used for the purposes of employment by one or more of the following: offices, manufacturing, research and development, storage and distribution (see also Use Classes).
Engagement	A process which encourages substantive deliberation in a community. Proactive attempt to involve any given group of people/section of the community.

Environmental Impact Assessment	The evaluation of the likely environmental consequences of a development and considers how the severity of the impacts could be minimised. Applicants for certain types of development, often larger schemes, are required to submit an Environmental Statement to accompany a planning application, in order to set out the findings of the EIA process so that a decision on whether to grant permission may be better informed.
Evidence Base	Interpretation of Baseline or other information/data to provide the basis for plan policy.
Fluvial	Of, or relating to, a watercourse such as a river, stream or brook.
Fluvial Flood	Flooding from rivers.
Geodiversity	The variety of earth materials, forms and processes that constitute and shape the Earth. It covers geology, rocks and the process by which they change and geomorphology, landforms and topography.
Geological	Relating to the earth's physical structure and substance.
Geomorphological	The form or surface features of the earth
Green Infrastructure	The network of multi-functional green space, encompassing both land and water (blue space). The Green Infrastructure areas include existing and new (created) features in both rural and urban areas. The Green Infrastructure network delivers a wide range of Ecosystem Services including environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities.
Greenfield site	Land which has never been built on.
Glamping	A non-permanent luxury style of camping.
Groundwater	Water that has percolated into the underground strata, including soils and may form underground ponds or streams, which may discharge above ground but lower down the catchment.
Habitat	An area of nature conservation interest.
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	The screening and appropriate assessment of options required under Part 6 Chapter 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the Habitats Regulations) - a recognised iterative process which helps determine the likely significant effect on a plan or programme and (where appropriate) assess adverse impacts on the integrity of a European site. The assessment is required to be undertaken by a competent authority in respect of plans or projects which are likely to have a significant effect (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) on a "European site" (see paragraph 5.1.2 of TAN 5), or as a matter of policy a proposed "European site" or Ramsar site, under the provisions of Article 6(3) of the EC Directive 92/43/ECC (the Habitats Directive), regulations 61 and 102 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (as amended) 2010, and, regulation 25 of the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 2007.
Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)	A HMO is a property occupied by three or more tenants not living together as a single family household who share basic amenities such as a kitchen, bathroom or toilet facilities but have separate bedrooms. The term covers bedsits, non self-contained flats, shared houses and lodgings.

Infill Development	The development of a small gap between existing buildings. To qualify as infill, the proposed development must be related to the size and character of the particular settlement.
Infrastructure	Includes services such as roads, transport facilities, water supplies, sewerage and associated waste water treatment facilities, waste management facilities, energy supplies (electricity and gas) and distribution networks and telecommunications infrastructure. Soft infrastructure includes ICT and telecommunications.
Integrated Community Strategy (ICS)	Required by the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (Part 2: Sections 37-46) with the aim of improving the social, environmental and economic well-being of their areas. Also referred to as a "Single Integrated Plan".
Landmap	Wales-wide landscape assessment that is organised by Natural Resources Wales (NRW in partnership with the Welsh local authorities. Introduced in 1997 and updated in 2003, the LANDMAP methodology and quality assurance process ensures a nationally consistent resource for landscape planning and decision making. LANDMAP information is collected in a structured and rigorous way that is defined by five methodological chapters, the Geological Landscape, Landscape Habitats, Visual & Sensory, Historic Landscape and Cultural Landscape.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
Listed Buildings	Buildings are 'Listed' because they are considered to be of special architectural or historic interest and as a result require special protection. Listing protects the whole building both inside and out and possibly also adjacent buildings if they were erected before 1st July 1948. The prime purpose is to protect the building and its surroundings from changes which will materially alter the special historic or architectural importance of the building or its setting.
Local Area for Play (LAP)	Usually a small landscaped areas of open space designed for young children located close to where the children live.
Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP)	An equipped area of play and recreation (informal).
Local Planning Authority (LPA)	A planning authority responsible for the preparation of an LDP.
Local Development Plan (LDP)	The required statutory development plan for each local planning authority area in Wales under Part 6 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. A land use plan that is subject to independent examination, which will form the statutory development plan for a local planning authority area for the purposes of the Act. It should include a vision, strategy, area-wide policies for development types, land allocations, and where necessary policies and proposals for key areas of change and protection. Policies and allocations must be shown geographically on the Proposals Map forming part of the Plan.
Local Need Housing	All new affordable local need housing will be restricted to those who can demonstrate they have a need to live in the Locality and are in Affordable Housing Need. In practice the occupant must satisfy one of the following criteria:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The person is continuously resident in the Locality defined for three years immediately prior to occupation; or • The person has been in continuous employment in the locality defined for at least the last 12 months immediately prior to occupation; or • The person is a former resident who wishes to return to the locality defined having completed a post-secondary (tertiary) education course within 12 months prior to occupation and who immediately prior to attending the course lived in the locality defined for at least three years; or • The person is currently in prison, in hospital or similar accommodation whose location is beyond their control, and immediately before moving to this type of accommodation lived in the Locality defined for at least three years; or • The person needs to live in the locality defined because they need substantial care from a relative who lives in the locality defined, or because they need to provide substantial care to a relative who lives in the locality defined. Substantial care means that identified as required by a medical doctor or relevant statutory support agency; or • The person is a former resident who lived in the Locality defined for three years and then lived outside the locality defined for social and/or economic reasons and is returning to live in the Locality defined within three years of the date of their departure. • The person : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Is serving in the regular forces or who has served in the regular forces within five years of the date of their application; (b) Has recently ceased, or will cease to be entitled, to reside in accommodation provided by the Ministry of Defence following the death of that person's spouse or civil partner where - (i) The spouse or civil partner has served in the regular forces; and (ii) Their death was attributable (wholly or partly) to that service; or c) Is serving or has served in the reserve forces and who is suffering from a serious injury, illness or disability which is attributable (wholly or partly) to that service and, housing for local affordable need is also restricted to: • Those who do not have available to them and could not afford to acquire or rent a home suitable to their needs at normal market prices or rents prevailing in the locality, and • Needs to move from accommodation which is shared, temporary, overcrowded or has significant hazards. Regard should be had to the relevant housing legislation, or • Needs to be housed as a result of leaving tied accommodation, or
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is an older person or disabled and needs to move to more suitable accommodation due to medical conditions.
Local Well-being Plan	Under The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Public Service Boards will be established for each local authority area; it is intended that each will prepare a Well-being Plan to replace the SIP by April 2018 (s.39).
Marine Plan	The Welsh National Marine Plan prepared under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.
Market Housing	Private housing for rent or sale where the price is set in the open market. (TAN2: Glossary).
Mitigation	Measures to avoid, reduce or offset significant adverse effects.
Mixed Use	Developments or proposals comprising of more than one use type on a single site.
Multi-use Games Area (MUGA)	A versatile outdoor area made from macadam, polymeric surfacing, or artificial grass and is designed to be used for a variety of different sports and games including football, hockey, rugby, cricket, and tennis.
National Development Framework (NDF)	Provision is made under Planning (Wales Act) 2015 for the preparation of an NDF. Prepared by the Welsh Government the NDF will set out a 20 year land use framework for Wales and will replace the current Wales Spatial Plan.
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	An area designated for its national importance in nature conservation terms and managed through joint nature reserve agreements with landowners etc.
Natural Resources	Materials that occur naturally that are useful to man. Includes minerals, timber, land, ecosystems, etc.
Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP)	Equipped play area for children and young people.
Non-Defined Rural Settlements	Non-defined rural settlements are those consisting of a group of existing dwelling houses which make up a hamlet / settlement that are not defined in Policy SP16.
Objective/Strategic Objective	A statement of what is intended, specifying the desired direction of change in trends.
Open Space	All space of public value, including public landscaped areas, playing fields, parks and play areas, and also including not just land, but also areas of water such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs, which can offer opportunities for sport and recreation or can also act as a visual amenity and a haven for wildlife.
Ordinary Watercourses	All watercourses that are not a designated main river, and which are the responsibility of local authorities to regulate.
Partners	Other local/National Park authority departments and statutory bodies where the LDP will help to deliver some of the objectives of their strategies. Partners may be expected to contribute to formulating relevant parts of the LDP.
Placemaking	Process and tool to collectively design and manage the public realm to create quality places that people want to live and work in, that are appealing, accessible, safe and support social interaction and amenities.
Plan Period	The period of time a plan covers namely up to 2033.
Planning Obligation	A legal agreement between an applicant and the local planning authority to ensure a development is carried out in a certain way. Also referred to as a Section 106 Agreement.

Planning Policy Wales (PPW)	Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Assembly Government. It is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes. Procedural advice is provided through circulars and policy clarification letters.
Playing Fields	Land set out with a pitch or pitches for games.
Pluvial	Relating to rainfall - increase of the amount of rain, which can cause surface water flooding before entering watercourses and the drainage system.
Pluvial Flooding	Flooding from surface water. This occurs when heavy rain saturates drainage systems and excess water cannot be absorbed.
Pre-deposit Documents (LDP)	These include the vision, strategic options, preferred strategy, key policies, the Sustainability Appraisal report, the candidate sites register, Review Report (if appropriate).
Pre-deposit Stage	In the LDP Manual, referred to as the Strategic Options and Preferred Strategy stage of LDP preparation.
Previously Developed Land	See the definition of Previously Developed Land contained in PPW: Edition 10 - paragraph 3.51.
Protected Species	Plant and animal species afforded protection under certain Acts and Regulations.
Public Rights of Way (PROW)	Paths that the public have a right to pass. PROWs are inclusive of footpaths, bridleways and byways.
Ramsar	A wetland site of international importance for nature conservation. Designation is enabled by the Ramsar Convention 1971 whereby participating European Governments undertake to protect such areas.
Regionally Important Geological/ Geomorphological Sites (RIGs)	Locally designated earth science sites, which are selected using nationally agreed criteria.
Renewable Energy	For the purposes of planning policy, renewable energy is defined as those sources of energy, other than fossil fuels or nuclear fuel, which are continuously and sustainably available in our environment. This includes wind, water, solar, geothermal energy and plant material (biomass). Low carbon energy is the term used to cover technologies that are energy efficient (but does not include nuclear).
Residual Waste	Residual waste remains after recyclable or compostable material has been removed from the waste stream.
Review Report	The required statutory report under S69 of the 2004 Act and/or Reg41; to conclude on the LDP revision procedure to be followed based on a clear assessment of what has been considered and what needs to change and why, based on evidence.
Ribbon Development	The linear extension of settlements, including frontage development along approach roads, resulting in the unnecessary intrusion of development into the countryside.
Riparian Corridor	The part of the floodplain closest to the water channel and greatly influenced by the stream/river. The stream/ river and corridor interact with each other in a way that is mutually beneficial.
Rural Enterprise	Land related businesses including agriculture, forestry and other activities that obtain their primary inputs from the site, such as the processing of agricultural, forestry and mineral products together with land management activities and support services (including agricultural contracting), tourism and leisure enterprises.

Scheduled Ancient Monument	Nationally important archaeological sites or historic buildings, given protection against unauthorised change through primary legislation.
Section 106 Agreement	See Planning Obligations.
Single Integrated Plan (SIP)	Discharges statutory duties identified by Welsh Government (“Shared Purpose – Shared Delivery”, WG 2012), including Community Strategies; prepared by a Local Service Board. See “Local Well-being Plans” which are to replace SIPs”.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Sites of Special Scientific Interest are notified by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) under legislation to afford protection to flora, fauna and geological or physiological feature of special interest.
Site Specific Allocations	Allocations of sites (proposals) for specific or mixed uses or development. Policies will identify any specific requirements for individual proposals with the allocations shown on the LDP’s proposals map.
Soundness	In order to be adopted, an LDP must be determined ‘sound’ by the examination Inspector (S64 of the 2004 Act). Tests of soundness tests and checks are identified in PPW.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Sites of international conservation importance designated by the Welsh Ministers under the European Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna. In addition there are candidate SAC’s which should, as a matter of Government policy, be viewed as full SAC’s when examining land use impacts.
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Special Protection Areas For Wild Birds under The E.C. Council Directive On the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/4C9/EEC) provides for the protection, management and control of all species of naturally occurring wild birds.
Specific Policies	A suite of criteria-based policies which will ensure that all development within the area meets the aims and objectives set out in the Strategy.
Stakeholders	Interests directly affected by the LDP (and/or SEA) - involvement generally through representative bodies.
Statement of Common Ground (SocG)	The purpose of a SOCG is to establish the main areas of agreement between two or more parties on a particular issue.
Strategic Development Plan (SDP)	Provision is made under the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 for the preparation of SDP’s at a regional level. SDP will have regard to the NDF and responding at a regional level to strategic issues.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	Term used internationally to describe environmental assessment as applied to plans and programmes. SEA process is derived from European legislation and defined at European level – Directive 2001/42/EC. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations) require a formal “environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use”.
Strategic Objectives	A set of overarching intentions that elaborate on the Vision and that focus on the delivery of the Plan.
Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)	Forms a supplementary document/information in respect of the policies in an LDP. SPG does not form part of the development plan and is not subject to independent examination but must be consistent with the Plan and with national planning policy. Can be developed to consider individual or thematic aspects of the Plan and site allocations including masterplans.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	Tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic factors). Each LPA is required by S62(6) of the 2004 Act to undertake SA of the LDP. This form of SA fully incorporates the requirements of the SEA Regulations.
Sustainability Appraisal Report (SA Report)	Document required to be produced as part of the SA process to describe and appraise the likely significant effects on sustainability of implementing the LDP, which also meets the requirement for the Environmental Report under the SEA Regulations. S62(6) of the 2004 Act requires each LPA to prepare a report of the findings of the SA of the LDP. The SA Report is first produced at the Preferred Strategy stage (the Interim SA Report), expanded at the Deposit LDP stage and finalised alongside the Adoption Statement.
Technical Advice Notes (TAN)	A topic-based document published by the Welsh Government to supplement Planning Policy Wales.
Vision	Defines the core purpose of the Plan.
Wales Spatial Plan (WSP)	A plan prepared and approved by the National Assembly for Wales under S60 of the 2004 Act, which sets out a strategic framework to guide future development and policy interventions, whether or not these relate to formal land use planning control. Under S62(5)(b) of the 2004 Act a local planning authority must have regard to the WSP in preparing an LDP.

Appendices

Appendix 1:	Context – Legislative and National Planning Policy Guidance
Appendix 2:	Regional and Local Strategic Context
Appendix 3:	Supplementary Planning Guidance
Appendix 4:	Minerals Sites
Appendix 5:	Active Travel Routes
Appendix 6:	Policy Assessment
Appendix 7:	Housing Trajectory
Appendix 8:	Waste Management Facilities

Appendix 1

Context - Legislative and National Planning Policy and Guidance

The statutory requirement to prepare and adopt a Development Plan for the administrative area of Carmarthenshire is set out under legislation, with specific guidance published by the Welsh Government on the procedural aspects of Plan preparation and its content. This includes:

- The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)
- The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan, Wales) Regulations, 2005
- Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 • Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- Planning (Wales) Act 2015
- Local Development Plan Manual

The Welsh Government are under a legal duty through the Government of Wales Act 2006 to promote sustainable development. This requirement in turn falls on the respective Local Authorities.

The Deposit Plan places sustainable development as a central part of its strategy. In this regard, reference should be had to the requirements of the:

- Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations 2004,
- Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, and
- Equalities Act 2010

Each of the above have formed key parts of the Plan making process and have informed its content.

As well as the above legislative framework, the Plan is being prepared with regard to the National Planning Policies and Guidance as well as other strategic thematic documents including the following:

- Planning Policy Wales (PPW)
- Technical Advice Notes (TANs)
- Minerals Technical Advice Notes (MTANs)
- Welsh Government Circulars
- The Wales Transport Strategy
- Economic Renewal: A New Direction
- Vibrant and Viable Places – New Regeneration Framework
- Environment Strategy for Wales
- Shoreline Management Plan
- One Wales: One Planet – The Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales
- Climate Change Strategy for Wales

- Working to Achieve a Healthier Future for Wales
- Prosperity for All the National Strategy
- Towards Zero Waste – One Wales One Planet: The Overarching Waste Strategy for Wales (2010)
- The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- Housing (Wales) Act 2014
- Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013
- The Wales Act 2017
- Welsh Government - People, Places, Futures – The Wales Spatial Plan (WSP)
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) 2000
- The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017

Regional

- The Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 – 2030:
- Swansea Bay City Deal 2017
- Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015-20):
- Waste Planning Monitoring Report(s) for the South West Wales Region:
- Dwr Cymru Welsh Water Water Resources Management Plan
- River Basin Management Plan Western Wales River Basin District

Local

- Carmarthenshire County Council - Corporate Strategy
- Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5-years
- Carmarthenshire Local Well Being Plan
- Transformations: A Strategic Regeneration Plan for Carmarthenshire
- Affordable Homes Delivery Plan 2016 – 2020: Delivering more homes for the people of Carmarthenshire:
- Carmarthenshire Employment Sectoral Study
- Carmarthenshire County Council – Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessment
- Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP)
- Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Flood Risk Management Plan for the Western Wales River Basin District
- Carmarthenshire County Council - Ageing Well Plan
- Carmarthenshire County Council - Older People's Strategy 2015-2025
- Carmarthenshire County Council - Welsh in Education Strategic Plan
- Carmarthenshire County Council – Social Care Annual Report

Appendix 2

Regional and Local Strategic Context

It noted that whilst the LDP represents a key part of the strategic picture both within the County and regionally it does not sit in isolation of other Plans and strategies. A number of these provide guidance for Plan preparation, others are part of a strategic suite of documents which shape how the region and County will develop over the coming years.

Regional

Swansea Bay City Region

Carmarthenshire is part of the Swansea Bay City Region which also encompasses the Local Authority areas of Pembrokeshire, City and County of Swansea and Neath Port Talbot. The City Region, in bringing together business, local government, and a range of other partners, has published the Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 – 2030.

Swansea Bay City Deal

The £1.3 billion Swansea Bay City Deal was signed in March 2017. The City Deal is expected to give the Swansea Bay City Region a permanent uplift in its GVA of £1.8 billion and will generate almost 10,000 new jobs over the next 15 years.

The proposed Wellness and Life Science Village along the Llanelli coastline will become the largest ever regeneration project in South West Wales and aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people across the region.

A creative industry project at Yr Egin in Carmarthen seeks to take advantage of the new infrastructure proposals of the Internet Coast. Yr Egin will create major and positive change in the creative and digital economy of Wales.

Emerging National Development Framework - Mid and West Wales Region and Strategic Development Plans

The consultation draft National Development Framework (August 2019) makes reference to three regions which provide a focus for Welsh Government policy and future investment. Carmarthenshire is included within the mid and West Wales region. Swansea Bay and Llanelli is identified as a focus for growth, whilst Carmarthen is identified as one of the regional centres.

Neighbouring Authorities' Development Plans

The Council is in regular and close contact with neighbouring authorities, both individually and collectively at regional level (through the South West Wales Regional Planning Group), to ensure alignment between respective LDPs.

The Plan has been prepared with regard to and where appropriate in co-operation with neighbouring authorities. This has included evidence gathering and research across the broader region but also at a sub-regional level between those authorities undertaking Reviews of the LDP's.

Certain factors preclude complete conformity, but constructive discussions and shared information and experience minimised the risk of conflicting policies, and ensured an appropriate level of integration.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council adopted its LDP in January 2016 and will be preparing its first review report shortly. Ongoing dialogue has ensured an understanding of the respective approaches and emerging direction of the policy frameworks. The progress of the review into the Neath Port Talbot LDP will be monitored and duly considered as necessary.

The City and County of Swansea adopted its LDP in February 2019. The recent adoption of the Swansea LDP allows for the consideration of their policies and proposals, along with the ability to respond (and integrate) as appropriate in the preparation of the Revised Carmarthenshire LDP. Continuing liaison will ensure a mutual understanding of the respective approaches, with specific dialogue has been undertaken on matters relating to the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site.

Powys County Council adopted its LDP in April 2018. The Council will continue to examine strategic relationships as part of a strategic regional outlook. Any future review of the Powys LDP will be monitored and duly considered.

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's examination hearing sessions for its Replacement LDP have now closed. The Park Authority's emerging LDP is broadly compatible with a hierarchical settlement structure and a consistency in the broad planning policy approach with Carmarthenshire. The Council will continue to monitor the Plan's progress towards adoption and work closely with the Park Authority to ensure an ongoing understanding of issues and compatibility. A proactive approach towards regional and sub-regional working is implicit on policy matters, evidence gathering and strategic considerations.

Pembrokeshire County Council adopted its LDP in February 2013. It is considered that there is a broad consistency and alignment in terms of the approach from a policy and strategic perspective. The vision and the spatial framework for a hierarchy of settlements in general terms is compatible. There is also a broad alignment of approach to the scale of development and growth. The role of Carmarthen as a regional centre is mutually recognised with the complementarity of settlements developed and understood through the Wales Spatial Plan: Pembrokeshire County Council are in the process of preparing their replacement LDP with a comparable timescale to Carmarthenshire County Council. The broad alignment outlined above remains. A proactive approach towards regional and sub-regional working is implicit on policy matters, evidence gathering and strategic considerations.

Ceredigion County Council adopted its LDP in April 2013. Whilst it is considered that the respective settlement strategies of Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire differ slightly, there is a general compatibility with the respective visions. There is a commitment to respect and maintain the diversity and quality of the plan areas, to reduce the need to travel and to sustainability and the creation of sustainable places. Ceredigion County Council are in the process of preparing their replacement LDP with a comparable timescale to Carmarthenshire County Council. The broad alignment outlined above remains. A proactive approach towards regional and sub-regional working is implicit on policy matters, evidence gathering and strategic considerations.

Brecon Beacons National Park Authority adopted its LDP in December 2013. It is considered that there are no clear cross border settlement issues. The Park Authority are in the process of preparing their replacement LDP with the Preferred Strategy having been published in the summer of 2019. A proactive approach towards regional and sub-regional working is implicit on policy matters, evidence gathering and strategic considerations. The implications of proposals in the west of the Park will be duly considered - particularly in terms of the level of housing apportionment.

We will, through the membership of the South West Wales Regional Planning Group (SWWRPG) continue to work closely particularly in understanding and developing the concept and opportunities for a Strategic Development Plan (SDP) across the region. A number of focused meetings have already been held to scope and understand its potential thematic and spatial extent.

Joint 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.

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, and provides the water body objectives.

Local

Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan

This Plan was approved on 2 May 2018. It outlines how the Public Service Board will work in partnership to address some of the key issues affecting the well-being of the citizens and communities of Carmarthenshire. Reference is made to the Carmarthenshire at a glance section which sets out considerations in terms of Demography, Economy, Health and wellbeing, Environment and Culture. The four wellbeing objectives are:

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

Corporate Strategy - Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire

This is the Council's Corporate Strategy for the period 2018 – 2023 (approved 2018 – updated 2019). It sets out the direction for the Council over the next five years, incorporating its improvement and well-being objectives as defined by legislation (see figure 1 overleaf). It also references the Executive Board's key projects and programmes for the next five years, a set of almost 100 priority projects.

The strategy outlines the Council's vision for the future through 15 objectives under four key themes - to support residents to: start well, live well and age well in a healthy, safe and prosperous environment. The 15 Well-being Objectives cover the broad range of Council Services to ensure economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being.

Motions passed by the Council

Those motions relevant to the Revised LDP passed by the Council recently include declaring a climate emergency along and focusing on planning and the Welsh language.

Transformations: A Strategic Regeneration Plan for Carmarthenshire – 2015 – 2030

This sets out Carmarthenshire's regeneration strategy, building on the opportunities for growth and investment. This in turn reflects Carmarthenshire as a confident, ambitious and connected component of the Swansea Bay City Region.

Our Commitment to Affordable Homes 2015 – 2020 and Affordable Housing Delivery Plan 2016-2020

The Council published its five year vision for increasing the supply of affordable homes in 2015 and, in 2016, it set out our first ambitious programme to deliver over 1000 additional affordable homes across the County. September 2019 saw the fourth year of delivering affordable homes and in the first three years the Council has been very successful with nearly 700 homes delivered, ensuring that the Council is well on course to reach its 1000 homes target.

The affordable housing action areas are as follows: Carmarthenshire Rural and Market Towns; Ammanford and the Amman Valley; Carmarthen and the West; and Llanelli and District.

The Council's Vision can be summed up as follows:-

Life is for living, let's start, live and age well
in a healthy, safe and prosperous environment

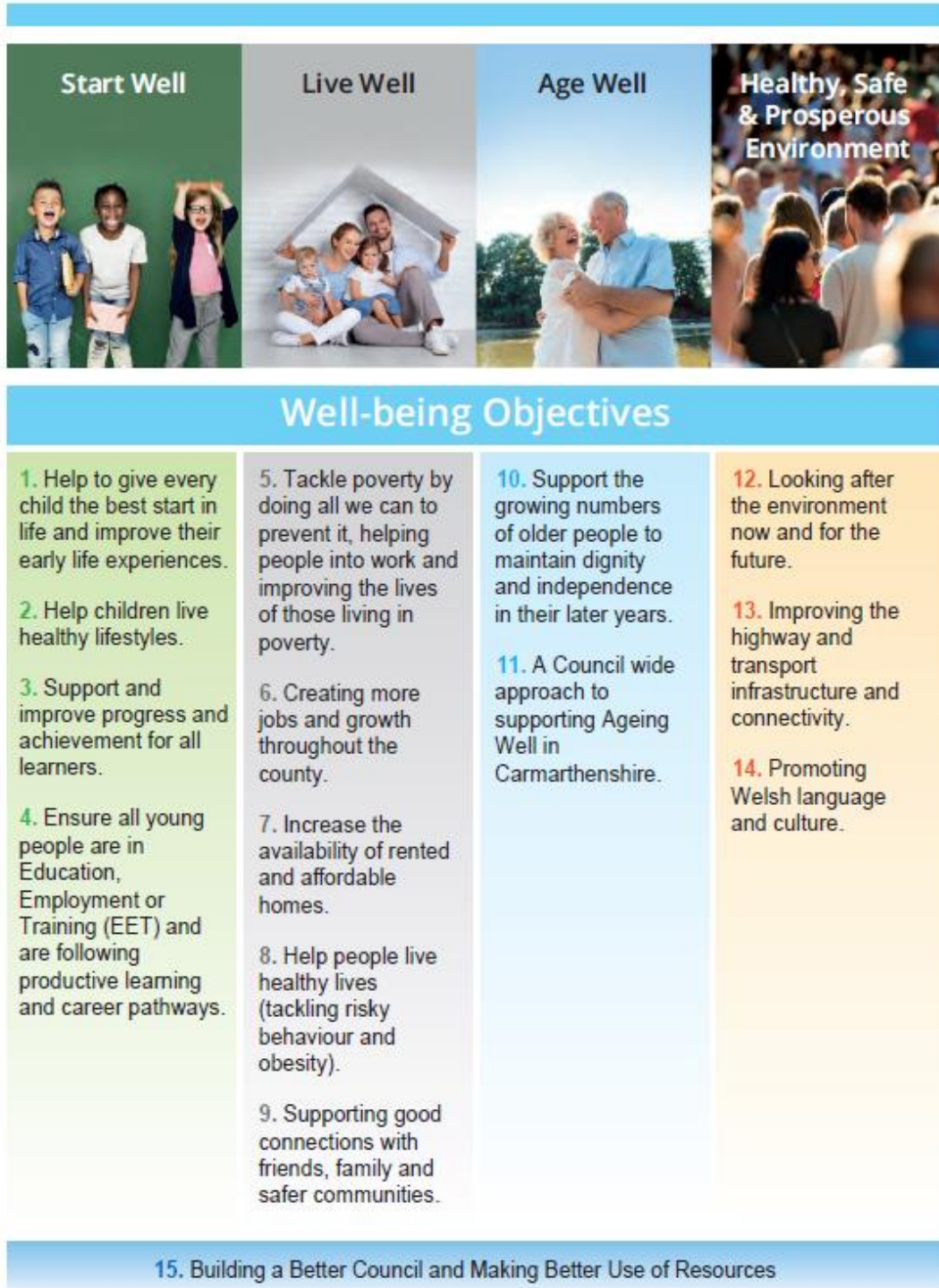


Figure 1 - Carmarthenshire County Council's Corporate Strategy

Building More Council Homes – ‘Our ambition and plan of action’.

At its September 2019 meeting, the Council endorsed an ambitious investment programme of nearly £150m that will deliver over 900 new Council homes. This plan seeks to align to the Affordable Homes Delivery Plan and provide even more affordable homes in the County. The homes will be built using a range of delivery models, with the delivery of the new build programme following the affordable housing action areas.

Report and Recommendations of the Carmarthenshire Rural Affairs Task Group

The report contains 55 recommendations, with six recommendations listed under the “planning and housing” section. In consolidating an awareness of the important contribution of rural areas of the County on a corporate level, there are recommendations that are directly relevant to the Revised LDP and as such the importance of this report in informing the Revised LDP cannot be understated.

Modernising Education Programme (MEP).

In 2005, the Council adopted its Modernising Education Programme (MEP). The aim of the MEP is to ensure that the network of schools meet current and future needs, and that it does so in a strategic and operationally effective way. In doing this, the MEP identifies future requirements for investment to ensure the delivery of suitable and sufficient provision of school places and sets out future investment plans in a coordinated and structured manner.

The Council's MEP is an ambitious and progressive strategic approach which delivers a series of high quality education facilities across the County. In developing this role and function paper regard has been had to the work already undertaken to date, and it also considers what is known to be programmed for the future.

Appendix 3

Supplementary Planning Guidance

Policy Ref.	Topic	Existing SPG to be carried forward. Note: Subject to updating	New SPG	Target date for Adoption
NE4	Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation	Y (Note original substantively updated as a result of revised evidence)	N	December 2021
HOM3	Homes in Rural Villages	N	Y	December 2021
AHOM1, AHOM2	Affordable Housing	Y (Note original substantively updated)	N	December 2021
SP8	Burry Inlet	N	Y	December 2021
SP11	Placemaking and Sustainable Places	N	Y	December 2021
PSD4	Trees and planting as part of new developments	N	Y	December 2022
NE1	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation Value (SINCs)	N	Y	December 2021
NE2	Nature Conservation and Biodiversity	Y	N	December 2021
SP14	Built and Historic Environment	N	Y	December 2022
CCH1	Renewable Energy	N	Y	December 2022
PSD9	Advertisements (guidance on bilingual requirements).	N	Y	Summer 2022
INF1	Planning Obligations	N	Y	December 2021
PSD8	Provision of New Open Space	N	Y	December 2021
SP14	Archaeology	Y	N	December 2021
SG3	Pembrey Peninsula	N	Y	December 2022
PSD3	Green Infrastructure Networks and Development	N	Y	Summer 2022
BHE2	Landscape Character	N	Y	December 2022
WL1	Welsh Language and New Developments	Y (Note original substantively updated)	N	December 2021
	Site Specific (planning and development briefs - TBC)			
Multiple	Design Principles in New Development (Suite of SPG to be prepared over the lifetime of the LDP)	N	Y	Intermittent
RD2	Conversion and reuse of rural buildings for residential use	Y (Note original substantively updated)	N	December 2021
INF2	Health Impact Assessments	N	Y	December 2022

Appendix 4: Minerals Sites

Active/Inactive Sites

LDP Reference	Quarry Name	Site Status	Mineral Extracted
M1	Alltygarn	Inactive	Silica Sandstone
M2/M3	Garn Bica/Maesdulais	Active	Limestone
M4/M5/M6	Torcoed/Torcoed Fawr/Crwbin	Active	Limestone
M7	Blaenyfan	Inactive	Limestone
M8	Pennant	Active	Sandstone
M9	Coygen	Active	Limestone
M10	Garn Wen	Active	Igneous
M11	Dinas	Inactive	Sandstone
M12	Llwynjack Farm	Active	River Shoal/ Sand and Gravel
M13	Glan Lash Opencast Coal Site	Active	Opencast Coal
M14	Foelfach	Active	Sandstone
M15	Llanelli Sand Dredging Ltd ¹	Active	Marine Sand

Dormant Sites

LDP Reference	Quarry Name	Site Status	Mineral Extracted
M16	Pwllymarch	Dormant	Limestone
M17	Llwynyfran	Dormant	Limestone
M18	Tyr Garn	Dormant	Limestone
M19	Garn	Dormant	Sandstone
M20	Limestone Hill	Dormant	Limestone
M21	Penybanc	Dormant	Limestone
M22	Cynghordy	Dormant	Sandstone
M23	Glantowy	Dormant	Sand and Gravel

¹ Operations do not involve the extraction of minerals and so no buffer zone is required around the site. Also safeguarded is the marine landing site situated approximately 800m to the east of the Llanelli Sand Dredging site due to its importance in the landing of marine sand.

Appendix 5: Active Travel Routes

CCC INM Route List				
Scheme Number	Location	Term	Type	Detail
7.21 / A1	Ammanford	Short Term	Pedestrian	ERM 7.21 Fail - Footpath requires surface upgrade
A2	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Traffic management along Penygarn Road – improved footway
A3	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	improve footway along Heol Tycroes. Construct footway on Pantyffynnon Road & segregated pedestrian facility over level crossing.
A4	Ammanford	Aspirational	Shared Use	Route connecting Pantyffynnon to Penybank via access from the end of Mill Terrace road in Pantyffynnon
A5	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Place tactile and dropped kerbs at crossing points - New Road
A7	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Ammanford central footway link and improved pedestrian access to local trip attractors. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
A9	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Dyffryn Road footway link and improved pedestrian access to local trip attractors.
A10	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway link to Dyffryn Road and improved pedestrian access to local trip attractors.
A11	Ammanford	Aspirational	Cycle	Off Road Cycleway alongside Blaenau Road and off road link to Ammanford Station
A12	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway link near railway. Upgrade and widen path along Blaenau to Llandybie including zebra crossing.
A13	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Creation of new footway and improved links along Kings Road
7.36 / A14	Ammanford	Short Term	Pedestrian	ERM Fail - Lighting needed along footpath. Overgrown, steep steps, narrow with bollard
A16	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway link to Parc Penrhiw
A17	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Traffic calming and improved pedestrian permeability outside Bettws School
A18	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Improved and new footway links along Pentwyn Road
A19	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Improved and new footway links along Wernolau Road
A20	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Creation of new footways along Maesquarre Road
1.5b / A25	Ammanford	Short Term	Cycle	ERM Route 1.5b Fail - Existing route requires maintenance
A27	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Creation of footway linking Hospital with Amman Valley Cycleway
A28	Ammanford	Short Term	Pedestrian	Completion of footway link along Folland Road
A29	Ammanford	Aspirational	Cycle	Route along Ammanford Road A483 from Llandybie. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
A30	Ammanford	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Connection through west of Ammanford - Tir-Yr-Dail Lane
B1	Brynamman	Short Term	Cycle	Link to formalise Amman Valley Cycleway through Brynamman Rugby Club land
B2	Brynamman	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Upgrade of crossing points on A4609 to allow for easier pedestrian movement
B3	Brynamman	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Speed limit on New Road to allow for safer pedestrian and cycling movements. Cycling provision to be determined.
B4	Brynamman	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Proposed 20mph on Ardwyn Rd. Cycling provision to be determined.
B5	Brynamman	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Proposed 20mph limit on Brynceunant Rd. Cycling provision to be determined.
BP1	Burry Port	Medium Term	Cycle	Existing cycling route alongside B4311 - No cycle infrastructure, provide off road route
BP5	Burry Port	Short Term	Pedestrian / Cycle	Section of path along Old Tramway. Shared use. Improve signage and provision behind shops
BP7	Burry Port	Short Term	Shared Use	ERM cycle route upgrade to shared use - Section of path along Old Tramway. Short term improvements
BP9	Burry Port	Medium Term	Pedestrian	Footway request at Cliff Terrace and complete loop on map as shown along Furnace Road missing footway and Gwscwm Road.
BP10	Burry Port	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Add missing footway between Ar-Y Bryn and Mumbles Head Estates.
BP11	Burry Port	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway link provision at junction of Maenor Helyg and Ashburnham Road
BP12	Burry Port	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Pedestrian tactile crossing facilities at both estate junctions. Golwgfor Estate / Dan Y Bryn Estate, Lando Road
BP15	Burry Port	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational cycle route Burry Port to Cross Hands
BP16	Burry Port	Aspirational	Cycle	A494 Aspirational cycle route to Kidwelly
C1 / 1.1	Carmarthen	Short Term	Cycle	ERM Route 1.1 Fail - Cycle track alongside road to provide a link onwards – requires upgrading - maintain foliage. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
C2	Carmarthen	Medium Term	Cycle	Travellers' Rest On road cycle provision – requires upgrading. Provide cycle infrastructure to separate from traffic
C3	Carmarthen	Medium Term	Shared Use	Carmarthen West Link Road – 3m shared use path on either side of road facilities incorporated in plan. Not yet complete on site

C4	Carmarthen	Short Term	Cycle	Shared use path linking College Road and Trevaughan Road. Need better signs to mark the path as it crosses through a farm.
C6	Carmarthen	Medium Term	Cycle	St Clears Road -on road cycling provision – requires upgrading. Links to cycle network
5.1c / C9	Carmarthen	Short Term	Cycle	ERM Route 5.1c Fail - Existing on road cycling provision – requires surface upgrading.
C12	Carmarthen	Medium Term	Pedestrian / cycle	Llansteffan Road. Improved links to school and existing cycle network. On road cycle route
7.1 / C14	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian / Cycle	Shared Use link to existing cycle network and route. Part of route is ERM route 7.1 - pedestrian. Proposed shared use path
C15	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational link across river linking Johnstown with Pensarn/Pibwrlwyd
C21	Carmarthen	Short Term	Cycle	Route requires upgrading. Provide on or off road cycle infrastructure
C23	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Picton Court - provide signage and footways
C25	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian / Cycle	St Catherine Street on road cycling route – requires signage
C26	Carmarthen	Short Term	Cycle	College Road - on road cycling route – requires upgrading including crossing
C28	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Section of footway required along access road
4.2 / C29	Carmarthen	Short Term	Cycle	ERM Route 4.2 Fail - Picton Place existing on road cycling provision – requires upgrading – maintain foliage covering signage
1.5 / C30	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	ERM route 1.5 – requires upgrading - lighting and surfacing
C32	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Existing walking route – requires upgrading. Provide tactile paving, lighting and resurface defects
C35	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Lime Grove Avenue link improvements and footway widening
C36	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Creation of a small walking link between Ysgol y Dderwen and Fountain Hall Terrace via Llys Ffynnon
C38	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Existing walking route – requires upgrading, steps restrict access for all users
C41	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Friars Park - Needs footway along access road section
C42	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Lammas St to Friars Park - needs new footway along access road
C44	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	St Catherine St to Lammas St. needs wider footway
C48	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Jackson's Lane - requires lighting improvements
C49	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	King Street requires removal of bollards to increase footway width
5.4a / C52	Carmarthen	Short Term	Cycling	ERM route 5.4a - on road cycling route – requires signage upgrade and route maintenance. Contraflow to allow cyclists along The Quay
5.4b / C53	Carmarthen	Short Term	Cycling	ERM Route 5.4b - The Parade on road cycling route - Enforce on street parking restrictions
C54	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Off road footway between Priory St and Esplanade. Route needs signage and widening
C55	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian / cycle	Road safety improvements outside school along Richmond Terrace including plateau for safer pedestrian movement. Cycling provision to be determined.
C56	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footpath link from Richmond Terrace to St Peters car park. Upgrades as part of Safe Routes
C57	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footpath link improvement from Richmond Terrace to Richmond School Car Park. Upgrades as part of Safe Routes
C58	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway creation and link to Wellfield Road
C59	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Remove barriers at southern end of route
C60	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Park Hall to Oak Terrace. Provide footway where missing and adequate lighting along link
C61	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Belvedere Av to Park Hall. Remove steps which restrict access
C62	Carmarthen	Medium Term	Pedestrian	Belvedere Av to Ross Av. Remove steps which restrict access and maintain overgrown vegetation
C63	Carmarthen	Medium Term	Pedestrian	Cwm-Oernant - Resurface route to enable access for all users. Maintain overgrown vegetation and provide adequate lighting
C64	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway provision along North Parade
7.19 / C65	Carmarthen	Short Term	Shared Use	ERM Pedestrian route 7.19, INM shared use route. Provide cycle signage
C66	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational shared use path linking with Bronwydd
C67	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway extension on Castell Pigyn Road
C68	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational shared used extension towards Towy Valley Path via Abergwili
C69	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Road safety measures along Gyfre Gardens and 20 mph zone – improved provision for pedestrians and cyclists
C70	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway at the entrance to Wellfield road leading towards Merlins Hill
C75	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Improvements to pedestrian permeability along section between Wellfield Road and Bryn Myrddin
C77	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Remove steps restricting access and provide lighting. Provide crossings at each end of link
C78	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Penmorfa Lane - traffic order on Keep Clear Zig Zag markings – improved pedestrian safety. Create footway where missing

C79	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Rhiw Babel - Widening of footway at 'Lockerly'
C82	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Heol Login to Heol Llangynnwr - Existing walking route currently across fields. Requires upgrading.
C83	Carmarthen	Short Term	Shared Use	New cycleway/shared use path linking to new Police HQ
C85	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footway linking Springfield Road to Capel Evan Rd
C86	Carmarthen	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footway linking Abbey Mead to Towy Valley Path
7.20 / C87	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway linking Abergwili Road to Pigyn Road
C88	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Cycle	On road cycle improvements along Abergwili Road linking to Towy Valley Path
C89	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway linking Towy Valley path to Abergwili Road
C90	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Cillefwr footpath requires improvements
C91	Carmarthen	Aspirational	Cycle	South Johnstown extension of cycleway the will connect with a new development. Tie into existing infrastructure by the leisure centre
CH1	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway alignment and widening works along Capel Seion Road and Heol Cwmbach
CH2	Cross Hands	Short Term	Pedestrian	Heol Cwmmawr existing footway - Requires upgrading. Provide pedestrian refuge or crossing near school. Restrict footway parking
CH3	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Plateau crossing to access school over Heol Blaenhirwaun
CH4	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Cycle	Extended off road section of cycleway linking Cwm Mawr with Cross Hands
CH5	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Additional footway sections along Bethesda Road
7.3 / CH6	Cross Hands	Short Term	Pedestrian	ERM Route 7.3 - Footpath requires surface upgrade
CH7	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Cycle	Tyisha Rd to Darren Las - Additional section of cycleway linking to the existing main cycle route
5.2b / CH8	Cross Hands	Medium Term	Cycle	ERM Route 5.2b - Heol Y Foel cycle route on road – need to improve provision and enforce on street parking. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
5.2a / CH9	Cross Hands	Medium Term	Cycle	ERM Route 5.2a- Cycle route on road – need to improve provision and enforce on street parking
CH10	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Cycle	Mynydd Mawr Woodland Park link. Cycle link away from road
CH11	Cross Hands	Medium Term	Cycle	Cycle link to existing cycle network and route. Repair surface defects and provide continuous route. Remove End of Route signage
1.2 / CH12	Cross Hands	Short Term	Cycle	ERM Route 1.2- Define access
CH13	Cross Hands	Short Term	Shared Use	Spine Road shared use under construction
CH15	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Widening of existing footway on Carmarthen Road alongside Cross Hands Hotel
CH16	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Cycle	Link to existing cycle infrastructure along Meadows Rd
CH17	Cross Hands	Short Term	Cycle	Improvements required to existing cycle infrastructure. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
CH18	Cross Hands	Short Term	Shared Use	Existing cycle route - needs upgrading to a continuous off road route
CH19	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway link along Black Lion Road
CH20	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Improved road safety outside school – 20mph zone
CH21	Cross Hands	Medium Term	Shared Use	Cross Hands Economic Link Road
CH22	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway required along Llandeilo Road
CH23	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway widening Penygroes to Blaunau
CH24	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Improved Road Safety outside school including vertical measures
CH25	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Cycle	Long distance aspirational route joining Cross Hands with Ammanford via Blaenau/Llandybie
7.16 / CH26	Cross Hands	Short Term	Pedestrian	ERM - Upgrade on existing footpath – lighting
7.17 / CH27	Cross Hands	Medium Term	Pedestrian	ERM - Upgrade on existing footpath – lighting and resurfacing
CH32	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Signalise cross roads and improve pedestrian provision
7.11 / CH33	Cross Hands	Short Term	Pedestrian	ERM Route 7.11 - Upgrade on existing footpath – lighting
CH34	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Upgrade existing pedestrian right of way from Cwmfferws Road to Saron Road. Complete footway links.
CH35	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway from Access lane to Cruglas Farm to No. 56 Cwmfferws
CH36	Cross Hands	Aspirational	Cycle	B4317 Aspirational long distance cycle route to Kidwelly
K1	Kidwelly	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footway along Station Road. Needs upgrading
B / C / K2	Kidwelly	Short Term	Cycle	ERM Routes B & C - on road needs improvement. Restrict parked vehicles
K3	Kidwelly	Short Term	Shared Use	Provide cycle signage and lighting through park
K5	Kidwelly	Short Term	Shared Use	Existing shared use facilities – requires resurfacing.
K6	Kidwelly	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Aspirational footway provision from Awel y Mor to connect with existing
K7	Kidwelly	Short Term	Pedestrian	Provide formal footway
K8	Kidwelly	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Linking footway along sections of southern curtilage on Carmarthen Road
K9	Kidwelly	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational long distance cycle route west from Kidwelly to Ferryside
K10	Kidwelly	Aspirational	Cycle	Direct link from Millennium Coastal Path to Kidwelly Railway Station
K11	Kidwelly	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational Route towards Carmarthen from Ferryside
K12	Kidwelly	Aspirational	Cycle	link BP15 to Kidwelly along former Burry Port & Gwendraeth Valley Railway
K13	Kidwelly	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational route along A484 to Carmarthen

K14	Kidwelly	Aspirational	cycle	Cycle route along Ferry Road, Kidwelly
LL1	Llandovery	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footway links around trip generators along New Road. Restrict footway parking. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
LL5	Llandovery	Aspirational	Shared Use	Aspirational off road cycle/shared use path. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
LL6	Llandovery	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational route towards Llandeilo along A4069 / A40. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
L1	Llanelli	Short Term	Pedestrian / Cycle	Upgrade path leading to Pwll School. Traffic calming to support 20mph zone. Improved crossings. Part of Safe Routes.
L2	Llanelli	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footway improvements along Sandy Road linking to trip attractors as part of Safe Routes
L3	Llanelli	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footway link along Denham Avenue to link with existing infrastructure. Upgrades as part of Safe Routes
L4	Llanelli	Aspirational	Shared Use	Widen paths to allow shared use.
L5	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	New crossing with dropped kerbs
L6	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Kerb buildouts on Queen Victoria Road to improve Crossing visibility
L7	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway buildout on Old Castle Road
L8	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Crossing Plateau on Waunlanurafon
L9	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Route through People's Park. Upgraded Links to NCN / Millennium Coastal Path .
L10	Llanelli	Short Term	Pedestrian	Improved pedestrian passage and safety over railway bridge at Old Road, Furnace, Llanelli. Upgrades as part of Safe Routes bid.
L11	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	Cycling infrastructure improvements - provide dedicated cycle route
L12	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Church St Proposed shared use path
L16	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Station Road to Llanelli centre. Current on road cycle route and footway, proposed shared use path
L17	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	Pottery St - Cycling infrastructure improvements - provide dedicated cycle route
L18	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	Cycling infrastructure improvements - provide dedicated cycle route
L19	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Create new path to link to school
L20	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Provision of pedestrian tactile crossing facilities Dillwyn St
L21	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Llanelli Station links provision of shared use path
L22	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Proposed shared use path connecting Marine Street to Pen-y-Fan
L23	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	Cycling infrastructure improvements - provide dedicated cycle route Ty-Isaf to Parc Trostre
L24	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	Cycling infrastructure improvements linking to new school and Wellness Village
L25	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	Cycling infrastructure improvements - potential to move off road and link to new school and Wellness village
L26	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	Cycling infrastructure improvements - potential to move off road and link to new school and Wellness village
L27	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Existing shared use path. Short term signage improvements
L28	Llanelli	Aspirational	Cycle	Extend cycle route along B4304 - aspirational cycle route
L29	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Proposed shared use path Morfa to Parc Trostre
42 / L30	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	ERM Pedestrian route 42 , INM cycling route including proposed crossing upgrade over existing bridge
L34	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway creation around Parc Trostre linking to trip attractors
L35	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway creation around Parc Trostre linking to trip attractors
L36	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Provide off road cycle route around Parc Trostre linking to trip attractors
L37	Llanelli	Medium Term	Pedestrian	Footway improvements along private road to Tata Steel - Maes-ar-Ddafen Road
L38	Llanelli	Aspirational	Shared Use	Proposed shared use path connecting trip attractors
L39	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Proposed shared use path A4138
L43	Llanelli	Short Term	Cycle	Cycling infrastructure improvements A484. Provide dedicated cycle facilities
L44	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Traffic calming measures on Walters Road, Marblehall Road and Penallt Road
95 / L45	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	ERM Route 95 - Footpath upgrade required – maintain foliage
L46	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Swansea Rd proposed shared use path
49 / L47	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	A484 to Swansea Rd - no existing cycling infrastructure, proposed shared use path
L48	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Corporation Avenue - no existing cycle infrastructure. Proposed shared use path

L49	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle	Cycling infrastructure improvements - no existing infrastructure
L50	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Afon Lledi Shared use path requires upgrade - signage
L54	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Heol Nant Y Felin on road cycling - Proposed shared use path
L55	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Corporation Avenue to Heol Goffa Shared use path off road - upgrades required
L56	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Corporation Ave North - Proposed shared use path
L57	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Corporation Avenue to Gower View Proposed shared use path
L58	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway provision between no. 204, 208 and 210 Felinfoel Rd
L59	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Llon Y Dderwen Widen and realign road to accommodate footway. Narrow, steep gradient no footways
66 / L60	Llanelli	Short Term	Pedestrian	ERM Footpath Route 60 - upgrade required – maintain foliage
L61	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway and minor road widening at Community Centre, Tanyrhodyn leading to Rhandirfelin
L62	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Salem Rd / Glan Yr Afon proposed shared use path
59 / L64	Llanelli	Short Term	Pedestrian	ERM Footpath Route 59 upgrade required – maintain foliage
L65	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Provide continuous shared use path. Part off road part on road. Penygaer Rd to Brynsiriol
55 / L66	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	ERM Route 55 Existing Pedestrian - Proposed shared use path - improve signage
L68	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Bryn Eli proposed shared use path - no existing cycle infrastructure
L70	Llanelli	Short Term	Pedestrian	Bryngwyn Rd - Footway improvements linking to trip attractors. Restrict footway parking and relocate traffic signs from footway
L72	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Dafen Cricket Club - Proposed shared use path, no footpath currently
L73	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Prince Phillip Hospital to A4138 Proposed shared use path
L76	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Dafen Road to Prince Phillip hospital- no existing cycle infrastructure. Proposed shared use path. New build through field to connect to hospital.
L79	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	Ynyswen to Afon Lledi Proposed shared use path - away from road.
L81	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Heol Belli Glas / Pennant Cycling/pedestrian improvements and extend 20 mph zone to include key routes to school
L83	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Proposed shared use path linking residential and employment sites - not yet built
L84	Llangennech	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway and Road Safety Improvements North and south of the roundabout along Troserch Road
L85	Llangennech	Aspirational	Cycle	Improved safety and speed measures along Maes y Dderwen Rd / Pontarddulais Rd plus additional cycle supporting measures.
L86	Llangennech	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Provision of linking section footway across No. 3 Heol Y Mynydd
L87	Llangennech	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway in vicinity of Ty Ddraig Gwyrdd and along Genwen Road
L88	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	20mph limit on Cwrmfelin Road near junction with School. Improved links along Tanygraig Rd
L89	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Improved footway and widening of footway where road narrows along Berwick Road
L90	Llanelli	Medium Term	Cycle / Pedestrian	Crossing across B4297
L91	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway on Western side of B4297 in Bynea
C / L92	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	ERM Route C outside of Gateway Holiday Park very poor surface needs upgrading
C / L93	Llanelli	Medium Term	Shared Use	ERM along (NCN4) Machynys Peninsula very poor surface needs upgrading
L94	Llanelli	Aspirational	Shared Use	Build a cycle/pedestrian lane, put in lights across the A484, this would link up the two cycle parts of Penyfan with the new route recently built on the A4138, whilst avoiding Trostre Roundabout completely.
L95	Llanelli	Aspirational	Shared Use	Furnace School aspirational links to NCN
L96	Llanelli	Short Term	Pedestrian	Footway creation to south of Furnace School
L97	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Shared use path creation linking the community centre with the rugby club and NCN
L98	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway improvements over Old Road bridge and link to NCN
L99	Llanelli	Aspirational	Shared Use	New shared use link to North Dock as an alternative to link L4
L100	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Off road footpath improvements to link to Glascoed and School
L101	Llanelli	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Aspirational shared use to connect to back of school
L102	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Replacement of existing steps to link estate to Sandy Water Park
L103	Llanelli	Short Term	Shared Use	Replacement of small bridge to complete route
H1	Hendy	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway/Road Safety improvements along Heol Y Parc between Heol Llynbedw and Clos Y Wern.
H2	Hendy	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway link improvements on Bronallt Road
H3	Hendy	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Footway provision improvements along Carmarthen Road
H4	Hendy	Aspirational	Pedestrian / Cycle	Improved cycle/pedestrian facilities along Iscoed Road especially outside the school including crossing facilities.
H6	Hendy	Aspirational	Shared Use	Route connecting Hendy and Llangennech
SC1	St Clears	Aspirational	Pedestrian	Provide footway along Bethlehem Road

SC2	St Clears	Short Term	Cycle	Existing Cycleway. Better visibility leading up to path under the underpass and surface of path into St Clears Car Park. Better surface on path between St Clears and Church leading down to the river. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
SC3	St Clears	Medium Term	Pedestrian	Pedestrian footway improvements along Station Road
SC4	St Clears	Short Term	Cycle	A40 - Existing cycleway. Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
SC5	St Clears	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational cycleway to link to SC4 and East to Carmarthen Details for this scheme to be confirmed subject to discussions with Welsh Government.
SC6	St Clears	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational cycleway to link to SC4 and East to Carmarthen
SC7	St Clears	Aspirational	Cycle	Aspirational cycleway to link to SC4 and East to Carmarthen
SC8	St Clears	Aspirational	Shared Use	Footpath/Cycle route from St Clears Boat Club through to existing cycle route alongside river
SC9	St Clears	Aspirational	Shared Use	Aspirational shared use path connecting Pwll Trap to St Clears
SC10	St Clears	Aspirational	Shared Use	Aspirational shared use path along Tenby Rd

Appendix 6: Policy Assessment

Strategic Policy: SP1 Strategic Growth	
Strategic Objectives	SO3 - To assist in widening and promoting education and skills training opportunities for all.
National Well-being Goals	A more equal Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	<p>Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it.</p> <p>Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.</p>
Monitoring	<p>The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy:</p> <p>To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.</p>
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Active and Social Places & Productive and Enterprising Places.

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

Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Active and Social Places & Productive and Enterprising Places.
Strategic Policy: SP3 A Sustainable Approach to Providing New Homes	
Strategic Objectives	SO10 - To make provision for an appropriate number and mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities.
National Well-being Goals	A Wales of cohesive communities.
Local Well-being Goals	Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Placemaking & Active and Social Places.

Strategic Policy: SP4 Affordable Homes Strategy	
Strategic Objectives	SO10 - To make provision for an appropriate number and mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities.
National Well-being Goals	A Wales of cohesive communities & A more equal Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Placemaking & Active and Social Places.

Strategic Policy: SP5 Strategic Sites	
Strategic Objectives	SO12 - To encourage investment & innovation in rural and urban areas by making adequate provision to meet employment need and to contribute at a regional level to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal.
National Well-being Goals	A prosperous Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Productive and Enterprising Places.

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

Planning Policy Wales
Edition 10 alignment

Productive and Enterprising Places.

Strategic Policy: SP7 Welsh Language and Culture	
Strategic Objectives	SO11 - To assist in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Welsh Language and the County's unique cultural identity, assets and social fabric.
National Well-being Goals	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language.
Local Well-being Goals	Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Distinctive and Natural Places.

Strategic Policy: SP8 Infrastructure	
Strategic Objectives	SO14 - To reflect the requirements associated with the delivery of new development, both in terms of hard and soft infrastructure (including broadband).
National Well-being Goals	A prosperous Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Productive and Enterprising Places.

Strategic Policy: SP9 Gypsy and Traveller Provision	
Strategic Objectives	SO10 - To make provision for an appropriate number and mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities.
National Well-being Goals	A more equal Wales & A Wales of cohesive communities.
Local Well-being Goals	Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Active and Social Places

Strategic Policy: SP10 The Visitor Economy	
Strategic Objectives	SO13 - To make provision for sustainable & high quality all year round tourism related initiatives.
National Well-being Goals	A prosperous Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Productive and Enterprising Places

Strategic Policy: SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places	
Strategic Objectives	SO9 - To protect and enhance the diverse character, distinctiveness, safety and vibrancy of the County's communities by promoting a place making approach and a sense of place.
National Well-being Goals	A Wales of cohesive communities & A healthier Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Placemaking & Active and Social Places

Strategic Policy: SP12 Rural Development	
Strategic Objectives	SO2 - To assist with widening and promoting wellbeing opportunities through access to community, leisure and recreational facilities as well as the countryside.
National Well-being Goals	A prosperous Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities & A healthier Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment. Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Active and Social Places & Productive and Enterprising Places & Distinctive and Natural Places

Strategic Policy: SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment	
Strategic Objectives	SO1 - To ensure that the natural environment, including habitats and species, are safeguarded and enhanced.
National Well-being Goals	A globally responsible Wales & A resilient Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Distinctive and Natural Places

Strategic Policy: SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment	
Strategic Objectives	SO5 - To safeguarded and enhance the built and historic environment and promote the appropriate reuse of redundant buildings.
National Well-being Goals	A globally responsible Wales & A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language.
Local Well-being Goals	Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Distinctive and Natural Places

Strategic Policy: SP15 Climate Change	
Strategic Objectives	SO7 To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting renewable energy and the efficient use and safeguarding of resources.
National Well-being Goals	A globally responsible Wales & A resilient Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Placemaking & Distinctive and Natural Places

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

Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Placemaking & Active and Social Places & Productive and Enterprising Places & Distinctive and Natural Places
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Strategic Policy: SP17 Transport and Accessibility	
Strategic Objectives	SO8 - To contribute to the delivery of an accessible integrated and sustainable transport system, including links to alternative transport methods.
National Well-being Goals	A Wales of cohesive communities & A globally Responsible Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Productive and Enterprising Places

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

Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Productive and Enterprising Places
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Strategic Policy: SP19 Waste Management	
Strategic Objectives	SO7 - To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting renewable energy and the efficient use and safeguarding of resources.
National Well-being Goals	A globally responsible Wales.
Local Well-being Goals	Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change.
Monitoring	The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.
Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 alignment	Productive and Enterprising Places

Appendix 7 - Site Trajectory Schedule

Commitments Considered as at 1st April 2019

* Sites Allocated as 100% Affordable Schemes

Cluster	Settlement	Site	Revised LDP Map Reference	Total Site Capacity 2018-2033	Time Lag to construction start in months			Completions	U/C	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	
					Time period for pre-application discussions / PAC consultation	Time between submission of planning application and determination	Time taken from planning consent to the discharge of relevant conditions to enable site construction																		
1																									
	Carmarthen	Former Health Authority Buildings, Penlan Road	PrC1/h1	8																					
		Springfield Road	PrC1/h2	29																					
		113 Priory Street	PrC1/h3	37																					
		Land off Parc y Delyn	PrC1/h4	35																					
		East of Devereaux Drive	PrC1/h5	10																					
		Dolgwilli Road	PrC1/h6	26																					
		Penybont Farm, Llysonnen Road	PrC1/h7	9																					
		Llansteffan Road	PrC1/h8	50																					
		Mounthill	PrC1/h9	5																					
		Brynhyfryd	PrC1/h10	20																					
		Rhiw Babell extension	PrC1/h11	16																					
		Castell Pigyn Road, Abergwili	PrC1/h12	35																					
		Land south of Pant Glas, Bronwydd Road	PrC1/h13	13																					
		Bronwydd Road (south)	PrC1/h14	23																					
		West Carmarthen	PrC1/MU1	700																					
		Pibwrlwyd	PrC1/MU2	245																					
Tier 2	Pontyates / Meinciau / Ponthenri	Lime Grove	SeC1/h1	19																					
		Land to the rear of Brynderi	SeC1/h2	7																					
		Land adjoining Tabernacle Chapel	SeC1/h3	11																					
		Cae Canfas, Heol Llanelli	SeC1/h4	8																					
		Land at 8 Heol Llanelli	SeC1/h5	6																					
	Ferryside	Caradog Court	Sec2/h1	12																					
		Land to the rear of Parc y Ffynnon	Sec2/h2	12																					
Tier 3	Cynwyl Elfed	Adjacent Fron Heulog	SuV1/h1	8																					
		Land adj. Lleine	SuV1/h2	13																					
	Llanybri	No Allocation	SuV2																						
	Llansteffan	Land to the rear of Maesgriffith	SuV3/h1	19																					
	Bronwydd	Land at Troed Rhiw Farm	SuV4/h1	6																					
	Cwmffrwd	Land at Maesglasnant	SuV5/h1	20																					
	Llangyndeyrn	No Allocation	SuV6/h1																						
	Brechfa	No Allocation	SuV7/h1																						

Llangain	South of Dol y Dderwen	SuV8/h1	36					
Idole / Pentrepoeth	No Allocation	SuV9						
Peniel	South of Pentre Aberdeuddwr / Pantyfedwen	SuV10/h1	10					
		SuV10/h2	38					
Alltwalis	Land at Alltwalis School	SuV11/h1	12					
Llanpumsaint	Adj. Gwyn Villa	SuV12/h1	20					
Llandyfaelog	No Allocation	SuV13						
Rhydargaeau	Cefn Farm	SuV14/h1	33					
Llanarthne	Llanarthne School	SuV15/h1	10					
Capel Dewi	Llwynddewi Road	SuV16/h1	8					
Nantgaredig	Rear of former joinery, Station Road	SuV17/h1	30					
Pontargothi	Land off A40, Pontargothi	SuV18/h1	15					
Llanddarog	Land Opp. Village Hall	SuV19/h1	16					
	Land adj. and the r/o Hauifan	SuV19/h2	10					
Porthyrhyd	Land adjacent to Llwynhenry Farm	SuV20/h1	6					
Cwrmdwad	No Allocation	SuV21						
Total for the cluster			1646					
Cluster 2								
Tier 1	Llanelli	Beech Grove, Pwll Former Laboratory	PrC2/h1	10				
		Pen y Fai Lane	PrC2/h2	10				
		Parc y Strade, Llanelli West	PrC2/h3	94				
		North Dock (inc former Pontnillas)	PrC2/h4	210				
		The Avenue, Morfa	PrC2/h5	35				
		107 Station Road	PrC2/h6	7				
		13-15 Station Road	PrC2/h7	9				
		2-4 Coleshill Terrace	PrC2/h8	9				
		3-5 Goring Road	PrC2/h9	8				
		Land adjacent The Dell, Furnace	PrC2/h10	13				
		Brynmefys , Furnace	PrC2/h11	54				
		Llys yr Hen Felin, Town Centre	PrC2/h12	27				
		Land off Frondeg Terrace	PrC2/h13	29				
		Rear of 22c,22d and 22e Llwynhendy Road	PrC2/h14	6				
		Maesarddafen Road / Erw						
		Las, Llwynhendy	PrC2/h15	94				
		Ynys Las, Llwynhendy	PrC2/h16	45				
		Adjacent 73 Parc Gitto, Llwynhendy	PrC2/h17	10				
		Dylan, Trallwm	PrC2/h18	32				

		Genwen, Bryn	PrC2/h19	260					
		Harddfan, Bryn	PrC2/h20	6					
		Maes Y Bryn, Bryn	PrC2/h21	34					
		Cwm y Nant, Dafen	PrC2/h22	280					
		Dafen East Gateway Wellness and Life Science Village (strategic site), South Llanelli	PrC2/h23 PrC2/SS1	150 240					
		Trostre Gateway (mixed use)	PrC2/MU2	35					
Tier 2	Kidwelly	Land adjacent to Brodawel	SeC3/h1	9					
		Land off Priory Street	SeC3/h2	20					
		Land to the rear of Park View Drive	SeC3/h3	24					
		Land at Former Dinas Yard	SeC3/h4	80					
	Burry Port	Gwdig Farm	SeC4/h1	105					
		Burry Port Harbourside	SeC4/h2	364					
		Glanmor Terrace	SeC4/h3	32					
	Pembrey	Garreglwyd	Sec5/h1	14					
		Cwrt Farm	Sec5/h2	100					
	Hendy / Fforest	Adjacent Clos Ty Gwyn	SeC6/h1	20					
		Land between Clayton Road and East of Bronallt Road	SeC6/h2	39					
		Coed y Bronallt	SeC6/h3	8					
		Adjacent to Clos Benallt Fawr, Fforest	SeC6/h4	35					
		Fforest Garage	SeC6/h5	17					
	Llangennech	Box Farm	SeC7/h1	7					
		Aber Llchwyr	SeC7/h2	10					
		Golwg Yr Afon	SeC7/h3	50					
		Opposite Parc Morlais	SeC7/h4	35					
		Maesydderwen	SeC7/h5	5					
	Trimsaran / Carway	Ffos Las	SeC8/h1	233					
		Land to the rear of Cae Linda	SeC8/h2	50					
Tier 3	Mynyddygarreg	Land opposite Parc y Garreg	SuV22/h1	30					
		Land adjacent to Ty Newydd, Meinciau Road	SuV22/h2	8					
		Land at Llangadog Road	SuV22/h3	12					
	Five Roads / Horeb	Clos y Parc	SuV23/h1	20					
		Adjacent Little Croft	SuV23/h2	25					
	Llansaint / Broadway	No Allocation	SuV24						
Total for the cluster				3059					
Cluster 3									
Tier 1	Ammanford (inc Betws and Penybanc)	Land at r/o No 16-20 & 24-30 Betws Road	PrC3/h1	8					

	Former Petrol Station, Wind Street	PrC3/h2	6			
	Land at Gwynfryn Fawr	PrC3/h3	28			
	Tirychen Farm	PrC3/h4	150			
	Yr Hen Felin, Pontamman Road	PrC3/h5	8			
	Land adjoining Maes Ifan, Maesquarre Road	PrC3/h6	18			
Blaenau	No Allocation	PrC3				
Caerbryn	No Allocation	PrC3				
Capel Hendre	Delfryn Estate	PrC3/h7	15			
Castell yr Rhingyll	No Allocation	PrC3				
Cefneithin	Land off Heol y Parc	PrC3/h8	18			
Cross Hands	Land adjacent to Maesyrfhaf	PrC3/h9	9			
	Land to the rear of Gwernllwyn	PrC3/h10	30			
	Land east of Carmarthen Road	PrC3/h11	60			
	Land adjoining A48 and Heol y Parc	PrC3/h12	8			
	Land at Heol Cae Pownd	PrC3/h13	101			
Drefach (Tumble)	Nantydderwen	PrC3/h14	33			
	Land off Heol Caegwyn	PrC3/h15	6			
	Uwch Gwendraeth	PrC3/h16	6			
	Land part of Maesygwern, Heol Caegwyn	PrC3/h17	23			
Gorslas	Land adjoining Brynlluan	PrC3/h18	29			
Llandybie	Land off Llys y Nant	PrC3/h19	9			
	Land north of Maespiode	PrC3/h20	42			
	Maespiode	PrC3/h21	8			
Penygroes	Adj. Pant y Blodau	PrC3/h22	79			
	Land at Waterloo Road	PrC3/h23	15			
	Emlyn Brickworks	PrC3/MU1	177			
	Land between 123 and 137 Waterloo Road	PrC3/h24	11			
	Land off Gate Road	PrC3/h25	8			
Saron	Land off Parc-y-Mynydd	PrC3/h26	15			
	Land off Nant-y-Ci Road	PrC3/h27	18			
Tumble	Land at Factory site between No. 22 & 28 Bethesda Road	PrC3/h28	30			
	Central Garage	PrC3/h29	24			
	Land off Gwendraeth Road	PrC3/h30	9			
Tycroes	Land at Fforestfach	PrC3/h31	17			
	Land south of Tycroes Road	PrC3/h32	62			

Tier 2	Brynamman	Land at Ardwyn Road	SeC9/h1	6					
		Heol Gelynen	SeC9/h2	8					
	Glanamman / Garnant	Garnant CP School, New School Road	SeC10/h1	9					
		Land adj. No 13 Bishop Road	SeC10/h2	8					
		Former Glanamman Primary School	SeC10/h3	7					
		Former Glanamman Hospital	SeC10/h4	28					
	Pontyberem / Bancffosfelen	Land off Heol Llannon	SeC11/h1	55					
		Land at Ffynnon Fach	SeC11/h2	19					
Tier 3	Llannon	Land north of Clos Rebecca	SuV25/h1	47					
	Llanedi	Rear of 16 Y Garreg Llwyd	SuV26/h1	11					
	Carmel	Land adjacent to Tŷ Newydd	SuV27/h1	5					
	Cwmgwili	Adjacent to Coed y Cadno	SuV28/h1	18					
	Foelgastell	No Allocation	SuV29						
	Ystradowen	Land off Pant y Brwyn	SuV30/h1	5					
Total for the cluster				1306					
Cluster 4									
Tier 2	Newcastle Emlyn	Trem y Ddol	SeC12/h1	17					
		Heol Dewi	SeC12/h2	14					
		Land to r/o Dolcoed	SeC12/h3	20					
	Llanybydder	Adj. Y Neuadd	SeC13/h1	10					
		Heol y Dderi	SeC13/h2	30					
		Troedybryn	SeC13/h3	23					
	Pencader	Blossom Garage	SeC14/h1	20					
		Land adj Maescader	SeC14/h2	24					
		Glanawmor	SeC14/h3	28					
		Bro'r Hen Wr	SeC14/h4	7					
Tier 3	Drefach/Felindre	Parc Puw	SuV31/h1	12					
		Parc Meirios	SuV31/h2	10					
	Waungilwen	Opposite Springfield	SuV32/h1	6					
	Llangeler	Land opp Brogeler	SuV33/h1	8					
	Pentrecwrt	Land adjoining Brynywawr	SuV34/h1	14					
	Saron/Rhos	Land adj. Arwynfa	SuV35/h1	35					
	Llanllwni	Cae Pensarn Helen	SuV36/h1	6					
		Land at Bryndulais	SuV36/h2	10					
	Cwmann	R/O Post Office	SuV37/h1	20					
		Land south of Cae Coedmor	SuV37/h2	20					

		Land adjacent to Lleinau	SuV37/h3	10					
Capel Iwan		Maes y Bryn	SuV38/h1	11					
		Land adj Brynglas	SuV38/h2	5					
Llanfihangel ar arth		Adj Yr Hendre	SuV39/h1	7					
Trelech		Clos Y Cynin	SuV40/h1	8					
Pontyweli		Adj Crug yr Wyn	SuV41/h1	19					
Cenarth		No Allocation	SuV42						
New Inn		Blossom Inn	SuV43/h1	8					
Total for the cluster				402					

Cluster 5

Tier 2	Llandovery	Land to north of Dan y Crug	SeC15/h1	12					
		Land adjacent to Bryndeilog, Tywi Avenue (SR/081/006)	SeC15/h2	8					
	Llandeilo	Llandeilo Northern Quarter	SeC16/h1	27					
		Thomas Terrace	SeC16/h2	5					
		Land adjacent 28 Carmarthen Rd, Llandeilo (SR/080/003)	SeC16/h3	5					
	Llangadog	Land opp. Llangadog C.P School	SeC17/h1	16					
		Land off Heol Pendref	SeC17/h2	8					
Tier 3	Caio	No Allocation	SuV44						
	Ffarmers	No Allocation	SuV45						
	Llansawel	No Allocation	SuV46						
	Talley	Land adjoining Ffynnon Dawel	SuV47/h1	7					
	Cwrt Henri	Land adjacent to Glasfryn Court	SuV48/h1	16					
	Llanfynydd	No Allocation	SuV49						
	Llanwrda	No Allocation	SuV50						
	Cwmifor	Opp. Village Hall	SuV51/h1	8					
	Salem	No Allocation	SuV52						
	Abergorlech	No Allocation	SuV53						
Total for the cluster				112					

Cluster 6

Tier 2	St Clears / Pwll Trap	Adjacent to Britannia Terrace	SeC18/h1	60					
		Former Butter Factory	SeC18/h2	45					
		Land adjacent to Cefn Maes	SeC18/h3	50					
		Land at Heol Llaindelyn	SeC18/h4	6					
		Land adjacent to Gwynfa, Station Road	SeC18/h5	8					

	Land to the rear of Station Road	SeC18/h6	25						
	Land adjacent to Gardde Fields	SeC18/h7	8						
	Land at Cae Glas	SeC18/h8	5						
Whitland	Land at Park View, Trevaughan	SeC19/h1	8						
	Land at Whitland Creamery	SeC19/h2	48						
Laugharne	Pludds Meadow	SeC20/h1	24						
	Adj. Laugharne School	SeC20/h2	42						
	Land off Clifton Street	SeC20/h3	6						
Tier 3	Llanboidy	No Allocations							
	Glandy Cross	Land to the r/o Maesglas	SuV55/h1	9					
		Land to the north of Cross Inn P.H	SuV55/h2	6					
	Efailwen	Land to the r/o Talar Wen	SuV56/h1	6					
	Llangynin	No Allocations							
	Meidrim	Land adj. to Lon Dewi	SuV58/h1	10					
		Land off Drefach Road	SuV58/h2	15					
	Bancyfelin	Maes y Llewod	SuV59/h1	17					
		North of Maes y Llewod	SuV59/h2	19					
	Llangynog	Land at College Bach	SuV60/h1	6					
	Pendine	Land at Nieuport Farm	SuV61/h1	10					
	Llanddowror	No allocations							
	Llanmiloe	Land at Woodend	SuV63/h1	28					
Total for the cluster			461						
Overall Housing			6986						

Appendix 8 - Waste Management Sites

Site Operator	Name/Address	Type of Facility	Grid Reference	Post Code
Recycling Equipment UK Ltd	Linton Yard	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SS 54996 98484	SA14 9SU
Ammanford Recycling Ltd	Ammanford Metal Recycling, Shands Rd, Ammanford	ELV Facility	SN 62340 12974	SA18 3SU
JH Davies	Neville's Dock, Seaside, Llanelli	Metal Recycling Site	SS 50335 98852	SA15 2NW
Dyfed Recycling Services	Pencoed Yard, Bellevue Rd, Bynea, Llanelli	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SN 52853 01353	SA14 9LN
Browns Waste Management and Recycling Ltd	Bynea, Llanelli	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SS 54934 98581	SA14 9SU
Taybrite Works	Heol Y Bwlch, Bynea	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SS 55100 98600	SA14 9ST
Pendragon Waste & Skip Hire	Pendragon Waste & Skip Hire, Thornhill Rd, Cwmgwili, SA14 6PT	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SN 57576 11300	SA14 6PT
CWM Environmental Ltd	Trostre Road Industrial Estate	Household Waste Amenity Site	252,371,199,453	SA14 9UU
CWM Environmental Ltd	Nantycaws Waste Management Site, Llanddarog Rd, Nantycaws, Carmarthen	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SN 47387 17556	SA32 8BG
CWM Environmental Ltd	Nantycaws Waste Management Site, Llanddarog Rd, Nantycaws, Carmarthen	Physical Treatment Facility	SN 47308 17601	SA32 8BG
CWM Environmental Ltd	Nantycaws Landfill, Llanddarog Rd, Nantycaws, Carmarthen	Non Hazardous LF	SN 47860 17580	SA32 8BG
Rock & Fountain Quarry	Conwyl Elfed, Carmarthen	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SN 39039 25798	SA33 6AR
T Richard Jones Betws Ltd	Foundry Road, Ammanford	Biodegradable Waste Transfer Station	SN 63272 12187	SA18 2LS
Carmarthen Recycling & Environmental Services Ltd	Transfer Station, Johnstown, Carmarthen	HCI Waste TS + asbestos	SN 38980 18935	SA31 3RB
Natural UK Ltd Healthcare Management Facility	Unit 3, Capel Hendre Industrial Estate, Capel Hendre, Ammanford	Clinical Waste Transfer Station	SN 59321 11008	SA18 3SJ

Browns Recycling Group Ltd	Former Morlais Colliery, Pontardulais Rd, Llangennech, Llanelli	Physical Treatment Facility	SN 57429 02522	SA14 8YF
Carmarthenshire County Council	Cwmamman Depot, Glanamman, Ammanford	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SN 67644 13719	SA18 1LQ
Carmarthenshire County Council	Cillefwr Depot, Johnstown, Carmarthen	HCI Waste Transfer Station	SN 39659 19097	SA31 3QZ
Carmarthenshire County Council	Troste Depot, Trostre Industrial Park, Llanelli	Hazardous Waste Transfer Station	SS 52270 99331	SA14 9RA
CWM Environmental	Wernddu Civic Amenity and Transfer Station, Wernddu Road, Ammanford	Household Waste Amenity Site	SN 64731 15307	SA18 2UR
CWM Environmental Ltd	Whitland Recycling Centre & Civic Amenity Site	Household Waste Amenity Site	SN 19250 16750	SA34 0AE
Gwendraeth Valley Recycling Ltd	Carway Fawr Site Office, Former Cynheidre Colliery, Five Roads, Llanelli	HCI Waste TS + treatment + asbestos	SN 49590 07986	SA15 5YN
Mekatek Limited	Amex Park, Johnstown, Carmarthen	Biological Treatment Facility	SN 40060 19310	SA31 3NF

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Carmarthenshire Revised Local Development Plan (LDP)

Sustainability Appraisal Report of the Deposit LDP

November 2019

1. Introduction

This document is the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report, consisting of the joint Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), of Carmarthenshire Council's Deposit Revised Local Development Plan (rLDP). The SA/SEA is a combined process which meets both the regulatory requirements for SEA and SA. The revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan is a land use plan which outlines the location and quantity of development within Carmarthenshire for a 15 year period.

The purpose of the SA is to identify any likely significant economic, environmental and social effects of the LDP, and to suggest relevant mitigation measures. This process integrates sustainability considerations into all stages of LDP preparation, and promotes sustainable development. This fosters a more inclusive and transparent process of producing a LDP, and helps to ensure that the LDP is integrated with other policies. This combined process is hereafter referred to as the SA. This Report accompanies, and should be read in conjunction with, the Deposit LDP.

The geographical scope of this assessment covers the whole of the County of Carmarthenshire, however also considers cross-boundary effects with the neighbouring local authorities of Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Swansea. The LDP is intended to apply until 2033 following its publication. This timescale has been reflected in the SA.

1.1 Legislative Requirements

The completion of an SA is a statutory requirement for Local Development Plans under Section 62(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004¹, the Town and Country Planning (LDP) (Wales) Regulations 2005² and associated guidance.

The European SEA Directive 2001³ has been transposed into law in Wales by The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004⁴ (the Regulations) which sets out a mandatory requirement to carry out SEA on all development plans. The Directive sets out a legal assessment process that must be followed. 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 SA process considers how the four components of sustainable development (economic, social well-being, environmental protection/enhancement and resource conservation) are integrated into a plan. The SEA process focuses solely on the environmental impacts of a plan, including the built environment and the effect on local populations and health.

Planning Policy Wales⁵ (PPW) stresses the presumption in favour of sustainable development and that LPAs should ensure that the plan and proposals deliver sustainable development. The SA is an integral part of good plan making and is an iterative process, which identifies and reports on significant effects of the Plan and demonstrates that the LDP is sound by ensuring that it reflects sustainable development objectives. It thereby contributes to the reasoned justification of policies.

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2005/2839/contents/made>

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32001L0042>

⁴ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2004/1656/made>

⁵ <https://gov.wales/planning-policy-wales>

1.2 SA and the LDP Process

Guidance on how to carry out SA for LDPs is contained in the draft Welsh Government LDP Manual Edition 3 (2019), where SA is defined as a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives.

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 the LDP. Adapted from the LDP Manual (3rd Edition).

SA/SEA Stage	LDP Stage
Stage A: Scoping	Evidence Gathering and Objectives
A1 Outline the contents and the main objectives of the plan Required by SEA Directive 2001/42/EC Annex I (a)	
A2: Identify and review other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives that will inform the plan. Required by SEA Directive 2001/42/EC Annex I (a) and (e)	
A3 Collecting baseline information on the current and likely future social, economic, cultural, well-being and environmental conditions at the relevant spatial scale for the plan The SEA Directive requires the baseline data to cover 'the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan (Annex I (b)); and 'characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected' (Annex I (c)).	
A4 Identifying sustainability issues and problems which are relevant to the plan Required by SEA Directive 2001/42/EC Annex I (d)	
A5 Develop SA framework against which the plan can be appraised	
A6 Prepare and consult on the SA Scoping Report Required by SEA Directive Article 5(4) and 6(3).	Strategic Options and Preferred Strategy
Stage B: Assessment of Alternatives	
B1 Assess and mitigate the effects of the plan objectives using the SA framework	
B2 Develop reasonable alternatives Required by SEA Directive Article 5(1) and Annex I (h).	
B3 Assess and mitigate the effects of the alternatives using the SA framework Required by SEA Directive, Annex I (f) and (g).	LDP Preparation and Deposit
B4 Choose the preferred alternatives and provide an outline of reasons for selecting the preferred alternatives. Required by SEA Directive, Annex I (h).	
Stage C: Assessment of the Deposit Plan and Preparation of the Sustainability Report	
C1 Assess and mitigate the effects of the Deposit plan using the SA framework Required by SEA Directive, Annex I (f) and (g).	LDP Preparation and Deposit
C2 Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the plan. Required by SEA Directive, Article 9(c), Article 10, Annex I (i).	
C3 Consult on the Deposit Plan and SA Report Required by SEA Directive, Article 6.	
Stage D: Consultation, Examination and Adoption of the Plan	Submission Examination and Adoption
D1 Assess the effects of significant changes made to the Deposit plan by the SA framework. Required by SEA Directive, Article 5(2).	

D2(i) After the plan is adopted, the plan making authority must publish a Post Adoption Statement Required by SEA Directive, Article 9(1).	
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects on implementing the LDP	
E1 Develop aims and methods for monitoring Required by SEA Directive, Article 9(1) (c), Article 10, Annex I (if).	Monitoring and Review
E2 Responding to adverse effects Required by SEA Directive, Article 10 (1)	

1.3 How the Council has complied with the Regulations

Stage A

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

- **A1: Outline the contents and the main objectives of the plan**

The SA Scoping Report outlined information about the revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan, its spatial scale and timescale and its main objectives.

- **A2 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 1.

- **A3 Collation of Baseline Information**

The scoping report included 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. An updated version of the baseline is presented in Appendix 2.

- **A4 Identifying relevant issues and problems**

The report highlights sustainability issues, problems but also opportunities which can be addressed via the revised LDP. This is reported within the baseline in Appendix 2.

- **A5 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. The SA Framework is presented in Appendix 3.

- **A6 Consulting on the Scope of the Sustainability Appraisal**

The SA 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, which were reported as an Appendix to the Initial SA. 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

The Council completed Stage B of the SA process in December 2018 with the publication of the Initial SA Report of the Preferred Strategy. The Initial SA contained:

- **B1 Assess and mitigate the effects of the plan objectives using the SA framework**

The Initial SA tested and appraised the objectives of the LDP preferred strategy against the Sustainability Framework.

- **B2 Developing reasonable alternatives**

The Initial SA developed a number of strategic options, for both growth and spatial distribution, from an understanding of the main issues identified in the SA Scoping Report.

- **B3 Assessing and mitigating effects of alternatives**

The Vision, Strategic Growth Options, Spatial Options and Strategic Policies of the LDP Preferred Strategy against the SA objectives in the SA Framework. Mitigation measures were also identified as well as opportunities.

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

Reasons for the selection of the preferred alternative and discarding of other alternatives were discussed and justified.

Stage C

This SA Report of the Deposit LDP has been prepared to comply with Stage C of the SA process and is to be published as part of the Deposit Plan public consultation.

- **C1 Assess and mitigate effects of the Deposit LDP**

This report will evaluate the significant effects, both positive and negative, of the Deposit LDP policies and development sites. Where a policy or site is identified as having a negative effect, mitigation measures will be identified. This is documented in Chapter 6.5 and 6.7 of this report as well as in Appendices 4 and 7.

- **C2 Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the plan.**

This is discussed in Chapter 8 of this report.

- **C3 Consult on the Deposit Plan and SA Report.**

This report will be consulted alongside the LDP Deposit Plan for a six week period.

1.4 Links to Other Strategies and Assessments

This SA also integrates requirements under the Well-being of Future Generations ACT (WBFGA) 2015, the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Welsh Language requirements under TAN 20 into a single Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) which enables a more transparent, holistic and rounded assessment of the sustainability implications of growth options, objectives, policies and proposals.

A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is undertaken in parallel to the SA process but is not integrated with the SA as it uses a different precautionary testing mechanism. The SA will summarise the HRA findings as part of its assessment of effects on biodiversity.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 sets out the definition of sustainable development for the planning system in Wales, mirroring the definition in the WBFGA 2015.

“Sustainable development” means 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”

The WBFGA 2015 sets seven well-being goals which all public bodies are required to achieve (Figure 1).

Well-being Goals

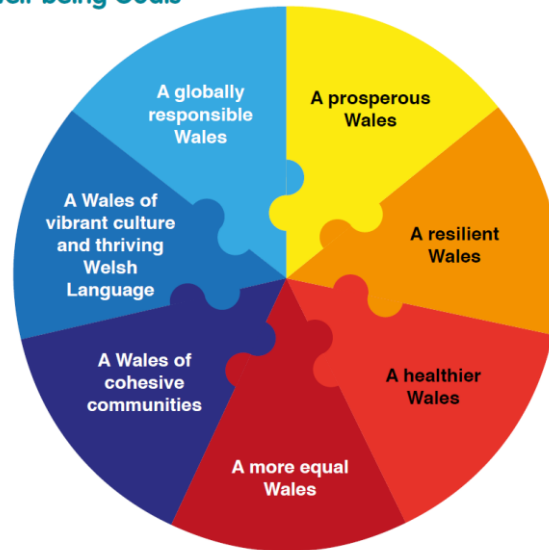


Figure 1 Seven Well-being Goals of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015

The WBFGA 2015 introduces Wellbeing Plans (which will replace Single Integrated Plans) and an assessment of Local Well-being which will replace Strategic Needs Assessments. The Act contains a sustainable development principle which ensures that public bodies must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, to be done through the consideration of the following five ways of working:

- Looking to the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;
- Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring or getting worse;
- Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their well-being objectives;
- Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them; and
- Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

The Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 requires a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) to be carried out by public bodies to assess the likely effect, both short and long term on physical and mental health. The SEA Directive (Annex I (f)) requires human health to be considered as part of the assessment of environmental effects. Therefore for this SA, the health component of the SEA has been broadened to include both the physical and mental health objectives of an HIA.

Welsh Language

It is now a legislative requirement that the SA must include an assessment of the likely effects of the plan on the use of Welsh Language (Section 62(6A) PCPA 2004 as inserted by section 11, PWA 2015). The SA process is the mechanism for considering how the scale and location of growth, the vision, objectives, policies and proposals individually and in combination, impact on the Welsh Language. Where evidence indicates a detrimental impact on the use of the Welsh Language the LPA can assess whether the strategy should be amended or mitigation measures should be identified.

The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

The Deposit LDP process must be assessed under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), by a process known as Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), to assess whether the LDP would be likely to have a significant effect on a European protected site, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, directly or indirectly. The Directive is transposed into Welsh law via

the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2010. If the LDP is deemed likely to have a significant effect on one or more European sites it must be subject to an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Regulations.

The County contains twelve European protected sites. The potential effects on European sites were considered from the earliest stages of the plan making process and preliminary screenings were undertaken on the Preferred Strategy in December 2018. The Deposit Plan has been subject to screening under the Habitats Regulations and the report is published alongside the Deposit Plan. The conclusion of this screening exercise and subsequent appropriate assessment is that the Deposit Plan will have no likely significant effect, either alone or in combination, on any European sites.

The earlier informal HRA screening has been influential in ability to reach a favourable conclusion to the screening of the Deposit Plan. The iterative approach to HRA has facilitated the identification of potential issues allowing for potential risks to European sites to inform the emerging development of the Deposit Plan.

2. Methodology

2.1 Approach

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

- Welsh Government LDP Manual, Edition 3 (2019) ,
- ODPM Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (2005)
- ODPM A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2005)
- RTPI Improving the Effectiveness and Efficiency of SEA/SA for Land Use Plans (2018)

2.2 Undertaking the SA

SA is an iterative process and the outcomes of the appraisal have informed the final version of the Deposit LDP published for consultation. Where elements of the LDP have not changed from the Final Preferred Strategy the previous SA is still valid and is either signposted or reproduced in this Report.

2.3 The Sustainability Framework

The SA Framework provides a consistent basis for describing, analysing and comparing the sustainability effects of the objectives, options, specific policies and proposals of the LDP. The SA Framework is objective-led and 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
- Responses and feedback from consultation with consultation bodies and public

The full SA framework is provided in Appendix 3. In summary, the objectives reflect the topics 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 shown in Table 2, as well as the corresponding SEA issue.

Table 2 SA Objectives and corresponding SEA Directive Issues

SA Objective	Corresponding SEA Issues
SA1 Sustainable Development	
SA2 Biodiversity	Biodiversity, fauna, flora
SA3 Air Quality	Air
SA4 Climactic Factors	Climatic factors
SA5 Water	Water
SA6 Material Assets	Material assets
SA7 Soil	Soil
SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environments	Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage
SA9 Landscape	Landscape
SA10 Population	Population
SA11 The Welsh Language	
SA12 Health and Well-being	Human health
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.

2.4 Determining Effect Significance

Prediction of effects involves identifying changes to the environmental baseline which are predicted to arise from the implementation of the plan, including alternatives. Annex II of the SEA Directive sets criteria for the determining of likely significant effects. They are a combination of:

- 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 2 provides a framework by which judgements of significance can be made consistently and ensuring prediction, evaluation and mitigation are all incorporated into the appraisal.

2.5 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

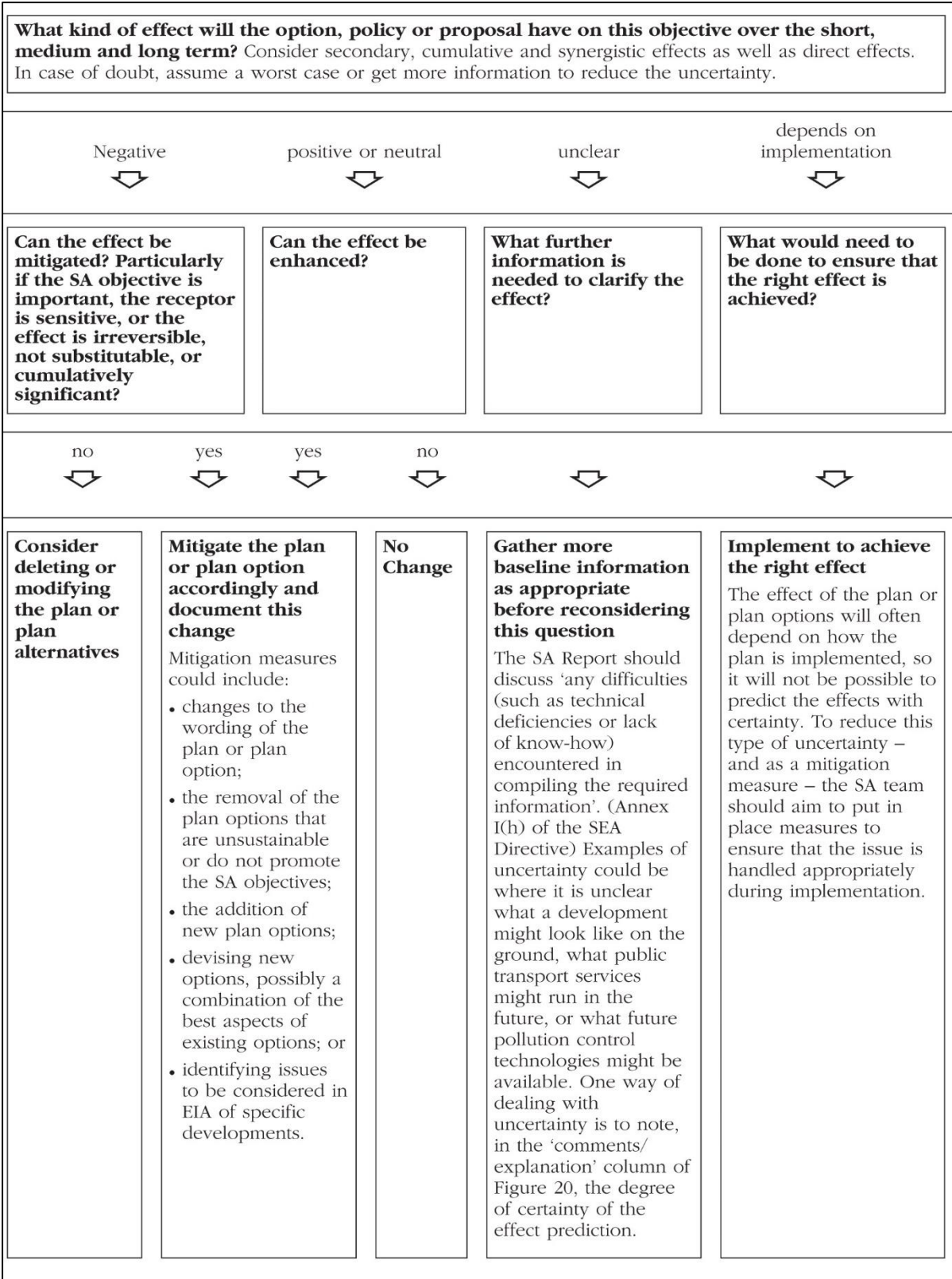


Figure 2 The Sustainability Appraisal Process

2.6 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 1. Particular regard is had to existing national planning policy including associated Technical Advice Notes (TANs).

2.7 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 3. The manner in which the objectives, options and sites contribute to achieving the SA Framework objectives is indicated by the following symbols:

Table 3 Sustainability Appraisal assessment criteria for draft policies and reasonable alternatives.

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

A separate framework for assessing sites has been developed to assess more site specific criteria. This methodology along with the assessment of sites will be published in due course in Appendix X.

Table 4 outlines the definition of Secondary (or indirect), cumulative and synergistic effects, as considered in this SA.

Table 4 Definitions of Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic Effects. Source: A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, ODPM.

Type of Effect	Definition
Secondary (or indirect)	Effects that are not a direct result of the plan but occur away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway
Cumulative	Effects arise, for instance, where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect; or where several individual effects of the plan (e.g. noise, dust and visual) have a combined effect.
Synergistic	Effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.

3. Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

The development of the LDP takes place within a framework of legislation and guidance and is informed by the objectives and aspirations of other plans, policies and programmes from international to local level. The Plan's direct influence will be restricted to the use and development of land and buildings, but it also has the potential to be an important tool for the implementation of a wide range of objectives contained in other plans and strategies. Policy integration is essential if LDPs are to build on and add value to other plans and strategies.

This chapter summarises the relationship between the LDP and other plans, policies and programmes at all levels, and indicates how the requirements of other plans, policies and programmes have been taken into account in the development of the Plan to date through the SA process.

A review of relevant plans and policies at international/European, national, regional and local level has been undertaken within the SA Scoping Report order to take account of the relationship between the LDP and other relevant policies, plans, programmes (PPP) and sustainability objectives. For a list of the identified PPP's and where applicable a more detailed description of the documents and their relevance to the Plan, as well as web links, see Appendix 1.

3.1 International Summary

The international (European Union) level legislative instruments and strategies set out and reviewed within Appendix 1 represents the highest tier of the sustainable development agenda that is then required to be transposed into Member State legislation. National level legislation subsequently conditions the content of plans, policies and programmes at the national, sub-regional and local level that effectively inform the local on-the-ground delivery of the sustainability agenda.

The European Directives and strategies reviewed concern environmental issues that are of considerable importance at the global scale, yet require localised action to be effective, and include:

- Climate change and renewable energy;
- Establishing sustainable communities;
- Delivering sustainable transport systems;
- Delivering sustainable waste management;

- Using and managing natural resources efficiently
- Establishing patterns of sustainable production and consumption;
- Promoting social inclusion and fighting poverty;
- Conserving and enhancing biodiversity;
- Conserving and improving the water environment; and
- Air quality.

Reference is made to transposition of European legislation into national law as a result of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union and the implications of the Great Repeal Bill. In this respect the implications and outcomes of the repealing on the one hand the European Communities Act, and on the other hand to transposing of the EU secondary legislation - regulations and directives already enforceable in the UK - into domestic laws will be monitored and the SA amended where appropriate to reflect any impacts.

3.2 National Summary

The sustainability themes covered by the national PPP documents reflect environmental issues important at the international scale, cascaded down to the regional level as well as issues of specific relevance to Wales, particularly with respect to social and economic issues. The social aspects covered by the national level documents include the need to reflect the well-being objectives and deliver safe, inclusive and healthy communities in which social exclusion is minimised and access to facilities is maximised. A strong theme of some of the national level documents is to strengthen cultural identities and to support cultural distinctiveness and the prominence of the Welsh language.

Responding to local community needs through development is also a theme echoed through a number of the documents. Minimising the need to travel, supported by integrated and healthier forms of transportation is also reiterated by the national policy and strategy documents. The environmental issues covered in the national documents are commonly based upon the need to conserve biodiversity and protected sites and habitats. A strong theme underpinning many of the policies/strategies is to provide the capacity for habitats, species and the natural environment to respond to a changing climate by allowing time and space for adaptation. The need to protect the quality and availability of water resources was also noted during the PPP review. High quality urban design is also cited as a key component of delivering sustainable communities.

The economic themes of the national documents typically centre upon the need to encourage a more diversified and high value Welsh economy that maximises the country's extensive natural assets. Tourism is a key theme of a number of the national level documents as is the need to move towards capturing renewable technologies markets.

3.3 Local Summary

The sub-Wales and Carmarthenshire level policy documents and strategies also reflect a number of the sustainability themes highlighted in the international and national documents; for example increasing access to services via integrated transport facilities and meeting community needs at the local level.

Local documents such as the emerging Well-being Plan and the Integrated Community Strategy seek to tackle issues pertinent to Carmarthenshire such as exclusion, the need to promote sustainable access to services, delivering safe and healthy communities, promoting education and employment and regenerating and developing the labour market. The need to develop a high value-added and diverse economy also mirrors the policies and strategies set out in some of the national level documents. The need to minimise energy expenditure, use energy efficiently and invest in less damaging sources of energy is a key theme of Carmarthenshire's Climate Change Strategy.

Following consultation, the Council drafted a set of Well-being / Improvement Objectives. These were approved by Council on 8th March 2017 and re confirmed following the Local Government Elections of 2017. There are also Action Plans in place.

4. Baseline Environmental Conditions and Predicted Effects without Implementation of the LDP.

4.1 Baseline Summary

This section summarises the environmental baseline of the County and provides an update to the Scoping Report and previous SA Report. The baseline information for the SA comprises of quantitative and qualitative information and data describing the social, economic and environmental state of the Plan area. The SEA Regulations require that the SA Report contains a commentary on the likely predicted effect on the environmental baseline both with and without the implementation of the revised LDP.

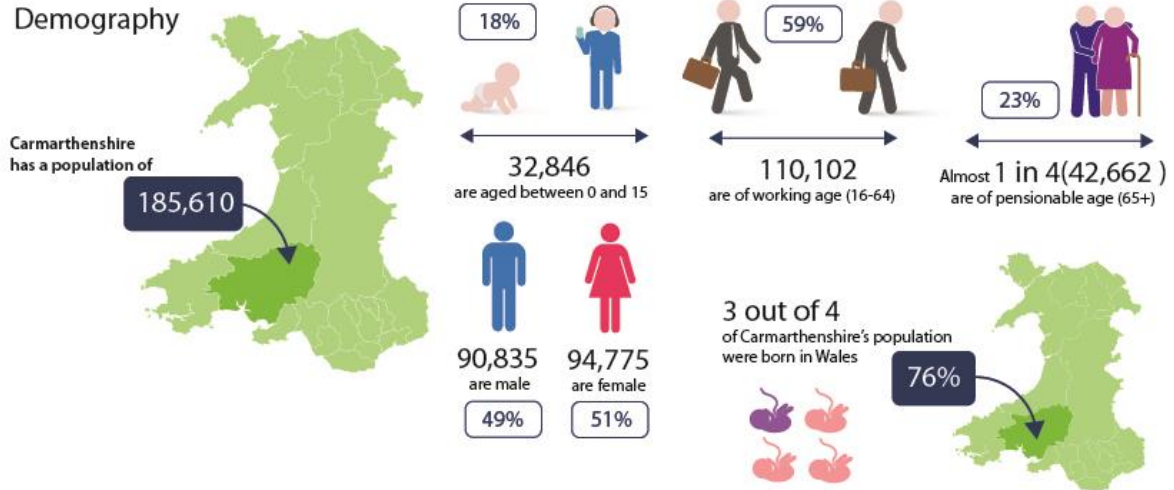
The baseline information for Carmarthenshire has been collated under a series of headings and is set out with Appendix 2. These heading have, in the interests of consistency, been grouped under broadly the same headings as those used within the existing adopted LDP. They have however been changed to include Welsh language as a separate heading, to reflect the position of the Welsh language within the County and its communities.

These baseline headings are as follows:

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 Well-being;
13. Education and Skills;
14. Economy, and
15. Social Fabric.

The following provides a 'snap shot' pictorial indication of key baseline data in respect of Carmarthenshire.

Demography



Carmarthenshire has an ageing population.

By 2039, around **1 in 3** Carmarthenshire residents will be aged 65 and over.



1 in 4

have a limiting long-term illness



1 in 25

Carmarthenshire is predominantly white, with **4%** of the population having a non-white ethnicity.

Carmarthenshire has the highest number of Welsh speakers in Wales at



78,048



There are over **78,800** households in Carmarthenshire.

30% are occupied by just one person.



60% of the population live in rural areas, which form **53%** of the County



6 in 10

There are **three major towns** of **Llanelli, Carmarthen** and **Ammanford** which are



home to **25%** of the population.

25%



7 out of 10 households are owned (outright or with a mortgage)



14%

are socially rented

10%

private rented



44 crimes per **1000** population



8166 recorded crimes during 2015/16



79%

feel safe in their area

Economy



Nearly 8 in 10 of Carmarthenshire's working age population (16-64) are economically active. (62% as employees; 12% self-employed)

8 in 10

79%, 89,600



63,000
Employee jobs in Carmarthenshire



1 in 5

work in wholesale and retail



13%

in manufacturing



7%

in public administration



1 in 5

work in health and social care fields



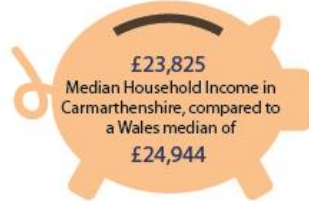
10%

in education



92%

of businesses are micro enterprises (employ less than 10 people)



£23,825
Median Household Income in Carmarthenshire, compared to a Wales median of £24,944

Over 1 in 3 of households are living in poverty, according to the Welsh Government definition – households with less than 60% of GB median income



(36%)



Croeso / Welcome

£370 million

value / contribution of tourism to Carmarthenshire's economy



24,000

people in Carmarthenshire provide unpaid care, that's 13% the population.



+50 Hours

Over 7000 provide more than 50 hours of unpaid care a week.

Health and Well-being

Life Expectancy is favourable at:



78.5 yrs
for men



82.6 yrs
for women



7.4 : 10

Average score for 'life satisfaction', on a scale of 1 to 10

3 in 10

suffer from mental health issues



28%

60%

of adults reported being overweight or obese (using BMI)



Environment



40%

of the population live within 400m of natural or semi-natural greenspace

5,587

Minimum number of Carmarthenshire properties at risk of flooding from rising sea levels



Culture

83%

of Carmarthenshire households have internet access



68%

said that people from different backgrounds get on well together



2 in 3

participate in sports

66%



4.2 Future Trends

The SA Scoping Report brought together a detailed analysis of the current state of the social, economic and environmental situation across Carmarthenshire, characteristic likely to be affected by the LDP as well as existing problems relevant to the LDP.

Table 5 presents the likely evolution of the baseline aspects of the social, economic and environmental situations, without the implementation of the LDP. These likely future trends are considered to be either static, improving or declining. Future trends were calculated based on the analysis of the baseline data identified and compiled within the SA Scoping Report and how these trends have changed over time. Further commentary on these trends are discussed in Appendix 2.

Table 5 Likely evolution of the baseline aspects of the social, economic and environmental situations in the absence of a revised Local Development Plan

SA Objective	Future Baseline
SA1 – Sustainable Development	Declining
SA2 – Biodiversity	Declining
SA3 – Air Quality	Declining
SA4 – Climatic Factors	Declining
SA5 – Water	Declining
SA6 – Material Assets	Static
SA7 - Soil	Declining
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment	Declining
SA9 – Landscape	Declining
SA10 – Population	Static
SA11 – Welsh Language	Declining
SA12 – Health and Well-being	Declining
SA13 – Education and Skills	Improving
SA14 – Economy	Improving
SA15 – Social Fabric	Improving

5. Sustainability Appraisal of the Preferred Strategy

5.1 What the SA has appraised to date

The LDP Preferred Strategy (or emerging plan) was published for consultation in December 2018. This Preferred Strategy was subject to SA, which was documented and published alongside the Preferred Strategy in the Initial SA Report⁶.

This section summarises the results of the Sustainability Appraisal of the LDP Preferred Strategy, and presents relevant scoring matrices. Where appropriate, full matrices and accompanying commentary presented in the original reports are now provided in this section. The Vision, LDP Objectives, Growth Options and Spatial Strategy within the Deposit Plan are the same as those contained within the draft Preferred Strategy, 2018.

5.2 Details of the process

Preparation of the draft LDP Preferred Strategy began in July 2018 and included the development of the Council's Vision, Objectives, Strategic Options and Policies. This document was published for consultation in December 2018 and was supported by an Initial SA Report which was published as part of the consultation documents.

⁶ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1216965/initial-sa-english.pdf>

A call for candidate sites was completed between February and August 2018. Each site was subject to the Site Assessment Methodology (SAM) process, resulting in a number of sites being rejected and therefore not subject to SA. A number of sites were discarded during the Stage 1 filtering exercise, which removed all sites failing to comply with the Preferred Strategy i.e. site is divorced from the settlement and would result in development in the open countryside.

A number of sites were also rejected as a result of the conclusions of the Stage 2 candidate site assessment. This stage assessed each site to establish suitability for inclusion in the Deposit LDP against considerations including environmental impact and sustainability, local context and character, accessibility and deliverability constraints (flood risk, viability etc). All remaining sites were subject to both SA and HRA.

5.3 SA of the Preferred Strategy LDP Vision

The draft LDP Vision was initially presented in the Preferred Strategy. 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 Vision draws on strategic planning priorities identified in national policy and local strategies, as well as the identified Key Issues for the County.

The draft Vision was tested against the SA framework in order to determine performance against sustainability principles (Figure 4). The Initial SA concluded that the draft Vision successfully addressed most aspects of the SA framework. The SA recommended that minor changes were made to the wording, in order to make direct reference to the importance of Welsh Language to Carmarthenshire.

5.4 SA of the Preferred Strategy LDP 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. Fourteen draft Strategic Objectives were developed having regard to key issues identified from the emerging evidence base.

The fourteen draft Strategic Objectives were presented in Section 8 of the LDP Preferred Strategy, and were subject to testing against the SA framework within the Initial SA Report (Section 3.2). The results of this assessment are set out below (Figure 4) and are also presented, with accompanying commentary, in Table 4 and Figure 3 of the Initial SA Report.

Figure 2 Appraisal of Draft Strategic Objectives (Source: Figure 3 of Initial SA of LDP Preferred Strategy 2018)

	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

The Initial SA concluded that 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. The appraisal did highlight some potential conflicts, in particular with regards to Biodiversity, Air Quality, Water and Cultural Heritage. It was concluded that any uncertain and potentially negative impacts could be resolved with appropriate LDP policies and wording.

5.5 SA of the Preferred Strategy Growth Options

The revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan must 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'. These growth options and the trends on which they are based are summarised below.

The Edge Analytics Report⁷ 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 Deal⁸, Carmarthenshire's Strategic Regeneration Plan⁹ and Employment Sectoral Study¹⁰, linking economic growth, population change and housing.

The report by Edge Analytics considered eight growth projections:

- WG 2014 based principal projection
- WG 2014 (10 year average migration)
- 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

They also considered two employment-led scenarios:

- Fixed Commuter Rate
- Reducing Commuter Rate

These different demographic projection scenarios were tested in line with PPW and the LDP Manual. The Growth options selected were therefore considered to be realistic and reasonable. Full details of reasons for selecting each of the growth options is set out in Section 9 of the Revised LDP Preferred Strategy Report. It was not considered realistic to include an alternative relating to business as usual (i.e. the current LDP position) as the LDP is required by WG guidance to use the WG growth projections as a starting point. The resulting dwelling requirements were set out in Table 5 of the Initial SA Report and are summarised in Table 6 below:

Table 6 Carmarthenshire Demographic Scenario Projections 2018-2033 (Source: Population & Household Projections Topic Paper, December 2018)

Growth Option	Total projected dwelling growth over plan period
Option 1: WG 2014 based principal projection	3,367
Option 2: WG 2014 (10 year average migration)	6,542

⁷<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1216737/edge-analytics-carmarthenshire-demographic-forecasts-october-2018-final-version-002.pdf>

⁸https://www.swansea.gov.uk/media/7514/Swansea-Bay-City-Region-Economic-Regeneration-Strategy/pdf/Swansea_Bay_City_Region_Economic_Regeneration_Strategy.pdf

⁹<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1212060/strategic-regeneration-plan-for-carmarthenshire-2015-2030-pdf.pdf>

¹⁰<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1212564/employment-sectoral-study-final-english-1.pdf>

Option 3: Short Term (6 years of migration data)	7,044
Option 4: Medium Term (10 years of migration data)	7,236
Option 5: Long Term (Last 16 years of migration data)	9,887
Option 6: Pre-Recession (pre 2008) migration data	14,090
Option 7: Reducing Commuting Rate	17,396
Option 8: Fixed Commuting Rate	19,690

The social, environmental and economic effects and overall sustainability of each growth option was tested against the SA framework. The results of this assessment are set out below (Figure 5) and are also presented in Figure 4 of the Initial SA Report. Option 1, as the starting point of the WG projections, was considered to be the baseline against which all other Options were assessed.

Full commentary of the SA of each growth option was presented in Table 6 of the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy. In summary the SA of the growth options presented in the Preferred Strategy concluded the following:

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 7 and 8 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.

Figure 3 SA of Growth Options (Source: Figure 4 Initial SA of Preferred Strategy Report 2018)

Growth Option	SA1 Sustainable Development	SA2 Biodiversity	SA3 Air Quality	SA4 Climatic Factors	SA5 Water	SA6 Material Assets	SA7 Soil	SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment	SA9 Landscape	SA10 Population	SA11 Welsh Language	SA12 Health and Well-being	SA13 Education and Skills	SA14 Economy	SA15 Social Fabric
Option 1 224 dwellings a year	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+			+	-	+	?	+	+
Option 2 436 dwellings a year	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+/-			-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 3 470 dwellings a year	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+/-			-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 4 482 dwellings a year	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+/-			-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 5 659 dwellings a year	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+/-			+	+	?	?	+	+
Option 6 939 dwellings a year	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	-		+/-			+	+	?	?	+	+
Option 7 1,160 dwellings a year	-	-	-	-	-		-			+	+/-	+	?	++	+
Option 8 1,313 dwellings a year	-	-	-	-	-		-			+	+/-	+	?	++	+

From the SA, it emerged that Option 5 (Long Term equating to 659 dwellings per year) would achieve the most sustainable effects of all of the options across the sustainability framework, with the greatest balance between economic, environmental and social considerations (Figure 4).

5.6 SA of the Preferred Strategy Spatial Options

The process of developing the Spatial Options for consideration was set out in Section 9, para 9.44 – 9.53 of the Preferred Strategy Report (2018). Each Spatial Option reflects the need to have regard to legislation, national planning policy, local and regional strategies whilst recognising the specific characteristics, assets and issues which are prevalent in Carmarthenshire and form a strategic approach which delivers on the vision and which promotes and guides development for the County.

The development of these options was 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.

Each Option considered different levels of scale and distribution of growth and explored the extent to which it could deliver sustainable development. The Options did not define precise site boundaries, but provided a broad outline of how growth could be distributed across the County.

The SA process helped to inform the selection of the spatial strategy contained in the Preferred Strategy and provided a mechanism through which reasonable alternatives were considered.

The LDP Preferred Strategy (2018) initially detailed six spatial options for consideration (Table 7). The Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy (2018) assessed these six options against the sustainability framework, and predicted the likely short, medium and long term, positive and negative effects of each on the environmental baseline as outlined in the SA Scoping Report (2018). A 'business as usual' Option was included (Option 1) which looked at continuing the spatial strategy of the current LDP. The results of this assessment are set out in Table 8 and are also presented in Figure 5 of the Initial SA Report.

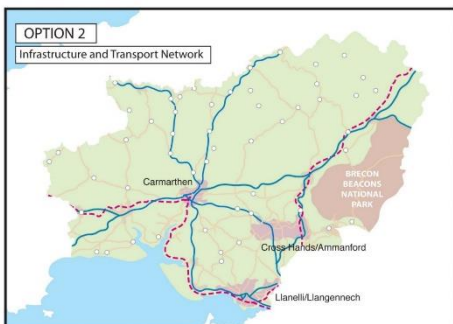
Table 7 Summary of Spatial Options (as reported in the Draft Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy December 2018)



Option 1 – Sustainable Distribution

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

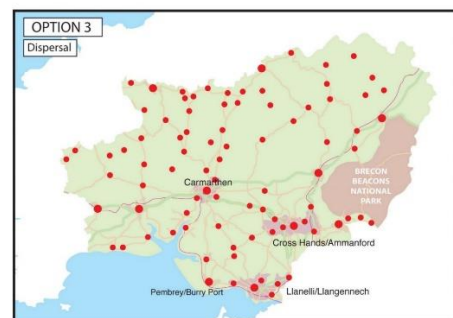
- Encourages the dispersal of employment, housing and other types of development to identified settlements and village groups or clusters in a manner reflective of their existing scale, population and availability of facilities and services.
- Reflects the diversity of the County and growth is apportioned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



Option 2 – Infrastructure and Transport Network

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:

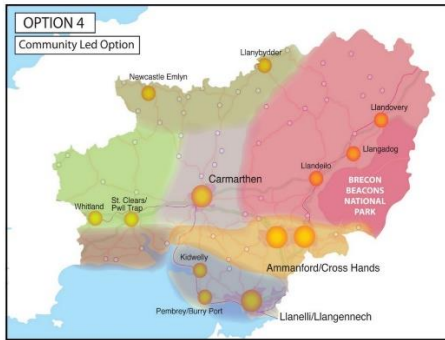
- Encouraging growth along the key transport routes and junctions of the M4, A40, A48, A484, A474 and A485, as well as in locations accessible to other modes of transport including the rail network, cycle network and pedestrian linkages.
- Encouraging growth in areas where there is either current or 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.



Option 3 – Dispersal

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.

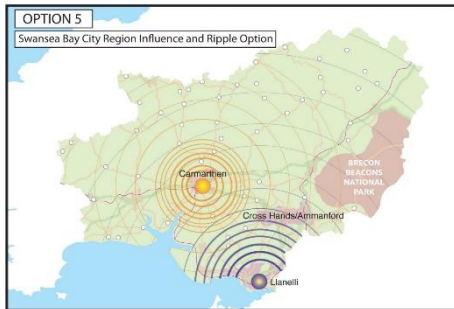


Option 4 – Community Led

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

This option will encourage growth in areas which play a significant role in the wider community; through the provision of facilities and services seeking to reflect the needs of communities, including their demand for housing.

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



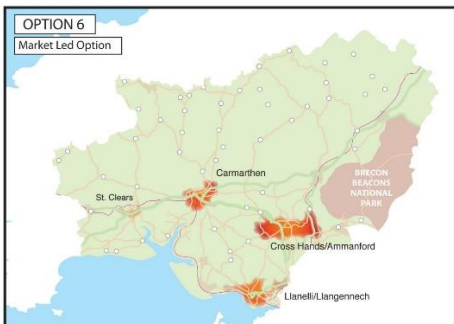
Option 5 – Swansea Bay City Region Influence and Ripple

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

The Life Science and Well-being Village, Llanelli. This facility is a village providing facilities and services which promote and improve well-being. It is proposed to be a multi-faceted facility integrating business development, education, healthcare, leisure, tourism, wellness support and research into life sciences in one location; and,

Yr Egin, Carmarthen. This facility would be a new creative, digital and media hub to be based at the University of Wales, Trinity St David.

This option is likely to see the majority of growth focussed in Carmarthen and Llanelli and the surrounding areas. This will see some growth focussed in the areas between these two areas, however, settlements further away from Carmarthen and Llanelli will see very little growth but could nevertheless benefit from the inward investment



Option 6 – Market Led

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

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

This approach could be construed as ‘planning based on numbers’. It would seek to direct growth in accordance with the highest delivery rates of the past and where developers would build.

Table 8 Summary of the SA of Spatial Options (Source: Figure 5 Initial SA Report of Preferred Strategy December 2018)

SA Objective	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6
SA1 Sustainable Development	+	-	-	+	?	?
SA2 Biodiversity		+			+	
SA3 Air Quality	-	-	-	-	-	-
SA4 Climatic Factors	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-
SA5 Water	+/-	+	-	+	-	-
SA6 Material Assets	+	-	-	+	-	-
SA7 Soil		+	-		+	+
SA8 Cultural Heritage						
SA9 Landscape			-			
SA10 Population	++	-	-	++	+/-	+/-
SA11 Welsh Language	+	-	-	+	+/-	-
SA12 Health and Wellbeing	+	-	-	++	+/-	+/-
SA13 Education and Skills	+	-	-	+	++	?
SA14 Economy	+	-	-	+	++	?
SA15 Social Fabric	+	-	-	++	-	-

Full commentary of the SA of each spatial option was presented in Section 4.3 of the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy. In summary the SA of the growth spatial presented in the Preferred Strategy concluded the following:

- **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 be 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.

Following the SA assessment and subsequent responses to the Preferred Strategy consultation, none of the options were considered to be preferable alone as each demonstrated some negative outcomes to varying degrees and would not deliver the balanced sustainable development required. Therefore, Carmarthenshire County Council has sought to identify the most positive elements of each to contribute towards developing a preferred option.

Hybrid Option – Balanced Community and Sustainable Growth

As a result of the Initial Sustainability Appraisal, and subsequent stakeholder engagement, it was recommended that a hybrid option be considered as the preferred option, which reflects a number of characteristics with positive impacts from the options above. The initial SA suggested that the hybrid option seek to build on the positive impacts of 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 also incorporates positive 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, the hybrid option 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 was assessed against the Sustainability Framework and a detailed commentary is presented in Section 4.3 of the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy. The results of this assessment are set out in Table 9 and are also presented in Figure 6 of the Initial SA Report.

Table 9 Summary of the SA of Spatial Options, including Hybrid Option (Source: Figure 6 Initial SA Report of Preferred Strategy December 2018)

SA Objective	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Hybrid
SA1 Sustainable Development	+	-	-	+	?	?	+
SA2 Biodiversity		+			+		
SA3 Air Quality	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
SA4 Climatic Factors	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-
SA5 Water	-	+	-	+	-	-	+
SA6 Material Assets	+	-	-	+	-	-	+
SA7 Soil		+	-		+	+	
SA8 Cultural Heritage							
SA9 Landscape			-				
SA10 Population	++	-	-	++	+/-	+/-	++
SA11 Welsh Language	+	-	-	+	+/-	-	+
SA12 Health and Wellbeing	+	-	-	++	+/-	+/-	++
SA13 Education and Skills	+	-	-	+	++	?	++
SA14 Economy	+	-	-	+	++	?	++
SA15 Social Fabric	+	-	-	++	-	-	++

5.7 SA of Preferred Strategy 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 nineteen draft Strategic Policies were presented in Section 11 of the LDP Preferred Strategy, and were subject to testing against the SA framework within the Initial SA Report (Section 5). The results of this assessment are set out below (10) and are also presented, with accompanying commentary, in Figure 7 and Section 5 of the Initial SA Report.

Following the assessment, the Initial SA also made a number of recommendations and to changes to policy wording to reduce impacts and enhance opportunities. These suggested changes and the LDP Policy team responses are listed in Appendix 4. Many of the Strategic Policies were rewritten for the Deposit Plan and as such, many of the recommendations were considered but suggested wording changes no longer relevant. For this reason, the Strategic Objectives will be reassessed in this SA of the rLDP Deposit plan and new recommendations made.

Table 10 Sustainability Appraisal of draft LDP Strategic Policies (Source: Figure 7 of the Initial SA Report of Preferred Strategy December 2018)

Strategic Policy	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15
SP1	+	-	-	-	+	+				++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SP2	+		+/-	+/-					+	+				++	
SP3	+	-	-	-	+	+				++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SP4	+									++	+	+	+	+	++
SP5	+	-	+/-	+/-	?	+				++	+	++	++	++	++
SP6	+	-	+/-	+	?	+				++	+/-		+	++	+
SP7	+							+		+	++		+	+	++
SP8	++	+/-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	++		+	+	+	++
SP9	+				?					+					+
SP10	+		+/-	+/-		+				+	+/-	++	+	++	+
SP11	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+
SP12	+	-	+	+	-	+	-		-	+	+/-	+	+	++	++
SP13	+	++	+	+	+		+		+			+		+	
SP14	+							++	+			+		+	
SP15	++	+	+	++	+	+						+	?		
SP16	++	-	+	+	?	++				++	+/-	+	+	++	++
SP17	++	+	++	+		++				+		+	+		+
SP18		-	-	-		?	-		-					+	
SP19		-				+	-		-					+	

5. Uncertainties and Difficulties of SA during the Preferred Strategy Stage

The main limitations of the SA process at the LDP Preferred Strategy stage was the fact that due to the broad nature of the Strategy at this stage of the plan making process, there is uncertainty over the exact location of development and the number of houses on each site. For this reason, only broad conclusions could be reached by the SA about the different likely effects of alternative growth scenarios and spatial distributions. The importance of mitigation being adequately addressed by the Deposit Plan was emphasised, particularly in the case of:

- Biodiversity and habitat loss
- Capacity of water and sewerage infrastructure to facilitate growth
- Increased traffic and resulting air quality impacts
- Development in C1/C2 flood zones

5.9 Summary of Initial SA of Preferred Strategy and Recommendations

The Initial SA concluded that 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 performed 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 aimed to improve health and well-being across the County, with better housing, access to open space and active travel facilities.

However, as is the case with any development, some potential negative impacts remained, 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 had already been considered within the Preferred Strategy as a result of the ongoing dialogue between the SA appraisal and policy writing, such as the selection of a Hybrid spatial option that looked to combine the best aspects of the existing alternatives. The Sustainability Appraisal also suggested some changes to the wording to strengthen the sustainability of the Strategic Policies (Appendix 4).

Some broader recommendations were also made in the Initial SA to consider in the authoring of the LDP Deposit Plan, which are outlined in Table 7 of the Initial SA and in Appendix 4 of this report.

A summary of the performance of the Preferred Strategy against the SA Framework was presented in Figure 8 of the Initial SA Report and is also shown in Table 11 below.

Table 11 Summary of Sustainability Appraisal of Preferred Strategy. (Source: Figure 8 of the Initial SA Report of Preferred Strategy December 2018)

SA Objective	SA1 Sustainable Development	SA2 Biodiversity	SA3 Air Quality	SA4 Climatic Factors	SA5 Water	SA6 –Material Assets	SA7 Soil	SA8 Cultural heritage and Historic Environment	SA9 Landscape	SA10 Population	SA11 The Welsh Language	SA12 Health and Well-being	SA13 Education and Skills	SA14 Economy	SA15 Social Fabric
Vision	+	+	?	?	?	+	?	?	?	+		+	+	+	+
Objectives	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
Growth Option 4	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	?		+/-			+	+	?	?	+	+
Spatial Option Hybrid	+		+	+/-	+	+				++	+	++	++	++	++
Strategic Policies															
SP1	+	-	-	-	?	+				++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SP2	+		+/-	+/-					+	+				++	
SP3	+	-	-	-	+	+				++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SP4	+									++	+	+	+	+	++
SP5	+	-	+/-	+/-	?	+				++	+	++	++	++	++
SP6	+	-	+/-	+	?	+				++	+/-		+	++	+
SP7	+							+		+	++		+	+	++
SP8	++	+/-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	++		+	+	+	++
SP9	+				?					+					+
SP10	+		+/-	+/-		+				+	+/-	++	+	++	+
SP11	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+
SP12	+	-	+	+	-	+	-		-	+	+/-	+	+	++	++
SP13	+	++	+	+	+		+		+			+		+	
SP14	+							++	+			+		+	
SP15	++	+	+	++	+	+						+	?		
SP16	++	-	+	+	?	++				++	+/-	+	+	++	++
SP17	++	+	++	+		++				+		+	+		+
SP18		-	-	-		?	-		-					+	
SP19		-				+	-		-					+	

6. Sustainability Appraisal of the rLDP Deposit Plan

Section 5 of this report has outlined the process by which the SA influenced the Vision, Growth Options, Spatial Option and Strategic Policies contained in the LDP Preferred Strategy which formed the basis of the Deposit Plan. Section 5 also refers to full details of appraisals presented within the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy Report.

The LDP Vision, Objectives and Strategies are implemented through a range of policies that set out the approach that will be taken when planning applications are determined. Section 6 sets out the process by which the SA has informed the content of the Deposit Plan and presents the outcomes of appraisal of the Deposit Plan Strategic (Section 6.4) and Specific (Section 6.5) policies and site allocations (Section X).

6.1 SA of Deposit Plan Vision and Strategic Objectives

Following feedback from the initial SA process and representations received during Preferred Strategy consultation (December 2018 to January 2019) the Vision was revised for its inclusion in the Deposit LDP. The revised LDP Vision is set out below. The revised Vision was then re-assessed against the SA framework (Table 12).

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 (including the Welsh language) are valued and respected for residents and visitors alike

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.

Table 12 Testing of draft and revised LDP Vision against the SA Framework

	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15
Draft Vision (2018)	+	+	?	?	?	+	?	?	?	+		+	+	+	+
Revised Deposit Vision (2019)	+	+	?	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

+	Positive alignment between Vision and Sustainability Objective
?	Unknown alignment between Vision and Sustainability Objective
	No direct link between Vision and Sustainability Objective
-	Potential conflict between Vision and Sustainability Objective

Following feedback from the initial SA process and representations received during Preferred Strategy consultation (December 2018 to January 2019), minor changes were made to two of the Strategic Objectives. Wording was added to SO7 to include reference to renewable energy and SO10 was changed to include reference to ensuring an appropriate number and mix of housing was considered. These minor changes were reassessed against the SA framework, however no changes were made to the impacts and opportunities identified.

6.2 SA of the Preferred Growth Strategy

In December 2018, the Council published its Preferred Strategy, which set out the long term vision for Carmarthenshire. As part of the evidence base the Council commissioned Edge Analytics to provide a range of demographic and economic scenarios to inform a likely future growth projections for the county during the plan period 2018-2033. Based upon the range of demographic and economic evidence presented in the report, the Council's Preferred Strategy set out a housing requirement figure of 9,887 dwellings (2018-2033), aligning directly to the PG Long Term scenario presented in the Edge Analytics analysis.

Prior to the publication of the Deposit Revised LDP in late 2019, it was anticipated that the Welsh Government would publish the 2017 sub-national Population and Household projections in time to be considered for the Deposit Plan. However, the release of these projections has been delayed and so in light of this, the Council recommissioned Edge Analytics to update various housing requirement scenarios in the light of a range of new evidence, including Carmarthenshire's 2018 mid-year population estimate and the draft National Development Framework. This updated report¹¹ presented three alternative demographic scenarios, which consider alternative migration histories from which to derive trend assumptions. The resulting dwelling requirements for each of the scenarios are outlined in Table 13.

Table 13 Carmarthenshire Population Growth Scenario Projections 2018 – 2033. Edge Analytics Addendum 2019

PG Long Term (2019 Addendum Report)			
Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the full seventeen-year historical period (2001/02-2017/18).			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (%)	Annually	Total over plan period
9.6%	12.0%	671	10,065

PG 10 year (2019 Addendum Report)			
Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on a ten-year historical period, ignoring the anomalous years around the immediate aftermath of the financial crash.			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (%)	Annually	Total over plan period
8.1%	10.6%	589	8,835

PG Short Term (2019 Addendum Report)			
Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the four-year historical period (2014/15-2017/18) which corresponds with the four-year period of recovery in housing growth.			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (%)	Annually	Total over plan period
7.6%	10.5%	585	8,769

With the 2017-based household projections not yet published, household and dwelling growth under the demographic scenarios was estimated using assumptions from the WG 2014-based

¹¹ Edge Analytics – Carmarthenshire Population and Household Forecasts Addendum, Sept 2019

household projection model. In contrast to the population growth scenarios provided in the rLDP Preferred Strategy, the revised population projections provided in the 2019 Addendum exclude the small proportion of Carmarthenshire’s population that sits within the Brecon Beacons National Park. Excluding this geography from the Carmarthenshire scenarios results in a marginally smaller population total and growth outcomes.

In order to assess the potential effects of the growth options on the SA Framework, they should be considered against a ‘business as usual’ scenario which is considered as the baseline. For the revised LDP, business as usual means a continuation of the existing plan, 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 household projections.

The effects of each of the revised growth options were assessed against the SA Framework, and a full commentary is provided in Appendix 6. A summary is provided in Table 14.

Table 14 Summary of the SA of the rLDP revised Growth Options

Growth Options	PG Long Term (2019) 671 dwellings per year	PG 10 Year (2019) 589 dwellings per year	PG Short Term (2019) 585 dwellings per year
SA1 Sustainable Development	+	+	+
SA2 Biodiversity	+/-	+/-	+/-
SA3 Air Quality	+/-	+/-	+/-
SA4 Climatic Factors	+/-	+/-	+/-
SA5 Water	+	+	+
SA6 Material Assets	0	0	0
SA7 Soil	+/-	+/-	+/-
SA8 Cultural Heritage			
SA9 Landscape			
SA10 Population	+	+	+
SA11 Welsh Language	+	+	+
SA12 Health and Well-being	?	?	?
SA13 Education and Skills	+/-	+/-	+/-
SA14 Economy	+	+	+
SA15 Social Fabric	+	+	+

In summary, the revised growth options present the following issues and opportunities:

The revised growth options all offer similar issues and opportunities when assessed against the SA Framework. Growth at any level that results in development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing and potential for negative effects on biodiversity. However, under these growth scenarios, the levels being proposed are far less than those predicted in the current LDP. This reduction in growth will allow for more sustainable site selection and will reduce the pressure to allocate sites on greenfield land.

Likewise, both housing and economic development can result in increased transport activity which could have negative impacts on the County’s air quality and carbon footprint. Again, with a lower growth option, there is more flexibility to allocate sites in sustainable locations, with access to public transport and active travel networks.

All growth options have the potential to have negative effects on historic and cultural assets and landscape and will be dependent on where growth is allocated.

In summary, these growth options all contribute positively to supporting a sustainable economy and a healthy, balanced society, whilst also reducing the risks of negative effects on environmental SA Objectives.

It was concluded that the preferred growth option would be PG 10 Year (2019 Addendum) as this option provided a balance of socio-economic benefits in the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Region Deal, the Council's Corporate Strategy, regeneration and job creation objectives and progressing the Council's ambitions in delivering affordable homes across the County, whilst also looking to reduce tensions between development and the potential for impacts on SA Objectives such as Biodiversity, Air Quality, Water, Soil, Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Welsh Language.

6.3 SA of the Preferred Spatial Option

The preferred spatial option has not been changed since the Preferred Strategy, and therefore there is no need to reassess the option at this stage. The assessment of the preferred Spatial Option can be found in Section 4.3 of the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy. The preferred Hybrid Option continues to look to provide opportunities for rural areas and to ensure the diversity of the County and communities is recognised, as well as aiming to reflect the role and function of settlements in how it assigns growth to urban and rural areas of the County.

The hybrid option also reflects the investment and economic benefits to the County and its communities through the Swansea Bay City Deal, and other economic opportunities. It also acknowledges that sustainable growth needs to be supported by the availability of a range of appropriate infrastructure and that growth should also be deliverable and orientated to a community's needs and market demand.

6.4 SA of the Strategic Policies

Following the public consultation of the rLDP Preferred Strategy, a number of policies were amended to reflect feedback and comments, including those made in the Initial SA. The revised policies were then re-screened against the Sustainability Framework to consider whether they would result in likely significant effects. The amended policies and the SA commentary of the reassessment are listed in Appendix 4. The results of the re-assessment against the SA Framework are presented in Table 15.

Table 15 Summary of the Sustainability Appraisal of the rLDP Strategic Policies

Strategic Policy	SP1	SP2	SP3	SP4	SP5	SP6	SP7	SP8	SP9	SP10	SP11	SP12	SP13	SP14	SP15	SP16	SP17	SP18	SP19
SA1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	++	++	++		
SA2	-		-	-		-		+/-			+	-	++		+	-	+	-	-
SA3	-	+/-	-	-	+/-	+/-		+		+/-	++	+	+		+	+	++	-	
SA4	-	+/-	-	-	+/-	+		+	-	+/-	++	+	+		++	+	+	-	
SA5	+		+			?		+			+	-	+		+	?			
SA6	+		+		+	+		+	+	+	+	+			+	++	++		+
SA7								-	-		+	-	+					-	-
SA8							+	-	0		+		+	++					
SA9		+	+					-	-		+	-	+	+				-	
SA10	++	+	++	++	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+		++	+		
SA11	+/-	+	+/-	+	+	+	++	+		+/-		+/-		+		+/-			
SA12	+		+	+	++			+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		
SA13	+		+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	?	+	+		
SA14	++	++	++	+	++	++	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	+		++		+	+
SA15	+		+	++	++	+	++	++	+	+	+	++	+	+		++	+		

6.5 Mitigation and SA Recommendations – Strategic Policies

Table 16 summarises the assessment of the potential impacts of the Strategic Policies. It must be considered however, that this assessment however, does not consider any mitigation.

In implementing the rLDP, all policies should be read collectively and no one policy should be considered in isolation. For this reason, due to the 'protective' and prescriptive nature of some LDP policies, they can provide mitigation for potential negative effects in the implementation of other policies. Appendix 4 has identified the plan policies which mitigate any negative impacts and uncertainty of the Strategic Policies.

Table X proposes further measures to avoid or reduce residual impacts of the Strategic Policies. It also makes suggestions for how to improve the benefits of the Strategic Policies as well as addressing some uncertainty that may remain.

Table 16 Summary of proposed mitigation/enhancement measures for rLDP Strategic Policies

Strategic Policy	Proposed Mitigation/Enhancement
SP 2: Retail and Town Centres	Mitigation for any air quality impacts could be further strengthened by making a specific reference to the protection and enhancement of GI within and adjacent to AQMA's in policy PSD12 Light and Air Quality.
SP 4: Affordable Homes	Suggested that due to likely need for affordable housing in rural as well as urban areas of Carmarthenshire, policy SP4 make specific reference be made in the supporting text to the protection of the natural environment when locating affordable housing. Suggested that policy make specific reference in the supporting text to locating affordable housing in locations with good access to public transport networks as well as active travel routes.
SP 7: Welsh Language and Culture	To strengthen this policy further, specific reference should be made to the motion that was passed by council in July 2019 that called for the whole county to be considered as linguistically sensitive and to be a material planning consideration in all developments of 10 houses or more.
SP 9: Gypsy and Traveller Provision	The boundary of the proposed Pen-y-fan site has some scrub habitat which has biodiversity value as well as providing some screening of noise/air pollution from the adjacent railway line. The SA recommends that this is retained as a buffer to the adjoining railway line. Existing green Infrastructure corridors should also be maintained as buffer zones to mitigate any negative impacts on landscape. It is recommended that the Council give due consideration as to whether SP9 complies with the policy requirements contained in Policy CCH4 – Flood Risk Management and Avoidance in relation to flood risk. Such consideration should be further informed by any detailed / project level Flood Consequences Assessments (FCA). An FCA could assist in clarifying the likelihood and severity of flood risk on the 3 locations listed under Strategic Policy 9 to the Council.
SP 11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places	Suggest specific reference is made to energy efficient design as well as resource efficiency. Suggest reference to use of sustainable materials as well as techniques. Suggest reference to recycling of waste under criteria (j)

SP 13: Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment	Specific reference should be made in the supporting text to the Council's Duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2018.
SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment.	<p>Although this policy does not directly impact on SA3 – Air Quality, the policy itself can be affected by air quality. Poor air quality can have impacts the built and historic environment such as increasing the corrosive gases in the atmosphere as well as deposition of particles which can cause discolouration of surfaces. This should be mentioned in the supporting text of this policy to ensure its due consideration in any planning application.</p> <p>In line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the policy should make reference to the fact that the historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if historic assets are protected and restored.</p>
SP 15: Climate Change	<p>A stronger statement needs to be made to a commitment to reduce carbon emissions in policy.</p> <p>Specific reference should be made to the motion on climate change that was passed by Council in Feb 2019 that resulted in a climate emergency being declared by Carmarthenshire County Council. The LDP should make reference somewhere in the deposit plan as to how the LDP seeks to address this climate emergency.</p> <p>The policy does not mention the benefits of Green Infrastructure to mitigating and increasing resilience to the effects of climate change, in particular as carbon sinks. Reference to green infrastructure would result in a change from no effect to positive effects on SA7 – Soil. The SA recommends that specific reference should be made to the multifunctional benefits of green infrastructure for climate change resilience and mitigation in this policy.</p>
SP 17: Transport and Accessibility	Suggest reference be made in the supporting text to development in rural locations being preferably sited within and adjoining settlements that benefit from key services and facilities, rather than at sporadic countryside locations.
SP 18: Mineral Resources	<p>In order to provide further mitigation of this policy against SA4 Climatic Factors, reference should be made in the policy to ensuring that where possible, mineral extraction utilise transport links such as rail/or water transport as opposed to road haulage.</p> <p>Suggest adding a clear statement clarifying that the Council will not support the development of land based coal or unconventional oil or gas operations, including the exploration, appraisal and extraction of oil and gas by unconventional methods (including the making of exploratory boreholes), unless the applicant can demonstrate the proposal conforms with national planning policy.</p> <p>Clarify that petroleum refers to any mineral oil or relative hydrocarbon and natural gas existing in its natural strata as defined in the Petroleum Act 1998. This therefore includes shale oil and gas and coal bed methane. The definition of coal is taken from the Coal Industry Act 1994. This covers coal and also underground coal gasification.</p> <p>In order to mitigate for residual impacts on SA7 – Soil, wording should be added to supporting text that makes clear that any soil removed as a result of the extraction process must be retained and replaced in situ.</p>

	Although specific policy MR1 Mineral Proposals goes some way to mitigating any residual negative impacts on SA9 – Landscape, it is suggested that additional wording on the protection of Landscape character and visual amenity in this policy to reinforce its importance.
SP 19: Waste Management	<p>Policy should include a criterion stating that no significant impacts in the environment should occur as a result of waste management proposals.</p> <p>Suggest more in the supporting text regarding sustainable location of waste management facilities especially when situated outside of development limits.</p> <p>To further strengthen mitigation against potential negative effects on SA9 – Landscape, reference should be made to design of buildings being in keeping with surrounding landscape.</p> <p>Include reference to the proximity principle to minimise distance between where waste is generated and managed.</p> <p>Suggest including some wording around the importance of green infrastructure for visual, noise and air pollution screening.</p>

6.6 SA of the Specific Policies

The Deposit LDP contains 75 Specific Policies as listed in Table 17.

Table 17 rLDP Strategic and Specific Policies

Preferred Strategy – Strategic Policies	Deposit Plan - Specific Policies
SP1: Strategic Growth	SG1 Regeneration and Mixed Use Sites
	SG2: Reserve Sites
	SG3 Pembrey Peninsula
SP2: Retail and Town Centres	RTC1: Carmarthen Town Centre
	RTC2: Protection of Local Shops and Facilities
	RTC3: Retail in Rural Areas
SP3: A Sustainable Approach to Providing New Homes	HOM1: Housing Allocations
	HOM2: Housing within Development Limits
	HOM3: Homes in Rural Villages
	HOM4: Homes in Non-Defined Rural Settlements
	HOM5: Conversion or Subdivision of Existing Dwellings
	HOM6: Specialist Housing
	HOM7: Renovation of Derelict or Abandoned Dwellings
	HOM8: Residential Caravans
	HOM9: Ancillary Residential Development
SP4: Affordable Homes Strategy	AHOM1: Provision of Affordable Homes
	AHOM2: Affordable Homes – Exceptions Sites
SP5: Strategic Sites	
SP6: Employment and the Economy	EME1: Employment – Safeguarding of Employment Sites
	EME2: New Employment Proposals
	EME3: Employment – Extensions and Intensification
	EME4: Rural Employment Exception Sites
	EME5: Home Working
SP7: Welsh Language and Culture	WL1: The Welsh Language and New Development
SP8: Infrastructure	INF1: Planning Obligations

	INF2: Healthy Communities
	INF3: Broadband and Telecommunications
SP9: Gypsy and Traveller Provision	GTP1: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation
SP10: The Visitor Economy	VE1: Visitor Attractions and Facilities
	VE2: Permanent Serviced or Self-Catering Holiday Accommodation
	VE3: Touring Caravan, Camping or Temporary other Camping Sites
	VE4: Static Caravan and Chalet Sites and Permanent other Camping Accommodation
SP11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places	PSD1: Sustainable and High Quality Design
	PSD2: Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
	PSD3: Green Infrastructure Network
	PSD4: Green Infrastructure – Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows
	PSD5: Development and the Circular Economy
	PSD6: Community Facilities
	PSD7: Protection of Open Space
	PSD8: Provision of New Open Space
	PSD9: Advertisements
	PSD10: Extensions
	PSD11: Noise Pollution
	PSD12: Light and Air Pollution
	PSD13 Contaminated Land
SP12: Rural Development	RD1: Replacement Dwelling in the Open Countryside
	RD2: Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Residential Use
	RD3: Farm Diversification
	RD4: Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Non-Residential Use
	RD5: Equestrian Facilities
SP13: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment	NE1: Regional and Local Designations
	NE2: Biodiversity
	NE3: Corridors, Networks and Features of Distinctiveness
	NE4: Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area
	NE5: Coastal Management
	NE6: Coastal Development
	NE7: Coastal Change Management Area
	NE8: Landscape Character
SP14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment	BHE1: Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas
SP15: Climate Change	CCH1: Renewable Energy
	CCH2: Electric Vehicle Charging Points
	CCH3: Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources
	CCH4: Sustainable Drainage
	CCH5 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy in New Developments
	CCH6: Climate Change – Forest and Woodland Planting
SP16: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework	SD1: Development Limits

SP17: Transport and Accessibility	TRA1: Transport and Highways Infrastructural Improvements
	TRA2: Active Travel
	TRA3: Gwili Railway
	TRA4: Redundant Rail Corridors
SP 18: Mineral Resources	MR1: Mineral Proposals
	MR2: Mineral Buffer Zones
	MR3: Mineral Safeguarding
SP 19: Waste Management	WM1: Waste Management Proposals
	WM2: Landfill Proposals
	WM3: Agricultural Land – Disposal of Inert Waste

Each Policy has been assessed against the SA Framework and the findings are discussed in full in Appendix 7, but are summarised briefly here.

Overall, the appraisal found that the rLDP Deposit Plan policies would have largely positive effects overall, in particular on those SA Objectives that relate to socio-economic sustainability. Many of the plan policies facilitate sustainable development, including residential, affordable homes, retail, employment, tourism and infrastructure. In particular, the rLDP policies seek to ensure that affordable housing provision in the County is increased, and that facilities and services are fully accessible to all. The plan also seeks to rebalance the aging population in Carmarthenshire by making the County an attractive place to live and work for young people, with a range of good quality employment and housing.

The rLDP plan policies also seek to maximise the health and wellbeing of Carmarthenshire's population. Policy PSD7 looks to protect and enhance accessible open spaces, as well as more informal, ambient green space which can have both physical and mental health benefits. In addition, Policy TRA2 Active Travel seeks to connect development and spaces with safe and attractive active travel routes, to encourage healthier travel choices.

Development of any form has the potential for negative effects on biodiversity and soil resources against the baseline scenario of no plan, and in the absence of any mitigation. A number of the rLDP policies are protective in nature and are in place to mitigate for some of the potential for negative effects from development focussed Specific Policies. Strategic Policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment ensures that development will be expected to protect and enhance the County's natural environment as well as conserve and enhance soil resources.

Carmarthenshire is both a rural and urban County, and the Specific Policies of the rLDP direct and facilitate development of both housing and employment in both areas. This can have differing implications on Sustainability Objectives SA3 Air Quality and SA4 Climatic Factors. Development in urban areas ensures that developments are sustainably located in that they have access to facilities and services as well as regular public transport networks and Active Travel routes. This should reduce the need for private car use and as a result can reduce carbon emissions and associated air pollution. However, since the publication of the adopted LDP, three AQMA's have been designated in Carmarthenshire due to poor air quality. These are located in Llanelli, Carmarthen and Llandeilo. Further development in these more urban areas may exacerbate this problem unless suitable mitigation for any negative effects in air quality are put in place. Policy PSD12 Light and Air pollution, which ensures that based on scale and location, an Air Quality Assessment will be required to show how any risks to amenity, biodiversity and health are mitigated. Policy PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network can also help to mitigate for these impacts as increasing green infrastructure in urban areas can have many benefits including filtering of pollutants and carbon sequestration.

Conversely, providing some development in rural areas is essential to retain and enhance vital facilities and services in these areas. However, in the short term, such development may not

be fully serviced by regular public transport and active travel routes and, if facilities and services have already been lost in these areas, then private car use may be required. The hope, in providing controlled development in these areas, is that facilities and services will be retained and hopefully returned to rural areas so that they are increasingly sustainable in the medium to long term. Policy CCH2 can also go some way to mitigating for any negative effects, as new development will be required to install EV Charging Units to encourage electric car use in line with the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy for Planning¹².

The rLDP will determine the location and scale of development over the next 15 year period, and so should fully consider the spatial implications of climate change. Development in areas currently at risk of flooding should be avoided and the likelihood of future extreme weather events and sea level rises as a result of climate change should also be fully considered. Policy CCH4 goes some way to mitigating this risk, however its wording could be strengthened to include consideration of the potential risk under climate change conditions such as increasing flood events and sea level rise over the Plan period. The protection and enhancement of Green Infrastructure Networks through Policy PSD3 is also important to reduce and mitigate for the effects of climate change. Green infrastructure has benefits such as include carbon sequestration and storage, heat amelioration and reduction of flood risk as well as mitigating climate change induced reductions in air and water quality. A number of rLDP policies also seek to encourage the development of large renewable energy projects, as well as incorporating renewable and low carbon energy into new development which will increase Carmarthenshire's contribution to a low carbon Wales.

A summary of the SA of the Specific Policies is provided in Table 18.

6.7 Mitigation and SA Recommendations – Specific Policies

Table 18 summarises the assessment of the potential impacts of the Strategic Policies. It must be considered however, that this assessment however, does not consider any mitigation.

In implementing the rLDP, all policies should be read collectively and no one policy should be considered in isolation. For this reason, due to the 'protective' and prescriptive nature of some LDP policies, they can provide mitigation for potential negative effects in the implementation of other policies. Appendix 7 has identified the plan policies which mitigate any negative impacts and uncertainty of the Strategic Policies.

The full commentary including suggested mitigation are detailed in Appendix 7

¹² Planning Policy Wales Version 10, Figure 8.

Table 18 Summary of SA of rLDP Specific Policies

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
SG1 Regeneration and Mixed Use Sites	Assessed separately under site assessment														
SG2 Reserve Sites	+	-	-	l	l	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	+
SG3 Pembrey Peninsula	+	-	-	-	-	0	-	l	l	+	0	+	0	+	+
RTC1 Carmarthen Town Centre	+	0	+/-	+/-	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+
RTC2 Protection of Local Shops	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+
RTC3 Retail in Rural Areas	+	-	+	+	0	+	-	0	l	+	+	+	+	+	+
HOM1 Housing Allocations	Assessed separately under site assessment														
HOM2 Housing within Development Limits	+	+	l	l	+	+	+	l	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
HOM3 Homes in Rural Villages	+	-	+	+	+/-	+	+	l	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
HOM4 Homes in Non-defined Rural	+	-	+	+	+/-	+	+	l	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
HOM5 Conversion or Subdivision of Existing	+	0	-	-	l	-	+	l	+/-	+	0	-	0	0	+
HOM6 Specialist Housing	+	-	0	0	l	+	0	l	0	+	+	+	0	+	+
HOM7 Renovation of Derelict or Abandoned	+	-	-	-	+/-	+/-	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+/-
HOM8 Residential Caravans	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	+	0	0	0	+	0
HOM9 Ancillary Residential Development	+	-	0	0	l	-	0	0	-	+	0	+	0	0	+
AHOM1 Provision of Affordable Homes	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	l	0	++	+	+	+	+	++
AHOM2 Affordable Homes Exception Sites	+	-	0	0	0	0	-	l	0	++	+	+	+	+	++
EME1 Safeguarding of Employment Sites	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	+
EME2 New Employment Proposals	+	-	-	-	l	+	l	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	+
EME3 Extensions and Intensification	+	-	-	-	l	+	l	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	+
EME4 Rural Employment Exception Sites	+	-	-	-	l	+	l	l	0	+	+	+	+	++	+
EME5 Home Working	+	-	0	0	l	-	0	0	-	+	+	+	+	++	+
WLI The Welsh Language and New Development	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+
INF1 Planning Obligations	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+

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
INF2 Healthy Communities	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	+
INF3 Broadband and Telecommunications	+	-	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	+
GTP1 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+	-				+	-			+	0	+	+	0	+
VE1 Visitor Attractions and Facilities	+	-			-		-	?		+	0	+	+	++	+
VE2 Permanent Serviced or Self-catering Holiday	+	-			-		-	?		+	0	+	+	++	+
VE3 Touring Caravan, Camping or Temporary	+	-	-	-		-	-	?		0	0	+	0	++	+
VE4 Static Caravan and Chalet Sites	+	-	-	-		-	-	?		0	0	+	0	++	+
PSD1 Sustainability and High Quality Design	++	-	0	0	+	0	-	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+
PSD2 Masterplanning Principles	++		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+
PSD4 GI Trees Woodlands and Hedgerows	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+
PSD5 Development and the Circular Economy	++	0	+	+	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+
PSD6 Community Facilities	++	-	+	+		+	-	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+
PSD7 Protection of Open Space	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	++
PSD8 Provision of New Open Space	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	++
PSD9 Advertisements	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+		+	++	0	+	+	+
PSD10 Extensions	+		0	0	0	0	-	0		+	0	0	0	0	0
PSD11 Noise Pollution	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+
PSD12 Light and Air Pollution	+	+	++	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+
PSD13 Contaminated Land	+		0	0	+	0	+		+	0	0	+	0	0	0
RD1 Replacement Dwelling in Open Countryside	+	-	-	-/+	0	-	?			0	0	+/-	-	+	-
RD2 Conversion and Reuse of Rural for Resi	+	-	-	-	0	-	?			0	+	+/-	-	+	-
RD3 Farm Diversification	+	0	+	+	0	0	0			+	+	0	+	+	+
RD4 Conversion and Reuse of Rural for Non-resi	+	0	+/-	+/-	0	+	0			+	+	0	+	+	+
RD5 Equestrian Facilities	+		-	-	0	-	0	0		0	+	+	+	+	-
NE1 Regional and Local Designations	+	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+
NE2 Biodiversity	+	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+

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
NE3 Corridors, Networks and Features	+	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+
NE4 Development within CMM SPG Area	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+
NE5 Coastal Management	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
NE6 Coastal Development	+	0	0	+/-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0
NE7 Coastal Change Management Area	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+
NE8 Landscape Character	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	++	+	0	+	0	+	+
BEH1 Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	+	+
CCH1 Renewable Energy	+	-	+	++	+	+	0		+/-	0	0	0	?	+	0
CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+
CCH3 Water Quality and Protection of Water	+	+	0	+	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0
CCH4 – Flood Risk Management and Avoidance	+	+	0	++	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+
CCH5 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	+	+
CCH6 – Climate Change Woodland Planting	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+
SD1 Development Limits	++	+/-	+/-	+	0	+	+/-			+	+	+	+	++	++
TRA1 Transport and Highways Infra Improvement	+	-	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	-			0	0	+/-	+	++	+
TRA2 Active Travel	+	-	++	++	+	++	-			+	0	++	+	+	+
TRA3 Gwili Railway	+	-	+			+	-	+		+	0	+	0	+	+
TRA4 Redundant Rail Corridors	+	-	+	+/-	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+		+	+
MR1 Mineral Proposals	+	-				0	-			0	0	0	0	+	0
MR2 Mineral Buffer Zones	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	++	0	0	+
MR3 Mineral Safeguarding	+	0	0	0	0	0	-		+	-	0	0	0	+	0
WM1 Waste Management Proposals	+	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+
WM2 Landfill Proposals	+/-	-	+/-	+/-		-			-	0	0		0	+	0
WM3 Agricultural Land Disposal of Inert Waste	+	-	0	0	0	+	+		0	0	0	0	0	+	0

6.8 SA of Proposed Allocations

This section will be completed with an SA screening of all allocated sites.

7. Summary of the Sustainability Impacts of the Deposit LDP

Overall, the rLDP Deposit Plan 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 rLDP 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 effects are predicted, in particular with regards to biodiversity, air quality and climatic factors. However, with suitable mitigation in place, this negative impact can be reduced. This SA of the rLDP Deposit Plan makes a number of recommendations that will provide or strengthen mitigation which can decrease the risk of these predicted. These are outlined in Appendices X and X. Some mitigation measures have already been implemented within the Strategy as a result of the SA appraisal, due to the iterative nature of both documents. This has ensured that sustainability has been fully considered at all parts of the plan making process.

Cumulative, secondary, synergistic and indirect effects

The plan as a whole has also been appraised for cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects

8. Monitoring

The SEA Regulations (Article 17) require that the significant environmental effects of the Plan are monitored in order that any unforeseen adverse effects can be remediated. To avoid duplication between the monitoring carried out for the SEA and the LDP, some indicators have been combined for the two processes to aid clarity. The full LDP Monitoring Framework is set out in the Deposit Plan.

Monitoring helps understand the impacts of the implementation of the Plan and ensures evidence is kept up to date, which will assist in future Plan reviews. Monitoring needs to consider both positive and negative effects of the LDP. It must also examine cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects including over the lifespan of the Plan. The monitoring can be focused on significant environmental effects.

Targets are identified for each indicator, together with an indication of the point or level at which any deviation from the identified target will trigger the need for action to be taken. These actions would normally include an analysis of the reasons for missing the target and a review of the Policy in question. The SA Monitoring Framework is outlined in Table 19 below. The sources for each of the data sets referred to are listed in Appendix 8.

SEA monitoring activities and reporting will be incorporated within the LDP Annual Monitoring Report. Monitoring will commence once the LDP has been adopted.

Table 19 SA 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 promote resilience of ecosystems by avoiding the damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats and protected species and to encourage connectivity.	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 and improve 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
		Number of 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	Carmarthen Bay Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Water resource availability	No reduction

	available for the environment at all times of the year		
	5-3 To minimise diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas	Number 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 and reduce 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 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	Number of permitted developments that incorporate SUDS.	Increasing
	7-3 To reduce SO ₂ and NO _x emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture		
SA8 – 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	No development permitted adversely impacting upon buildings and areas of built or historical interest and their setting
	8-2 To promote high quality design reflecting local character and distinctiveness	Number of applications refused on design grounds	For reference
SA9.	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	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

8 Consultation and Next Steps

This SA report will be available for public consultation alongside the revised LDP Deposit Plan for an 8 week period. 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 as well as public libraries.

Responses to this consultation may be made online at www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk 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

Carmarthenshire Revised Local Development Plan (LDP)

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report of the Deposit LDP

Appendices

November 2019

Appendix 1 Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

Appendix 2 Baseline Updated

Appendix 3 SA Framework

Appendix 4 SA of rLDP Strategic Policies

Appendix 5 Changes Suggested by Initial SA to Preferred Strategy

Appendix 6 SA of rLDP revised Growth Options

Appendix 7 S of rLDP Specific Policies

Appendix 8 Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring Framework

Appendix 9 Consultation responses to Initial SA

Appendix 1 Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

International: Plan, Policy or Programme
<p>Agenda 21: United nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/outcomedocuments/agenda21</p>
<p>Rio Declaration on Environment and Development UNEP 1992 http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=78&ArticleID=1163&l=en</p>
<p>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change United Nations 1994 http://unfccc.int/2860.php</p>
<p>The Kyoto Protocol United Nations 1997 http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php</p>
<p>Convention on Migratory Species UNEP 1979 http://www.cms.int/</p>
<p>Convention on Biological Diversity UNEP 1992 http://www.biodiv.org/default.shtml</p>
<p>The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands UNESCO 1971 http://www.ramsar.org/</p>
<p>EU Directive 2009/147/EC (on the Conservation of Wild Birds - 'The Birds Directive') The Council of the European Communities 30 November 2009 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm</p> <p>The Bird's Directive is the EU's oldest piece of nature legislation and one of the most important, creating a comprehensive scheme of protection for all wild bird species naturally occurring in the EU. It was adopted as a response to increasing concern about the declines in Europe's wild bird populations resulting from pollution, loss of habitats as well as unsustainable use.</p> <p>The Directive recognises that habitat loss and degradation are the most serious threats to the conservation of wild birds. It therefore places great emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered as well as migratory species, particularly through the establishment of a network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) comprising all the most suitable territories for these species.</p>
<p>EU Directive 2000/60/EC (the Water Framework Directive - WFD) The Council of the European Communities 23 October 2000</p> <p>The overall aim of the Directive is to establish a framework for the protection and management of surface waters, including rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters and ground waters in the EU. The main objectives of the proposed Directive are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevent further deterioration and to protect and enhance the aquatic environment; • achieve good ecological and chemical water quality for all surface waters and ground waters unless it is impossible or prohibitively expensive; and • promote sustainable water management based on long-term protection of water

resources.
<p>EU Directive 92/43/CEE (the Habitats Directive) The Council of the European Communities 21 May 1992 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm</p> <p>The Habitats Directive is one of the most significant pieces of legislation driving Europe's conservation policies adopted following the Berne Convention (1982). It aims to protect identified species and habitats of nature conservation importance at the European level, and led to the establishment of a network of Special Areas of Conservation. Together with the Special Protection Areas set up under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (1979), these sites make up the European network of protected sites known as Natura 2000 sites. The aim of the network is to assure the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.</p>
<p>Proposal for a new EU Environment Action Programme to 2020 European Commission 2012 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/newprg/index.htm</p>
<p>EU Directive 1999/31/EC (the Landfill Directive) The Council of the European Union 1999 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/landfill_index.htm</p> <p>The Landfill Directive intends to help drive waste up the hierarchy through waste minimisation and increased levels of recycling and recovery. The Directive's overall aim is <i>"to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment, in particular the pollution of surface water, groundwater, soil and air, and on the global environment, including the greenhouse effect, as well as any resulting risk to human health, from the landfilling of waste, during the whole life-cycle of the landfill"</i>.</p> <p>The Directive has provisions covering location of landfills, and technical and engineering requirements for aspects such as water control and leachate management, protection of soil and water and methane emissions control. The Directive sets stringent targets on reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste that is sent to landfill:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2010 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 75% of that produced in 1995; • By 2013 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 50% of that produced in 1995; and • By 2020 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 35% of that produced in 1995.
<p>EU Directive 2008/98/EC (the Waste Framework Directive) The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union 19 November 2008 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/framework/index.htm</p>
<p>EU Directive 91/676/EEC (the Nitrates Directive) The Council of the European Union 1991 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-nitrates/directiv.html</p> <p>The Nitrates Directive concerns the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources with the intention of redirecting agriculture toward greater</p>

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 11 June 2008

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/quality/legislation/existing_leg.htm

EU Directive 91/271/EEC Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-urbanwaste/index_en.html

EU Directive 2006/118/EC The Groundwater Directive

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:372:0019:0031:EN:PDF>

EU Directive 2006/7/EC The Bathing Waters Directive

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/GA/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32006L0007>

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
- Bristol Channel Approaches

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>

<p>Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009 UK Government 2009 http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/fisheries/marine/marine-planning/?lang=en</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>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</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979, UK Parliament 1979</p> <p>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.</p>

<p>National: Plan, Policy or Programme</p>
<p>The Wales Act (2017)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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:</p>

- 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.

Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The Act ensures we have a joined-up legislative approach to enable the sustainable management of our natural resources.

Some of the specific provisions in the Act include:

- Helping to plan and manage Wales' natural resources at a national and local level, through a State of Natural Resources Report, a National Natural Resources Policy and area statements.
- Providing Natural Resources Wales (NRW) with a general purpose that aligns fully with the statutory principles for the sustainable management of natural resources.
- Providing NRW with powers to undertake land management agreements and experimental schemes.
- Providing public authorities with a reshaped requirement to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote resilience of ecosystems.
- Placing statutory emission reduction targets and carbon budgeting to support their delivery.
- Enabling improvements to the existing scheme for single use carrier bags.
- Providing the Welsh Ministers with powers to take action to achieve higher levels of recycling for business waste, food waste treatment and energy recovery.
- Clarifying the law for a number of existing environmental regulatory regimes including marine licensing, shellfisheries management, land drainage and flood risk management.

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.

Draft Local Development Plan Manual – Edition 3 - 2019

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.

The Water Resources (Control of Pollution) (Silage, Slurry and Agriculture Fuel Oil) (Wales) ['SSAFO'] Regulations 2010.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2010/1493/made>

The Water Resources (Control of Pollution) (Silage Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (Wales) Regulations 2010 (SSAFO) form an integral part of the regulatory framework in Wales which is aimed at ensuring that the quality and quantity of water which we rely upon for so many aspects of our lives is sufficient. It also aims for efficient fertiliser use and therefore reduced financial losses for farmers by limiting reliance on costly manufactured fertilisers. The Regulations through the promotion of efficient use of resources also contribute to meeting our obligations as set out in a number of European Directives.

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.

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”*.

To note is the CPOs letter 1 March 2018 European Protected Species Licensing – notice of revised procedure.

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.

Also to note is the Chief Planning Officers (CPOs) letter 23/8/16 CL-03-16 Climate change allowances for planning purposes.

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.

<p>Environment (Wales) Act 2016:</p> <p>The Environment (Wales) Act received Royal Assent on 21 March 2016. It delivers against the Welsh Government’s commitment to introduce new legislation for the environment. A key component of the Act is the duty it places on public authorities to ‘seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity’. In doing so, the Act requires public authorities to forward plan and report on how they intend to comply with the biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty. The Act replaces the duty in section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) Act 2006 in relation to Wales, with a duty on public authorities to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity.</p>
<p>Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020, ‘Partnership for Growth:</p> <p>This identifies Destination Management as fundamental in helping to improve the visitor appeal of tourism destinations throughout Wales.</p>
<p>Visit Wales - Developing the Visitor Economy: A Charter for Wales 2009:</p> <p>This provides clear terms of reference for Destination Management arrangements in Wales and identifies a key role for local authorities in contributing to the preparation of local destination plans and the establishment of local destination partnerships.</p>
<p>Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013:</p> <p>The Act requires local authorities in Wales to produce active travel maps and deliver year on year improvements in active travel routes and facilities. It requires highways authorities in Wales to make enhancements to routes and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in all new road schemes and to have regard to the needs of walkers and cyclists in a range of other highway authority functions.</p> <p>As part of its commitment to make it easier to walk and cycle, the Council has prepared maps that identify current walking and cycling routes. These maps were created following public consultation as well as its own research in 2015. The routes identified on the maps meet current Welsh Government standards for walking and cycling routes in Wales.</p>
<p>Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard:</p> <p>This provides guidance on the planning and design of outdoor sport, play and informal space.</p>

<p>Regional: Plan, Policy or Programme</p>
<p>The Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 – 2030:</p> <p>The Strategy sets out the strategic framework for the region aimed at supporting the area’s development over the coming decades. The Vision is that by 2030, South West Wales will be “<i>a confident, ambitious and connected city region, recognised internationally for its emerging knowledge and innovation economy</i>”. The Strategy contains 5 Strategic aims.</p>
<p>Swansea Bay City Deal 2017</p>

The £1.3 billion Swansea Bay City Deal was signed in March 2017. It is claimed that the Deal will transform the economic landscape of the area, boost the local economy by £1.8 billion, and generate almost 10,000 new jobs over the next 15 years. There is reference to 11 major projects overall, with the following specific projects proposed for Carmarthenshire:

- Wellness and Life Science Village in Llanelli; and
- Creative industry project at Yr Egin in Carmarthen.

4 key themes of Economic Acceleration, Life Science and Well-being, Energy, and Smart Manufacturing. An enhanced Digital Infrastructure & next generation wireless networks and the development of workforce skills and talent will underpin each.

Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015-20):

This sets out the vision, objectives and a long term strategy for a 20 year period and a five year programme of projects. The Plan encompasses the region which fall within the administrative areas of Carmarthenshire County Council, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Pembrokeshire County Council and the City and County of Swansea.

The South West Wales Tourism Partnership (SWWTP)

The SWWTP had responsibility for delivering the national tourism strategy at the regional level. Whilst wound up in 2014, Visit Wales continues to maintain its ongoing commitment to Destination Management through Regional Engagement Teams.

Waste Planning Monitoring Report(s) for the South West Wales Region:

These reports are produced in accordance with TAN21: Waste and set out to collate and assess available data on all waste arising's, landfill void and the management of residual waste in the region in order to monitor trends and ultimately monitor performance against the targets set out in Towards Zero Waste. It also assesses the progress of waste policy coverage in LDPs, as well as providing information on current local authority waste management / resource recovery schemes and future procurement.

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water Water Resources Management Plan (2019)

<http://www.dwrcymru.co.uk/en/My-Water/Water-Resources/Water-Resource-Management-Plan.aspx>

The Plan covers a 25 year period, from 2020 to 2050 (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.

Local: Plan, Policy or Programme

Carmarthenshire County Council - Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023

The Corporate Strategy sets out the Council’s strategic priorities and aspirations and outlines what it plans to do to achieve its vision for Carmarthenshire over the next five years. The vision is for a Carmarthenshire that enables people to live healthy and fulfilled lives by working together to build strong, bilingual and sustainable communities.

The new Corporate Strategy 2018-2023 - Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire, was adopted in June 2018 and refreshed in June 2019. This will be further considered as the LDP progresses through its preparatory process and within future iterations of the SA documentation.

Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5-years (2018)

The Council has identified almost 100 priority projects, schemes or services that it wants to deliver over the next five years to make Carmarthenshire “*the best place to live, work and visit*”. The Council will be investing in key areas as it strives to improve economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being in the county.

Carmarthenshire County Council Well-being Objectives 2017 – 18

Following consultation, the Council drafted a set of Well-being / Improvement Objectives. These were approved by Council on 8th March 2017 and re confirmed following the Local Government Elections of 2017. There are also Action Plans are in place.

These 14 objectives are as follows:

1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences;
2. Help children live healthy lifestyles;
3. Continue to improve learner attainment for all;
4. Reduce the number of young adults that are Not in Education, Employment or Training;
5. Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, help people into work and improve the lives of those living in poverty;
6. Create more jobs and growth throughout the county;
7. Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes;
8. Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity);
9. Support good connections with friends, family and safer communities;
10. Support the growing numbers of older people to maintain dignity and independence in their later years;
11. A Council-wide approach to support Ageing Well in the County;
12. Look after the environment now and for the future;
13. Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity; and
14. Promote Welsh Language and Culture.

Carmarthenshire Local Well Being Plan 2018-2023 – Public Service Board

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 puts a well-being duty on specified public bodies across Carmarthenshire to act jointly and establish a statutory Public Services Board (PSB). The Carmarthenshire PSB was established in May 2016 and is tasked with improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Carmarthenshire. It must do so by undertaking an assessment of well-being in the County and then preparing a county Well-being Plan to outline its local objectives, the steps it proposes to take to meet them and how they contribute to the achievement of the well-being goals.

Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2006-2021 (Adopted December 2014):

The Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (LDP) provides the framework for all future development within the County until 2021 (excluding Brecon Beacons National Park). The LDP shapes future investment opportunities and infrastructural improvement programmes and guides the determination of any proposals or planning applications, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

A series of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) has been developed to elaborate and consolidate upon the policies and provisions of the Plan as follows:

1. Affordable Housing;
2. Planning Obligations;
3. Caeau Mynydd Mawr;
4. South Llanelli Planning and Development Brief;
5. Pibwrlwyd Planning and Development Brief;
6. Adaptation and re use of rural buildings for residential use;
7. Welsh language;
8. Leisure and Open Space – requirements for new developments;
9. Nature conservation and biodiversity;
10. Archaeology and development;
11. West Carmarthenshire Planning and Development Brief;
12. Llandeilo Northern Quarter Planning and Development Brief.

The LDP is accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal – Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA-SEA) together with Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

On the 10th of January 2018 the Council resolved to prepare a revised LDP for Carmarthenshire. Once adopted the revised LDP will supersede the Adopted LDP.

Transformations: A Strategic Regeneration Plan for Carmarthenshire – 2015-2030

The economic landscape is evolving with Carmarthenshire's position in the new Swansea Bay City Region for which the strategy has been adopted by the Council; *“by 2030, Carmarthenshire will be a confident, ambitious and connected component of a European City Region.”*

Affordable Homes Delivery Plan 2016 – 2020: Delivering more homes for the people of Carmarthenshire:

This sets out the Council's five year vision for maximising the supply of affordable homes. Its purpose is to provide detail on how and where more homes will be delivered and what resources will be used and how more could potentially be accessed. It also outlines how an ambitious new build programme can be delivered.

The programme will initially deliver over 1000 additional affordable homes over five years, with a total investment exceeding £60m.

Carmarthenshire Destination Management Plan 2015 – 2020 (June 2015) – Carmarthenshire Destination Partnership

The purpose of the Destination Management Plan (DMP) for Carmarthenshire is to clarify what is important to get right for the future, to shape policy and priorities, to steer resources and to form the basis for people, businesses and organisations to work together to achieve common goals.

The Vision of Carmarthenshire Destination Partnership is to “Develop a prosperous visitor economy in Carmarthenshire, based on its unique strengths and character, which generates higher spend and local income, enhances its image and reputation and improves the quality of life for local communities”

The objectives of the Destination Management Plan are as follows:

- Provide clear 'reasons to visit' and deliver compelling, unique, memorable and high quality visitor experiences.
- Create a strong positioning for the county in the context of the country.
- Harness the collective strengths of all businesses and organisations that have a role in supporting the visitor economy.
- Define Carmarthenshire's unique tourism offer and attract new and existing visitors to the town through innovative and cost-effective marketing.
- Improve access to and within Carmarthenshire to encourage better visitor flow, longer stays and higher spend.
- Ensure the highest standards of customer service.
- Maximise visitor spend and income retention to the local economy.
- Improve customer satisfaction to encourage longer and repeat visits, higher spend and levels of positive recommendation.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster a culture of continuous improvement, value for money, best practice, learning and sustainability. • Identifying measures of success and monitoring performance.
<p>Carmarthenshire Employment Sectoral Study (2017)</p> <p>The study details employment need by sector and how this will manifest itself over the short to medium term by means of the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting out the economic context for the County, including general economic characteristics as well as the key growth sector and growth areas; • providing a summary of the current supply of employment space in Carmarthenshire; • addressing the future requirements for employment space (e.g., estimates of future employment space requirements based on different growth scenarios); • discussing the “demand / supply balance” (e.g. a comparison of estimated land requirements with the current supply of employment space); • addressing policy and delivery issues (e.g. the policy and other measures that need to be considered to support the existing site portfolio and meet future business needs).
<p>Carmarthenshire County Council – Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessment:</p> <p>Emanating from the provisions of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) has been undertaken for Carmarthenshire to identify if there is a need for a Gypsy and Traveller site within the County. Undertaken in accordance with statutory guidance, the assessment was submitted to Welsh Ministers for scrutiny and approval.</p> <p>The Local Housing Authority received confirmation from the Welsh Minister that the content of the needs assessment was accepted on 28th March 2017.</p>
<p>Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) 2007-2017 (2008)</p> <p>The ROWIP process, is a crucial element for the direction and scale of future work on access to the countryside, providing a long-term view of policies and actions.</p>
<p>Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2013)</p> <p>This document identifies the Risk Management Authorities within Carmarthenshire, the key requirements and contents of the strategy, and outlines the high level objectives and measures for implementing the strategy. In addition, this document identifies the potential sources which could fund the implementation of the measures. The document also discusses the context within which the strategy is required to achieve wider environmental benefits.</p>
<p>Flood Risk Management Plan for the Western Wales River Basin District</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales is required to prepare Flood Risk Management Plans for all of Wales covering flooding from main rivers, reservoirs and the sea. This statutory plan has been developed to describe what measures they propose to take that will help to manage the risk of flooding to people, the environment and economic activity across the Western Wales River Basin District.</p>

<p>Memorandum of understanding for protection of Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site (2011)</p>
<p>Carmarthenshire County Council - Ageing Well Plan</p> <p>The Ageing Well in Wales initiative, which is led by the Commissioner for Older People, aims to make Wales a good place for everyone to grow older in. The initiative acknowledges that achieving this depends on people, communities and organisations taking action to improve the experience of older age, by focusing on the importance of ‘wellbeing’. Carmarthenshire’s Ageing Well Plan is structured according to the five priority areas of the Ageing Well in Wales programme.</p>
<p>Integrated Community Strategy (ICS) - Carmarthenshire’s Local Service Board (LSB)</p> <p>The Integrated Community Strategy (ICS) was developed by Carmarthenshire’s Local Service Board (LSB) through consultation with local communities, organisations and other groups. The ICS outlines the collective vision for Carmarthenshire and identifies five goals which LSB members agree to work towards in partnership. Reference is made to the preparation of a Well Being Plan by the Public Service Board.</p>
<p>Carmarthenshire County Council - Older People's Strategy 2015-2025</p> <p>Over the course of the next 15 years, Older People’s services will come under increasing pressure in Carmarthenshire, with over ten-thousand additional older people over the age of 75 living in the county, many of whom will require care and support. This strategy aims to look in more detail at these challenges and to set out a plan for delivering more sustainable services over the next ten years.</p>
<p>Carmarthenshire County Council - Welsh in Education Strategic Plan</p> <p>The purpose of Carmarthenshire’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) is to detail how the Council aims to achieve the Welsh Government’s outcomes and targets outlined in their Welsh Medium Education Strategy (WMES).</p>
<p>Carmarthenshire County Council – Social Care Annual Report 2015-2016</p> <p>There is a statutory requirement for the Director of Social Services to report annually to their Council on the delivery and performance as well as plans for the improvement of the whole range of Social Services.</p>

Appendix 2 Baseline Information

1. Sustainable Development

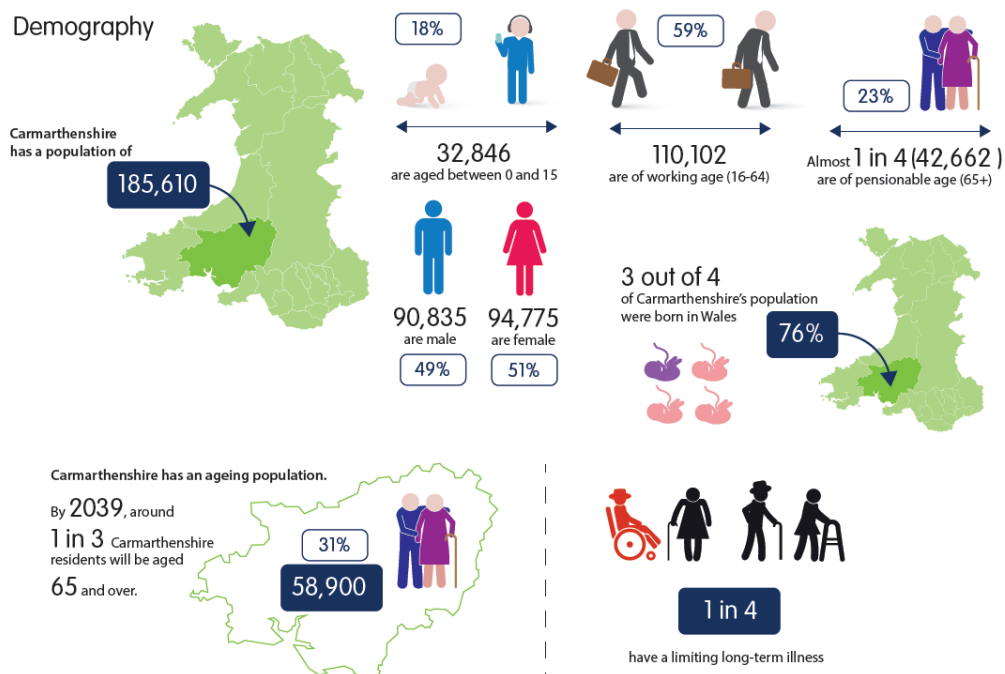
Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The concept can be interpreted in many ways, but at its core is an approach to development that looks to balance different, often competing, needs against an awareness of environmental, social, economic and cultural limitations.

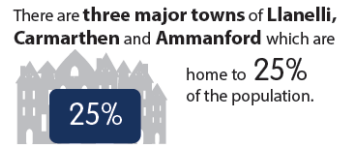
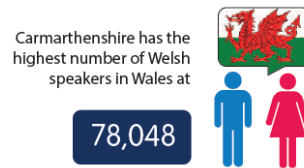
Although environmental considerations are central to the principle of sustainable development, it is also about ensuring a strong, healthy and just society, and meeting the needs of all people now and in the future. This includes promoting personal well-being, social cohesion and creating equal opportunities.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act places a duty on public bodies to carry out sustainable development and requires an improvement in the delivery of all four aspects of well-being: social, economic, environmental and cultural.

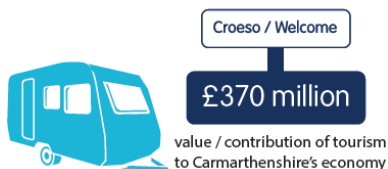
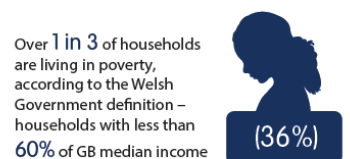
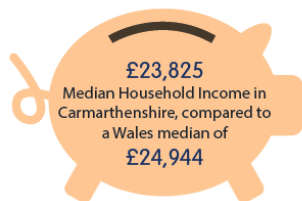
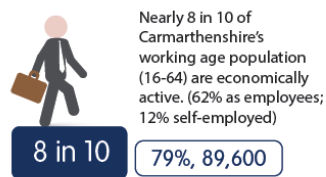
The Carmarthenshire Well-being Assessment (March 2017) looked at the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing in Carmarthenshire through different life stages and provides a summary of the key findings. The findings of this assessment form the basis of the objectives and actions identified in the Well-being Plan for Carmarthenshire. The Assessment can be viewed via the following link: www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales

From the Wellbeing assessment, the context of Carmarthenshire in terms of Well-being was described as follows:

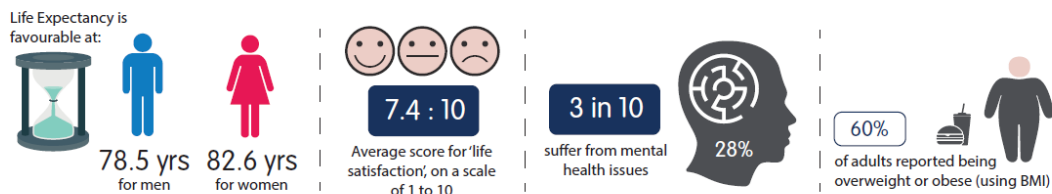




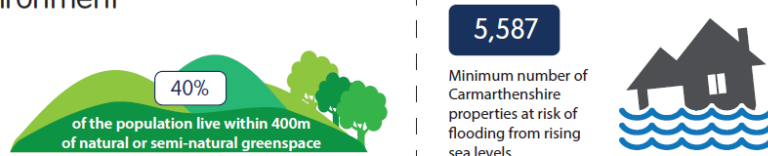
Economy



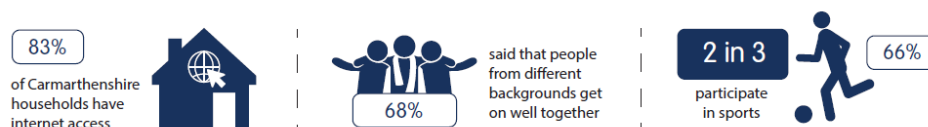
Health and Well-being



Environment



Culture



The Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan outlines the Public Service Board's local objectives for improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the County and the steps it proposes to take to meet them. Carmarthenshire's Well-being Plan covers a period between 2018-2023, with objectives and actions identified to look at delivery on a longer term basis of up to 20-years.

1.3 The Draft Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan will focus on the delivery of four objectives:

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

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

Development would take place in a piecemeal manner, without a coordinated approach or consideration of cumulative effects on the environment. Although still subject to Planning Policy Wales and other national policy, at a local authority level,

development would not be directed to the most sustainable locations and there would be nothing in place to influence sustainable levels of growth.

2. Biodiversity and the Natural Environment

2.1 Biodiversity is, literally, the variety of life on earth. It embraces all living plants and animals and the ecosystems on which they depend. Biodiversity is everywhere: in gardens, fields, hedgerows, mountains, rivers and in the sea.

2.2 At a local level, biodiversity greatly influences the character of our landscape. Carmarthenshire is justly renowned for its magnificent coast, quiet estuaries, steep wooded valleys and rugged uplands. Throughout much of the rest of the county there is a patchwork of woodlands and fields, bounded by the hedge-banks that are frequently of historic importance. The sea and seabed around the Carmarthenshire coast are also rich in species, some of which are of considerable economic importance.

2.3 This natural beauty of the county is a major factor on which the local tourism and recreation industries depend. Biodiversity is therefore fundamental to the physical, economic and spiritual well-being of all who live and work in Carmarthenshire.

International Sites

2.4 Carmarthenshire has significant areas of land that are designated for their international importance for nature conservation. These include:

- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC);
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC) and
- Ramsar sites designated following the 1971 Ramsar convention on wetlands.

A list of these sites and the features for which they are designated is shown in Table 1 and are mapped in Figure 1. The most recent assessment of each feature's conservation status is also provided.

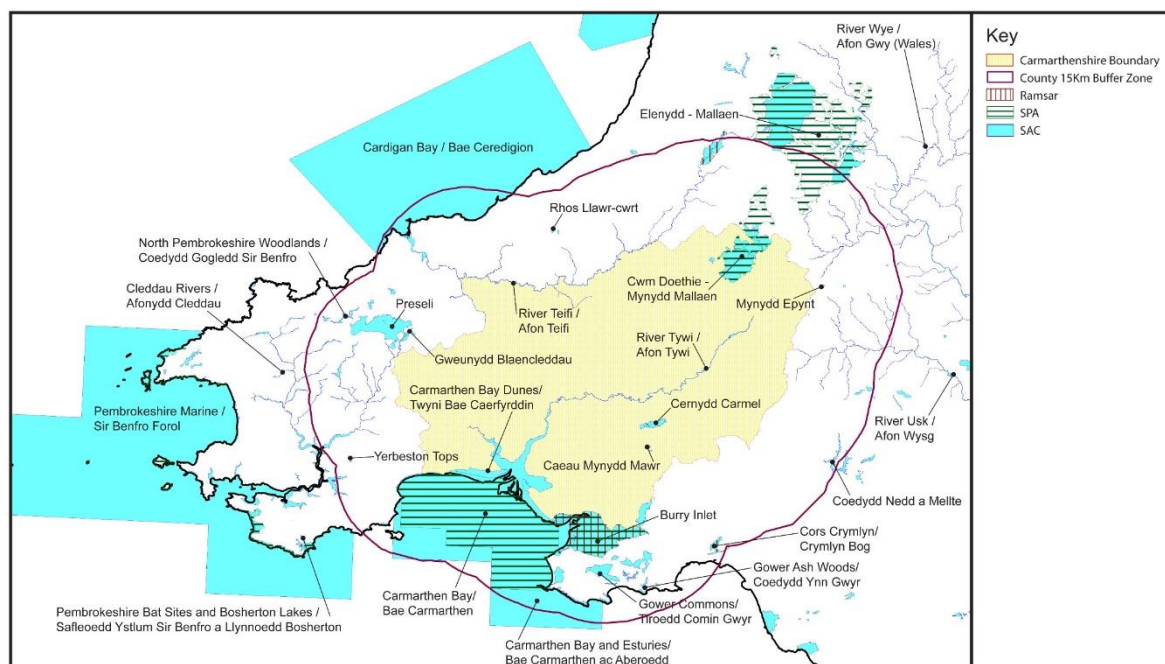


Figure 1 Location of European sites in relation to Carmarthenshire

Table 1 Designated sites within Carmarthenshire and within 15km buffer zone.

European Site	Size (hectares)	Qualifying Feature(s)	Conservation Status (Date of assessment)
Afon Tywi/ River Tywi SAC	363.45	Twaite shad	Unfavourable (May 2012)
		Otter	Favourable
		Sea lamprey	Unfavourable (Jan 2011)
		River lamprey	Unfavourable (Jan 2011)
		Brook lamprey	Unfavourable (Jan 2011)
		Allis shad	Unfavourable (Jan 2011)
Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC	25.06	<i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>)	Unfavourable (Sept 2015)
		Marsh fritillary butterfly	Unfavourable (Sept 2015)
Cernydd Carmel SAC	361.14	Turloughs	Favourable (Sept 2011)
		Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Favourable (Sept 2016)
		European dry heaths	Destroyed: Partially (Sept 2016)
		Active raised bogs	Unfavourable (July 2016)
Carmarthen Bay Dunes SAC	1206.32	<i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines	Favourable (July 2013)
		Embryonic shifting dunes	Favourable (July 2007)
		Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	Favourable (July 2007)
		Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation	Unfavourable (Jan 2015)
		Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i>	Unfavourable (Aug 2007)

		Humid dune slacks	Unfavourable (Jan 2015)
		Narrow mouthed whorl snail	Unfavourable (Sept 2016)
		Petalwort	Unfavourable (May 2016)
		Fen orchid	Unfavourable (Oct 2014)
Afon Teifi/ River Teifi SAC	715.58	Water courses of plain to montane levels with <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche- Batrachion</i> vegetation	Favourable (Sept 2012)
		Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of Isoeto-Nanojuncetea	Favourable (Sept 2003)
		Brook lamprey	Favourable (Oct 2013)
		River lamprey	Favourable (Oct 2013)
		Atlantic salmon	Favourable (Jan 2016)
		Bullhead	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Otter	Favourable (March 2010)
		Floating water-plantain	Favourable (Sept 2012)
		Sea lamprey	Unfavourable (Jan 2016)
		Afonydd Cleddau/ Cleddau Rivers SAC	751
Active raised bogs	Unfavourable (Oct 2012)		
Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Unfavourable (Nov 2012)		
Brook lamprey	Unfavourable: Recovering (Jan 2012)		
River lamprey	Unfavourable: Recovering (Jan 2012)		
Bull head	Unfavourable (Nov 2006)		
Otter	Favourable (Mar 2010)		
Sea lamprey	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)		
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC	66101.16	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006)
		Estuaries	Favourable (Nov 2006)
		Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Favourable (Nov 2006)
		Large shallow inlets and bays	Favourable (Nov 2006)
		<i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand	Unfavourable (Oct 2006)
		Atlantic salt meadows	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Twaite shad	Unfavourable (Nov 2006)
		Sea lamprey	Unfavourable (April 2005)
		River lamprey	Unfavourable (April 2005)
		Allis shad	Unfavourable (Nov 2006)

		Otter	Favourable (Mar 2010)
Carmarthen Bay SPA	95860.36	Common scoter	No condition assessment made, for site description refer to management plan.
Cwm Doethie-Mynydd Mallaen SAC	4122.29	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles	Unfavourable.(Aug 2012)
		European dry heaths	Unfavourable: Recovering (Sept 2012)
Elenydd – Mallaen SPA	30022.14	Breeding Merlin	Favourable (June 2000)
		Breeding Red kite	Favourable (June 2000)
		Breeding Peregrine	Favourable (June 2006)
Burry Inlet SPA	6627.99	Pintail	Favourable (March 2004)
		Northern Shoveler	Favourable (March 2004)
		Teal	Favourable (March 2004)
		Wigeon	Favourable (March 2004)
		Dunlin	Favourable (March 2004)
		Red knot	Favourable (March 2004)
		Oystercatcher	Favourable (March 2004)
		Curlew	Favourable (March 2004)
		Grey Plover	Favourable (March 2004)
		Shelduck	Favourable (March 2004)
		Redshank	Favourable (March 2004)
		Turnstone	Not Assessed
Cardigan Bay/ Bae Ceredigion SAC	95860.36	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	Not Assessed
		Reefs	Not Assessed
		Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	Favourable (Nov 2006)
		Bottlenose dolphin	Favourable (Jan 2007)
		Sea lamprey	Unfavourable (April 2005)
		River lamprey	Unfavourable (April 2005)
		Grey seal	Favourable (Jan 2007)
North Pembrokeshire Woodlands / Coedydd Gogledd Sir Benfro SAC	314.48	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles	Unfavourable recovering.(May 2010)
		Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Unfavourable (June 2016)
		Barbastelle bat	Favourable (Aug 2012)
Yerbeston Tops SAC	90.7	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caeruleae</i>)	Unfavourable (Sept 2017)
		Marsh fritillary butterfly	Unfavourable (Sept 2017)
Rhos Llaur-cwrt SAC	45.8	Marsh fritillary butterfly	Unfavourable: Recovering.(Aug 2012)
		<i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> (moss)	Unfavourable (Oct 2005)

Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes / Safleoedd Ystum Sir Benfro a Llynnoedd Bosherton SAC	122.59	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara spp.</i>	Unfavourable (Dec 2011)
		Greater Horseshoe Bat	Favourable (Aug 2012)
		Lesser Horseshoe Bat	Unfavourable: Declining (Aug 2012)
		Otter	Favourable (March 2010)
Gower Ash Woods / Coedydd Ynn Gwyr SAC	233.15	<i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines	Unfavourable (May 2016)
		Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Unfavourable (Jun 2016)
Pembrokeshire Marine SAC	138069.45	Estuaries	Unfavourable (Nov 2006)
		Large shallow inlets and bays	Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006)
		Reefs	Unfavourable (Jul 2008)
		Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	Unfavourable (Dec 2006)
		Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006)
		Coastal lagoons	Favourable (Nov 2006)
		Atlantic salt meadows	Unfavourable (Oct 2006)
		Submerged/partially submerged sea caves	Favourable (Nov 2006)
		Grey seal	Favourable (Nov 2006)
		Shore dock	Favourable (Feb 2006)
		Sea lamprey	Unfavourable: Declining (Apr 2005)
		River lamprey	Unfavourable (Apr 2005)
		Allis shad	Not Assessed
		Twaite shad	Not Assessed
Otter	Favourable (Mar 2010)		
Gower Commons / Tiroedd Comin Gwyr SAC	1776.72	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Unfavourable (Sept 2016)
		European dry heaths	Unfavourable (Sept 2008)
		Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caeruleae</i>)	Unfavourable (Sept 2016)
		Marsh fritillary butterflies	Unfavourable (Sept 2009)
		Southern damselfly	Unfavourable (July 2017)
River Wye / Afon Gwyr SAC	2234.89	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Transition mires and quaking bogs	Unfavourable: Declining (July 2012)

		White clawed crayfish	Unfavourable (Sept 2016)
		Sea lamprey	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Brook lamprey	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		River lamprey	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Twaite shad	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Atlantic salmon	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Bullhead	Unfavourable (Dec 2016)
		Otter	Favourable: Recovered (March 2010)
		Allis shad	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
Gweunydd Blaencleddau SAC	151	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Unfavourable (July 2016)
		Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils	Unfavourable (July 2016)
		Blanket bogs	Unfavourable (Jul 2016)
		Transition mires and quaking bogs	Unfavourable (July 2016)
		Alkaline fens	Unfavourable (July 2017)
		Marsh fritillary butterfly	Unfavourable (July 2016)
		Southern damselfly	Unfavourable (July 2016)
Preseli SAC	2705.9	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Unfavourable (Jun 2012)
		European dry heaths	Unfavourable (Jun 2012)
		Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i>	Unfavourable: Declining (Aug 2012)
		Alkaline fens	Favourable (Dec 2004)
		Southern damselfly	Unfavourable (July 2011)
		Marsh Fritillary butterfly	Unfavourable (Sept 2011)
		Slender green feather moss	Favourable (Feb 2006)
Mynydd Epynt SAC	43.4	Slender green feather moss	Favourable.(Aug 2009)
River Usk. Afon Wysg SAC	1008.26	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation	Unfavourable.(Jan 2012)
		Sea lamprey	Unfavourable (Nov 2012)
		Brook lamprey	Unfavourable (Nov 2012)
		River lamprey	Unfavourable (Nov 2012)
		Twaite shad	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Atlantic salmon	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Bullhead	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)
		Otter	Favourable: Recovered (Mar 2010)
Allis shad	Unfavourable (Jan 2012)		
Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar	2,200	Burry Inlet is a large estuarine complex located between the Gower Peninsula and Llanelli in South Wales. It includes extensive areas of intertidal	No condition assessment made, for site description refer to management plan.

		sand and mud flats, together with large sand dune systems at the mouth of the estuary. The site contains the largest continuous area of saltmarsh in Wales (2,200 ha). The Burry Inlet regularly supports large numbers of wildfowl and waders.	
Bristol Channel Approaches SAC	584,994	Harbour porpoise	Favourable.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

2.5 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.

2.6 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.

2.7 SSSIs are statutorily protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000). The Natural Resources Wales has responsibility for identifying, notifying and protecting SSSIs.

Local Nature Reserves

2.8 There are six Local Nature Reserves in Carmarthenshire: Pembrey Burrows and Saltings, Ashpits Pond and Pwll Lagoon, North Dock Dunes, Carreg Cennen, Glan-yr-Afon, Kidwelly, and Morfa Berwig, Bynea. There are also a number of Nature reserves throughout the County managed by other organisations.

National Nature Reserves

2.9 The following National Nature Reserves are also situated in Carmarthenshire:

- Carmel;
- Allt Rhyd y Groes;
- Dinefwr; and
- Waun Las (National Botanic Garden of Wales farm)

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

2.10 There are currently no Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) designated within Carmarthenshire.

Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)

2.11 The Carmarthenshire LBAP has been produced by a partnership of organisations concerned with the conservation of the County's biodiversity. In line with national guidance,

the broad aim of the Carmarthenshire LBAP is to conserve and enhance biodiversity in Carmarthenshire by means of local partnerships, taking account of both national and local priorities.

2.12 The broad aims of the Carmarthenshire LBAP are as follows:

- To maintain and enhance the biodiversity of Carmarthenshire through the preparation and implementation of individual action plans, covering a range of selected habitats and species which reflect both national and local priorities;
- To develop effective local partnerships to co-ordinate and deliver biodiversity action in Carmarthenshire;
- To raise public awareness of the importance of conserving and enhancing Carmarthenshire's biodiversity; and,
 - To monitor progress in achieving local biodiversity targets and to report on such progress to a national biodiversity database.

2.13 The LBAP contains a series of action plans covering the nationally threatened or declining species and habitats in the County, as well as species and habitats of local concern. The LBAP focuses on local action that meets the objectives for each habitat and species within the Plan.

2.14 The Wales Biodiversity Partnership (WBP) has drawn up nine habitat groupings and it was agreed that the Carmarthenshire LBAP will follow these groupings. These are: Woodland, Upland Habitats, Freshwater, Wetlands, Farmland, Lowland Grassland and Heathland, Brownfield/Urban, and Coastal and Marine habitats and species.

2.15 Species have been grouped in with habitats as far as possible as often the main action to conserve species is achieved through habitat management. However a number of species will have individual action plans which can be downloaded through the following link:
<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/biodiversity/local-biodiversity-action-plan/>

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

As the current LDP allocations are built out and housing land supply falls, development pressure will begin to encroach onto open countryside in a sporadic and uncoordinated manner. Designated sites and protected habitats and species should be safeguarded through other legislation. However, each development proposal that could impact on a European site would require a separate Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), which would need to look at all potentially affected European sites and cumulative impacts. This would not only significantly delay the planning application process, but could lead to inconsistent assessments and lack of appreciation of potential in-combination effects.

3. Air Quality

3.1 The Environment Act 1995 places a duty on the Council to periodically review and assess air quality within its area. There are key pollutants that should be considered, and they are set out in legislation. Each of the key pollutants has a standard that should not be breached. The standards (or objectives) have been set at levels based on current scientific information which are designed to protect health and the environment. The Air Quality Objectives are set out in the Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations 2010.

Why is air quality important?

3.2 Air Quality is the leading cause of the environmental burden of disease in Europe. In February 2016 it was reported that 40,000 additional deaths per year are attributable to poor air quality¹, with a health cost of £20 billion per annum.

Who does what in Wales?

3.3 Natural Resources Wales regulates emissions to air from larger industrial operations (Part A1 under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR)), such as power stations, refineries and incinerators, to meet the requirements of the Industrial Emissions Directive 2010. Inherent in this is the need to prevent, or minimise, emissions from the sites we regulate by applying the national and European standards set to protect health and the environment. We are also required to produce an annual Pollution Inventory for emissions.

3.4 Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 NRW also has a duty to report on the state of air quality in Wales as part of the State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) and to consider more local environmental priorities in Area Statements. Welsh Government is the competent authority, under the Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations 2010, for implementing the requirements of the 2008 directive on ambient air quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFÉ).

3.5 Under the Environment Act 1995 Local Authorities have responsibility for the assessment and management of local air quality, designating Air Quality Management Areas and implementing action plans where there is a failure to meet the required standards. Local Authorities also regulate emissions to air from smaller industries (Part A2 and B under EPR)¹.

Current State

3.6 Air quality in Wales has improved, with statutory emissions controls and a decreasing industrial base leading to a reduction in industrial emissions. However ambient air quality targets for nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons are still being breached in Wales. Although industry remains a significant source of pollutants other sources, generally smaller or more diffuse and subject to less or no regulation, have now become more prominent.¹

The Air Pollution in the UK Compliance Assessment Summary 2017² summarises the state of the UK's Air Quality annually, and the compliance of each air quality zone against EU Directives. For the South Wales zone, annual mean NO₂ levels were shown to be above the limit value for human health. Ozone was also shown to exceed the long term objective limit value for human health.

¹ Local Evidence Pack: Carmarthenshire 4/10/2013 (Natural Resources Wales)

² <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/library/annualreport/>

Air Pollution in Carmarthenshire

3.8 The Council submits regular air quality reports to Welsh Government on Carmarthenshire’s air quality. Further information on air quality reports can be downloaded from the Defra website. All Local Authorities in Wales update details about their monitoring locations and sampling results on the Welsh Air Quality Forum website³.

3.9 The Council has identified that the key pollutant most relevant to Carmarthenshire is Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂). The main source of NO₂ emissions in Carmarthenshire is road traffic. The Council has developed a monitoring network that follows some of our busiest roads and most congested streets.

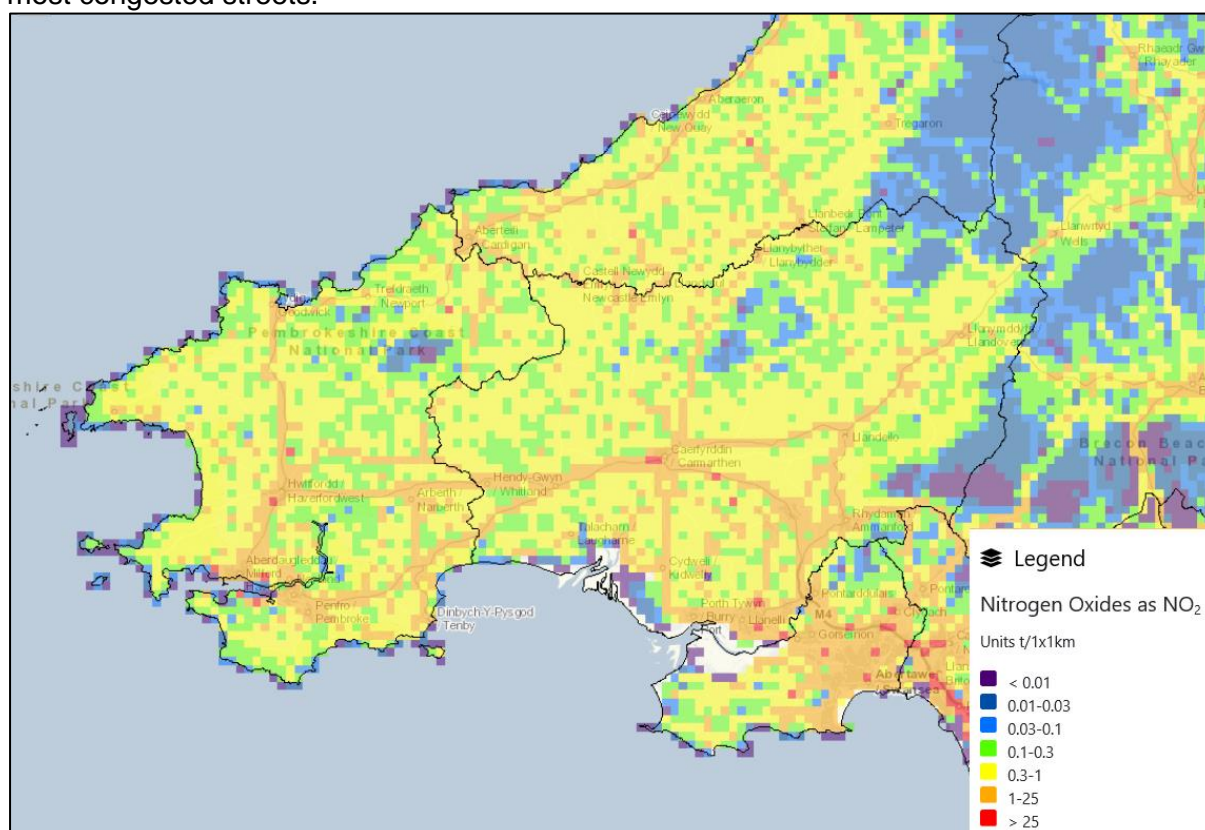


Figure 2 Modelled NO₂ levels across Carmarthenshire (Source National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory 2016)

Llandeilo AQMA

3.10 An Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was designated for part of Llandeilo in 2011. This is because standards for NO₂ in the area are being breached. Although NO₂ levels in the area are not sufficiently high to be causing immediate health effects, they are at levels that could result in health issues over the long term, for people who already suffer from respiratory conditions, such as asthma, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) etc. The Council is working closely with colleagues at external agencies to help identify and implement solutions to improve air quality in the area.

³ <https://airquality.gov.wales/>

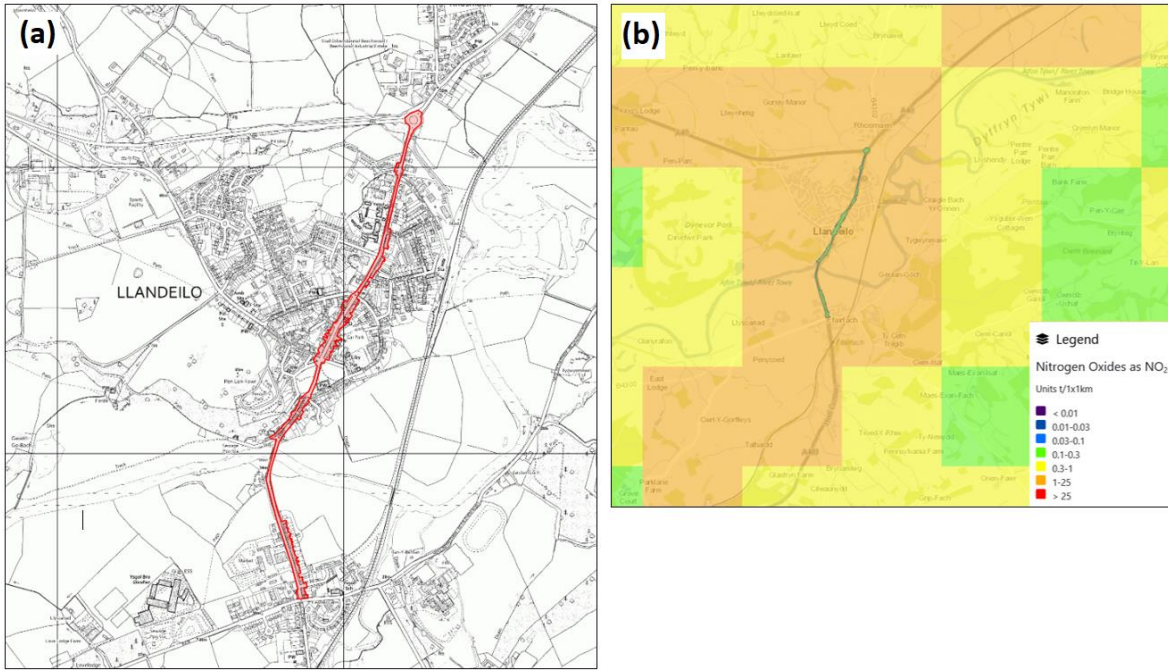


Figure 3 (a) Map of Llandeilo AQMA with (b) modelled NO₂ levels (Source National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory 2016)

Carmarthen AQMA

3.11 An AQMA was designated for a specific area of Carmarthen in August 2016. The reason is due to emissions from road traffic sources. Levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), currently breach legal levels in localised hotspots within the AQMA, and the Council is working with partners within and outside of the Council to reduce these levels where it can. Although NO₂ levels in the area are not sufficiently high to be causing immediate health effects, they are at levels that could result in health issues over the long term, for people who are exposed for sufficient periods of time and who already suffer from respiratory conditions, such as asthma, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) etc. The Council is in the process of formulating an Action Plan, which will identify measures that could help improve Air Quality in the area.

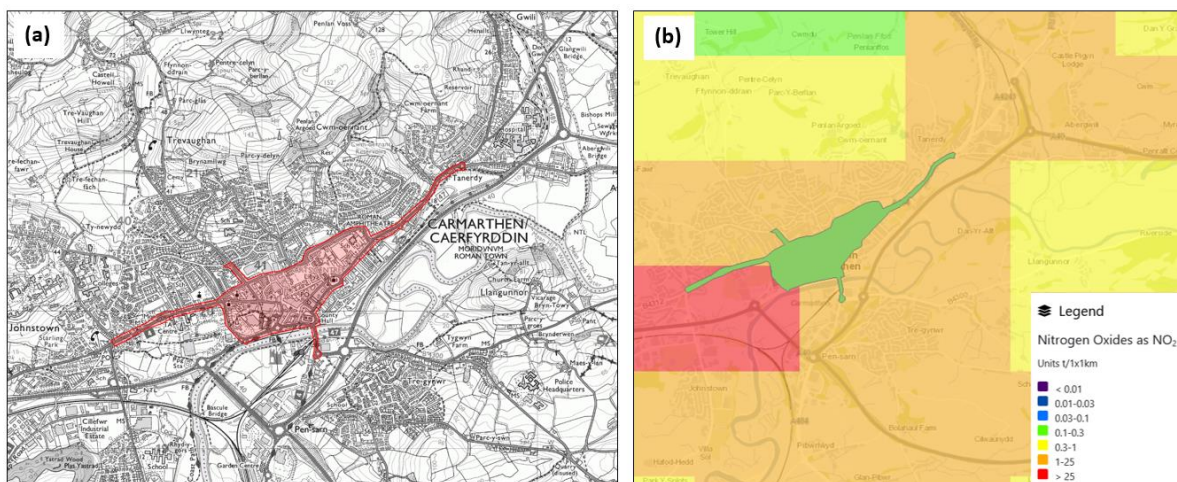


Figure 4 (a) Map of Carmarthen AQMA with (b) modelled NO₂ levels (Source National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory 2016)

Llanelli AQMA

3.12 An AQMA was designated for a specific area of Llanelli in August 2016. The reason is due to emissions from road traffic sources. Levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), currently breach legal levels in localised hotspots within the AQMA, and the Council is working with partners within and outside of the Council to reduce these levels where we can. Although NO₂ levels in the area are not sufficiently high to be causing immediate health effects, they are at levels that could result in health issues over the long term, for people who are exposed for sufficient periods of time and who already suffer from respiratory conditions, such as asthma, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) etc. The Council is currently in the process of formulating an Action Plan, which will identify measures that could help improve Air Quality in the area.

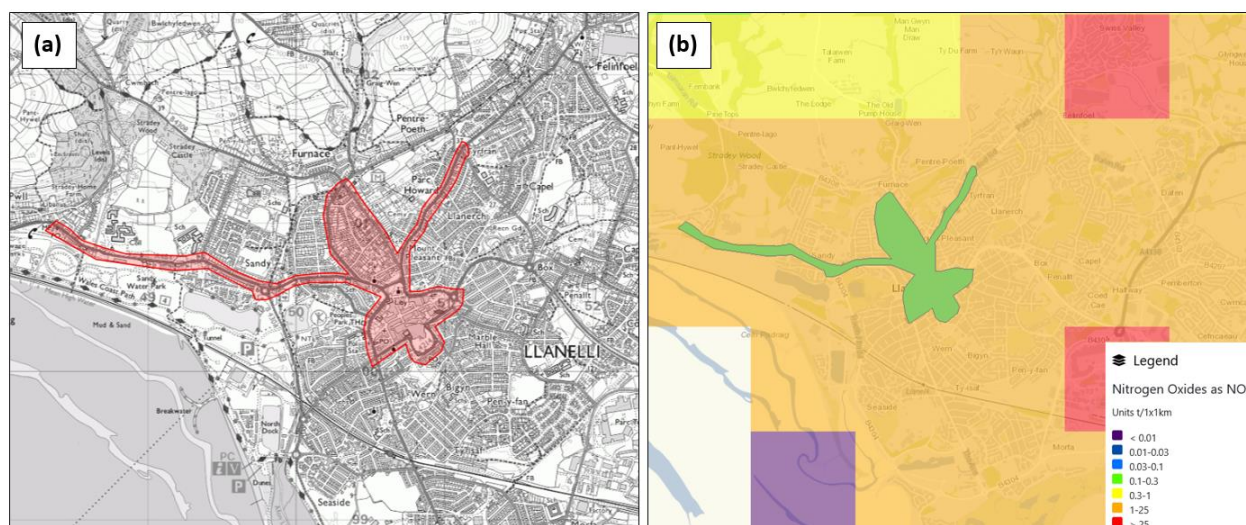


Figure 5 (a) Map of Llanelli AQMA with (b) modelled NO₂ levels (Source National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory 2016)

3.13 A range of air pollution emissions data and maps, with emissions broken down by sector is available from the web site of the National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (<http://www.naei.org.uk/index.php>).

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

Although new developments would have to comply with legislation controlling air pollution, development would take place in a piecemeal manner, without a coordinated approach or consideration of cumulative effects on the environment and air quality.

4. Climatic Factors

4.1 The former Carmarthenshire Climate Change Strategy, the current LDP and the Well Being Assessment for Carmarthenshire (2017) all recognise the vulnerabilities (and opportunities) that face the County in relation to climate change.

Climate Change

4.2 Rising sea levels are anticipated to impact not only the 5,587 properties in Carmarthenshire already at risk of tidal and rising river level flooding, but additional properties along the county's coastal and river communities. Conversely potential impacts such as a rise in grassland productivity and extended tourist seasons are also likely to impact Carmarthenshire. It is important to harness the positive and mitigate the negative consequences all of these issues for the economic, environmental, cultural and social well-being of individuals and communities affected (Wallingford, 2012).

4.3 A horizon scanning approach allows for such scenarios to be explored in spatial terms. For example, settlements and commercial interests along the Carmarthenshire coastline may be increasingly susceptible to flooding from the sea. In addition, increased flooding within river valleys is likely to put increased numbers of properties and transportation infrastructure under threat from both out-of-bank flows and surface water run-off. Climate change may also create a shift in agricultural activity/productivity and vulnerable members of the community may be at increased risk from the increased likelihood of extremes of temperature.

The total carbon footprint of Wales is estimated at just over 34 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO_{2e}). At the current population levels, this equates to 11.11 tCO_{2e} per capita. Carmarthenshire's carbon footprint is 11.36 tCO_{2e}, which is above the Welsh average.

4.4 In 2016, 941 megawatts of domestic electricity and gas were consumed within Carmarthenshire. However, this represented a decrease by 4.9% since 2012. In addition in 2015, total CO₂ emissions in Carmarthenshire were 1212.7 kilotonnes. This represents an 8.3% since 2011. Most recent figures (2016) show that total CO₂ emissions for Carmarthenshire were 1,162 kilotonnes (Figure 6). Total CO₂ emissions per head in Carmarthenshire are estimated at 6.6 tonnes. This figure has also decreased by 8.3% since 2011.

Carmarthenshire has three large industrial installations which currently collectively emit approximately 57 kilotonnes of CO₂ per annum (Figure 7). However, this is comparatively low compared to vehicular use of A roads and the electricity use of the industry and commercial sector, which emits 260 kilotonnes and 160 kilotonnes respectively (Figure 6).

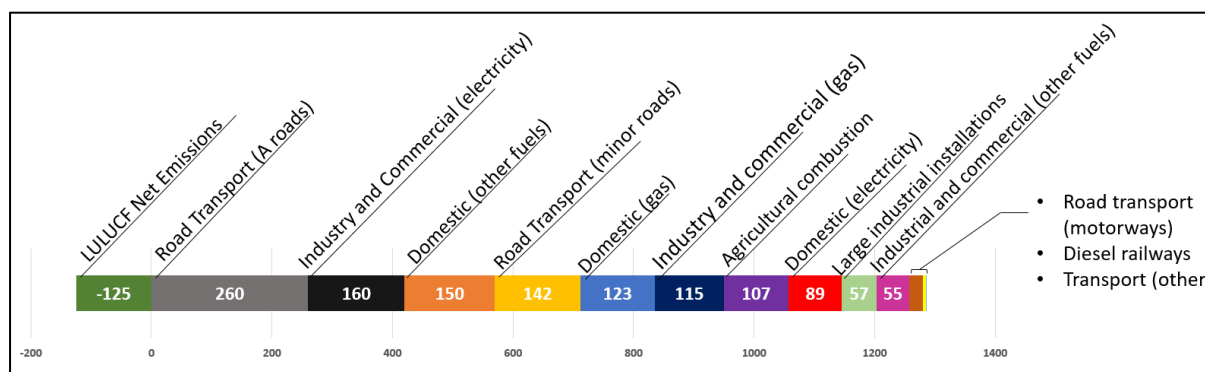


Figure 6 CO₂ emissions in Carmarthenshire by sector for 2016 in kilotonnes. Data from <http://naei.beis.gov.uk/>

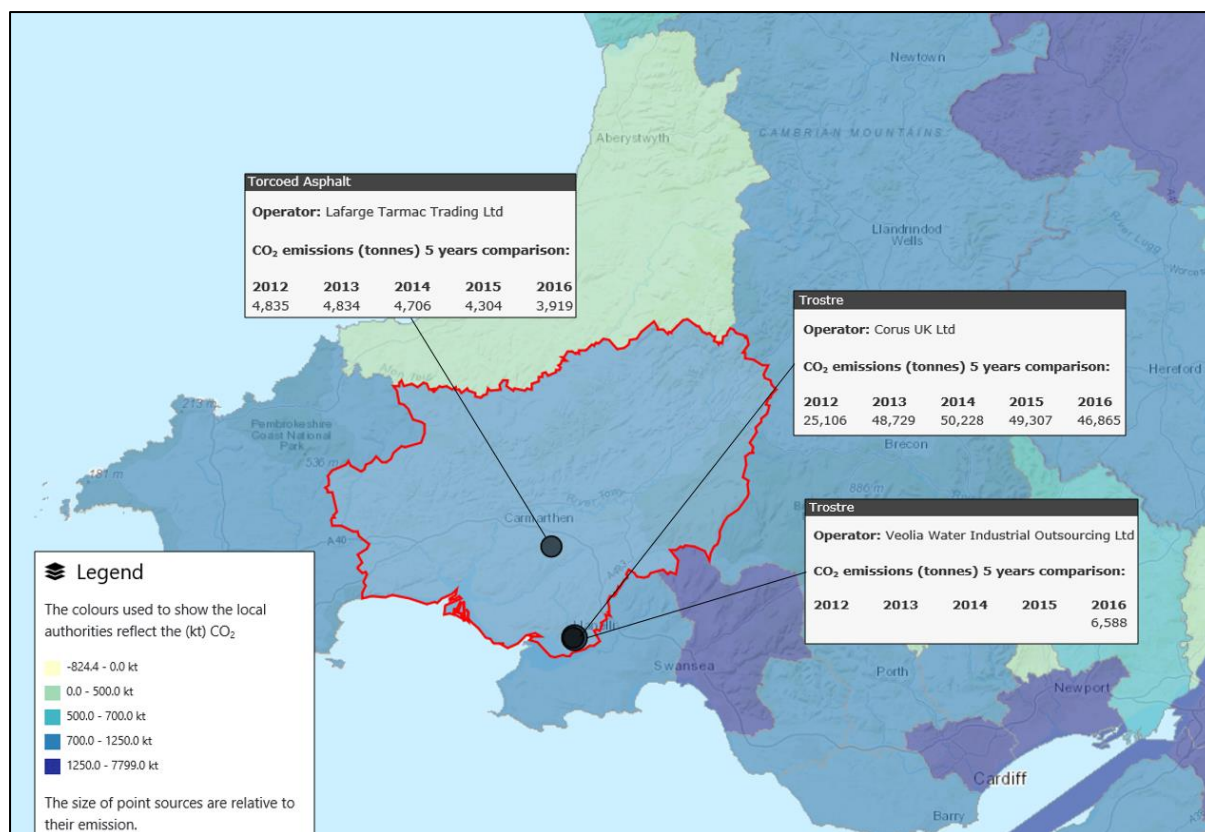


Figure 7 Total carbon emissions for 2016 by local authority. Points show large industrial installations and details of their carbon emissions from 2012-2016. Data from <http://naei.beis.gov.uk/>

4.5 The climate change risk assessment for Wales (January 2012) presents the findings of an assessment of climate change risks for Wales, which has been completed as part of the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA).

4.6 From the results of this assessment, the potentially most significant threats for Wales from climate change appear to be:

- Changes in soil conditions, biodiversity and landscape as a result of warmer, drier summers.
- Reductions in river flows and water availability during the summer, affecting water supplies and the natural environment;
- Increases in flooding both on the coast and inland, affecting people, property and infrastructure;
- Changes in coastal evolution including erosion and coastal squeeze, affecting beaches, intertidal areas and other coastal feature;
- Changes in species including a decline in native species, changes in migration patterns and increases in invasive species;
- Increases in the risk of pests and diseases affecting agriculture and forestry. The risk to livestock is a particular concern.

4.7 The potentially most significant opportunities identified for Wales from climate change appear to be:

- Increases in grass yields, allowing a potential increase in livestock production; and
- Increases in tourist numbers and a longer tourist season.

4.8 As a largely rural county, Carmarthenshire may be disproportionately affected by both positive and negative impacts of climate change as explored in the Climate Change Risk SA – SEA Scoping Report – Appendix B

Assessment for Wales. By 2050 winter rainfall is predicted to increase by 14% and summer rainfall to decrease by 16% which may increase the likelihood of flooding in the county, particularly in inland rural areas already subject to flooding as a result of surface run off water. Even modest flooding events can significantly impact on the physical and mental wellbeing of the individuals affected for many years after the actual flooding event and the worst effects of flooding are often felt by the more vulnerable in society.

Renewable Energy

Under European Union targets¹, the UK has a legally-binding target to generate 15% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020. The UK Renewable Energy Strategy² sets out the UK Government’s vision to ensure that this target is met. The Welsh Government is committed to playing its part by delivering an energy programme which contributes to reducing carbon emissions as part of its approach to tackling climate change³. Current government policy and guidance is centred on reducing CO2 emissions in an attempt to slow down climate change, and producing electricity from renewable sources is considered to be part of the solution. The planning system has an important role to play in supporting, encouraging and facilitating renewable energy schemes.

The Welsh Government’s targets for renewable energy were set out in TAN 8: Renewable Energy 2005. TAN 8 provides advice on areas including onshore renewable energy technologies, design and energy and describes how renewable energy should be accounted for as part of development plans, development management and monitoring processes. Seven Strategic Search Areas (SSAs) were identified as being suitable for large scale (over 25MW) onshore renewable wind energy (Figure 8).

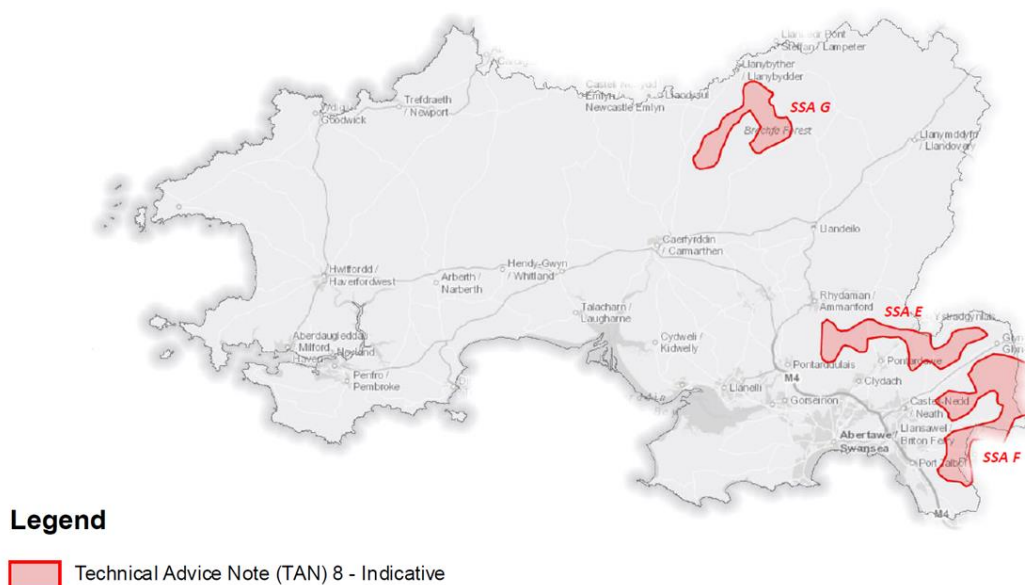


Figure 8 Strategic Search Areas in the South West Area as identified in TAN 8: Renewable Energy. Source South West Area Statement, NRW.

SSA G: Brechfa Forest lies within Carmarthenshire, and has been identified for large-scale wind power. Within SSA:G, Brechfa Forest West Wind Farm (BFWWF) is fully operational, with 28 turbines generating 57.4MW. In addition, Brechfa Forest East Wind Farm (BFEWF) gained planning consent in 2013, consisting of 12 turbines (3 turbines on 3rd party land) with the potential to generate 24-36MW. NRW is currently working on the best way forward for

realising this development. Alltwalis Wind Farm is also operates within the SSA, having an installed generating capacity of 23MW from 10 turbines.

As well as Brechfa, the County also has a small part of the Pontardawe Strategic Search Area (SSA E) within its area. Mynydd y Betws windfarm currently operates within the SSE: E, generating 34MW from 15 turbines.

Ecological Footprint

4.9 Put simply, an ecological footprint can be defined as a measurement of sustainability. The ecological footprint is essentially an accounting system that recognises the impact of every good and service purchased by taking into account all of the energy and resources used to make the product. The added value of measurement is the emphasis placed on exploring where reductions can be made through policies which influence consumption patterns and behaviour.

4.10 The chart below depicts the ecological footprint of Wales by theme⁴. It can be clearly noted that Housing (20%), Food (28%) and Transport (11%) take up a sizable proportion of the overall figure. These are all issues that a land use plan can make a contribution towards addressing. The ecological footprint per person for Wales according to 2015 figures was 3.28 global hectares which is approximately 1.2 to 1.8 times the global average⁵.

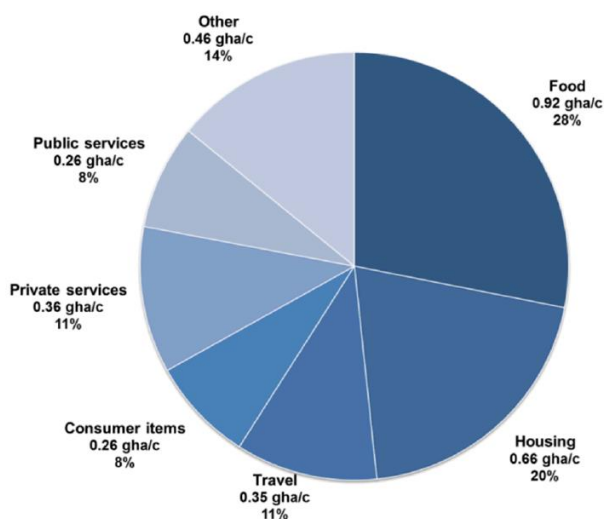


Figure 9 Ecological footprint of Wales by consumption theme⁴

Carmarthenshire's ecological footprint is estimated at 3.36 global hectares per person, which is above the Welsh average (Figure 10). This variation at a local level is influenced by a number of factor including income, demographics, patterns of household expenditure and the energy performance of housing stock.

⁴ <https://gweddil.gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/150724-ecological-footprint-of-wales-report-en.pdf>

⁵ Global average figure of 2.7 gha/c in 2007 published by the Global Footprint Network (GFN). Note that the GFN methodology is different to the one we have used, so the results cannot be directly compared. GFN's figure for the UK in 2007 is 4.9 gha/c.

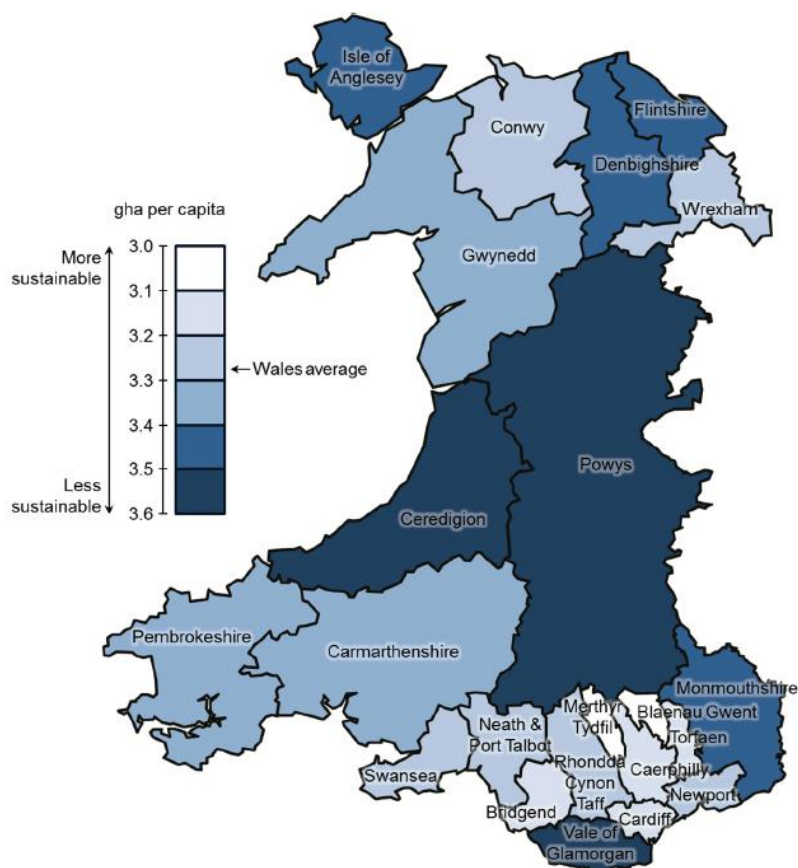


Figure 10 Ecological footprint of Wales by region⁴

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

With no LDP in place, development would be piecemeal and uncoordinated. Strategic planning in the form of the LDP allows resilience to be built into developments in terms of the materials, design, and siting (e.g. in relation to flood risk) to reduce the risks from the effects of climate change. Furthermore, measures which can help reduce the risks of climate change, such as promotion of renewable energy and sustainable use of resources can be co-ordinated.

5. Water

Water Framework Directive

5.1 The Water Framework Directive (WFD) establishes a framework for the protection of surface waters (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters) and groundwaters. Its purpose is to prevent deterioration and improve the status of aquatic ecosystems, promote sustainable water use, reduce pollution of groundwater and contribute to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts.

5.2 The Directive requires the water quality/quantity of our rivers, lakes, groundwater, estuaries and coastline is assessed using ecological (fish, invertebrates, plants etc.) and chemical (nutrients, pesticides, etc.) monitoring.

5.3 Waterbodies are assigned a status of health which is represented by colours on the map. Water bodies, that are classified as 'Bad', 'Poor' or 'Moderate' are failing the EU Water Framework Directive standards and these waterbodies will need to improve to at least 'Good' ecological status by 2027.

5.4 Overall water quality in the County has been improving with the majority of rivers reaching moderate to good ecological status under the water framework directive. Many of the waterbodies within the wider Tywi catchment, in the east of the county are moderate quality due to a legacy of historic metal mining. This often coincides with areas of extensive conifer plantations in the steeper slopes of the upland, many of these are also designated acid sensitive catchments due to their low natural buffering capacity.

5.5 More intensive agriculture in the valley bottoms have often compromised gains in water quality. This is especially true in catchments dominated by intensive dairy production. In addition to their regulatory role NRW locally is actively working with stakeholders to improve ecological and water quality across all water bodies including the Carmarthen Bay and estuaries.

5.6 Our EU designated bathing waters are monitored from May to September for contamination from faecal indicator organisms. Bathing waters are classified annually according to the quality of the water (Excellent, Good, Sufficient, Poor). At the end of the 2015 season the beaches were classified and all designated bathing waters in Wales met the sufficient standard or above. As of 2018, Carmarthenshire is home to one Blue Flag beach in Cefn Sidan Beach.

5.7 The following maps and charts have been extracted from the Local Evidence Pack: Carmarthenshire 4/10/2013 as produced by Natural Resources Wales and provide further information in relation to Water Framework Directive Classifications for the County. Further reference should be had to the content of the Pack in relation to Water Quality considerations. Updated maps have also been provided displaying the results from Cycle 2 of the WFD monitoring (2015).

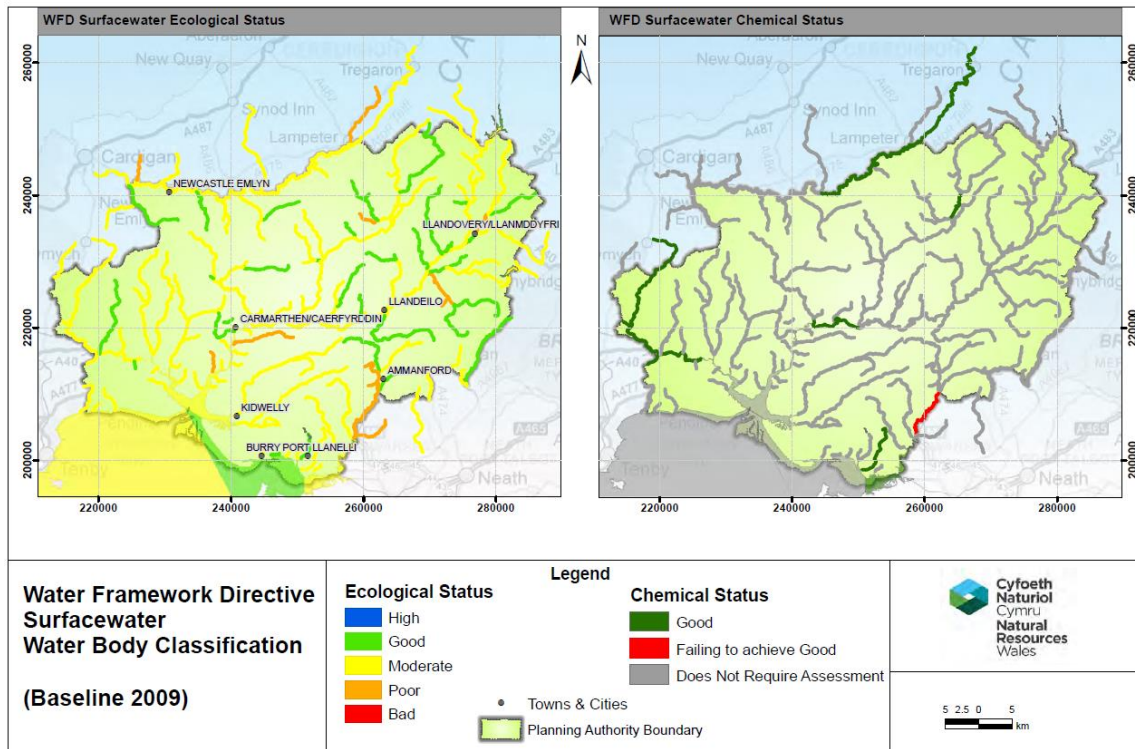


Figure 11 Water Framework Directive Surfacewater (River, transitional and coastal) Water Body Classification Cycle 1 (Baseline 2009)

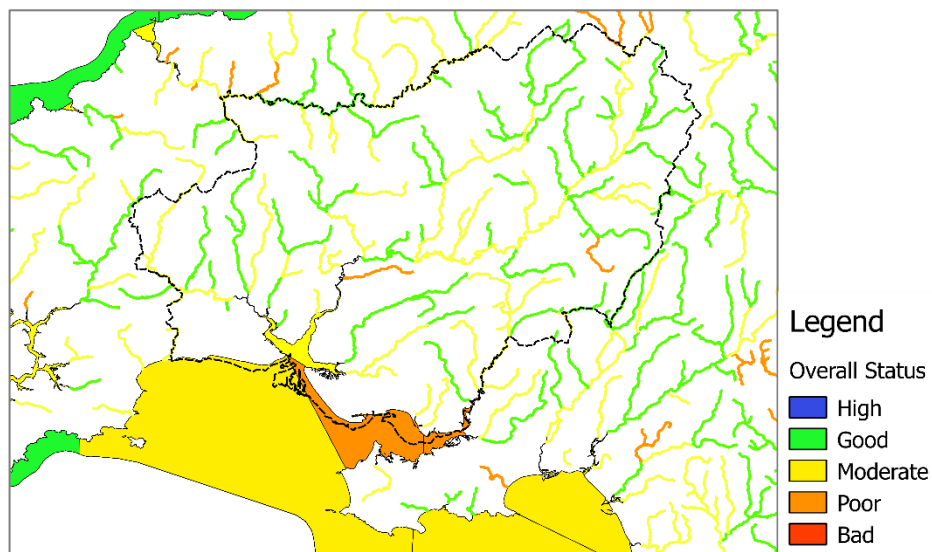


Figure 12 Water Framework Directive Surfacewater (River, transitional and coastal) Water Body Classification Cycle 2 (2014 – 2019)

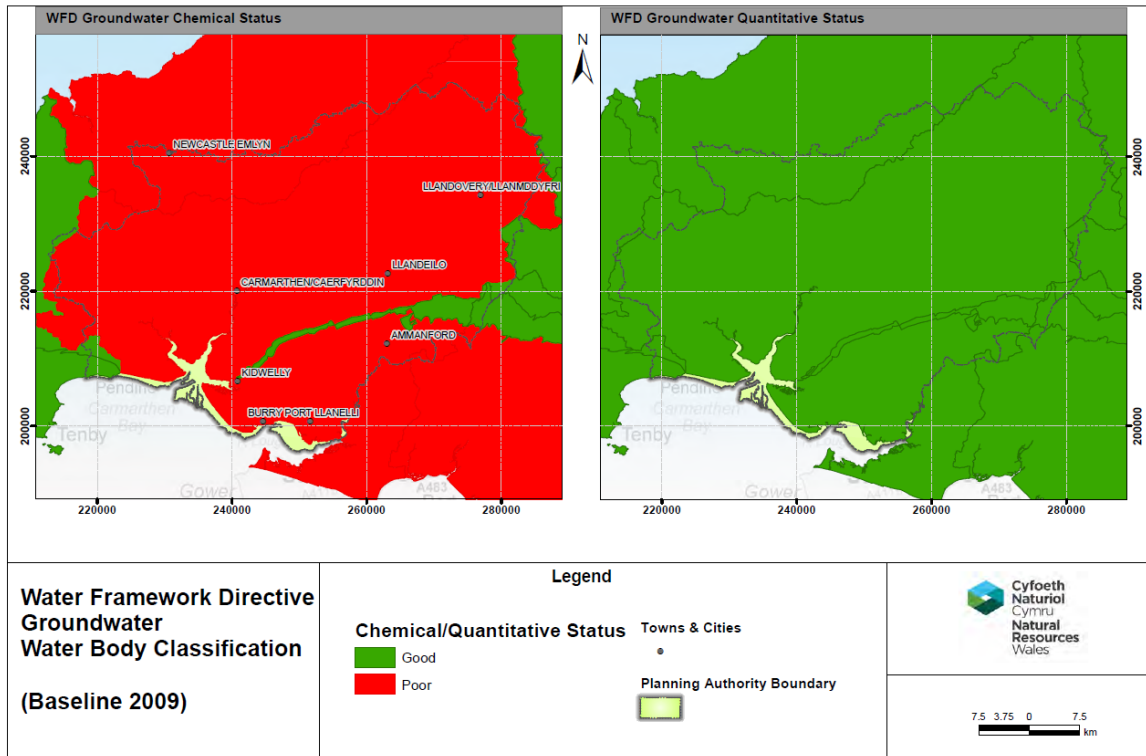


Figure 13 Water Framework Directive Groundwater Classification Cycle 1 (baseline 2009)

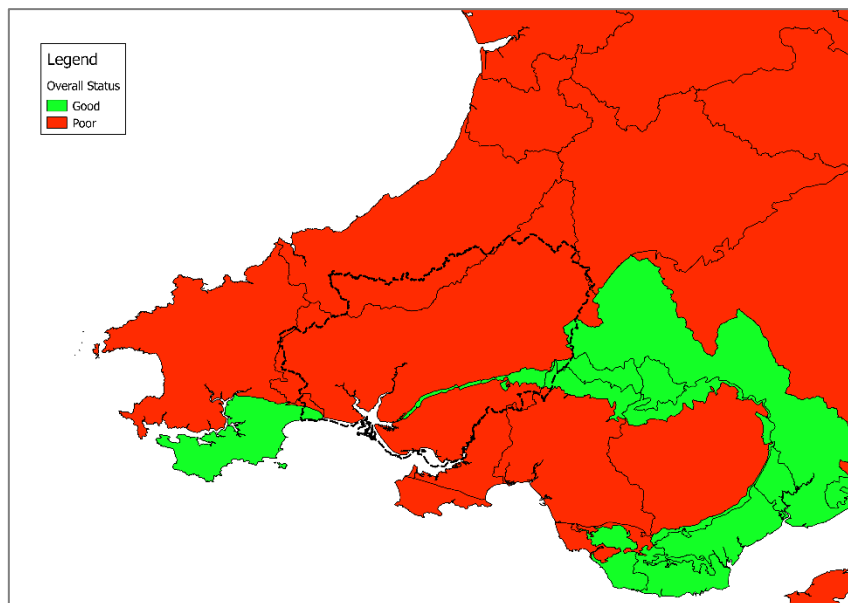


Figure 14 Water Framework Directive Groundwater Classification Cycle 2 (2014 – 2019)

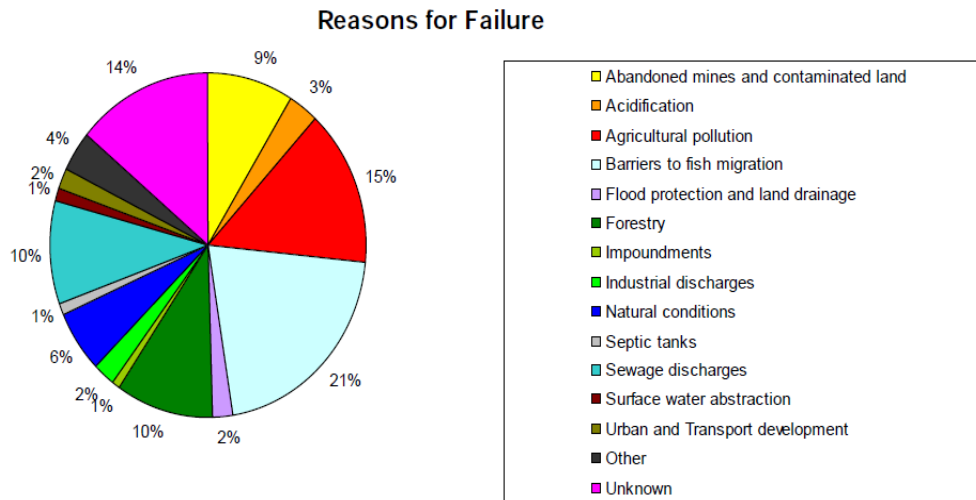


Figure 15 Water Framework Directive: Reasons for Failure for Water Bodies in Carmarthenshire 2009

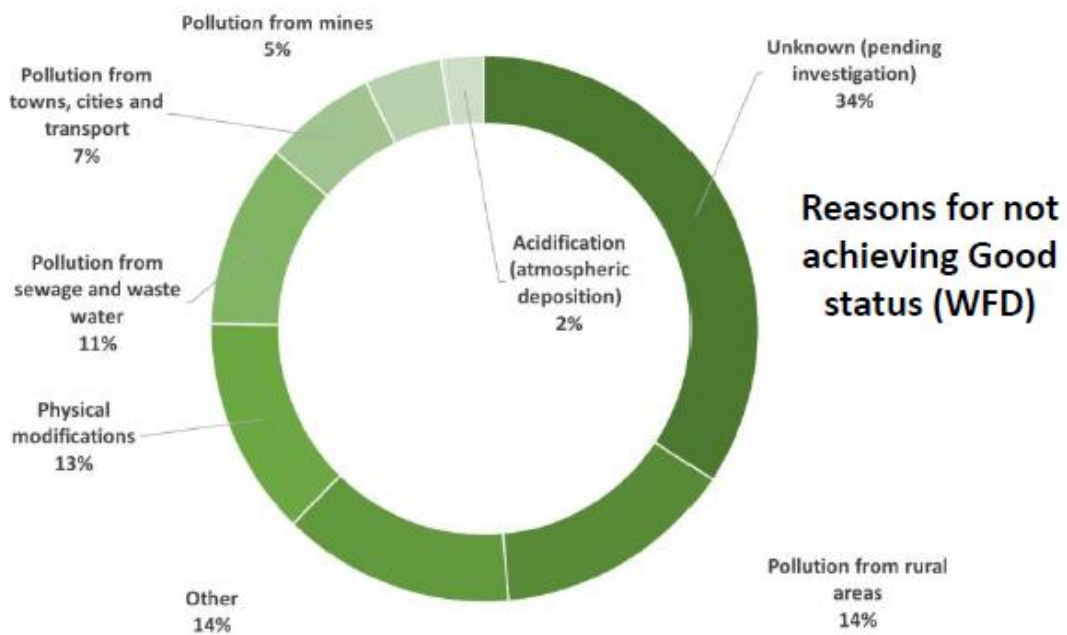


Figure 16 Water Framework Directive: Reasons for failure in the South-west area (taken from <https://naturalresources.wales/about-us/area-statements/south-west-wales-area-statement/?lang=en>)

Water Supply

5.8 The Dwr Cymru Welsh Water Resources Management Plan (2014) 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.

5.9 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).

5.10 The Tywi Conjunctive Use System is the largest WRZ in South West Wales, extending in the east from the Vale of Glamorgan to west of Carmarthen and stretching northwards past Llanwytrd Wells.

5.11 In relation to Carmarthenshire, the Tywi Gower zone is shown to be in surplus. However Pembrokeshire is shown to be in deficit (Figure 17).



Figure 17 Water Resource Zone Supply Demand Position - Red indicates deficit, Green indicates surplus

Flood Risk

5.12 Flood risk within Carmarthenshire affects a range of settlements and parts of the County through both fluvial and tidal inundation. Interactive flood risk maps are available on the website of Natural Resources Wales (<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/flooding-and-water/>).

Llanelli is the community with the highest flood risk in the Carmarthen Bay and Gower flood risk management catchment and is one of the top 50 highest risk communities in Wales. The community covers a large geographic area and is densely populated. The primary risk is from the watercourses that intersect the town. The rivers Dafen, Lliediand Dulais all pose

flood risk, these watercourses have been significantly altered as the town has developed. Flood walls and embankments help to mitigate the risk of flooding in some places.

The river Taf is predominantly a rural catchment, the main areas of flood risk are in Whitland and St Clears, these communities have a long history of flooding. Flood alleviation schemes in the towns have afforded some protection though flood risk still remains. In the vast river Towy catchment, many of the dispersed communities have some risk of flooding and the communities of Llandovery and Llandeilo are noted as having the highest flood risk.

5.13 The map below shows the different flood risk if there were no flood defences. These are: Flood Zone 3 – High probability of flooding. Land assessed as having a greater than 1% probability of flooding (or from the sea of greater than 0.5%) in any year. Flood zone 2 – Medium probability of flooding – 1% - 0.1%. Or annual probability of sea flooding (0.5% - 0.1%) in any year.

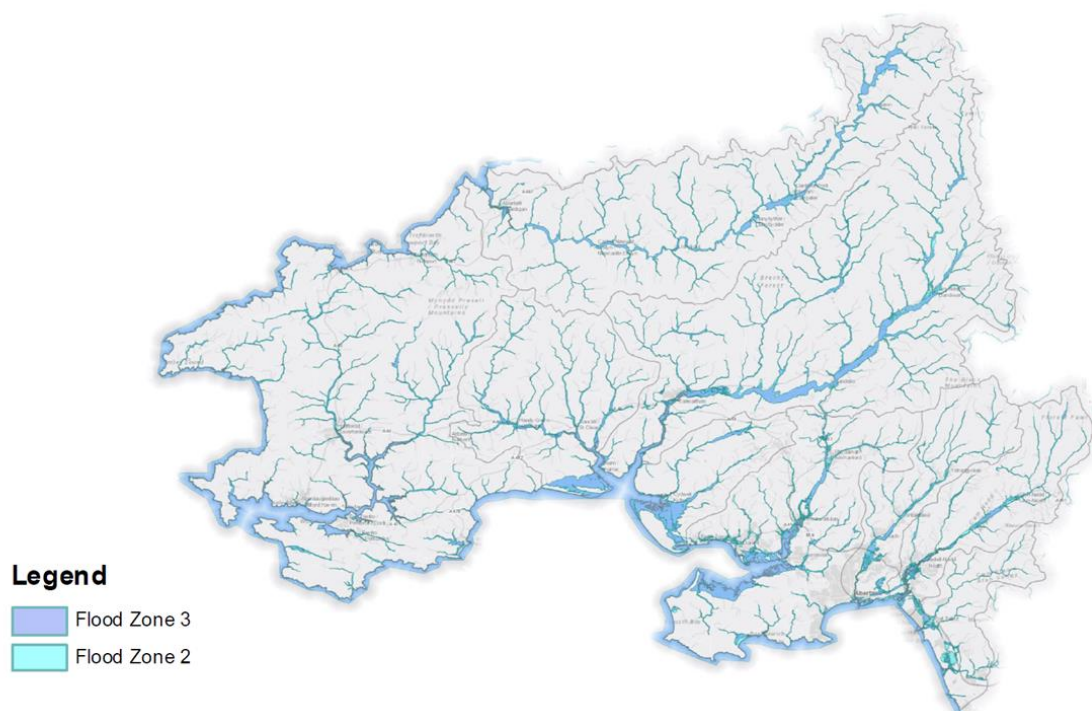


Figure 18 Flood risk zones 2 and 3 for the South West Area. Source: <https://naturalresources.wales/flooding/>

Drainage Infrastructure

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) has a duty under Section 94 of the Water Industry Act 1991 to accept wastewater from new development when connection to the mains sewer system is viable. To this end, if additional capacity is required in the existing systems they are legally obliged to provide it through their normal funding mechanisms.

There are well documented issues with the sewerage infrastructure draining into the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site (CBEEMS) in the Burry Inlet. This area is one of the most heavily designated waterbodies in Wales and must achieve the requirements set by European Directives including the European Habitats Water Framework (WFD) and Shellfish Directives (SD). The CBEEMS is currently failing to achieve the required standards under both the WFD and SD, while the sewerage system has not met the standards required under the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD). There is a potential issue under the HRA if it is assumed that either DCWW can simply accept any associated increases in wastewater irrespective of limitations in capacity, or that such capacity issues can

simply be resolved by NRW consenting options which avoid adverse effects on European sites.

There are issues with the capacity of the drainage infrastructure network throughout the County and measures may be required to ensure that there is sufficient capacity within the waste water infrastructure network. This is particularly important for the Llanelli Coastal area, in order to reduce the number of combined sewer overflow discharges taking place into the CBEEMS. The responsibility for the sewerage infrastructure in the County rests with DCWW as the statutory sewage undertakers, and will need to be addressed in DCWW's long term Asset Management Plans (AMP). The AMP5 Improvement Scheme ran from April 2010 to March 2015, the current AMP, AMP 6, runs from April 2015 to March 2020 and AMP7 will run from April 2020 to March 2025. If developers wish to accelerate the process of achieving necessary reinforcement works mechanisms are in place to allow for this.

Table 2 below summarises the growth allocations provided for in the Plan against the receiving treatment works they connect to. The Works shaded in yellow discharge into the CBEEMS.

Table 2 Receiving wastewater treatment works for the allocations in the rLDP

WWTW	Number of Dwellings

Because of the previous issues with the Llanelli WWTW, the Council has since 2009 taken a precautionary approach to processing planning applications for new development in the catchment of the Llanelli WWTW, entering into joint agency agreement or Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with Swansea Council, DCWW, Environment Agency Wales (EAW) and Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) now Natural Resources Wales (NRW) regarding a common approach to ensuring water quality in the CBEEMS.

The agreed approach centres on removing surface water from the waste water treatment infrastructure and thereby increasing the capacity for the treatment of foul water (e.g. via planning conditions on new development seeking Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) and achievement of a betterment/ enhancement factor). The Council has also part funded an improvement scheme at Llannant WWTW, which has facilitated the removal of sufficient phosphorous.

The joint agency agreement (MoU) remains referenced in the Plan as it represents a commitment to joint working, which is necessary for the adequate provision of drainage infrastructure. The MoU will need to be updated to reflect changes in circumstances since the original MoU was agreed.

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

If the LDP was not in place, the WFD would still have to be adhered to. However without the Plan, development would be ad-hoc piecemeal and it would be difficult to coordinate, monitor and provide the necessary supporting infrastructure. The in-combination effects of development may not be assessed and the utility providers may find it hard to plan for growth and expansion in their networks without a 15 year LDP to inform them where future development is proposed. This may result in delays in bringing development forward and negative impacts on water quality, for example in the CBEEMS.

6 Material Assets

Highways and Transportation

6.1 Carmarthenshire is located on the A40, A477 and A48 trunk roads with connections to the west providing links to the Irish ferry ports, which with the M4 forms part of the Trans-European Network. The east-west link is further emphasised by the West Wales railway line which extends from Swansea (and the wider rail network) through to Pembrokeshire via Carmarthen and Llanelli. The West Wales line also forms part of the Trans-European Network linking to and from the Irish Ferry Ports in Pembrokeshire. The Heart of Wales railway line extending from Swansea through eastern parts of the County through to Shrewsbury offers additional transport benefits albeit based on a limited service.

6.2 The principal highway network within the Plan area includes the A48 trunk road leading to and from the M4 motorway and its connections through South East Wales and beyond. The A40 and A483 trunk roads offer links through the County to Mid and North Wales as well as to the Midlands and the North of England. Further access to the north of the County and beyond into Central and North Wales is provided via the A484 and the A485. The County is also served by a number of A-roads as well as numerous B-classified roads each representing important components of the highway network (Figure 19).

6.3 The following table illustrates the length (km) of the road network in Carmarthenshire, which in itself represents some 44% of the regional network, and illustrates the amount of the County accessed by B and lower classification roads, which is in part a reflection of the rural extent of the County and emphasises the challenges to delivering a sustainable integrated strategy for the area.

Carmarthenshire Road Network – Road Length (km)	
M4	5
Class A (Trunk)	147
Class A (County)	247
Class B and C	1,579
Minor Surfaced	1,496
Total	3,474

Source: Adopted Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan

6.4 In relation to car availability within Carmarthenshire as at 27th March 2011 only 18.8% of households within the County did not have access to a car or van whilst 43.5%, 27.6% and 10.2% had access to one, two or three (or more) cars or vans respectively⁶.

6.5 In terms of traffic volumes the County has in recent years seen a year on year increase since 2012 with the 2016 levels now at a level (2.00) which surpasses that of 2007 (1.94)⁷. Some 38% of this volume utilises the County's Trunk Road Network, with 34% of the volume through 'minor' classified roads, reflecting the rural nature of large parts of the County⁸.

⁶ People and vehicle licensing and ownership – Welsh Government 2012

⁷ Volume of road traffic by local authority and year (StatsWales)

⁸ Volume of road traffic by local authority and road classification (StatsWales)

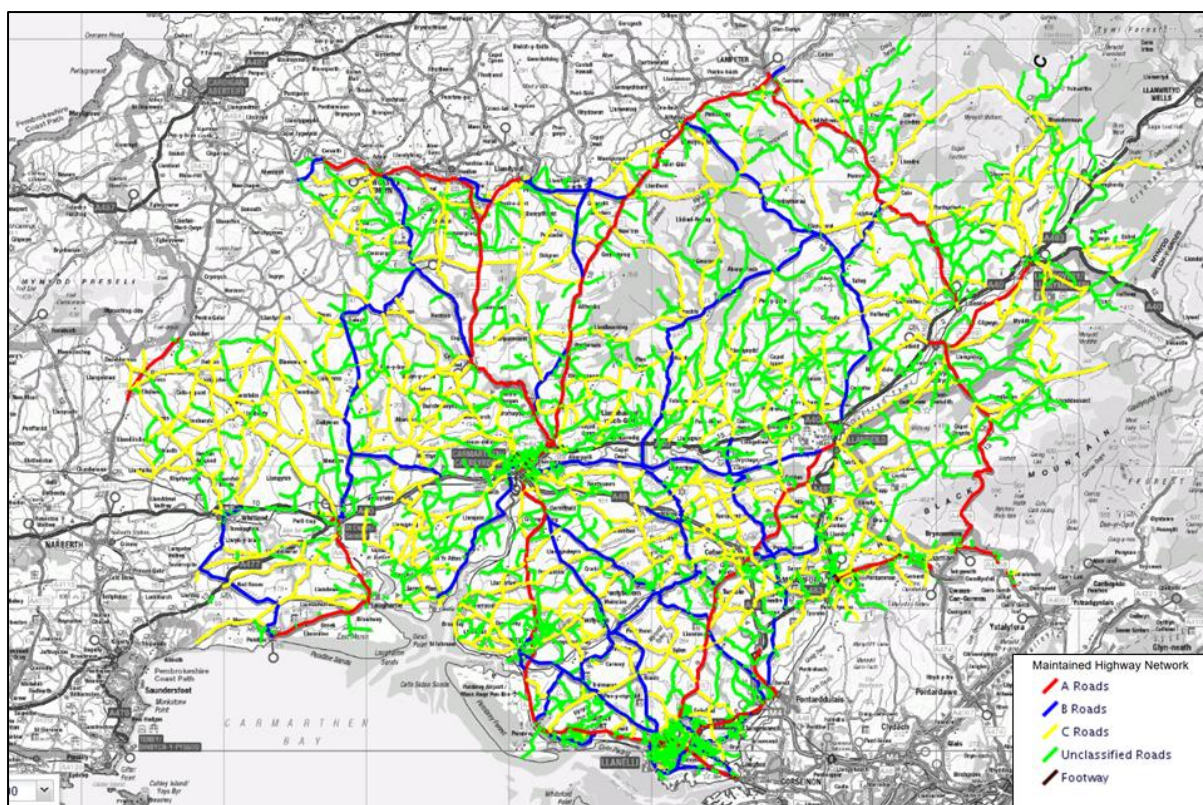


Figure 19 Carmarthenshire Road Network⁹

Waste

6.6 Carmarthenshire falls within the South West Wales regional area for waste management. Industrial & commercial waste makes up the most significant proportion of the total controlled waste stream within the region – 252,000 tonnes of residual (non-recycled) waste produced in 2012. Controlled waste includes municipal solid waste, commercial and industrial waste, construction and demolition waste, hazardous waste and the controlled fraction of agricultural waste. 135,000 tonnes of residual construction and demolition waste was produced in 2012. More up to date data is available for municipal solid waste, of which 161,000 tonnes of residual waste was produced in the 2016/17 period. In terms of hazardous waste, the rates produced have generally remained at a similar level in recent years. Whilst Wales does not have any hazardous waste landfill sites, the country is well served by other types of facilities that deal with such waste. There is no recent data available for agricultural waste.

6.7 The proportion of municipal waste recycled or composted in Carmarthenshire for 2016/17 was 66.2%. This is above both the average for the SW West Wales region, 64.3% and the average for Wales of 63.8% (*StatsWales*). The reliance upon landfill for residual waste has been steadily decreasing over recent years from 30,022 tonnes in 2012/13 to 3,960 tonnes in 2016/17. However, in the most recent surveys, this has increased slightly to 17,523 tonnes, largely due to changes in the recycling market (Figure 20). This general trend towards increasing recycling rates and decreasing waste to landfill is an encouraging sign, and is in accordance with national targets as set out in the national waste strategy *Towards Zero Waste*.

⁹ Data source Carmarthenshire County Council: <http://geodiscoverer/>

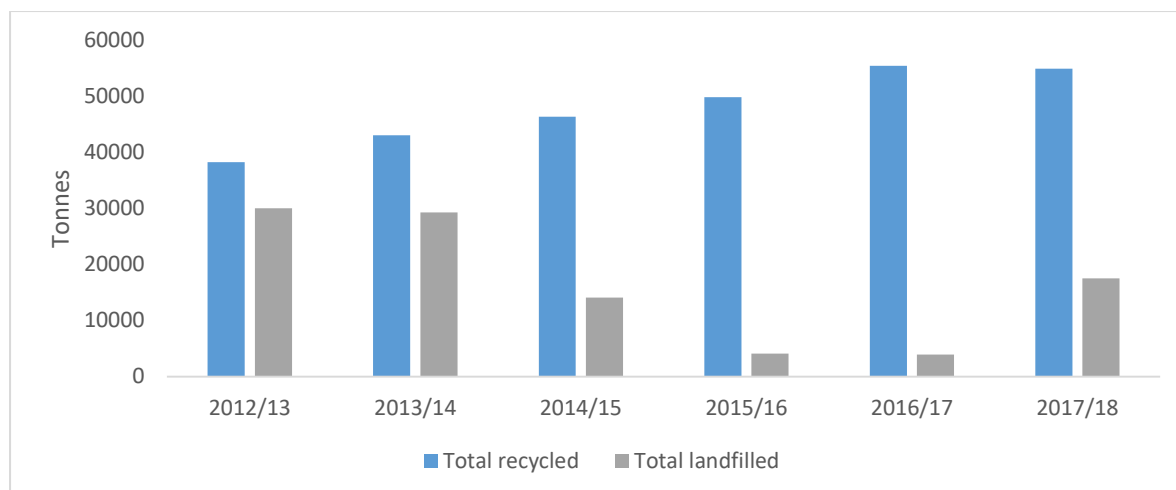


Figure 20 Annual management of waste management by method (in tonnes). Source: Stats Wales

6.8 According to Natural Resources Wales (2012), the SW Wales region has the highest preparation for re-use, recycling & composting rates for industrial & commercial waste (67%). However landfill was found to be the second highest method of waste management (21%). For commercial & industrial waste, Natural Resources Wales (2012) found that landfill was the predominant waste management method in SW Wales (57%) with recycling being second (31%).

6.9 Due to the decreasing amounts of waste going to landfill, the remaining void space for the region lies above the threshold set out in TAN21 (7 years). However, parts of the SW Wales region are reliant on utilising areas outside the region to cater for residual waste (including contracts with facilities abroad). There is a noticeable lack of alternative facilities to deal with residual waste within the region and this is an issue that will need to be monitored closely over the coming years.

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

If the LDP was not in place, National Policy and Legislation will require that proposed developments push waste up the hierarchy and regional collaboration between authorities. However identification of a residual waste facility if and when required would be difficult with a development plan in place.

7 Soils

Soil Quality

7.1 In Wales as a whole, there is a high incidence of sensitive habitats exceeding critical loads with respect to acidification (acid deposition) and eutrophication (nutrient enrichment). Critical values represent levels above which pollutants are considered to cause significant harm with respect to acidification and eutrophication (National Assembly for Wales 2007b). It should be noted that the trends identified for acidification rates of sensitive habitats is likely to be associated with the fact that soils in upland areas have a poor neutralising capacity and are therefore more vulnerable to the effects of acidification (National Assembly for Wales 2007b).

7.2 In Wales, the area of habitats with exceedance of critical loads for eutrophication has decreased by less than 10% (98% to 90.3%) between 1995 and 2013, but the magnitude of the average exceedance has declined by 44%, from 15.8 kg N ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ in 1995 to 8.9 kg N ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ in 2013⁸⁴. In Wales, the percentage area of habitats with exceedance of acidity critical loads (see NO_x) has decreased from 90% in 1995 to 74% in 2013. Over the same time period the magnitude of the average acidity exceedance has reduced by 65% (from 1.36 keq ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ to 0.45 keq ha⁻¹ year⁻¹).¹⁰

7.3 Data on critical loadings of nutrient nitrogen loads by nitrogen deposition (Centre for Ecology and Hydrology 2004) indicate that the degree of breaching of critical loads in soils is predicted to reduce, however that critical loadings will still be breached in parts of Carmarthenshire in 2010. Similarly, critical loadings by acid deposition in soils are predicted to decrease by 2010, though areas will remain where critical loads are still exceeded.

7.4 Soils are an important carbon sink, and therefore soil conservation can contribute to buffering the predicted effects of climate change.

Geology

7.5 The solid and drift geology of the County can be split into a number of broad categories:

- The Silurian series - present in the northernmost part of the County.
- Surrounding the Silurian series is the Ordovician series which constitutes the dominant strata of the County.
- Old Red Sandstone is present and extends in a broad band from west to east in the central areas of the county.
- Carboniferous Limestone is present around Pendine and in a narrow band from Kidwelly in the south and extends eastwards to the north of Ammanford and into the Brecon Beacons National Park.
- Millstone Grit Series is also present in a narrow band and overlies the carboniferous limestone series.
- The middle and lower coal measures are present in the South East of the County.
- Alluvium is present in the River valleys of the Tywi, Teifi and Loughor as well as the low-lying coastal areas around Pendine, Pembrey and Llanelli.

¹⁰ <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/the-state-of-natural-resources-report-assessment-of-the-sustainable-management-of-natural-resources/?lang=en>

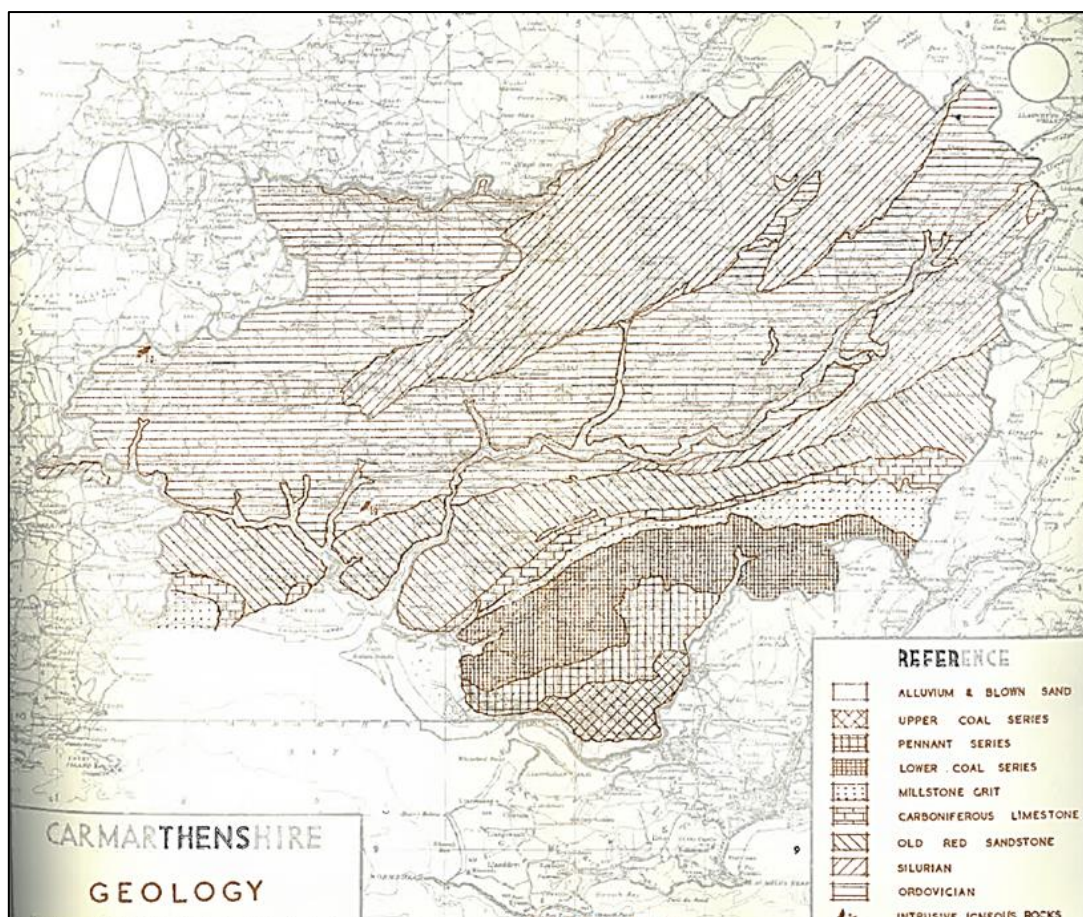


Figure 21 Geology of Carmarthenshire

Geodiversity and Geoconservation

7.6 The importance of conserving sites which reflect the geodiversity of the UK landscape and natural environment is now recognised as being of major importance in the context of sustainable land-use planning and development. Such sites can provide access to key bedrock, superficial deposits and soil units which contain instructive evidence of previous periods of environmental change, including climate and land-use change; many chart the history of local mineral extraction and associated industrial development; others were, and remain, the only source for building stones that contribute to our architectural heritage.

Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS)

7.7 RIGS are currently the most important places for Earth Science conservation outside statutorily protected land such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). RIGS form a network within a county or region of geological sites that are considered worthy of protection for their Earth Science importance. They are identified by locally developed criteria which may emphasise the local educational, historical and recreational resource rather than its national scientific significance which is the remit of SSSI status. RIGS form a network of second tier sites that supports the SSSI sites but which do not have statutory protection. However, the designation of RIGS is one way of recognising and therefore protecting important Earth science and landscape features through the local authority planning system for the future.

RIGS within Carmarthenshire

7.8 The British Geological Survey (BGS) has provided RIGS data for Carmarthenshire as part of the South Wales RIGS audit. The data identifies 32 RIGS sites within the SE part of the County. Further sites are known to have been evaluated in other parts of the County by the

South West Wales RIGS Group. The BGS will be consulted as part of the LDP review process in respect of any changes/updates to RIGS.

Hydrogeology

7.9 Groundwater is a significant resource supplying base-flows to local rivers and wetlands. Historically it has been exploited for drinking water and commercial purposes. The carboniferous limestone formations comprise a major aquifer that bears water that can be used to supply large abstractions for public or other purposes.

7.10 Carboniferous limestone at Pendine is used for public water supply abstraction.

7.11 The Old Red Sandstone and Millstone Grit rock formations are minor aquifers and are locally important sources of groundwater, although faulting may reduce the effectiveness of these rocks as aquifers. The coal measures in the southeast of the county also constitute a minor aquifer.

7.12 The alluvium deposits along the Rivers Teifi, Tywi and Loughor are minor aquifers. In the Teifi, the alluvium gravel deposits are used extensively for public supply and agricultural purposes.

Agricultural Land Classification

7.13 According to the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) data available, there is no land of the highest grades (Grade 1 and Grade 2) present within Carmarthenshire. A patchwork of Grade 3 land is situated towards the south and southeast of the county following the Tywi river valley, stretching from Llandovery in the east, through Llangadog, Llandeilo and Carmarthen. The majority of land in Carmarthenshire is classified as Grade 4 land, with a small proportion of Grade 5 land situated towards the northeast of the County.

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

Minerals Technical Advice Notes 1 and 2 require mineral resources to be safeguarded on LDP Proposal Maps and that areas where coal working would not be acceptable should also be mapped. In the absence of the LDP, these resources would not be mapped or safeguarded.

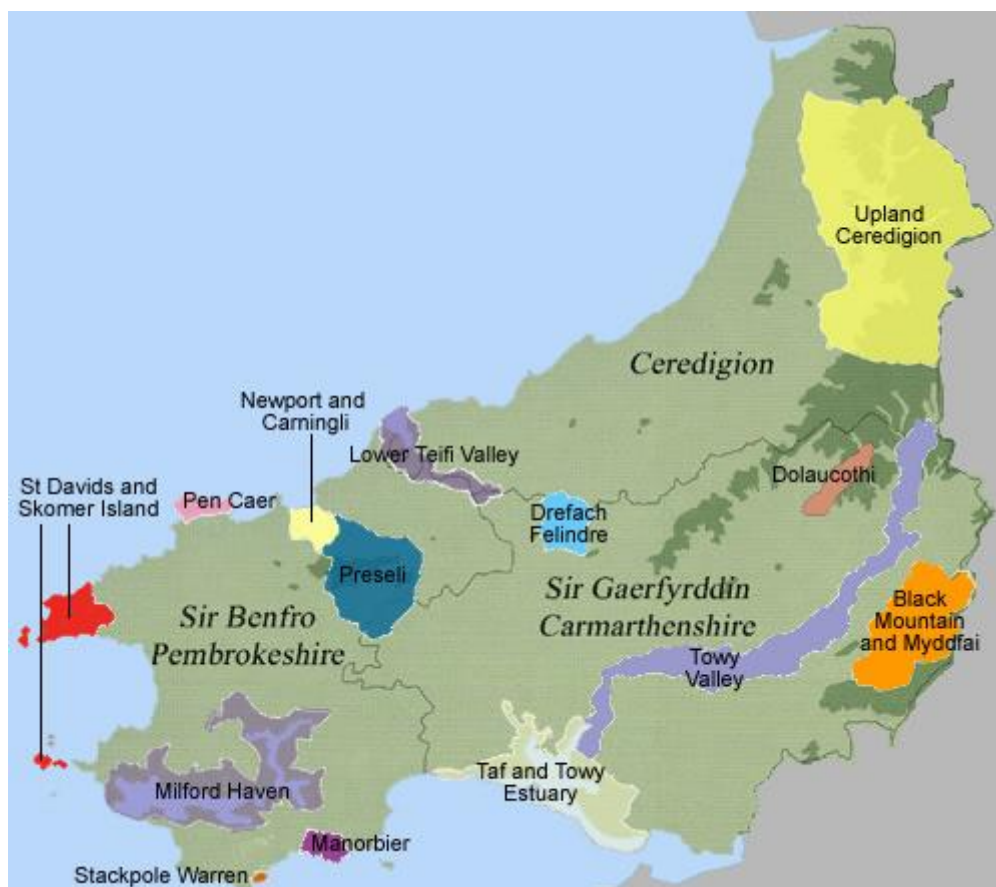
8. Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment.

8.1 Given the often large distances between regional centres in Carmarthenshire, towns and villages have historically developed distinctive local identities and cultures, based around industrial and agricultural heritage.

Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest

8.2 There are seven Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest that fall wholly or partly within Carmarthenshire:-

- Tywi Valley, Myddfai and Black Mountain
- Tywi Valley
- Preseli
- Dolaucothi
- Taf and Tywi Estuary
- Drefach / Felindre
- Lower Teifi Valley



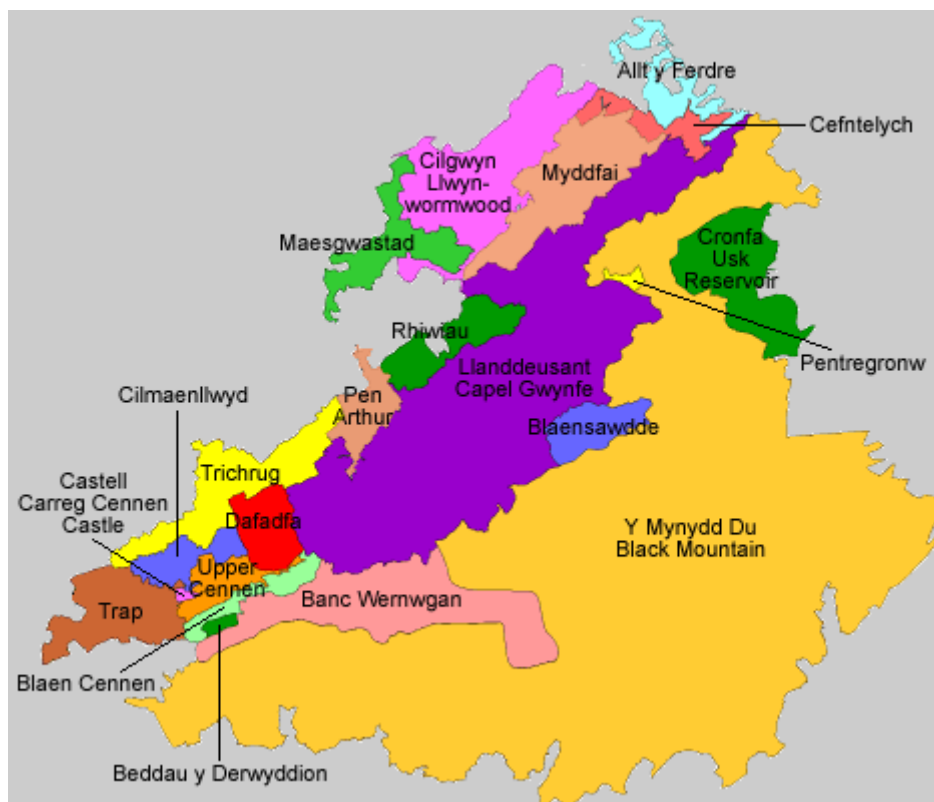
Source: Dyfed Archaeological Trust (<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

8.3 PPW states that: "In preparing their development plans, local planning authorities should take account of the register of historic parks and gardens in Wales and they should develop locally specific policies that will contribute to their protection and enhancement. Similarly local planning authorities should also take into account areas included in the register of historic landscapes in Wales and where it is considered appropriate to do so, develop locally specific policies that will contribute to their conservation"¹¹.

¹¹ Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9) – Paragraph 6.4.12
SA – SEA Scoping Report – Appendix B
July 2018

8.4 Further details in respect of the above Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest and their historic landscape characterisations is set out below.

Tywi Valley, Myddfai and Black Mountain



Source: Dyfed Archaeological Trust (<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

8.5 **Trap** character area consists of enclosed land of small irregular enclosures and pockets of larger regular enclosures. The settlement pattern is of dispersed houses and farms with a cluster of 19th century and modern dwellings at Trap.

Upper Cennen character area lies in the upper Cennen valley which has heavily wooded steep slopes, and enclosed land with dispersed farms on flatter land.

Beddau y Derwyddon character area is a small area of rough and improved pasture surrounded by a dry-stone wall separating unenclosed moorland from lower lying enclosed and settled land.

Dafadfa character area is situated on gentle north-facing slopes and consists of improved pasture divided into fairly regular medium-sized fields. The settlement pattern is one of widely dispersed farms. Farmhouses and outbuildings are mostly 19th century in date and stone-built.

Blaensawdde character area lies in the upper Sawdde valley at the foot of the Black Mountain. It consists of large dispersed farms, small- to medium-sized fields and woodland. Farmhouses mostly date to the 18th- and 19th-century and are associated with a wide range of outbuildings.

Cilgwyn-Llwynwormwood character area contains several former estates. Some of the mansions survive, but the main influence on the historic character by the estates was the creation of a 'parkland' landscape.

Rhiwiau character area lies across a ridge. Though formerly enclosed, many of the old banks and hedges are now derelict and the landscape has an open appearance. There are no settlements.

Pen Arthur Plantation character area lies across a high ridge and the valley sides of the Afon Sawdde. It comprises of 20th century forestry which has been planted over former fields. Dwellings survive in small clearings in the plantation.

Trichrug character area lies across a ridge which rises out of an area of rich farmland. Though formerly enclosed, many of the hedges and dry-stone wall boundaries have broken down and the area is now a patchwork of improved pasture, rough grazing, moorland and conifer plantations.

Myddfai character lies in an open valley and consists of dispersed farms and fairly regular fields of pasture. The village of Myddfai with its medieval church provides a focus for the area.

Llanddeusant-Capel Gwynfe character area consists of rolling enclosed farmland, dispersed farms and scattered deciduous woodland which fringes open moorland of the Black Mountain.

Cefntelych character area lies across a low ridge and consists of improved pasture which has been divided into large fields. Hedges to the fields are now mostly derelict, giving an unenclosed appearance to the landscape.

Maes-gwastad character area lies across the valley bottom of the Afon Brân and comprises of large fields of improved pasture which are divided by well-kept hedges, dispersed farms, but very little woodland or trees.

Pentregronw character area lies on steep southwest-facing slopes on the edge of the Black Mountain. Though formerly enclosed by dry-stone walls and banks, this area is rapidly reverting to moorland. A deserted farmstead is situated here.

Allt y Ferdre character area lies across hills and very steep valley sides. It is entirely composed of woodland, both old deciduous and 20th century conifer plantations.

Glasfynydd Forest - Usk Reservoir character area consists of a large 20th century conifer plantation and a 20th century reservoir. Both were established over what was mainly unenclosed moorland.

Banc Wernwgan - Foel Fraith Quarries character area occupies the northern edge of the Black Mountain. The land is unenclosed moorland. The remains of the limestone quarrying industry are obvious elements of the historic landscape.

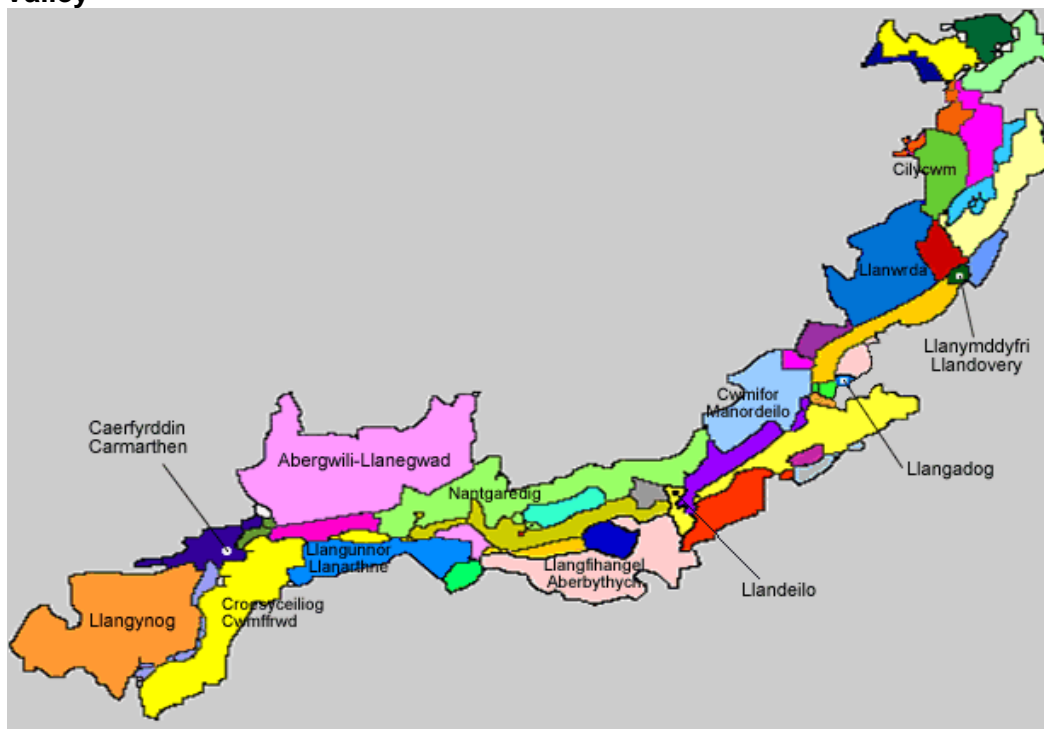
The Black Mountain - Y Mynydd Ddu character area is entirely open moorland. It includes the summits of Bannau Sir Gar/Fan Brycheiniog at over 800m, but it mostly consists of rough grazing and blanket peats between 250m and 600m.

Cilmaenllwyd character area consists of dispersed farms and cottages, and fairly regular fields of improved pasture. Boundaries comprise banks and hedges. Farmhouses and other buildings mostly date to the 19th century.

Blaen Cennen character area lies on the northern fringe of the Black Mountain and consists of dispersed farms and pasture fields.

Carreg Cennen Castle character area comprises of a craggy limestone hill on the summit of which is located the substantial remains of a medieval castle.

Tywi Valley



Source: Dyfed Archaeological Trust (<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

8.6 Llangynog Llangain character area consists of rolling landscape of small irregular fields, woodland and plantations on steep valley sides and dispersed farms, with small scale modern residential development close to Carmarthen.

Tywi Tidal Flood Plain character area is subjected to regular flooding and consequently has few historic landscape components apart from drainage ditches and fences, and navigation aids in the channel of the Tywi.

Carmarthen character area comprises the whole of the county town, including the historic core, 20th century housing development and infrastructure.

Ystrad Tywi: Carmarthen-Llandeilo character area comprises of the flood plain of the River Tywi. Widely dispersed farms on islands of marginally higher ground, and distinctive hedgerow trees lend a parkland appearance to the landscape.

Abergwili - Llanegwad Parish character area lies on the northern side of the River Tywi and essentially consists of small irregular fields of improved pasture, deciduous woodland on steep valley sides and dispersed stone-built farms.

Morfa Melyn character area is that small portion of the flood plain of the River Tywi upstream of Carmarthen that is subjected to occasional tidal inundation. It essentially consists of open pasture, with few boundaries.

Llangunnor - Llanarthne Parishes character area lies on north-facing slopes on the south side of the Tywi valley and consists of small fields, woodland and dispersed small farms.

Abergwili character area consists of a village of mainly 18th- and 19th-century houses along the A40 road (now bypassed), the medieval church, the modern Bishop's Palace of St David's, the old palace (now Carmarthen Museum) and its parkland grounds, and modern residential development.

Croesyceiliog - Cwmffrwd character area is enclosed into medium-sized fields of improved pasture. Small stands of woodland are mainly confined to steep slopes. The ancient settlement pattern of dispersed farms is supplemented by more recent linear development along main roads that radiate out from Carmarthen.

The National Botanic Garden of Wales character area encompasses the old gardens and parkland of Middleton Hall. This landscape is currently undergoing restoration and renewal, including the construction of a large glasshouse.

Llanarthne character area is centred on Llanarthne village, which has an old core based on the medieval parish church, but contains much modern development, and includes the surrounding rich farmland and dispersed farms.

Llanfihangel Aberbythych character area essentially consists of rolling enclosed farmland, woodland on steep valley sides and dispersed farms. 19th- and 20th century residential development is restricted to small hamlets and linear development along main roads.

Nantgaredig - Derwen Fawr character area lies across low rolling hills on the north side of the Tywi valley and consists of large dispersed farms in a landscape of small- to medium-sized fields. Modern linear and nucleated development is concentrated along the A40 road which passes through the area.

Llangathen character area is centred on Llangathen church and associated settlement, and Aberglasney house and gardens which are currently being restored. The overall landscape is of enclosed pasture and dispersed farms.

Golden grove/Gelli Aur character area includes the mansion, gardens and park of Gelli Aur, conifer plantation, parts of which encroach across the former park, and the estate village of Llanfihangel Aberbythych.

Allt Pant Mawr character area consists of the heavily wooded slopes of the south side of the Tywi valley. Interspersed with the woodland are smallholdings and cottages set in a distinctive system of small fields.

Dinefwr Park character area essentially consists of the 18th- and 19th-century house, gardens and park of Dinefwr together with the castle. The house and most of the park are owned by the National Trust and retain many of their historic elements.

Ystrad Tywi: Llandeilo - Llangadog character area comprises the flood plain of the river. There are no settlements and no woodland, though the plain is divided into a rather loose field system of medium- to large-sized enclosures.

Cwmifor - Manordeilo character area lies across low rolling hills on the northern side of the Tywi valley. It consists of ancient settlement pattern of dispersed farms, enclosed pasture and small stands of woodland, with 19th- and 20th-century linear and nucleated settlement along the A40 road.

Llandeilo character area is urban in character. The historic core of the town which consists mainly of 18th- and 19th -century buildings is grouped close to the A483 road and around the parish church. Later 19th-century and 20th-century development lies outside the core.

Allt Tregyb character area lies on north-facing slopes of the Tywi valley and consists of deciduous woodland interspersed with small irregular fields and dispersed small farms, smallholdings and cottages.

Felindre character area comprises of a small nucleated settlement of mostly 19th and 20th century houses, outside of which lie several loosely dispersed smallholdings in an enclosed strip field system.

Carreg-Sawdde Common character area consists of an unenclosed common, in the centre of which lies a cluster of 19th- and 20th-century buildings - encroachments on to the common land.

Llangadog, character area, is centred on the medieval church, Church Street and a small 'square'. Buildings on the square are imposing and 18th- and 19th-century in date. Later 19th-century residential development and 20th century housing and light industrial units lie on the outskirts of the town.

Cefngornoeth character area lies across a low, hilly ridge on the north side of the Tywi valley, and consists of dispersed farms, irregular fields and small stands of woodland.

Ystrad Tywi: Llangadog-Llandoverly character area consists of the flood plain and lower slopes of the Tywi valley. Large dispersed farms and a regular field system characterise the area. Distinctive trees lend a parkland appearance to the landscape.

Abermarlais character area is based on the old house, gardens and park of Abermarlais. The house has now gone and the park and gardens decayed. Situated between old deciduous woodland and conifer plantations, the open feel of the park still remains.

Llansadwrn - Llanwrda character area contains the two 19th century villages of Llansadwrn and Llanwrda which are set in a landscape of small fields and dispersed farms on low, rolling hills on the northern side of the Tywi valley.

Llandovery is an urban character area and consists of the historic core of town which includes the medieval castle and 18th- and 19th-century buildings, together with the outlying parish church, Llanfair-ar-Bryn medieval church and modern development.

Maesllydan character area developed out of an open field system. Pasture enclosed into regular fields contains traces of ridge and furrow cultivation. Settlement is predominantly of large dispersed farms.

Llwynhowell character area comprises substantial farms distributed along the lower slopes of the River Tywi set in a landscape of small irregular fields of improved pasture, and deciduous woods.

Cilycwm character area consists of the small village of Cilycwm and dispersed large farms. These are set in a landscape of irregular fields. The hedges to many fields are overgrown lending a wooded aspect to the area.

Rhandirmwyn character area lies in the upper valley. Dispersed farms and 19th century lead mining communities are the dominant settlement types. Fields are small and irregular. Woodland, overgrown hedges and conifer plantations lend this area a heavily wooded aspect.

Cwm-y-Rhaeadr character area consist of very steep valley sides. Most of the valley sides have been planted with conifer plantations, but a little open moorland is present. The area lies above the rich farmland of Cilycwm character area.

Nant-yFfin character area lies in the upper, steep-sided valley of the Tywi and its tributaries. Historic landscape components consist of dispersed farms - 19th century stone buildings - small irregular fields and deciduous woodland.

Craig Ddu character area consists of very steep, craggy valley sides and a high moorland plateau. The valley sides are cloaked with deciduous woodland interspersed with rough grazing and moorland.

Dinas character area lies in the upper Tywi valley and consists of steep valley sides covered in dense deciduous woodland, with open moorland on craggy slopes and a high plateau.

Craig y Bwch character area comprises of unenclosed upland on the eastern side of the Tywi valley. From the steep valley sides, the area levels out onto an undulating plateau of rough grazing.

Carn Goch character area consists of a low hill of open moorland on which lie the massive stone-built ramparts of a major Iron Age fort and a smaller satellite fort.

Fforest character area occupies a long ridge between the Tywi and Brân valleys. The field pattern of earth banks and hedges has now largely broken down, and wire fences provide stock-proof barriers. Land is improved or rough grazing, with scrubby woodland on steep slopes.

Dryslwyn character area consists of the earthwork and masonry remains of the medieval castle and town of Dryslwyn which lie on a low hill within the Tywi valley.

Bethlehem character area lies on the south side of the Tywi valley and comprises of a landscape of small, irregular fields, small stands of deciduous woodland and dispersed farms.

Garn-wen character area lies on northwest-facing slopes above the Tywi valley. It consists of irregular fields which run out onto high ground above, and two large farms, Garn-wen and Tan-y-lan.

Cynghordy character is located on the western valley side of the Afon Brân and the eastern valley side of the Afon Tywi, the area comprises of small, irregular pasture fields, woodland, and dispersed farms.

Llanwrda Parish character area lies across rolling hills to the north of the Tywi valley and consists of small irregular fields, dispersed farms and scattered woodland.

Preseli



Source: Dyfed Archaeological Trust (<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

8.7 The Preseli Historic Landscape transcends administrative boundaries with the following characterisation areas most directly contained either in whole or within part within Carmarthenshire.

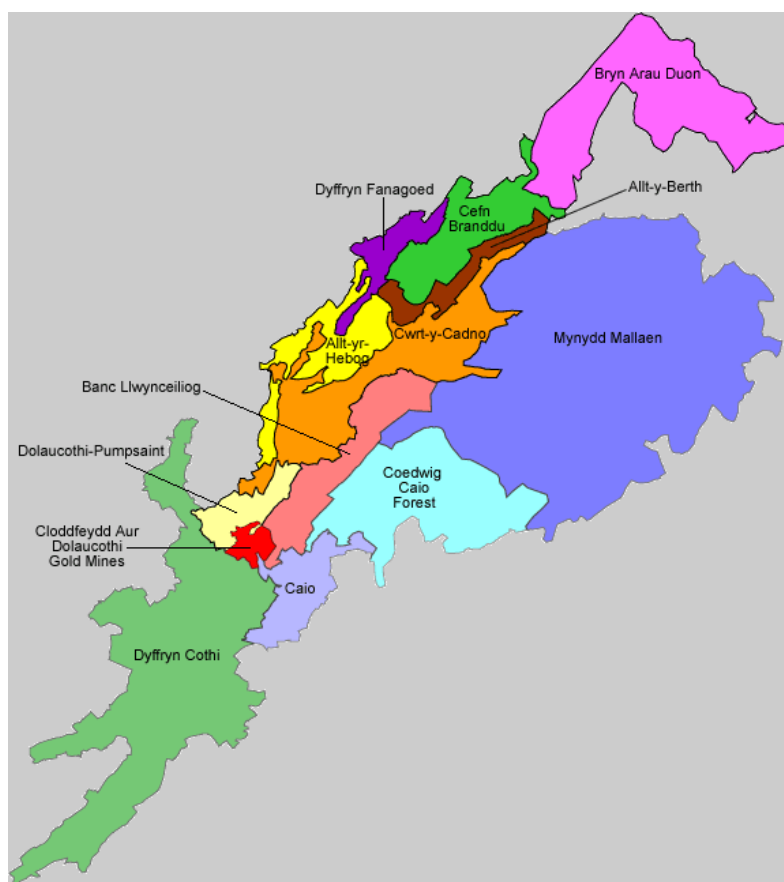
Llangolman historic landscape character area consists of irregular fields, dispersed farms and cottages, narrow lanes and woodland on steep valley sides. Buildings are of varied character and range from large farmhouses through to single storey cottages. Stone is the traditional building material. Boundaries are of earth or earth and stone, and are topped with hedges. Pasture is the predominant agricultural land-use.

Carn Wen historic landscape character area consists of a small unenclosed hill of scrubby land. The remains of a quarry abandoned in the late 20th-century are a prominent landscape element. There are no settlements, trees or roads in this area.

Glandy Cross historic landscape character area is centred on the A478 road. A system of fairly regular fields with dispersed farms and cottages lies either side of this road. Late 20th-century linear housing and other buildings have developed at Glandy Cross and Efailwen. Prehistoric ritual and funerary monuments, including Meini Gwyr stone circle, are a characteristic of this area.

Pentre Galar historic landscape character area was open common land until it was enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1812. The regular field system, dispersed farms and roads all date to this period. Stone is the principal building material. Boundaries are of earth banks topped with hedges. Land-use is improved pasture with tracts of rougher ground.

Dolaucothi



Source: Dyfed Archaeological Trust (<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

8.8 Dolaucothi - Pumpsaint character area lies across the valley floor of the Cothi and consists of Pumpsaint village, and the park and gardens attached to the former Dolaucothi House. The village mostly consists of 19th century buildings erected in a distinctive style by the Dolaucothi estate in the 1850s.

Cwrt-y-cadno character area lies in the upper Cothi valley. It is a landscape of dispersed farms, small fields and woodland. Many of the farms were built by the Dolaucothi estate in the 1850s in a distinctive 'pattern-book' style.

Dolaucothi Gold Mines character area consists entirely of the remains of the gold mining industry dating from Roman times to the 20th century. The National Trust own the site, and they have re-erected examples of mine buildings as visitor attractions.

Caio character area is centred on the village of Caio. However, the main components of this landscape comprise dispersed farms and irregular fields of pasture which are divided by earth banks and hedges.

Caio Forest character area consists of a large 20th century conifer plantation which has been established over unenclosed moorland.

Banc Llwynceiliog character area lies on the upper valley side of the Afon Cothi. Old enclosures of banks and hedges have now broken down and the area is essentially open improved pasture. Linear earthworks of Roman aqueducts which run along the valley side are prominent landscape elements.

Mynydd Mallaen character area comprises of a high moorland plateau which is surrounded by lower lying farms and fields and flanked by forestry.

Dyffryn Fanagoed character area lies across the floor and lower slopes of a high, open valley, and consists of dispersed farms, the buildings of which are mostly 19th century, and small irregular fields.

Allt-yr-hebog character area comprises of ancient deciduous woodland and conifer plantations on the steep sides of the upper Cothi valley.

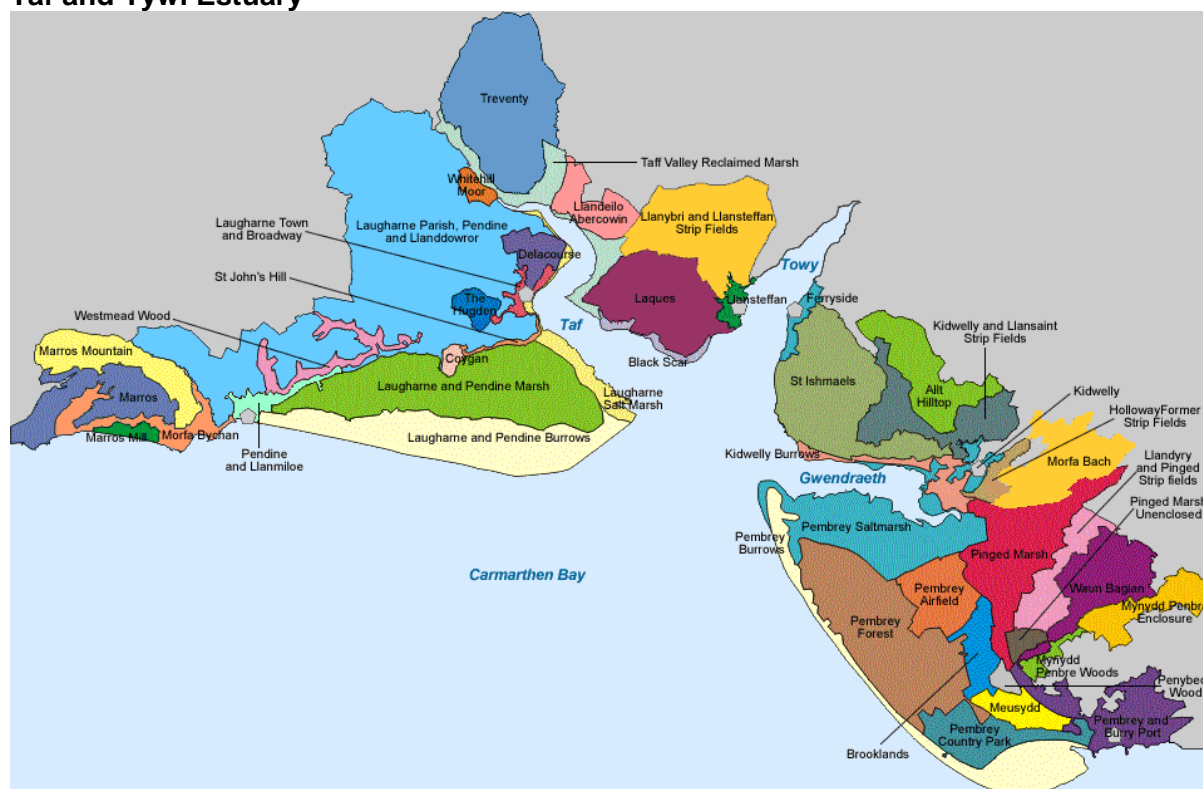
Allt-y-Berth character area consists of deciduous woodland and a little moorland on steep, craggy slopes of the upper Cothi valley.

Cefn Branddu character area lies over a high rounded ridge. Old boundary banks have now broken down and the area is now essentially unenclosed improved pasture and moorland with bracken and deciduous woodland on the steep flanking slopes.

Bryn Arau Duon character area consists of a large 20th century forestry plantation that has been established across high moorland.

Dyffryn Cothi character area lies across the floodplain and lower valley sides of the Cothi and its tributaries. It is characterised by dispersed farms and fields of pasture. Former parkland spreads across the valley floors close to Edwinsford and Glan yr Anell.

Taf and Tywi Estuary



Source: Dyfed Archaeological Trust (<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

8.9 The following sets out the landscape description, further details of the characterisation can be found via: <http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>

8.10 This littoral area of estuaries, coastal lowlands, sand dunes and intertidal sand bars lies across the north east side of Carmarthen Bay, on the South Wales coast. Behind the long expanses of sand dunes on the north east side of Carmarthen Bay, on the east and west sides of the estuary mouths of the Rivers Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth, lie large areas of low lying marsh land. The whole area contains diverse evidence of activity from the prehistoric to the recent past and includes the Hugden medieval open field system on the low coastal ridge west of Laugarne.

8.11 The present coastline is a changing one, owing to continuing sand movement, but sea walls and drains, fronted by tidally inundated morfeydd or salt marshes, safeguard the reclaimed land. Archaeological evidence, the study of relict and active features in the present landscape, and the use of aerial photographs, cartographic and documentary sources, have been successfully combined to reconstruct the evolution of this largely man-made landscape.

8.12 The geological inheritance of a line of former sea cliffs with a raised beach at their base form the northern boundary of the western, or Laugharne Marsh and the Gwendraeth estuary. Although now quarried away, caves in the limestone of Coygan Bluff on this former coastline have produced Upper Palaeolithic material, and excavation of the hillfort there prior to quarrying yielded a long occupation sequence from the Neolithic to the early medieval. More research is required to establish the position of the coastline in the Roman and medieval periods, but there is no doubt that the castle towns of Kidwelly and Laugharne were much more open to the sea than at present.

8.13 Many of the finds of prehistoric and medieval date from Laugharne Burrows cannot now be provenanced, but the position of shell middens within both dune systems, which have produced medieval pottery is crucial to the chronology of coastal change and enclosure. They would benefit from modern excavation.

8.14 The former Witchett Brook divided Laugharne Marsh into East and West Marsh, the latter used as saltmarsh pasture in the Middle Ages before any sea walls were built, and there may also have been medieval settlement on the slightly raised sites of some of the present day farms on East Marsh. Although partly within the present Ministry of Defence range at Pendine, traces of 17th century sea walls survive and the successive enclosures of the early 19th century are well preserved. Access from Coygan quarry to the river at Laugharne was provided by a tramway and small creek, Railsgate Pill, still well-preserved, evidence for the now vanished era of coastal trade which persisted in the small estuary ports until the Second World War.

8.15 The enclosure of Pembrey Marsh was, like Laugharne, made possible by the development of sheltering seaward sand dunes. Its industrial history and legacy is more complex with a remarkable series of early canals leading to shipping places and quays. These were developed to export the anthracite coal of the South Carmarthenshire coalfield, from the early 18th century onwards. They led across lands enclosed from the sea inland of Pembrey Burrows by the late 17th century, if not earlier. Earthwork traces of cultivation and drainage techniques in both Marshes are evident both from the air and on the ground on farmlands seen by improvers, such as Charles Hassall in the early 19th century, as test beds for modern agricultural techniques. This contrasts with the remarkable survival, in the Hugden belonging to Laugharne Corporation, of a medieval open field system, still communally apportioned and unenclosed, which has been included within the boundaries of this area.

8.16 Twentieth century changes are more evident on Pembrey Burrows, now covered in a forestry plantation of the 1920s. A variety of industrial uses in the early 20th century culminated in a wartime airfield and a Royal Ordnance Works, one of whose surviving structures is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Sport and leisure activities are, and have been, an important feature of 20th century uses of the area, from the land-speed record attempts by the Campbells, and Parry Thomas in 'Babs' in the 1920s along Pendine Sands, to the creation of a Country Park in Pembrey Burrows in the 1980s. Carmarthen Bar was notorious for its shipwrecks, a number of which are prominently visible and accessible at low tide, while others are revealed periodically by the ever-shifting sands. Finally, Laugharne must not be forgotten

for its literary associations with the poet Dylan Thomas and his insights of life in a small Welsh community during the mid-20th century¹².

Drefach / Felindre



Source: Dyfed Archaeological Trust (<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

8.17 **Drefach – Felindre** is an industrial historic landscape character area based on the woollen industry. Stone-built mills, workers' houses, owners' houses, churches and chapels clustered in several villages attest to the rapid expansion of this industry in the late 19th century and early 20th century.

Deciduous woodland on steep valley sides above the industrial settlements of Drefach and Felindre characterises the **Dyffryn Bargoed and Dyffryn Esgair** historic landscape character area.

The **Afon Teifi: Newcastle Emlyn – Llandysul** historic landscape character area comprises the rich pasture of the floodplain. There are no houses but two 18th century stone bridges are included.

Small regular fields created by an Act of Parliament in 1855 and deciduous woodland characterise the relatively small **Coed Mawr** historic landscape character area.

Dispersed farms within a landscape of pasture fields with deciduous woodland on steeper slopes and a few late 19th century woollen mills and workers' houses close to the Afon Teifi characterise the **Llangeler** historic landscape character area.

Although small farms, cottages and other buildings testify to its 19th century origins, the **Saron –Rhos** historic landscape character area is overwhelmingly characterised by modern linear housing development stretching for several kilometres along the main A484 road.

The **Bwlch-Clawdd – Cwmbach** historic landscape character area appears to have developed during the late 18th century when farms and small fields were established on open moorland. Most buildings in the area are modern. Two Bronze Age round barrows and the early medieval Clawdd-Mawr dyke are included in this area.

¹² Historic landscape Characterisation – Dyfed Archaeological Trust
SA – SEA Scoping Report – Appendix B
July 2018

An 1866 Act of Parliament enclosing open moorland into fields created much of today's **Rhos Penboyr** historic landscape character area. Small farms, coniferous plantations, a World War 2 'stop line' and three wind turbines have been subsequently established.

The **Waunfawr** historic landscape character area largely results from an 1866 Act of Parliament enclosing moorland in regular fields and bisecting it with straight lanes. Small farms were later established. Two Bronze Age round barrows survive from a much earlier age.

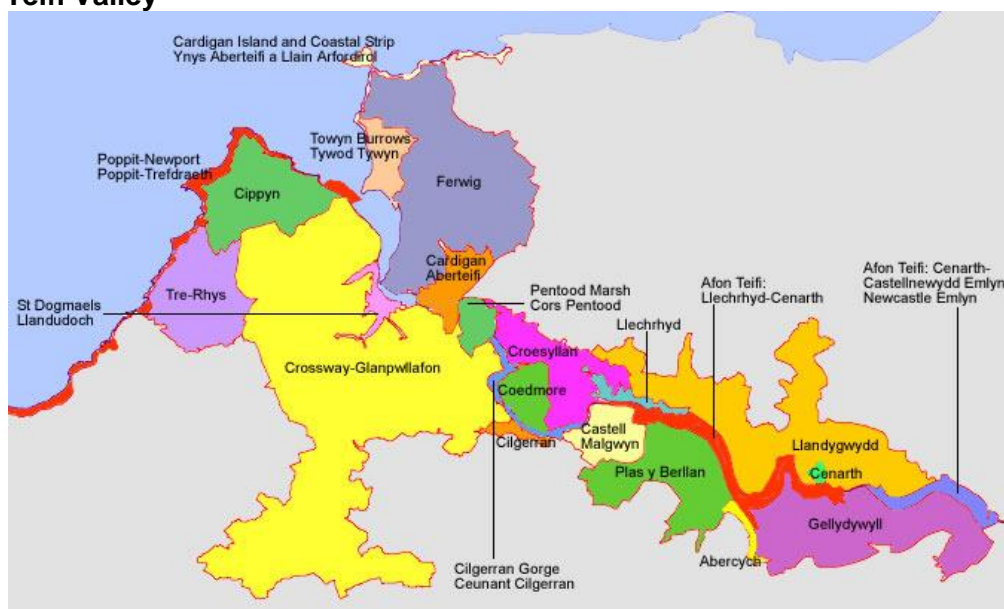
A close distribution of small farms in a landscape of fields bounded by hedges on banks characterises the **Penboyr** historic landscape character area. Apart from a few modern houses, almost all the buildings in this area date to the 19th century.

Dispersed farms, fields and deciduous woodland on steep valley sides, with a scatter of late 19th century workers' houses close to Drefach-Felindre characterise the **Bwlchydomen-Pentrecagal** historic landscape character area.

Rhyddgoed is a relatively small historic landscape character area and consists of regularly shaped fields and dispersed farms. Most buildings date to the 19th century.

Henllan is a small but complex historic landscape character area comprising a 19th century village focused on an old railway (now a tourist line) and a World War 2 prisoner of war camp, now largely converted to other uses, surrounded by deciduous woodland and farmland.

Lower Teifi Valley



Source: Dyfed Archaeological Trust (<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

8.18 The Lower Teifi Valley Historic Landscape transcends administrative boundaries with the following characterisation areas the most directly related to or contained within Carmarthenshire. Pasture fields separated by overgrown hedges on the floodplain characterise the **Afon Teifi: Cenarth – Newcastle Emlyn** historic landscape character area. There are no buildings or other structures.

The older part of **Cenarth** historic landscape character area lies to the south of the historic bridge over the Teifi and comprises a loose cluster of mainly 18th and 19th century stone buildings. Most modern development lies to the north of the bridge.

Fields, dispersed farms, deciduous woodland and coniferous plantations, much on fairly steep north-facing slopes, characterise the **Gellydywyll** historic landscape character area. Farms are generally large, and include the 19th century model farm of Gelligatti.

The **Afon Teifi: Llechrhyd – Cenarth** historic landscape character area consists of fields and overgrown hedges across approximately 7 km of floodplain. A timber yard and a walled garden are the only structures in this character area.

Dispersed farms set in a landscape of pasture fields and deciduous woodland on the north side of the Afon Teifi characterise the **Llandygwydd** historic landscape character area. Older buildings range from Georgian gentry houses to cottages. All are stone-built and most date to the 19th century. **Abercych** is a 19th century industrial linear village spaced along a minor road on a steep valley side. Older buildings date to the 19th century and are stone-built. Modern housing infills the gaps between these older structures.

Registered Parks and Gardens

8.19 The following Registered Parks and Gardens are situated in Carmarthenshire:

Registered Park and Gardens	Grade	Reasons for Designation
Llanmiloe House	II	Well preserved Edwardian garden with much original planting.
Laugharne Castle & Castle House	II	Castle garden is unusual example of picturesque garden laid out in a medieval castle. Contains remains dated to Tudor period. Main garden restored to early nineteenth layout & contains early nineteenth century gazebo with views over Taff. Castle: Guardmanship Ancient Monument; Scheduled Ancient Monument; Listed Buildings: castle; (grade I), walls (grade II), gazebo (grade II). Castle House: listed building (grade II*).
Maesyrcrugiau Hall	II	Remains of extraordinary Edwardian summerhouse in neglected contemporary garden with some pre-1891 features.
Middleton Hall	II	Survival of late eighteenth-century landscaped park in fine countryside, with main feature of lakes. The house and pleasure garden have gone. Ruined structures remain & present. There is unusual double-walled kitchen garden & preserved ice house. The core of the park now converted into National Botanic Garden of Wales. Listed building: stables (grade II)
Aberglasney	II	Survival of structure and trees of formal gardens and informal woodland garden of long established country mansion. Most important feature is arcaded court with raised walk around probably dating to early seventeenth century. Also two walled gardens, a pond, gatehouse, yew tunnel walk & remains of woodland walks. Archaeological excavation revealed phase of building work on gardens in seventeenth century. Aberglasney undergone major programme of rebuilding & restoration work in late 1990s. Listed buildings: Aberglasney & arcaded terrace walks enclosing walled garden (grade II*); NE courtyard range, former stables, cart-shed, SE courtyard range, former bakehouse, cowsheds, former small coach house, baliffs house, gatehouse & former domestic
Derwydd	II	A small late nineteenth century garden with surviving iron work, topiary, walled garden, walks, croquet lawn, incorporating earlier features including a pre-1809 terrace. Listed building: Derwydd (grade II*)
Dolaucothi	II	Early nineteenth-century parkland with remnants of possible lime avenue. Walled garden partially intact. A few specimen trees. Listed building: Dolaucothi (grade II); lodge (grade II)
Edwinsford	II	Vestiges of parkland including oak avenue possibly about 1635. Fine bridge linking utilitarian area, including walled garden,

		coach house, gardener's cottage to the mansion. Many of the buildings were topped with lead ornaments that depicted their function, now gone. Family associations with Sir Joseph Banks, who spent several summers at Edwinsford. Listed building: Edwinsford (grade II*); bridge (grade II)
Glynhir	II	Early to mid-nineteenth century garden, including fine dovecot, canal, walled garden, ice house and woodland garden with picturesque walks; picturesque bridges over waterfall on the river Loughor (Llwchwr) now disappeared. Listed buildings: house (grade II); dovecot (grade II)
Golden Grove	II*	Golden Grove was for long time one of the most important estates in West Wales. Its park & gardens contain many ancient trees. It retains good quality formal terraces & an outstanding arboretum associated with the Victorian House. The walled garden is of great interest in being associated with an earlier house & it contains a lake & canal which were probably in existence in the mid-seventeenth century. Listed buildings: house and stable block (grade II)
Pantglas	II	Much of the Victorian gardens (including a lake), constructed to complement the Italianate mansion built around 1853, remains intact although the house has gone. Listed buildings: house (grade II); bridge (grade II); utility courtyard (grade II)
Plas Dinefwr	I	An outstandingly beautiful & picturesque eighteenth-century landscaped park, incorporating the remains of a medieval castle. Site also includes a small lake, two walled gardens & fine sweeping drives. Lancelot (Capability) Brown is known to have visited the site & to have admired it. Listed buildings: Old Dynevor Castle (grade I); Plas Dinefwr (grade II*); inner & outer courtyard ranges (grade II*); low stone wall & gates to ha-ha (grade II); fountain in small formal garden (grade II); Dairy Cottage (grade II); Dovecot (grade II)
Taliaris	II	The essential layout of park & appears to have been little altered in the last two hundred years, although there is evidence for some change in land use. Listed building: house (grade I)
Parc Howard	II	Early to mid-twentieth century purpose-built municipal park, including fine gates, railings & bandstand. Mature shelter belt & small sunken garden. Listed buildings: mansion (grade II); bandstand (grade II); two sets of gates, gate piers & railings (grade II)
Stradey Castle	II	The parkland, which was probably enclosed in late sixteenth to early seventeenth century, retains park-like feel, although reduced in size. There is a fine terraced garden associated with the mid-nineteenth century mansion. Within the park are some interesting water features, a good range of trees, including some early introductions & woodland walks. A fine walled garden & nursery area are associated with the seventeenth century house, whose site was turned into a garden in mid-nineteenth century. Listed building: Castle (grade II*)
Llechdwnni	II	The survival of an unusual & early walled garden & formal pool, associated with one of the former most historic houses in the

		south of the country. The large garden has a long terrace, terminated at each end by projecting round gazebos. Listed building: old house (grade II)
Paxton's Tower	II*	The tower, built as a memorial & eye catcher, forms a spectacular picturesque landmark overlooking the Tywi valley & is visible for miles around. It was the only folly designed by the well-known architect S. P. Cockerell. Listed buildings: Paxtons's Tower (grade II*); Tower Lodge (grade II)
Llwynywormwood	II	Late eighteenth or early nineteenth-century landscaped park created out of rolling countryside. There are scenic drives which maximized the picturesque views, not only of the park, house, stream and a lake, but also of the Brecon Beacons beyond. Listed building: barn (grade II)

Source: Register of Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales - Cadw

Scheduled Monuments

8.20 There are also 366 Scheduled Monuments (SM) in Carmarthenshire; ranging from Prehistoric to Post-Medieval/Modern features of cultural heritage interest.

8.21 Reference is also had to the content of the Historic Environment Records (HER) across the county as compiled and maintained by Dyfed Archaeological Trust. Reference is had to the HER records via: <http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>

Conservation Areas

8.22 There are Conservation Areas in the following settlements in Carmarthenshire:-

- Abergorlech
- Cenarth
- Cwmdu
- Kidwelly
- Laugharne
- Llanboidy
- Llanddarog
- Llandeilo
- Llandovery
- Llanelli
- Llangadog
- Llangathen
- Llansaint
- Llansteffan
- Newcastle Emlyn
- St Clears
- Talley

8.23 The following areas within Carmarthen Town are also designated as Conservation Areas:-

- Carmarthen Town
- Lammas Street

- North Carmarthen
- Parcmaen Street/St Davids
- Picton Terrace/Penllwyn Park
- Pontgarreg and St Davids Hospital
- Priory Street
- The Parade/Esplanade
- The Quay/Towyside
- Water Street

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

With no Development Plan in place, proposals would only have to comply with national legislation with regards to consideration of the implications for historic environment. This would likely have a detrimental impact on matters of local cultural heritage

9. Landscape

9.1 The Brecon Beacons National Park is one of the most important landscape and nature conservation designations in the country. The National Park is an important geological resource, as well as also being important for biodiversity, and cultural heritage. The management of development in the National Park is covered by a separate National Park Development Plan Document, and as such is not part of the Carmarthenshire LDP.

Special Landscape Areas

9.2 The County contains many areas of high and outstanding landscape quality. Following guidance from Natural Resources Wales, and using Landmap information, the LDP identifies Special Landscape Areas (SLAs). It was established that the landscapes in Carmarthenshire that are considered to be of greatest importance, and which are worthy of the protection that the designation of SLAs provides, are the:

- River valleys
- Upland landscapes
- Coastal landscapes

9.3 The SLAs have been grouped according to these landscape types and are described below.

River Valleys

9.4 **Tywi Valley** – The SLA includes the entire river valley apart from the Tywi estuary, which forms a part of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SLA. The Tywi Valley SLA consists of the valley floor and associated slopes, and includes number of different landscapes. The upper Tywi Valley, north of Rhandirmwyn is typically narrow, rising steeply on either side to the more rugged upland landscapes of Mynydd Mallaen and the North Eastern Uplands, both of which are SLAs in their own right. The upper Tywi Valley is characterised by small fields, hedgerows, woodland, traditional farms, narrow roads, and the river itself, often bordered by trees, but in places by open meadows.

9.5 Moving down stream towards Rhandirmwyn and Llandovery, the mid Tywi valley opens out more, but the valley continues to rise up to the open hill land. The landscape is well wooded with a significant number of hedgerow and other individual trees. Here there is more open flat agricultural land, some small settlements - Rhandirmwyn and Cilycwm, both dominated by traditional buildings and vernacular architecture. These are harmonious unspoilt rural landscapes.

9.6 The lower Tywi valley down stream of Llandovery consists of the wide level flood plain, together with its northern and southern slopes which provide outstanding views over the valley and from the north towards the Brecon Beacons. Although dominated by agricultural land and larger fields than in the mid and upper valley, the flood plain also has a significant number of mature hedgerow and fields trees, and the valley slopes, particularly the steeper southern slopes are well wooded. Historic parklands and castles are also a feature of this part of the valley, e.g. Gelli Aur and Dinefwr Park, and Dinefwr and Dryslwyn castles. The castles in the valley have imposing locations on limestone outcrops, over-looking the valley. Traditional farms in the valley have typically expanded and often now include large agricultural buildings. Most of the settlements in this part of the valley have also grown with an element of modern

building around a more traditional core. Inappropriate development continues to threaten the conservation of this outstanding landscape, hence the reason for its designation.

9.7 Bran Valley (north of Llandovery) - The SLA consists of the flood plain and the valley side. The A483(T) and the Heart of Wales railway line run along this valley making it an important gateway into Carmarthenshire and it is known for the views into the county that these routes provide when travelling from Powys. The railway includes the viaduct at Cynghordy which is a well known landscape feature, and is visible from the main road, giving this area a strong sense of place. The main road is a feature of the area, while not particularly busy there is a fairly constant stream of traffic and the noise associated with this.

9.8 There are few settlements other than Cynghordy and here there is some parkland. The rest of the valley is a mix of agricultural land with hedgerows and trees on the flood plain and flatter areas and significant amounts of woodland on the valley slopes creating an attractive balance. The area includes a number of well wooded tributaries to the Bran.

9.9 Llŵchwr Valley - The Llŵchwr valley on the Carmarthenshire/Swansea boundary has a wide and level flood plain with steeply rising valley sides. The flood plain is open and is characterised by large irregular fields and some drainage channels. In contrast the slopes on the Carmarthenshire side support an attractive mix of woodland and agricultural land, the woodland often being associated with watercourses that run down the slopes. Small irregular fields with a mix of outgrown and cut hedge boundaries are also a feature of these slopes. There is little access to the flood plain other than for farming purposes, there is no settlement in it other than Pontarddulais to the south, and Ammanford to the north. The slopes are sparsely settled with scattered farms. The railway runs along the valley (mostly in Swansea), the track making a strong line in the landscape in contrast to the meandering river. Pylons cross the valley in the south but are partly masked by the wooded slopes to the west.

9.10 Cwm Cathan - Cwm Cathan is an impressive and steep sided river valley running from the upland area of Mynydd Betws to the lowland Llŵchwr valley. It is well wooded with semi-natural broadleaved woodland - including area of birch woodland, as well as semi-improved grasslands as well as scrub and bracken areas. The variety of vegetation here provides texture in this landscape, and creates a network of semi-natural habitats across the area. Some hedgerows are becoming lines of trees and these also contribute to the enclosed and well-wooded appearance of the area. Holly-rich hedges are a feature. This is an intimate enclosed, unspoilt and natural landscape, and not without views of the surrounding areas. With narrow twisty roads and being sparsely settled, this quiet area feels some distance from Ammanford.

9.11 Teifi Valley - The source of the Teifi is in Ceredigion, and the middle course of this river flows along the Carmarthenshire county boundary between Lampeter and Llechryd. Within Ceredigion the Teifi valley is also recognised as a SLA. The Carmarthenshire section of the Teifi runs through a well wooded valley. As the river flows west so the flood plain becomes broader. The valley immediately west of Lampeter is noted for the number of hedgerow and field trees it contains, although there is less woodland in this part of the valley than further downstream.

9.12 As the river flows through Maesycrugiau it becomes very narrow and gorge like. The river and its valley dominate this landscape and the area feels secluded. This section of the valley is well wooded. There is little new development in this section of the valley. Small farms and traditional houses including road side cottages are the dominant types of settlement.

9.13 The Teifi valley between Maesycrugiau and Llechryd is characterised by a particularly attractive balance between woodland (mostly broadleaved) with some conifer woodland) and open fields, notably in the flood plain, with mature trees. The river is frequently visible and with the roads that run either side of the river and this gives the area a feeling of movement in each direction. Views are restricted to the valley floor and its slopes, so there is a sense of being within the valley at all times. Development consists of scattered farms, some small settlements along the roads, and also includes the larger settlements of Newcastle Emlyn and Pentrecwrt.

9.14 **Cothi Valley** - The Cothi Valley can be described in four parts.

9.15 As the Cothi runs between Mynydd Mallaen and the North Eastern Uplands Special Landscape Areas the valley is upland in character. The slopes rise up from 160m to just over 400m on Mynydd Mallaen. The valley sides are well wooded with an attractive and balanced mix of broadleaves and some conifers, as well as enclosed and unenclosed grazing, and fridd. Where there are field boundaries these tend to be fairly weak, with some hedge lines becoming lines of trees. Fences are not un-common where hedges have disappeared. In contrast the valley floor is more intensively farmed, with frequent views of the fast flowing river throughout the area. Farms tend to be positioned at the base of the steep valley sides, at the break of slope. Towards Pumsaint the landscape has an estate character to it - visible in some of the building styles. The road is narrow, the farms scattered and vernacular styles dominate the building design. There is very little new development in the area.

9.16 The Llansawel Basin contains the confluence of the Cothi with a number of other rivers - the Marlais, Melindwr and Twrch. The narrow upland valleys in the surrounding area opens out in this section into a much larger river basin creating a much more open lowland landscape. Shingle banks are a feature of this section. The area combines gently rolling land with flatter valley bottom land, the majority of which is improved agricultural land, with a small amount of woodland. The hedgerows and hedgerow trees create the impression of a significant amount of tree cover. At the Glan yr Rannell Hotel there are some elements of a planned parkland landscape. Llansawel is the largest settlement and there are numerous scattered farms.

9.17 Between Edwingsford and Brechfa the Cothi valley is well wooded, and downstream of Abergorlech it passes through the Brechfa Forest. This section of the valley is more enclosed than the Llansawel Basin. The lower lying pasture land here is characterised by well-developed hedgerows, and hedgerow and field trees. There are few views of the river itself as its banks are frequently tree lined. The B road runs through the area and passes through the small settlements of Abergorlech and Brechfa.

9.18 Down-stream of Brechfa the valley is narrower and more V-shaped than the river upstream of the village - rather more like an upland river. It appears that the Cothi changed its course, having previously followed what is now the Gwili valley to the west of Brechfa. South of Brechfa the deeply incised valley rises steeply, to the hills on either side. The valley slopes are a mix of bracken, woodland, new woodland planting and farmland. There are views of the river at a number of places along the valley, particularly where the road and footpath run close to it. Farmland and woodland dominate the lower lying land. This area provides a clear contrast with the more open Mid Cothi valley to the north, and the Llansawel Basin and the Tywi Valley to the south, as the river and more gorge-like, and the valley sides steeper. This section of the valley is sparsely settled with few farms. The course of the river is varied, and includes open and shallow areas as well as cuttings through dark rocks. Much of the river bank in this stretch is wooded.

9.19 Lower Taf Valley - The SLA includes the river valley from the railway crossing east of Whitland to the estuary, so effectively the lower reaches of the Taf. Much of the area is secluded, and there is little access to. Settlements are restricted to the valley sides. The valley feels empty despite being so close to the main roads. The valleys sides of this stretch of the river are well wooded and contribute to its scenic qualities. Downstream of the A477 the river is tidal, and at the A4066 it enters the estuary where the slopes are less wooded, and the landscape becomes more open, and the character of the landscape changes from being that associated with a river valley to that of an estuary, with areas of salt marsh mud flats. This SLA abuts the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SLA

9.20 Drefach Velindre - Both the visual and sensory and the historic environment layers of LANDMAP recognise the distinctive landscape of this area. A network of steep well wooded valleys, with linear settlements with a distinct vernacular style - typically small road side terraced cottages, made from locally quarried stone, and larger riverside mills and chapels that reflect the former woollen industry that was thriving here (and in parts of the Teifi Valley) in the 19th and early 20th century. Narrow roads run along each of these valleys. The area has a sense of being very enclosed, sheltered and tucked away, it has a unique character in Carmarthenshire. Agricultural fields are typically small and surrounded by woodland.

9.21 Swiss Valley - The landscape of Swiss Valley is an attractive mix of woodland and water. The reservoirs have a natural feel to them and support a variety of aquatic vegetation, the area provides an attractive interface between woodland and water. Swiss valley is easily accessible on foot and cycle from Llanelli and is used for recreation but with the minimum of infrastructure (this does include a cycle path) . There are very attractive internal views over the water, and along the river. The valley has a sense of enclosure, and feels remote from the busier landscapes that surround them. The woodland in Swiss valley is mostly broad-leaved. The valley is peaceful and unspoilt. While there is no settlement in the valley, it is overlooked by farms in the surrounding countryside.

9.22 Talley - The historic part of the village of Talley, centred on the abbey, enjoys an attractive lake side setting that is unique in the county. It has an attractive backdrop of fairly steep slopes that are used either for agricultural or forestry. The Special Landscape Area includes the abbey, church and surrounding dwellings, the lakes and the land that surrounds these features and provides a setting for them. The two connected lakes are an unusual feature and known throughout the county. There are very few lakes in Carmarthenshire. The two lakes are designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest for the aquatic habitats and species they support. The B road runs through the more modern part of the village and traffic on it can be heard most of the time.

9.23 Gwendraeth Levels - These are the low lying flood plain grazing meadows on former marsh land that are often flooded in the winter months. Despite being relatively wet this area continues to be managed largely for agricultural. The rectilinear fields are broken up by wide tall hedges and drainage ditches. In places these tall hedges create a feeling of enclosure, elsewhere these landscapes usually appear very open and wind swept (e.g. Gwent Levels). There are few dwellings, few roads, other than the main road, and where these occur they tend to be straight. In addition to the agricultural land, the area includes a variety of wetland habitats, ponds, fens giving the area a more naturalistic appearance, and the capacity to support wildlife. Largely un-spoilt, the area remains rural in character. There is an important historic dimension to this landscape as it was created as a result of draining wetlands and constructing sea defences to hold back the sea water that began in 1609, and continues into

the mid19th century with the enclosure of fields. The Gwendreath Levels SLA abuts Pembrey Mountain SLA and this area provides an important and unspoilt backdrop to the levels

Uplands

9.24 North Eastern Uplands - An extensive area of rolling upland area characterised by unenclosed grazing land and some large coniferous forestry blocks, which are considered to be an integral part of this landscape. The area also includes small pockets of enclosed improved land near the isolated farms, but the majority remains unenclosed. The mix of habitats and vegetation cover within these open unenclosed areas provides texture in this landscape, and includes marshy grasslands, wetland vegetation in the shallow river valleys, bracken on the steeper land, some fridd habitat, small areas of heath land habitat etc. Small rocky outcrops occur throughout the area, adding further variety. There are few broad-leaved trees, and these are more frequent in the shallow river valleys. These different elements add variety to the area. There are only a few small roads in the area and farm tracks, barely any settlement. As an area it feels sparsely populated. North of Ffarmers there are areas where, unusually in Carmarthenshire, some of the field boundaries are stone walls. There is relatively little new development here, other than new agricultural barns. There are extensive views within the area and into the surrounding valleys; there are also longer views to the Brecon Beacons. The area feels remote, exposed and elevated and largely empty of people. On the county boundary Llyn Brienne forms a part of this Special Landscape Area.

9.25 Mynydd Mallaen - Mynydd Mallaen is an exposed area of un-enclosed grazed upland plateau, dominated by heathland and wetland plant communities with, bilberry, heather and wet heath mosaic. The plateau drops down into the surrounding valleys through fridd habitats, grassland, rocky scree in places and woodland. The area is Common Land with open access. The plateau is marked by one or two cairns; otherwise it creates a very gently almost level skyline. There are tracks across the area. There are no trees, nor field boundaries, but several rocky outcrops and wet depressions. The area provides extensive views in all directions, and feels extremely exposed, wild, empty and isolated.

9.26 Llanllwni Mountain – This is an area of unenclosed heather moorland, positioned on a rolling plateau positioned along the watershed between the Teifi and the Cothi valleys. Bronze aged burial mounds are discernable on the main ridge, and provide a sense of our impact on this landscape over millennia. There are extensive views in all directions from the plateau, particularly notable are the views north-west over the Teifi Valley and south east towards the Brecon Beacons. The area is Common Land with open access, and is grazed by sheep and ponies, and regularly burnt. The roads that cross the area are used infrequently, and while they permit easy access to the mountain, it has a feeling of being exposed, and of being wild, and empty. The farms that abut the mountain are positioned below it on the enclosed land. It is one of few areas in the county that is devoid of settlement.

9.27 Carmarthenshire Limestone Ridge - This undulating ridge (reaching 280m AOD) of higher exposed upland is the only extensive area of limestone in Carmarthenshire. The ridge has a distinct and varied landscape, which includes unenclosed common land e.g. Mynydd Llangynderine and Mynydd y Garreg, with bracken and heather and rock exposures, the limestone quarries at Crwbin and Cilyrchen, and extensive areas of small fields, mature hedges and woodland e.g. Carmel (which include Carmel Woods NNR). Llyn Lech Owain Country Park lies on the ridge. The ridge provides views over the adjacent valleys and over much of south Carmarthenshire. It is crossed by several roads, the busiest being the A48(T) but is also very tranquil in parts, e.g. Mynydd y Cerrig. Settlements include scattered farms and

linear settlements that are often related to the quarries, and this is reflected in the vernacular architecture.

9.28 Pembrey Mountain - Pembrey Mountain rises steeply from the Gwendreath Levels forming an important back drop to this area, and hence its recognition as a Special Landscape Area. The slopes are now mostly wooded with a mix of broadleaves and conifers, and from the ridge (100m AOD) there are extensive views over the levels and Carmarthen Bay towards Caldy Island. When the sea encroached further inland over the Gwendreath Levels, the slopes of Pembrey Mountain would have formed the coastal cliffs. The mountain has a rich and diverse archaeology, that includes iron-age hill forts, possible bronze-age barrows, evidence of Medieval ridge and furrow as well as quarries and coal pits.

9.29 Mynydd y Betws - This is an extensive area of exposed undulating upland moorland extending into the Swansea. It is an area of unenclosed, grazed common land, with a mix of grasses and some smaller areas of heather, and wetland habitats. There are impressive views from Mynydd y Betws over south-east Carmarthenshire and towards the Brecon Beacons. The area is interrupted by the road that crosses the mountain and where this enters the common on its northern side at Scot's Pine, by the telegraph poles and larger pylons and a mast. These elements detract from the integrity of the area but this is restricted to this small part of the whole. Elsewhere within the area there is a considerable degree of unity and little interrupts the rest of this landscape. It is one of five extensive areas of unenclosed moorland in the county. There are no trees or shrubs in this area and there is a striking difference between this area and the enclosed land at lower elevations on the northern slopes. Today there are no settlements here, but the area is rich in archaeology, with several sites clearly discernable on the ground, illustrating the history of this area.

Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries

9.30 This SLA contains a number of distinct landscapes, which should be considered as a continuum. The SLA wraps around Carmarthen Bay and includes:

Coastal Hills: Marros – Pendine, Llanybri, Llansaint and Pembrey Coastal hills:

Coastal slopes: Marros to Wharley Point and St Ishmael's coastal slopes:

Estuary slopes: the slopes above the estuaries i.e. the slopes on either side of the Taf and Tywi rivers where they are within the estuary:

River estuaries: the rivers channels, and associated mud flats at low tide:

Coastal grazing marsh: West Marsh, East Marsh south of Laugharne, south of Kidwelly;

Sandy beaches: Marros, Pendine and Cefn Sidan;

Sand dunes: Pendine and part of Cefn Sidan;

Salt marsh: This occurs in several areas within the estuaries, and near the coast e.g Pembrey Saltings;

Settlements: Pendine, Laugharne, Llansteffan and Ferryside.

9.31 The Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SLA includes all the landscapes that contribute to our coastal and estuary landscapes. It is often the juxtaposition of one landscape with another such as salt marsh and the river, or the wooded estuary slope and the river channel that together create a landscape of high scenic quality.

9.32 The coastal hills provide the backdrop to the bay and the estuaries, and from them there are fine views over the sea. Being close to the coast, and elevated these hills are exposed, and this is demonstrated by the windswept trees.

9.33 The coastal slopes are usually characterised by rough non-agricultural land with bracken and scrub, again often sculpted by the wind. They are exposed, and usually face the sea. They are located between the hills and the lower lying beaches or marshes.

9.34 The estuary slopes are the more sheltered slopes between the hills and the river estuaries. In the Tywi estuary they tend to be particularly well wooded, but also include some agricultural land.

9.35 The river estuaries include the river channel. These are tidal and at low tide include mud flats. East and West Marsh are the largest areas of coastal grazing marsh in Carmarthenshire. West Marsh has been developed for military purposes and so is relatively disrupted and has scrubbed up somewhat as a result of becoming drier. East Marsh is still managed in a traditional way for grazing, but has also been subject to some development. It is more open, windswept and empty than West Marsh.

9.36 These landscapes are typically open windswept and empty, are of importance for the biodiversity they support. They are also of historic interest as well as these areas only came into existence once land could be drained.

9.37 The three beaches are some of the longest in Wales. Pendine and Cefn Sidan are well known as holiday destinations. When the tide is out there are extensive areas of sand, and views out to sea and along the coast.

9.38 The sand dunes about the beaches and their landscape is typical of any dune system. Efforts are being made to control the sea buckthorn has been spreading within the Cefn Sidan dune system.

9.39 The salt marsh is an integral and distinctive part of the estuary and coastal landscape, and one which provides a free and natural sea defence. The salt marsh usually abuts mud flats which are exposed at low tide. The salt marshes are typically dissected by muddy creeks and support plants that can tolerate the saline conditions, and these are two of the features of the salt marsh that make this landscape so distinctive. Salt marshes are exposed and windy places, with no shelter.

9.40 The three settlements – Laugharne, Llansteffan and Ferryside within the SLA each have a distinct character. Ferryside is the only one on the railway, which in itself is a feature of the Tywi estuary. Laugharne is the most urban of the three, and has developed around its castle, whereas the castle at Llansteffan is in an elevated position above the village.

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

As the current LDP allocations are built out and housing land supply falls, development pressure will begin to encroach onto currently designated open countryside in a sporadic and uncoordinated manner. Designated sites and protected habitats and species should be safeguarded through other legislation.

5.4.7 In the absence of LDP policy, multi-functional benefits or ecosystem services of the wider landscape and its connectivity would not necessarily be recognised or safeguarded. This could have significant consequences through jeopardising the effective management of the impacts of climate change and result in habitat fragmentation which is very damaging for biodiversity.

5.4.8 Currently, new development should be integrated with the landscape and seascape as this is a requirement of LDP Policy, however the Plan's status weakens once the Plan period expires.

10 Population

10.1 Population estimates are produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), and take into account births, deaths, and an estimate of migration between the last census and the middle of the current year.

10.2 The population of Carmarthenshire is estimated at 186,452 in 2017, accounting for almost 6 per cent of the Welsh population. Of this, 91,153 (49%) are male and 95,299 (51%) are female. The age profile of the local population is shown in the table below.

2017 – Mid Year Population Estimates				
Age Structure	Carms Population	Carms %	Wales Population	Wales %
Aged: 0-4	9,621	5.2	170,709	5.5
5-15	23,274	12.5	388,551	12.4
16-24	17,520	9.4	359,361	11.5
25-44	40,302	21.6	742,574	23.8
45-64	52,264	28.0	827,015	26.5
65-74	24,224	13.0	356,622	11.4
75+	19,247	10.3	286,647	9.2
Total	186,452	100	3,125,165	100

Sources: Stats Wales <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Estimates/nationallevelpopulationestimates-by-year-age-ukcountry>

10.3 The following link provides access individual profiles for each ward within Carmarthenshire. The profiles provide a summary of the key characteristics of the ward as well as valuable local information. The ward profiles draw upon a wide array of data sources, and their standardised layout enables the quick and easy comparison of areas, an investigation of patterns, and identification of variations.

10.4 The profiles as published May 2017 incorporates the following information:

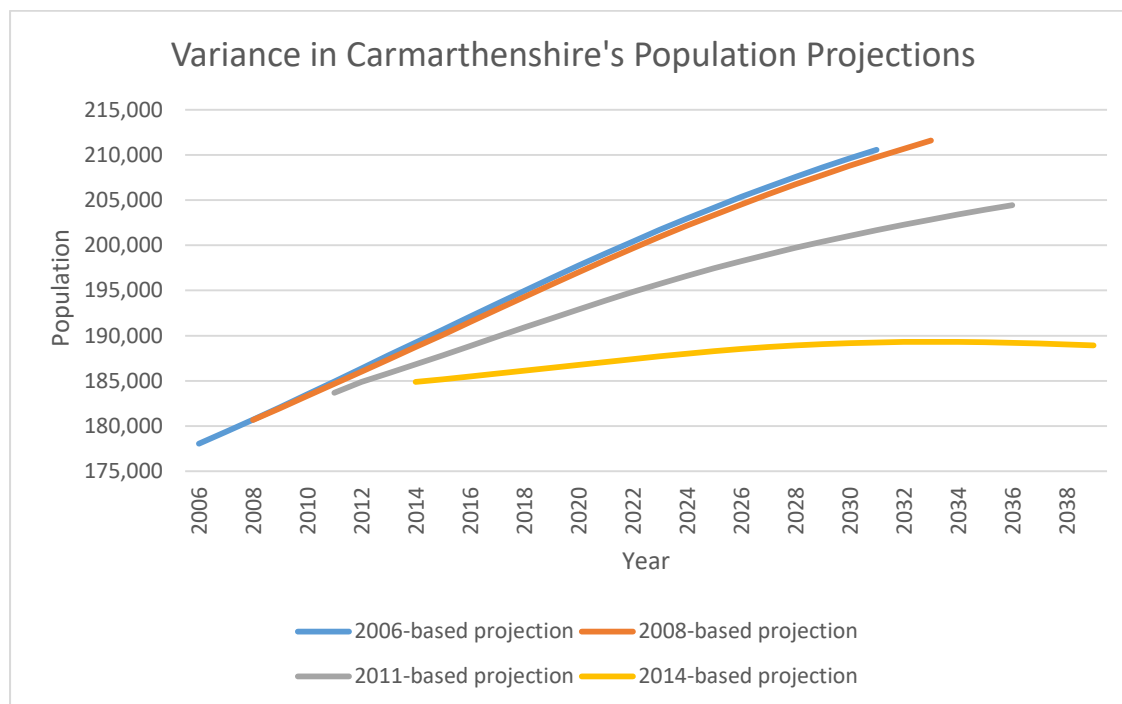
- 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates (Office of National Statistics, ONS)
- Population characteristics, household composition and economic activity status (2011 Census)
- Housing type and tenure statistics (2011 Census)
- Household Income estimates (CACI 'Paycheck' data 2016)
- Ns-SeC data (socio-economic position based on occupation, 2011 Census)
- Updated labour market and benefit statistics
- Recorded crime statistics for 2016-2017 (Dyfed Powys Police)

<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/research-statistics/electoral-ward-county-profiles/#.WqqJM-a7KUK>

10.5 The publication of the 2014 local authority based population provided the first indication of population change at a sub national level since the 2011 census. The following table indicates and compares the latest projections for the plan period for the Revised LDP with that produced as part of the current LDP and the original WG local authority based projections in

2006. The 2011 and 2014 based projections indicated a projected population of 193,874 and 187,079 respectively at 2021.

10.6 This limited level of population change is projected to continue through the lifetime of the revised LDP with 2033 indicating a County population of 189,317. These projections indicate a downward trend in population growth compared to the previous 2006-based and 2008-based projections. The future pattern of demographic change will be subject to further evidence gathering as part of the revised LDP¹³.



Source: Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan Review Report

10.7 In considering the Revised LDP period of 2018-2033, the principal projections within the 2014 based population projection suggests an increase in the population of 3,207 persons. These projections will need to be given careful consideration and reflect other relevant factors which impact upon the future development and housing needs, not least the household projections for the County. The 2011-based and 2014-based household projections have indicated a significant reduction in household numbers from that projected within both the 2006 and 2008 based projections.

Population Density

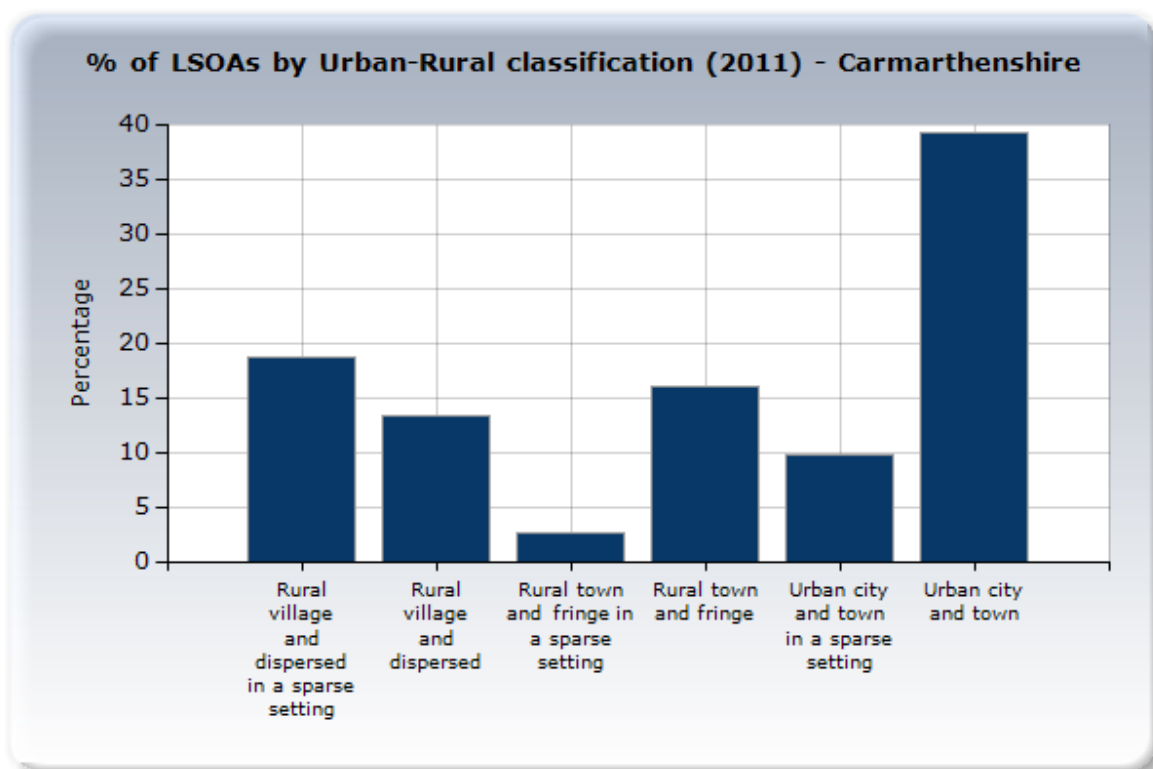
10.8 Population density provides a measure of the number of people living in an area. This varies across the County with higher densities in the urban areas than the rural areas with Carmarthenshire having a total land areas of 2370km². This makes it the third largest local authority by area in Wales. However, the average density for Carmarthenshire as a whole is

¹³ Stats Wales <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Projections/Local-Authority/2014-based/populationprojectioncomponentsofchange-by-localauthority-year>

78.3 persons per square kilometre, which makes it the fifth lowest in Wales. This is significantly lower than the Welsh average of 150.1 persons per kilometre square¹⁴.

10.9 There are three major towns in Carmarthenshire which form a pivotal role at the centre of the LDP's Growth Areas. The three towns of Llanelli, Carmarthen and Ammanford are home to 25% of the County's population. 60% of the population live in rural areas, which form 53% of the County¹⁵.

10.10 **39.3%** of LSOAs within the local authority of **Carmarthenshire** are classed as "**Urban city and town**" in the 2011 urban-rural classification of small area geographies, this is the **highest** proportion within Carmarthenshire.



Source: Office for National Statistics

Migration

10.11 The following illustrates the role migration plays within Carmarthenshire with as a rule in migration from the rest of the UK compensating in numerical terms for ongoing issues in terms of out migration. The following illustrates the migration pattern between 2007 and 2016.

¹⁴ Stats Wales: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Density/populationdensity-by-localauthority-year>

¹⁵ Carmarthenshire Draft Wellbeing Plan: <http://www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales/media/8285/carms-well-being-plan-final-draft-051017-english.pdf>

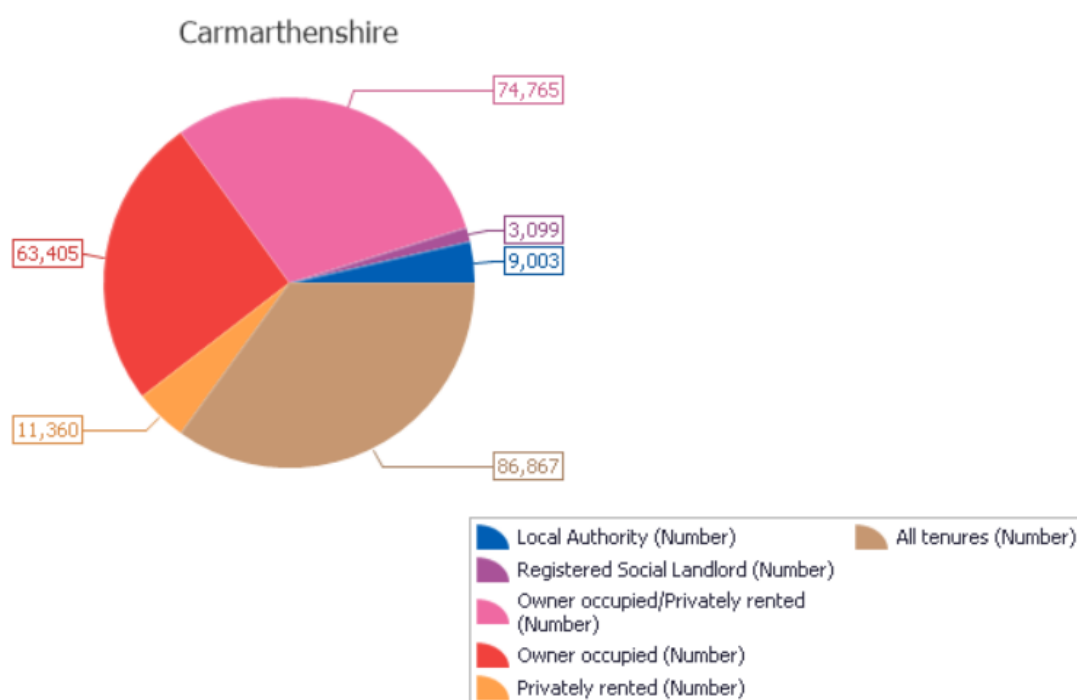
Table: Migration between Wales and the rest of the UK by local authority, flow and period of change

	2006 to 2007	2007 to 2008	2008 to 2009	2009 to 2010	2010 to 2011	2011 to 2012	2012 to 2013	2013 to 2014	2014 to 2015	2015 to 2016
Inward Migration	6,780	6,190	5,920	5,690	6,020	6,470	6,220	6,290	6,320	6,700
Outward Migration	5,250	5,180	5,520	5,490	5,190	6,000	5,880	6,080	5,770	6,080
Net Migration	130	30	80	630	-70	-30	-520	-480	10	350

Source: StatsWales

Housing Stock

10.12 The following indicates the dwelling stock estimates by tenure.



Source: Statswales

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

There would be no allocated land for housing, and once the current LDP housing supply is exhausted, development would take place in an uncoordinated piecemeal manner.

There would be a lack of adaptation to the predicted changes in population and social structure, which may threaten the cohesion and well-being of communities and the viability of schools, businesses and services. There would likely be unsustainable housing development on Greenfield sites away from existing education facilities and community services, badly served by public and Active Transport routes which may lead to less social activity and greater social exclusion. It is likely that existing deprived areas would experience little regeneration or any of the community benefits linked to new development. The provision of affordable housing would remain low and the increase in demand for affordable homes, particularly for the elderly would not be met.

Increasing population will put pressure on education services and ad hoc development may result in residential areas not being served by existing educational facilities and contributions

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from developers to fund new provision may not result in facilities being developed at an appropriate stage of development.

11 The Welsh Language

11.1 The Welsh language plays an important role in the social, cultural and economic life of Carmarthenshire's residents and visitors. The 2011 Census indicated that there were 78,048 Welsh speakers amongst Carmarthenshire's population. Carmarthenshire has the highest number of Welsh speakers in Wales and has the fourth highest proportion of Welsh speakers at 43.9% (2011 Census data). There is a significant variation in the numbers and proportions of Welsh speakers across Wales but on average 19% of the Welsh population are able to speak Welsh.

11.2 During the period between the 1991, 2001 and 2011 Censuses, the percentage of Welsh speakers in Carmarthenshire has decreased from 54.9% to 43.9%. Carmarthenshire also experienced the second largest decrease in the percentage of Welsh speakers between 1991 and 2001 at 4.5% (this was second only to Ceredigion who experienced a decrease of 7.1%). In the time between 2001 and 2011 Carmarthenshire experienced the highest decrease at 6.4%.

11.3 The Welsh Language Use Survey 2015, contains information by local authority on Welsh language ability and usage. The survey notes that 80,700 of Carmarthenshire's population noted that they could speak Welsh. This has increased since the 2011 Census results which showed that 78,048 of the population could speak Welsh.

11.4 The decline in the proportion of Welsh speakers since 1991 is not unique to Carmarthenshire and the decrease in Welsh speakers is a trend witnessed throughout the majority of Wales but in particular in the areas of Wales traditionally known as the Welsh heartlands ('Y Fro Gymraeg'). Other areas in the traditional heartlands such as Anglesey, Gwynedd and Ceredigion have also seen a decrease in Welsh speakers and the Welsh Government have raised concerns over the sustainability of the language in these traditionally Welsh-speaking areas.

11.5 The proportion of Welsh speakers varies across Carmarthenshire, Figure 22 shows a breakdown of the proportion of Welsh speakers in each electoral Ward as indicated in the 2011 Census.

***** More to be included from Welsh Language Topic Paper *****

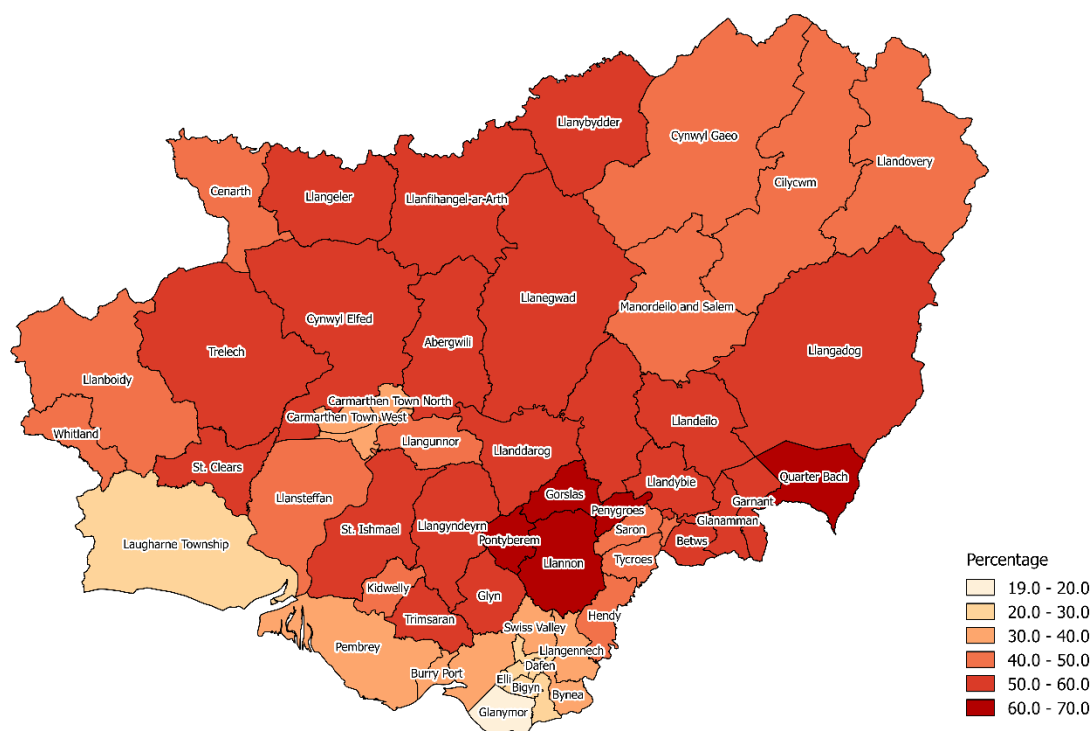


Figure 22 Percentage Welsh speakers by ward (2011 census)

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

The adopted LDP defines Language Sensitive Areas which are communities with a significant proportion of Welsh speakers where proposals for the provision of housing and employment will have the most impact upon the future vitality and viability of the Welsh language. The Language Sensitive Areas in the LDP are based on the 2001 Census and do not reflect the most recent Census Data which shows a general decline in areas where there is a high concentration of Welsh speakers, particularly in the traditional Welsh speaking heartlands. There is however an increase in the overall number of Welsh speakers, particularly in school age children. National legislation and Planning Policy Wales ensures the impact of development on the Welsh language is taken into account when assessing planning applications, but without the UDP there would be no local Policy which specifically requires developers to consider the impact of certain proposals in the areas of the County where the Welsh language is an important part of the social fabric.

12 Health and Well-being.

Review of the Carmarthenshire Well Being Assessment 2017

12.1 Carmarthenshire is the third worst county in Wales for levels of childhood obesity with 30.7% of 4-5 year olds being overweight or obese, almost 5 percentage points higher than the Welsh average of 26.2%. Projections suggest an increase in trends for childhood obesity going forward with figures showing males between the ages of 2 – 15 being at greatest risk. There is a strong link between childhood and adulthood obesity and many of the associated chronic health problems such as Type 2 diabetes and coronary heart disease are likely to continue to also increase in the future therefore posing threats to the well-being of children now and in later life.

12.2 Obesity is more prevalent in disadvantaged communities and European research suggests increased prevalence in rural areas, although research in the UK has found no significant association. However there is some evidence that people who do engage in the natural environment are less likely to be overweight. Given Carmarthenshire's extensive natural assets and the additional positive effects on psychological and cultural well-being the environment offers, the promotion of opportunities to engage in the natural environment may be an area which can help improve well-being.

12.3 A fundamental means of tackling levels of obesity is engaging children in physical activity. Assessment engagement activity with primary school children showed being physically active to be the second most important factor for positive well-being of children aged 6 – 11, after connections with family and friends. The Carmarthenshire school sports survey 2015 identified similarly high levels of Engagement in sport suggesting a positive relationship with physical activity. It is noted that the Carmarthenshire Play Sufficiency Assessment reported that 90% of children stated that playing makes them feel happy and 49% reported that play made them feel active

12.4 It is stated that throughout adolescence, as curiosity meets opportunity, there are various experiences on offer to young people, not all of which can have positive outcomes or effects on well-being. It is noted that the highest reports of young people currently smoking at least weekly in Carmarthenshire were 8% of boys in year 9 and 19% of girls in year 11. Smoking amongst boys was more persistent throughout secondary school. In addition the highest number of students reporting having tried electronic cigarettes was over a third of girls aged 14 - 16. Although there has been national concern about levels of alcohol related crimes and incidents involving young people, Carmarthenshire has seen a steady decline in the number of such reported incidents from 87 in 2014 to 49 in 2016. From January to November 2016, 16% of drug offences in Carmarthenshire involved an offender under the age of 18 with the majority of offences (102 crimes) relating to possession of cannabis.

12.5 28% of Carmarthenshire's adults suffer from mental health issues, slightly above the Welsh average of 26%. Poor psychological and emotional wellbeing can act as a barrier to full participation in society. Issues such as confidence, anxiety, fatigue and stigma can limit an individual's capacity to interact with others or to find work for example.

12.6 It is stated that health has a significant effect on wellbeing. The 2011 census indicates that 16% of Carmarthenshire residents described their health as 'fair', 6% as 'bad' and 2% as 'very bad'. The 2017 survey probed this further by looking at impacts and found that, of those with a health issue affecting their well-being, 64% said they couldn't do the things they enjoy'; 41% said they need or rely on help to manage day to day and 32% said it 'puts a strain on their personal relationships'. In 2013, the number of Carmarthenshire residents aged 65 and

over diagnosed with dementia was 2,783. By 2030, it is predicted that this number will reach 4,371, a rise of 1,588, (57%) in line with the Welsh average.

12.7 Although the life-expectancy rate in Carmarthenshire is in line with the Wales average, there is a significant gap of 18.5 years between those from the least and most deprived areas. Likewise, as with infant mortality rates, premature death (under the age of 75) is substantially more common in deprived communities. This is particularly the case for males who have a 33% excess death rate compared to those from affluent communities. This demonstrates the impact of deprivation on physical well-being throughout life.

12.8 Responses to the assessment survey indicate that good health is the single most important factor to overall happiness, contentment and life satisfaction. Almost 8 in 10 (79%) respondents said it was important now, and 61% thought it would be important to them in the future.

Since 2011, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has asked personal well-being questions to adults aged 16 years and over in the UK to better understand how they feel about their lives¹⁶. The well-being questions are:

- Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?
- Overall, to what extent do you feel the things you do in your life are worthwhile?
- Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?
- Overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday?

People are asked to respond on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is “not at all” and 10 is “completely”. In Carmarthenshire, 2017/18 survey results show that responses with average response in terms of anxiety has dropped from 3.2 in 2011/12 to 2.8 in 2017/18 (Figure 23). Happiness was shown to increase over the same time period from 7.2 to 7.7 (Figure 24). This trend is also mirrored by life satisfaction (7.3 to 7.7) (Figure 25) and feeling things in life were worthwhile (7.6 to 7.9) (Figure 26) over the same time period.

¹⁶

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/bulletins/measuringnationalwellbeing/july2017tojune2018>

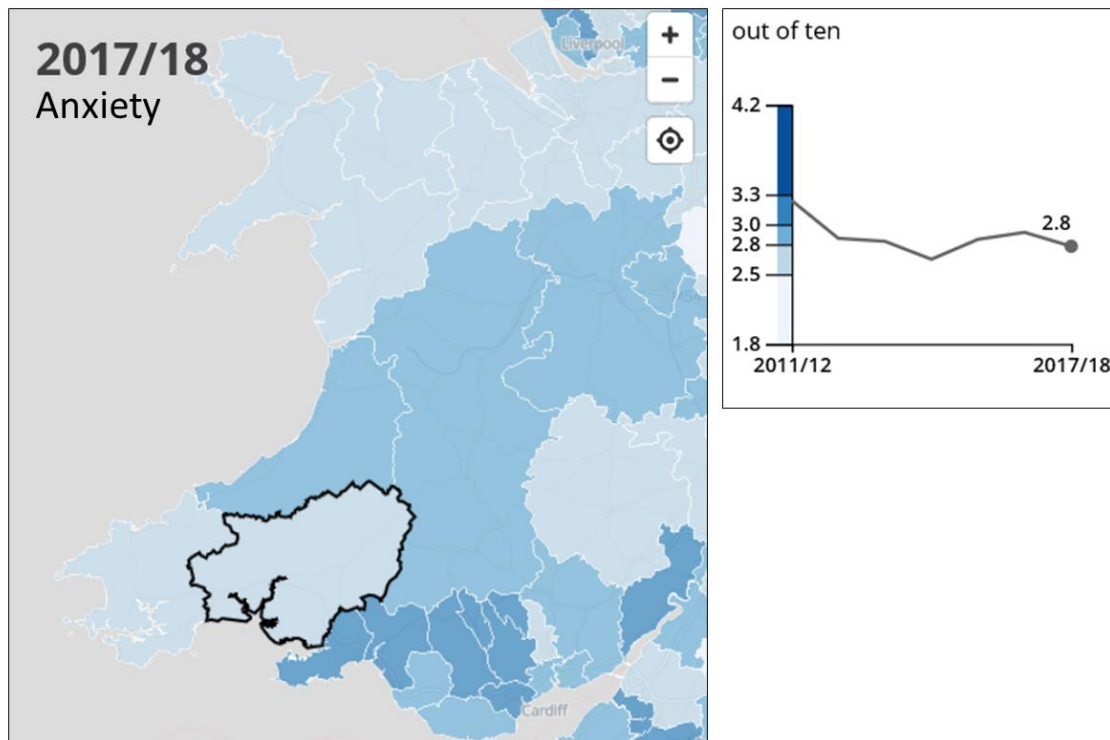


Figure 23 Personal well-being map of responses to the question ‘Overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday?’ displaying weighted mean averages March 2018

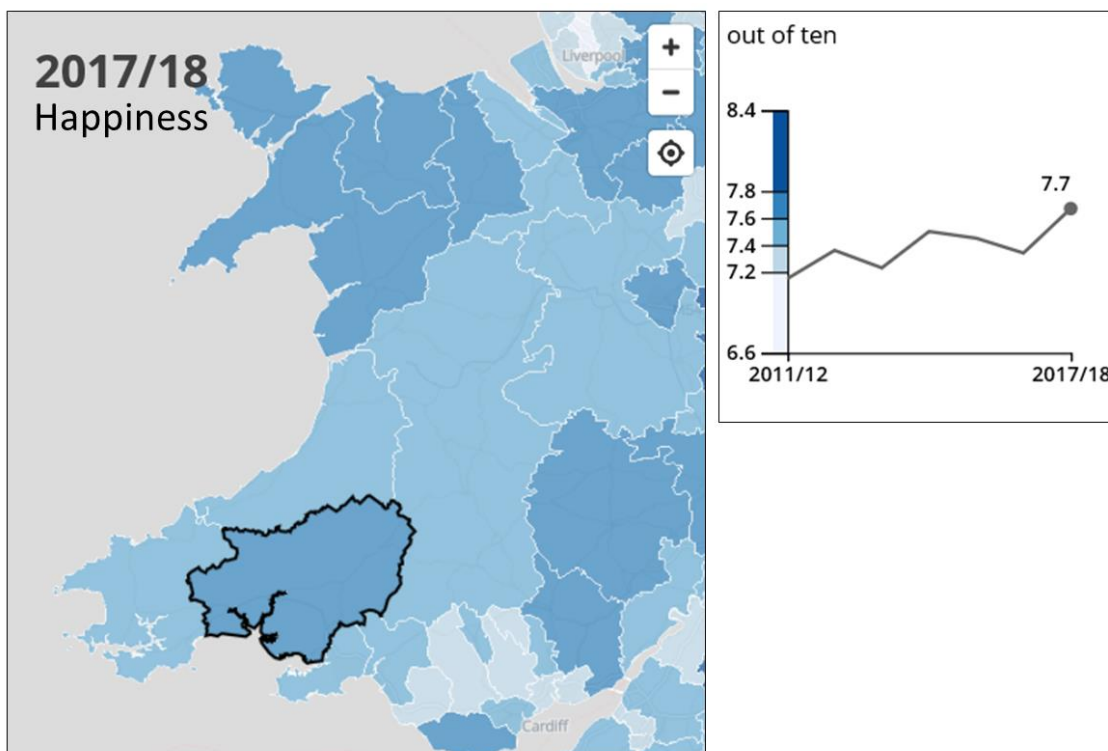


Figure 24 Personal well-being map of responses to the question ‘Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?’ displaying weighted mean averages March 2018

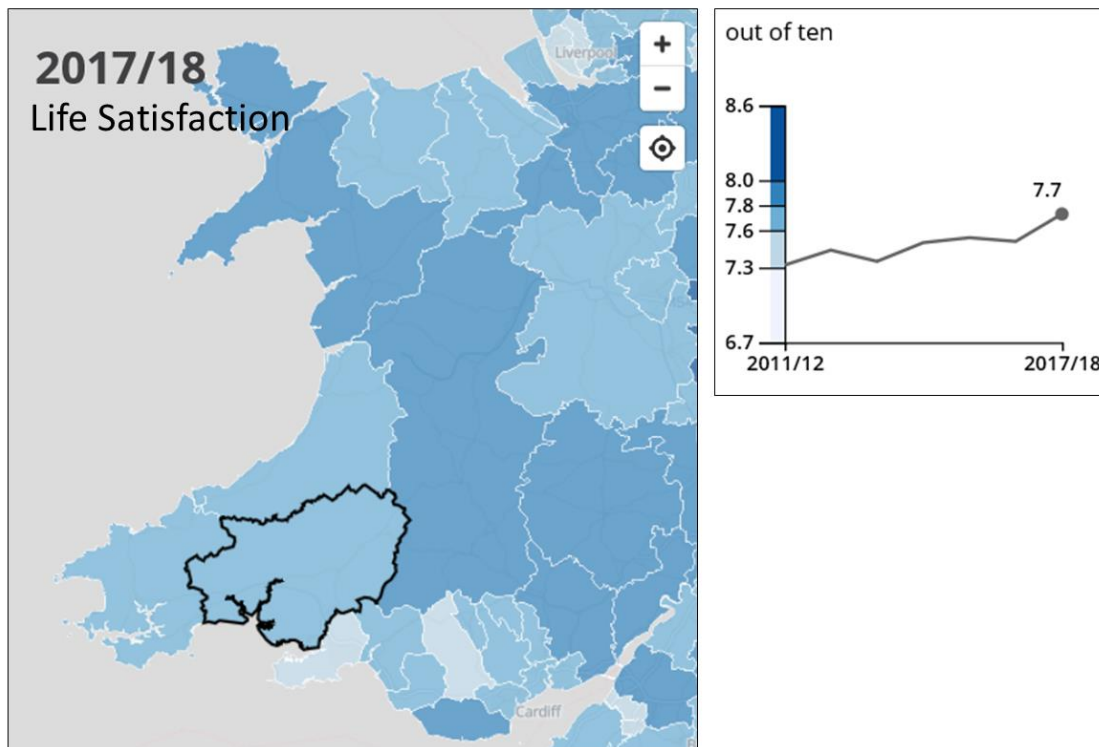


Figure 25 Personal well-being map of responses to the question 'Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?' displaying weighted mean averages March 2018

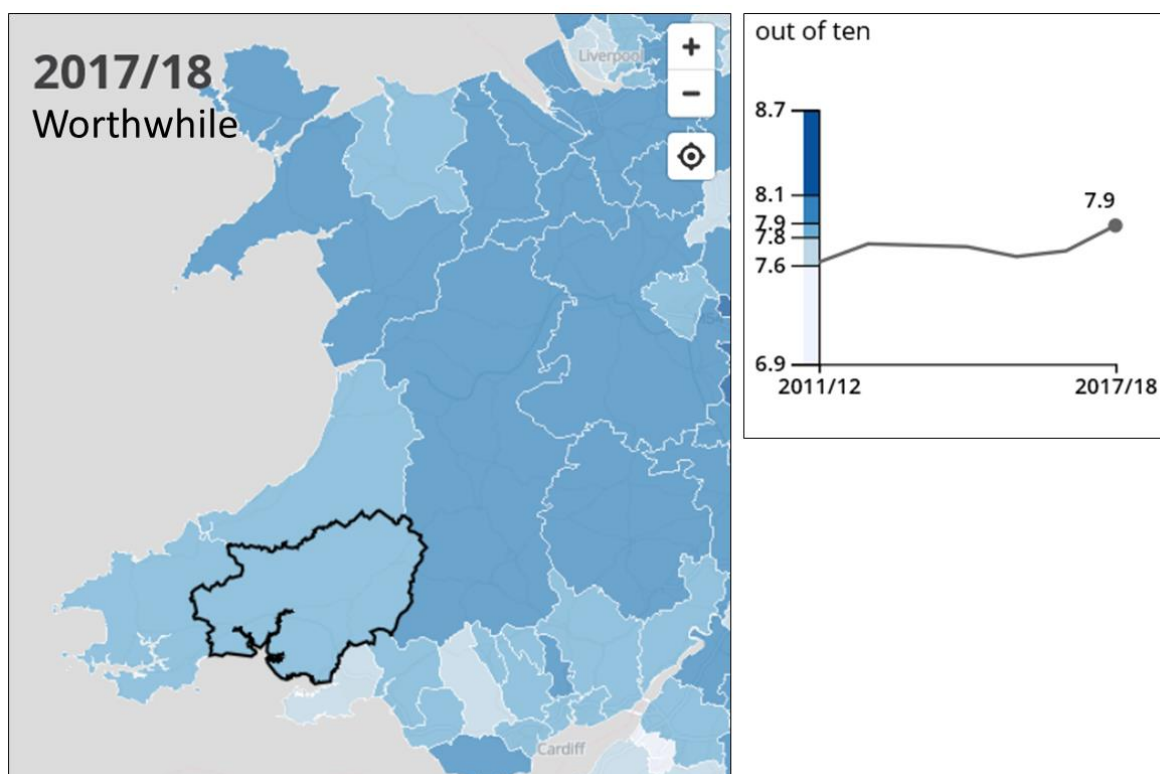


Figure 26 Personal well-being map of responses to the question 'Overall, to what extent do you feel the things you do in your life are worthwhile?' displaying weighted mean averages March 2018

South West Area Statement – Mental Health

The south west area statement reports a clear divide in mental health between Pembrokeshire, where the majority of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are in the lowest score quintile (0 - 0.25), West/Mid Carmarthenshire, where the majority of LSOAs are in the mid score quintile (0.5 - 0.75), and North/South East Carmarthenshire, South West Swansea, and South East Neath Port Talbot where the majority of LSOAs are in the higher score quintile 1.

Academic research and reports on mental health have underlined a strong correlation between low levels of mental health and high levels of deprivation. Research on factors of low mental health have also underlined subjective personal deprivation as an influential factor of low levels of mental health. These studies have also found a negative correlation between high levels of subjective personal deprivation and low levels of education, household earnings and social support. Studies have also shown a correlation between low levels of mental health and other factors, such as low levels of decision latitude and social support in one’s job, and lack of access to greenspace. The prevalence of these factors is higher in more deprived areas, compared to less deprived areas.

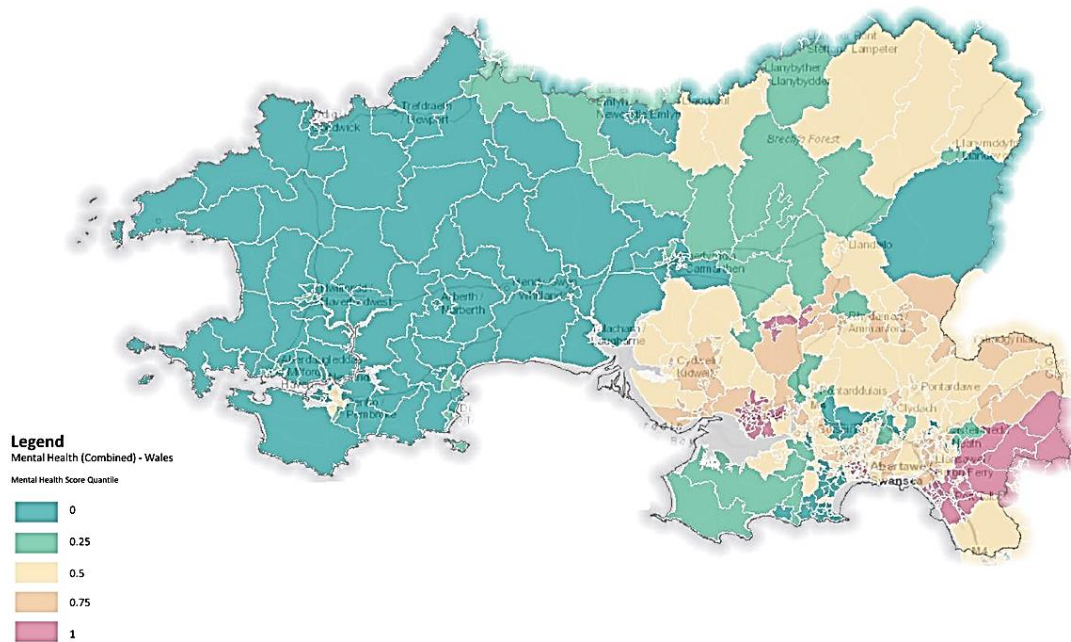


Figure 27 7 Mental Health Score Quintile for South West Area. Source South West Area Statement, NRW.

South West Area Statement – Physical Health

Maps for both mental health scores and physical health scores follow a similar trend, however, one major difference between mental and physical health scores can be observed in the north of the area, between Llandovery, the Brechfa Forest and Llanybydder, where two Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) which scored in the highest quintile for mental health, now score on the lower quintiles 0 and 0.25 - for physical health score. No discrepancy can be observed between mental health and physical health scores, and both scores seem to be correlated with each other, as studies mentioned earlier suggest.

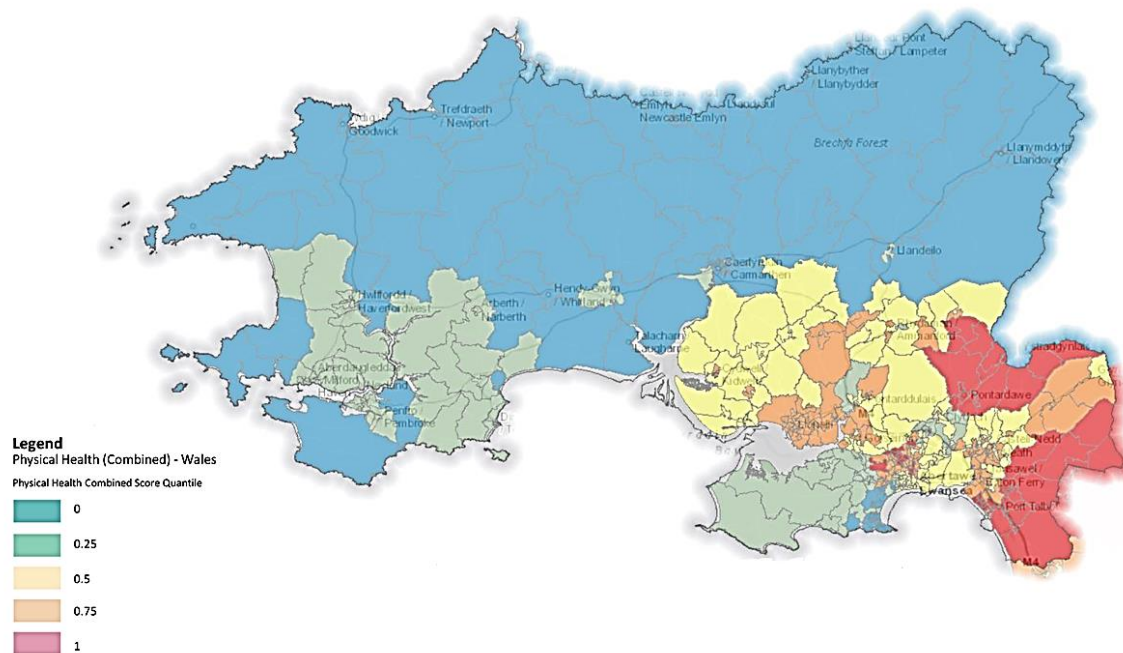


Figure 28 Physical Health Score Quantile for South West Area. Source South West Area Statement, NRW.

Potential reasons for lower for physical health. Potential factors for such low scores include a higher proportion of older population (aged 55+) in Pembrokeshire, compared to the other three local authorities, and the whole of Wales. Studies have shown that morbidity and presence of physical health problems were more prominent in population aged 64+, and increased over time. Other factors include lack of access to greenspace, and rural exclusion linking to 'access to service' deprivation.

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

There would be no allocated land for housing, and once the current LDP housing supply is exhausted, development would take place in an uncoordinated piecemeal manner.

There would be a lack of adaptation to the predicted changes in population and social structure, which may threaten the cohesion and well-being of communities. There would likely be unsustainable housing development on sites away from existing health facilities, open space provision and community services. There would also be no consideration of access to Active Transport routes which may lead to less physical activity.

Increasing population will put pressure on health and well-being services and ad hoc development may result in residential areas not being served by existing facilities and contributions from developers to fund new provision may not result in facilities being developed at an appropriate stage of development.

13 Education and Skills

Review of the Carmarthenshire Well Being Assessment 2017

13.1 Research by The Institute of Education suggests that attending a good preschool and primary school can have more impact on children's academic progress than their gender or family background. Three quarters (76%) of Carmarthenshire's primary schools are classed as "green"(best performing in Wales) or "yellow" (effective) schools under the Welsh

Government's School Categorisation with none in the red (in need of improvement) category. 87% of children achieved expected outcomes at Foundation phase and 89% at Key Stage Two. Studies have shown that emotional well-being and good attention skills are important factors in academic progression at primary school level and into the future

13.2 Carmarthenshire is the 7th highest performing authority in Wales for pupils achieving at least 5 GCSE's A*-C however there continues to be significance is parity between the performance of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) and the general cohort. Likewise just 46% of LAC attained the same qualifications. This highlights the potentially negative effect poor socioeconomic and/or adverse childhood circumstances can have on young person's outcomes.

13.3 12.5% of Carmarthenshire's working age population currently have no qualifications however in the last three years no children have left compulsory education, training or work based learning without an approved external qualification in Carmarthenshire. Despite this 69 year 11 school leavers in 2016 were recorded as not in employment, education or training (NEET), which is an increase of 0.4% on the previous year. This demonstrates the importance of linking education to demands of the local labour market; details of which can be found in the Regional Employment and Skills Plan 2016.

13.4 Retention of youth is a fundamental cornerstone of a sustainable economy and communities. However, more young people aged 15 – 29 left Carmarthenshire than entered in 2014-15, despite the County's university and further education campus's. This could be in part due to the sense of a lack of suitable job opportunities for young people in the County identified through the assessment survey. 50% of respondents aged 16–24 disagreed that there were suitable job opportunities for them in the local area.

13.5 Young people participating in the Youth Council Forum expressed a desire for more apprenticeships and companies taking on young people with a view to developing and training them. This stresses the significance of creating sustainable, quality and progressive jobs in Carmarthenshire to retain and attract young people to the County and which recognise that learning and development doesn't stop when you leave the school environment.

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

Increasing population will put pressure on education services and ad hoc development may result in residential areas not being served by existing educational facilities and contributions from developers to fund new provision may not result in facilities being developed at an appropriate stage of development.

14 Economy

14.1 In 2016, 84,700 people were employed in Carmarthenshire. This was the second year in succession where the total had risen by 4% compared to the previous year. The trend in total employment is shown below (Source: Carmarthenshire Employment Sectoral Study).

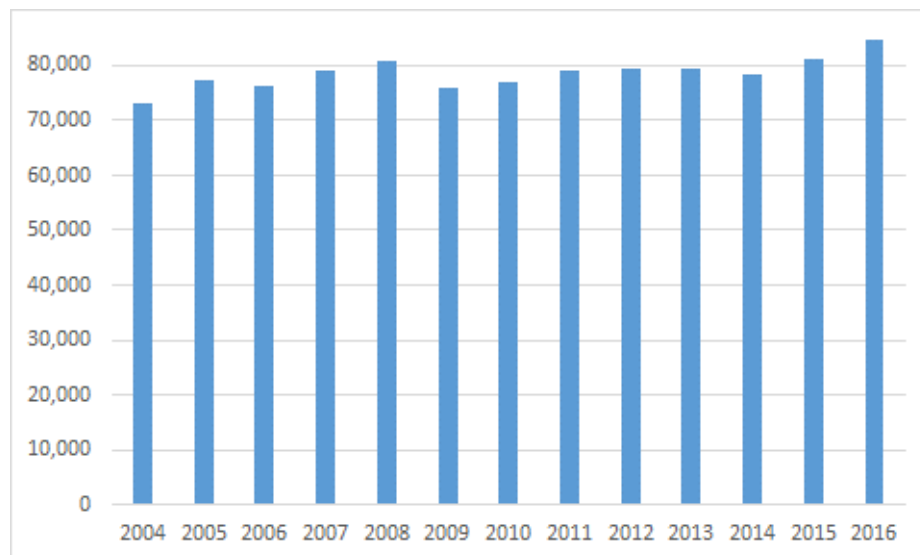


Figure 29 Employment Trends 2004 – 2016. Source: Carmarthenshire Employment Sectoral Needs Study

14.2 The Office for National Statistics data for 2016 on employee jobs by industry for both Carmarthenshire and Wales is set out below.

Employee Jobs by Industry – Carmarthenshire and Wales		
	Carmarthenshire (%)	Wales (%)
B : Mining and quarrying	0.0	0.2
C : Manufacturing	11.9	11.4
D : Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.4	0.6
E : Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.4	0.9
F : Construction	6.0	5.5
G : Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	16.4	15.1
H : Transportation and storage	3.0	2.9
I : Accommodation and food service activities	9.0	8.9
J : Information and communication	1.2	2.3
K : Financial and insurance activities	0.9	2.3
L : Real estate activities	1.3	1.6
M : Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.0	4.2
N : Administrative and support service activities	5.2	6.6
O : Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	6.7	6.8
P : Education	10.4	10.1
Q : Human health and social work activities	19.4	16.1
R : Arts, entertainment and recreation	2.2	2.5
S : Other service activities	1.3	1.5

Source: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157392/report.aspx>

14.3 In 2016, over 30% of the total were employed in the public sector (e.g. in public administration, education, health and social services). 8,000 positions (11.9% of the total) were in the manufacturing sector and 11,000 (16.4% of the total) were employed in the wholesale and retail sector.

14.4 Self-employment also forms a high proportion of the total in Carmarthenshire with over 15,200 people categorised as self-employed in both 2015 and 2016. This trend towards small or 'micro' businesses is reflected in the ONS NOMIS data. The figure clearly shows that over 90% of private sector businesses / enterprise in the county have 9 or fewer employees. Statistics collated on the types of businesses in Carmarthenshire indicate that 'agriculture, forestry and fishing' still dominates with 28% of all businesses being in this category.

The Visitor Economy

14.5 Tourism is a key component of Carmarthenshire's economy and a major source of employment and revenue supporting over 5,600 full time equivalent jobs either directly or indirectly and generating over £369m revenue to the County's economy annually (source STEAM (Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity) Trend Report 2016).

14.6 The below are key Statistics and trends (sourced from the STEAM Trend Report 2016);

% change on 2015 (£'s 2016)	2.7%
Total visitor days (Millions)	5.72
% change on 2015	1.2%
Staying visitor days (Millions)	3.57
% change on 2015	2.9%
Total visitor numbers (Millions)	3.08
% change on 2015	0.1%
Number of staying visitors (Millions)	0.93
% change on 2015	3.6%
Number of day visitors (Millions)	2.15
% change on 2015	-1.3%
Number of FTE jobs supported by tourism spend	5,638
% change on 2015	2.3%

14.7 In terms of tourism challenges for Carmarthenshire, the Destination Management Plan (DMP) outlines a range of issues, including a lack of a reasonable range of wet weather and entertainment facilities.

14.8 The DMP also outlines a range of opportunities, including the fact that Carmarthenshire is a strategic location as the gateway to the West of Wales and it has potential as a tourism base for South West Wales.

14.9 The DMP sets realistic targets for economic impact and seeks to prioritise scarce resources so that they can be used to best effect. It sets out a phased programme of projects and actions that are needed to overcome the weaknesses and threats, whilst capitalising on the strengths and opportunities to achieve sustainable growth in tourism. The steering group have responsibilities and accountabilities to deliver the 4 key priorities:

Cycling - The cycling market is growing rapidly and as demand rises, Carmarthenshire is taking advantage by providing new routes and facilities for potential visitors and has made significant developments in improving the opportunities for cyclists.

Heritage and Culture - Carmarthenshire coast and country is steeped in heritage and culture.

Skills and training - As part of the South West Wales Tourism Business Skills & Development Programme the Carmarthenshire Tourism Association (CTA) are arranging a wide range of workshops, one-to-one sessions and events – all tailored to the needs of the region's tourism industry.

Events - The County works hard to address seasonality and encourage tourism in shoulder season periods. The vast proportion of economic impact stated in the county's 2015 STEAM figure of £355 million was generated during peak holiday months rather than spread over twelve months.

14.10 Tourism has a spatial dimension within Carmarthenshire, with the post - industrial coastal area (including access to the All Wales Coastal Path) being home to larger scale regional attractions such as the Millennium Coastal Park and further inland, Ffos Las Racecourse and the northern ruralised areas such as the Brechfa Forest renowned for smaller scale high quality outdoor activity offers such as mountain biking. The south west (eg Pendine/Llansteffan) is characterised by coastal accommodation offer.

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

To meet local and regional economic objectives, a step change in the economy is required. Without the LDP, existing rates of employment growth in the same sectors would be likely to continue without the positive intervention of policies encouraging growth in higher value sectors. There would also be no long term coordination of housing provision to support employment growth and no coordination of new attractive employment space provision with supporting infrastructure to accommodate and attract inward investment. This would jeopardise the economic objectives of the wider City Region.

15 Social Fabric

Review of the Carmarthenshire Well Being Assessment 2017

15.1 Of the 22 local authority areas in Wales, Carmarthenshire continues to have one of the lowest number of crimes per 1,000 population, ranking 5th again with a rate of 43.78 crimes per 1,000 population.

15.2 Feeling safe was considered a very important factor for social well-being by assessment survey respondents with 93% stating that feeling safe in their home was 'very important' to well-being and 89% that feeling safe in the community was likewise.

15.3 The survey identified a strong relationship between residents' well-being and their surrounding environment although the exact nature of the relationship varies across age groups and community areas from providing recreational opportunities, to psychological positivity, health benefits and a connection to heritage and culture, all of which will be explored throughout this report. However, rurality can also pose challenges to wellbeing such as access to services and digital access which can impact both social and economic well-being.

15.4 36% of households across the county can be said to be living in poverty based on the Welsh Government definition of poverty as "households with less than 60% of the GB median income", making Carmarthenshire levels the 8th highest in Wales. In addition, measures of the Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2014 indicate significant variance in the level of deprivation experienced across community areas.

Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2014

15.5 The WIMD 2014 is based on fine-grained geography of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). The WIMD 2014 is compiled from eight domains: Income; Employment; Health, Education; Housing; Access to Services; Physical Environment; and Community Safety and is published at LSOAs of which there are 112 in Carmarthenshire. 59 of these 112 LSOAs are within the 50% most deprived within Wales. Of the 10% most deprived wards within Wales, 5 are within Carmarthenshire – namely Tyisha 2, Bigyn 4, Llwynhendy 3, Glanymor 4 and Tyisha 3.

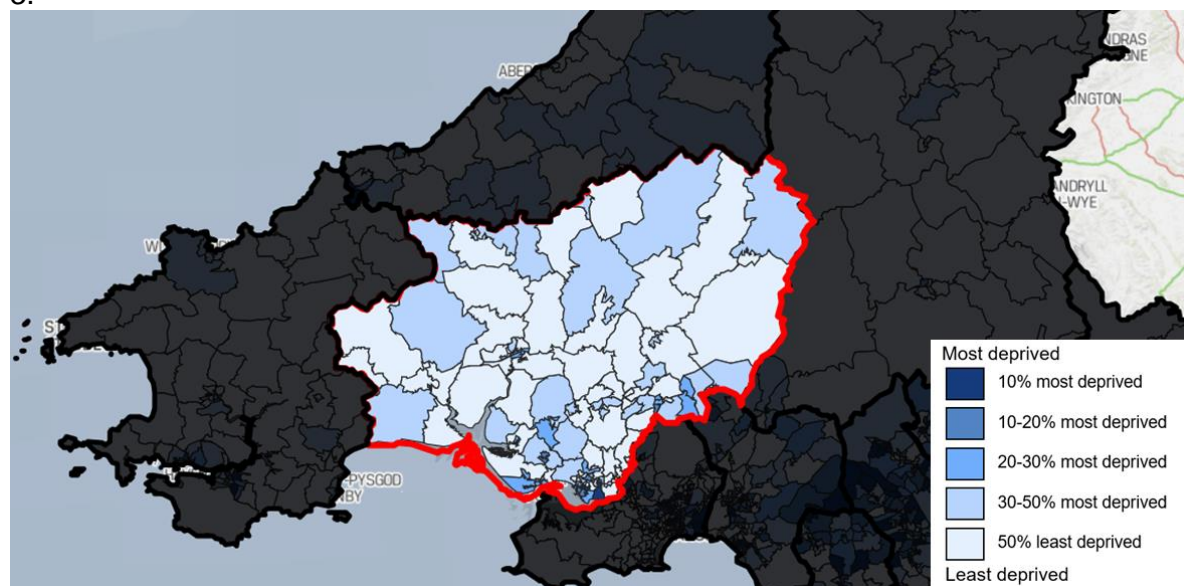


Figure 30 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation for Carmarthenshire¹⁷

¹⁷ <http://wimd.wales.gov.uk/>

Ward Profiles

15.6 Carmarthenshire is a diverse county. The county is made up of 58 electoral wards with 74 elected Members. Individual profiles have been prepared for each of these wards by the Council. The profile provides a summary of the key characteristics of the ward as well as valuable local information. The ward profiles draw upon a wide array of data sources, and their standardised layout enables the quick and easy comparison of areas, an investigation of patterns, and identification of variations. This is available here:

<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/research-statistics/electoral-ward-county-profiles/#.Wqu1xOlpy70>

Fuel Poverty

15.7 Information from the Department of Energy and Climate Change shows that 21% of households in Carmarthenshire are not connected to a mains gas supply which is traditionally used as a measure of fuel poverty. This is particularly prevalent in rural areas of the county. In some smaller, more remote rural communities this increases to 98% of households (Carmarthenshire Rural Poverty Study, 2015).

15.8 As a result rural residents often have higher dependency on more expensive sources of fuel such as oil, which is still the main source of fuel for 20,194 homes across the county (Census, 2011) and can be particularly expensive in older homes with insufficient insulation. In addition 1821 households in Carmarthenshire are without any central heating system (Census, 2011). It is stated that living in fuel poverty can not only have detrimental impact on economic well-being but also on physical health with increasing numbers of excess winter deaths relating to cardiovascular and respiratory diseases being predominantly linked to the cold.

Predicted Effect Without Implementation of the LDP

There would be no allocated land for housing, and once the current LDP housing supply is exhausted, development would take place in an uncoordinated piecemeal manner.

There would be a lack of adaptation to the predicted changes in population and social structure, which may threaten the cohesion and well-being of communities and the viability of schools, businesses and services. There would likely be unsustainable housing development on Greenfield sites away from existing education facilities and community services, badly served by public and Active Transport routes which may lead to less social activity and greater social exclusion. It is likely that existing deprived areas would experience little regeneration or any of the community benefits linked to new development. The provision of affordable housing would remain low and the increase in demand for affordable homes, particularly for the elderly would not be met.

Increasing population will put pressure on education services and ad hoc development may result in residential areas not being served by existing educational facilities and contributions from developers to fund new provision may not result in facilities being developed at an appropriate stage of development.

Appendix 3. The Sustainability Appraisal Framework

SA Objectives	Decision Making Influences
1 Sustainable Development	
1-1 To live within environmental limits 1-2 To ensure a strong, healthy and just society 1-3 To achieve a sustainable economy 1-4 To remove barriers and promoting opportunities for behavioural change	Will the LDP contribute to reducing resource consumption? Will the LDP encourage needs to be met locally? Will the LDP encourage individuals, companies and businesses to make more sustainable choices?
2 Biodiversity	
2.1 To promote the resilience of ecosystems by avoiding the damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats and protected species and to encourage connectivity 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 and improve the levels of the UK National Air Quality pollutants 3-2 To improve 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?

	<p>Are new developments climate resilient?</p> <p>Does the LDP leave room for habitat adjustment and coastal and fluvial flood water?</p>
5 Water	
<p>5-1 To ensure water quality of rivers, lakes, groundwater and coastal areas is improved and ensure that the hydromorphological quality of water bodies is maximised.</p> <p>5-2 To protect and maintain water resources in the public supply chain and ensure enough water is available for the environment at all times of year.</p> <p>5-3 To minimise diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas.</p> <p>5-4 To increase water efficiency in new and refurbished developments</p> <p>5-5 To make space for water, and minimise and reduce flood risk</p>	<p>Will there be an increase or decrease in the discharge of pollutants to water?</p> <p>Will there be an increase or decrease in water consumption from development?</p> <p>Will the LDP have a positive or negative effect on water quality and hydromorphology?</p> <p>Will it contribute to an increase in flood risk?</p> <p>Will it contribute to a reduction in flood risk?</p>
6 Material Assets	
<p>6-1 Minimise the use of finite resources and promote higher resource efficiency and the use of secondary and recycled materials.</p> <p>6-2 Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle.</p> <p>6-3 Encourage needs to be met locally.</p> <p>6-4 Promote the use of more sustainable resources.</p> <p>6-5 Improve the integration of different modes of transport.</p> <p>6-6 Promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport (e.g. cycling and walking).</p>	<p>Will the LDP contribute to increased rates of recycling and higher resource efficiency?</p> <p>Will the LDP ensure that needs can be met locally?</p> <p>Will the LDP allow people to make more sustainable transport choices?</p>
7 Soil	
<p>7-1 To promote the regeneration of contaminated land.</p> <p>7-2 To avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces and minimise soil erosion.</p> <p>7-3 To reduce SO₂ and NO_x emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture.</p>	<p>Will the LDP increase or decrease land contamination?</p> <p>Will the LDP result in an increase or loss of good quality soil resources?</p> <p>Will the LDP improve or degrade soil quality?</p> <p>Will the LDP involve development on previously used land?</p>
8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment	
<p>8-1 To protect historic and cultural assets and local distinctiveness from negative effects of development/regeneration and support their enhancement</p> <p>8-2 To promote high quality design reflecting local character and distinctiveness</p>	<p>Are there any sites of archaeological importance that can be positively or negatively affected by the LDP?</p> <p>Are there any historic landscapes that can be</p>

	<p>positively or negatively affected by the LDP? Are there any listed buildings that can be positively or negatively affected by the LDP?</p>
9 Landscape	
<p>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</p>	<p>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?</p>
10 Population	
<p>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</p>	<p>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?</p>
11 The Welsh language	
<p>11-1 Encourage growth of the Welsh language and culture</p>	<p>Will the LDP encourage the growth of the Welsh language and culture?</p>
12 Health and Well-being	
<p>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</p>	<p>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?</p>
13 Education and Skills	
<p>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</p>	<p>Will the LDP contribute to increasing attainment levels amongst young people? Will the LDP promote access to education facilities for all members of the community? Will the LDP contribute to increasing literacy and numeracy levels?</p>
14 Economy	

<p>14-1 To promote sustainable economic growth 14-2 To provide good quality employment opportunities for all sections of the population 14-3 To promote sustainable businesses in Wales</p>	<p>Will there be any adverse economic impacts on land and premises in employment use? Will there be a positive or negative impact on jobs opportunities as a result of the LDP?</p>
<p>15 Social Fabric</p>	
<p>15-1 Improve safety and security for people and property 15-2 Promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions 15-3 Promote the delivery of affordable housing 15-4 Improve accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantaged sections of society.</p>	<p>Will the LDP contribute to making housing more affordable? Will the LDP contribute to creating settlements that are safe and of a high quality urban fabric? Will the LDP contribute to creating healthier homes? Will the LDP maximise access to services and facilities for all members of the community by different modes of transport?</p>

Appendix 4 SA of rLDP Strategic Policies

SP1: Strategic Growth			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Commentary	Mitigating Plan Policies
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure.
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.	CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active travel
SA5 – Water	+	This policy provides for a housing growth percentage of 10.6%, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan.	
SA6 – Material Assets	+	Growth, especially in rural areas, has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support facilities and services leading to needs being met locally.	
SA7 - Soil		The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment		The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places

			PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods.
SA9 – Landscape	I	The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed.	PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
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	WL1 Welsh Language and New Development
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 5,307 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 recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies. 			

SP 2: Retail and Town Centres			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Plan Policies
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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. The policy does make explicit reference to evidencing a sites access to sustainable modes of transport if sited outside of town centres.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure.
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. The policy does make explicit reference to evidencing a sites access to sustainable modes of transport if sited outside of town centres.	CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active travel
SA5 – Water	I	Effects on water quality and supply is largely dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed.	SP8 – Infrastructure CCH3 – Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources
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	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks

			SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
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	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
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	+	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, which in turn is likely to have positive effects on the Welsh Language.	
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 Recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation for any air quality impacts could be further strengthened by making a specific reference to the protection and enhancement of GI within and adjacent to AQMA’s in policy PSD12 Light and Air Quality. Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies. 			

SP 3: A Sustainable Approach to Providing New Homes			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
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.	CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active travel
SA5 – Water	+	This policy provides for a housing growth percentage of 10.6%, 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	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.

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	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	+	The policy specifically outlines criteria for sustainable development, including a presumption against inappropriate development outside of development limits.	
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.	WL1 Welsh Language and New Development
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 Recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies. 			

SP 4: Affordable Homes			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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	-	Housing provision, in particular in rural areas, is likely to impact on greenfield land and undisturbed areas of biodiversity.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
SA3 – Air Quality	-	Affordable housing located In rural areas may result in an increase in private car use and associated air quality issues if not located near good public transport networks and active travel routes.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	-	Affordable housing located In rural areas may result in an increase in private car use and associated CO ² emissions if not located near good public transport networks and active travel routes.	CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active travel
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 Recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested that due to likely need for affordable housing in rural as well as urban areas of Carmarthenshire, policy SP4 make specific reference be made in the supporting text to the protection of the natural environment when locating affordable housing. • Suggested that policy SP4 make specific reference in the supporting text to locating affordable housing in locations with good access to public transport networks as well as active travel routes. • Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies. 			

SP 5: Strategic Sites			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	This policy looks to support a sustainable economy, and provides opportunity for needs to be met locally.	
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. These will be assessed at a planning application. It should be noted that Llanelli Life Science and Well-being village is immediately adjacent to the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
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.	CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active travel
SA5 – Water	0	Both sites have been through the planning process and DCWW have Review of Consents as to site specific capacity for growth with respect to water abstraction and waste water treatment. The need for any additional provision will be subject to consultation with DCWW.	SP8 – Infrastructure CCH3 – Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources
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	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and	I	The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment

Historic Environment			PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	I	The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed	SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
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 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 Recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any potential for negative impacts on the water quality of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site is further mitigated by the Burry Inlet SPG and accompanying Memorandum of Understanding, which requires developers to undertake compensatory water removal in catchments which drain into CBEEMS. <li>• Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies. 			

SP 6: Employment and the Economy			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	Allocation of employment land in both urban and rural areas, as well as in support of the Swansea Bay City deal is likely to create numerous high quality employment opportunities which will contribute positively to a sustainable economy and social inclusion.	
SA2 – Biodiversity	-	Any development infers potential for negative impacts on biodiversity, but at a strategic level, it is difficult to determine more specific impacts. These will be assessed at a site appraisal stage. It is likely that employment land will be allocated in rural areas which is likely to impact on greenfield land.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
SA3 – Air Quality	+/-	Allocation of employment land in line with the plans' spatial strategy/settlement framework and sustainability principles 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.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
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	?	Employment 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 the planning application stage and will be subject to consultation with DCWW.	SP8 – Infrastructure CCH3 – Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources
SA6 – Material Assets	+	Allocation of employment land in line with the plans' spatial strategy/settlement framework is likely to reduce the need to travel.	
SA7 - Soil		Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, it is difficult to predict impacts at	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks

		a strategic level. The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
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	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	I	The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed	SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
SA10 – Population	++	Allocation of employment land in both urban and rural areas, as well as in support of the Swansea Bay City deal is likely to create numerous high quality employment opportunities which will contribute positively to promoting the retention of young people and social inclusion.	
SA11 – Welsh Language	+	The allowing of appropriate small scale employment opportunities in rural areas to support rural communities, as well as those larger employment sites is likely to create a mix of employment choices across the county which may in turn encourage the retention of young people. This would result in positive impacts on the Welsh Language.	
SA12 – Health and Well-being	0		
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	Creating a diverse range of employment opportunities across the county in both rural and urban areas increases the potential and accessibility of education and skills facilities.	
SA14 – Economy	++	Allocation of employment land in both urban and rural areas, as well as in support of the Swansea Bay City deal is likely to create numerous high quality employment opportunities which will	

		contribute positively to a sustainable economy.	
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			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies. 			

SP 7: Welsh Language and Culture			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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 Recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no negative impacts predicted as a result of this policy • To strengthen this policy further, specific reference should be made to the motion that was passed by council in July 2019 that called for the whole county to be considered as linguistically sensitive and to be a material planning consideration in all developments of 10 houses or more. 			

SP 8: Infrastructure			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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. The policy also makes specific reference to compliance with the Burry Inlet SPG which is in place to protect the water quality of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site.	
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.	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and	-	Development directed to locations with sufficient infrastructure may reduce flexibility to avoid sensitive cultural	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment

Historic Environment		heritage and historic environment features.	PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	-	Development directed to locations with sufficient infrastructure may reduce flexibility to avoid sensitive landscape areas.	SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
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	+	This policy considers both hard and soft infrastructure and includes Welsh Language support in its definition of infrastructure. Development proposals must consider the provision of such infrastructure prior to development.	
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. This policy also considers education support in its definition of infrastructure. Development proposals must consider the provision of such infrastructure prior to development.	
SA14 – Economy	+	Development directed to locations with sufficient infrastructure is likely to create viable economic centres supported by a local workforce and market. This policy also supports digital infrastructure which is often essential to support employment development.	
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			

- Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies.

SP 9: Gypsy and Traveller Provision			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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 boundary of the Pen-y-fan site has some scrub habitat which has biodiversity value. The SA recommends that this is retained as a buffer to the adjoining railway line. The proposed extension to the existing Pen-y-bryn site as well as the new site will both be subject to planning permission and a HRA carried out if required.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
SA3 – Air Quality	0		
SA4 – Climatic Factors	-	Gypsy and Traveller Sites are categorised as Highly Vulnerable development under Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 15 (2004). It is noted that the 3 locations listed under SP9 are affected to varying degrees in relation to the Development Advice Map Zone C1.	SP8 – Infrastructure CCH3 – Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources CCH4 – Flood Risk Management and Avoidance SP15 – Climate Change
SA5 – Water	I	To ensure no water quality impacts on the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine site, both the new site and the extension to the existing site will be required to comply with the Burry Inlet MOU, which requires the removal of surface water in order to protect water quality in the Burry Inlet. It is noted that the 3 locations listed under SP9 are affected to varying degrees in relation to the Development Advice Map Zone C1.	SP8 – Infrastructure CCH3 – Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources CCH4 – Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA6 – Material Assets	+	Both sites are in sustainable locations with good access to facilities and services as well as public transport routes.	

SA7 - Soil	-	The development of both sites will involve the loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces.	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment	0	The proposed sites have no impact on any sites of archaeological importance, historic landscapes or listed buildings.	
SA9 – Landscape	-	The location of the newly proposed site is in close proximity to existing residential and commercial development. Buffer zones of existing green infrastructure should be kept to mitigate any negative impacts on landscape.	SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
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	+	Both sites are located in good proximity to health facilities and services as well as active travel routes and open space provision.	
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	Both sites are located in good proximity to education facilities and services.	
SA14 – Economy	+	Both sites are located in good proximity to existing employment sites.	
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			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The boundary of the proposed Pen-y-fan site has some scrub habitat which has biodiversity value as well as providing some screening of noise/air pollution from the adjacent railway line. The SA recommends that this is retained as a buffer to the adjoining railway line. Existing green Infrastructure corridors should also be maintained as buffer zones to mitigate any negative impacts on landscape. It is recommended that the Council give due consideration as to whether SP9 complies with the policy requirements contained in Policy CCH4 – Flood Risk Management and Avoidance in relation to flood risk. Such consideration should be further informed by any detailed / project level Flood Consequences Assessments (FCA). An FCA could assist in clarifying the likelihood and severity of flood risk on the 3 locations listed under Strategic Policy 9 to the Council. 			

SP 10: The Visitor Economy			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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 must be sustainably located, which should ensure that developments are located in areas that are accessible by public transport. It also states that developments should contribute to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and green infrastructure which, in turn, will have air quality benefits.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
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.	CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active travel
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	CCH3 – Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources

		developed would determine the way in which water would be affected.	
SA6 – Material Assets	+	Ensuring tourism related development that reflects the Plan’s settlement framework supports the intention to meet needs locally and reduce the need to travel. The policy states that proposals must be sustainably located.	
SA7 - Soil	I	The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
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	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	I	Development has the potential to impact of features of landscape importance however the policy expressly states that developments should exhibit high quality design and placemaking principles. Effects will depend on the implementation of the policy.	SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
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.	WL1 Welsh Language and New Development
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			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies. 			

SP 11: Placemaking and Sustainable Places			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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. Incorporation of active travel routes and access to public transport into development will also encourage less private car use.	
SA4 – Climatic Factors	++	Retention and creation of green infrastructure can mitigate effects of climate change by recycling CO ₂ and also providing cooling effects and absorption of rain water which can reduce risk of flooding. This policy encourages development to be adaptable to climate change and encourages regard to be had to incorporating SuDS into development where feasible.	
SA5 – Water	+	Encouraging the incorporation of SUDS into future development as well as retention and creation of green infrastructure aligns positively with SA5.	
SA6 – Material Assets	+	This policy encourages new development to have regard for generation, treatment and disposal of waste.	
SA7 - Soil	+	Retention and creation of green infrastructure aligns positively with the avoidance of loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces	
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment	+	This policy actively seeks to promote high quality design that reflects local character and distinctiveness.	
SA9 – Landscape	+	This policy actively seeks to promote high quality design in keeping with the surrounding landscape.	
SA10 – Population	+	This policy encourages the creation of safe, attractive and accessible	

		environments which in turn, create attractive spaces for all members of society, including young people and disadvantaged groups.	
SA11 – Welsh Language	0		
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	This policy encourages new development to have regard for Well-being and, in particular, access to open space and recreation.	
SA13 – Education and Skills	0		
SA14 – Economy	+	Creation of vibrant, safe and sustainable communities is likely to encourage the retention and inflow of people to Carmarthenshire, which will contribute positively to the economy.	
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	This policy encourages the creation of safe, attractive and accessible environments which in turn, create attractive spaces for all members of society, including young people and disadvantaged groups.	
SA Comments and Recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest specific reference is made to energy efficient design as well as resource efficiency. • Suggest reference to use of sustainable materials as well as techniques. • Suggest reference to recycling of waste under criteria (j) • No negative impacts on SA Framework are predicted as a result of this policy. 			

SP 12: Rural Development			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP8 – Infrastructure CCH3 – Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources
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.	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks

			SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
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.	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	-	Rural development is unlikely to result in derelict land being repurposed.	SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
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.	WL1 Welsh Language and New Development
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 Recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies. 			

SP 13: Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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	+	The natural environment is strongly linked with cultural heritage.	
SA9 – Landscape	+	This policy directly refers to the protection and enhancement of Carmarthenshire’s landscape.	
SA10 – Population	+	Protection of the natural environment can result in Carmarthenshire being a more desirable place to live, which may encourage young people to stay in the County. There are also studies that conclude that natural green space can increase social inclusion.	
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 and open spaces.	
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	The natural heritage of Carmarthenshire is a valuable resource in the education of children and adults.	
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	+	There are also studies that conclude that natural, biodiverse green spaces can increase social inclusion and contribute towards creating settlements that are safer and healthier.	
SA Comments and Recommendations			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No negative impacts on SA Framework are predicted as a result of this policy. • Specific reference should be made in the supporting text to the Council's Duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2018. 			

SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment.			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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	+	Protection of the historic environment can result in Carmarthenshire being a more desirable place to live, which may encourage young people to stay in the County.	
SA11 – Welsh Language	+	The built heritage of Carmarthenshire has strong links to the Welsh Language.	
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	+	The built heritage of Carmarthenshire is a valuable resource in the education of children and adults.	
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	+	Ensuring the build and historic environment are protected will ensure accessibility to such resources is as wide as possible, especially to disadvantaged sections of society.	
SA Comments and Suggestions			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No negative impacts on SA Framework are predicted as a result of this policy. • Although this policy does not directly impact on SA3 – Air Quality, the policy itself can be affected by air quality. Poor air quality can have impacts the built and historic environment such as increasing the 			

corrosive gases in the atmosphere as well as deposition of particles which can cause discolouration of surfaces. This should be mentioned in the supporting text of this policy to ensure its due consideration in any planning application.

- In line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the policy should make reference to the fact that the historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if historic assets are protected and restored.

SP 15: Climate Change			
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			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A stronger statement needs to be made to a commitment to reduce carbon emissions in policy. • Specific reference should be made to the motion on climate change that was passed by Council in Feb 2019 that resulted in a climate emergency being declared by Carmarthenshire County Council. The LDP 			

should make reference somewhere in the deposit plan as to how the LDP seeks to address this climate emergency.

- The policy does not mention the benefits of Green Infrastructure to mitigating and increasing resilience to the effects of climate change, in particular as carbon sinks. Reference to green infrastructure would result in a change from no effect to positive effects on SA7 – Soil. The SA recommends that specific reference should be made to the multifunctional benefits of green infrastructure for climate change resilience and mitigation in this policy.

SP 16: Sustainable Distribution - Settlement Hierarchy			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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.	SP8 – Infrastructure CCH3 – Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources
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	PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.

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	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	I	The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed	SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
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.	WL1 Welsh Language and New Development
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			

- Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by revised LDP Plan Policies.

SP 17: Transport and Accessibility			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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 as well as electric car use.	
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 and also looks to enhance access to active travel routes.	
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			

- No negative impacts on SA Framework are predicted as a result of this policy.
- Suggest reference be made in the supporting text to development in rural locations being preferably sited within and adjoining settlements that benefit from key services and facilities, rather than at sporadic countryside locations.

SP 18: Mineral Resources			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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/greenfield land.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
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	0	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. However, the policy specifically makes reference to maximising the potential for the re-use and recycling of suitable minerals as an alternative to primary won aggregates.	
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
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.	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places

			PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
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.	MR1: Mineral Proposals
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			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to provide further mitigation of this policy against SA4 Climatic Factors, reference should be made in the policy to ensuring that where possible, mineral extraction utilise transport links such as rail/or water transport as opposed to road haulage. • Suggest adding a clear statement clarifying that the Council will not support the development of land based coal or unconventional oil or gas operations, including the exploration, appraisal and extraction of oil and gas by unconventional methods (including the making of exploratory boreholes), unless the applicant can demonstrate the proposal conforms with national planning policy. • Clarify that petroleum refers to any mineral oil or relative hydrocarbon and natural gas existing in its natural strata as defined in the Petroleum Act 1998. This therefore includes shale oil and gas and coal bed methane. The definition of coal is taken from the Coal Industry Act 1994. This covers coal and also underground coal gasification. • In order to mitigate for residual impacts on SA7 – Soil, wording should be added to supporting text that makes clear that any soil removed as a result of the extraction process must be retained and replaced in situ. • Although specific policy MR1 Mineral Proposals goes some way to mitigating any residual negative impacts on SA9 – Landscape, it is suggested that additional wording on the protection of Landscape character and visual amenity in this policy to reinforce its importance. 			

SP 19: Waste Management			
SA Objective	Appraisal	Comments	Mitigating Policies
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. However, the policy does make reference to ensuring no significant adverse effects on the environment.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
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.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure WM1 Sustainable Waste Management and New Development
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. The policy does make reference to the potential for co-locating waste management facilities to create heat networks.	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure WM1 Sustainable Waste Management and New Development
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.	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
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.	SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods

SA9 – Landscape	I	The policy makes direct reference to any proposal having no significant adverse effect on local amenity	SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
SA10 – Population	0		
SA11 – Welsh Language	0		
SA12 – Health and Well-being	0	The policy makes specific reference to any development having to ensure that there are no significant, adverse effect on public health.	
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			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • To further strengthen mitigation against potential negative effects on SA9 – Landscape, reference should be made 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. • Suggest including some wording around the importance of green infrastructure for visual, noise and air pollution screening. 			

Appendix 5 Changes suggested by Initial SA to Preferred Strategy

SP 1: Strategic Growth
<p>The LDP will provide for the future growth of the economy and housing requirement through the provision of following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) 10,480 new homes to meet the identified housing requirement of 9,887.b) A minimum of 5,295 new jobs <p>The focus on regeneration and growth reflects the Councils core strategic ambitions with development distributed in a sustainable manner consistent with the spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy.</p>
SA Comments and Suggestions
<p>Suggested policy alteration: The LDP will provide for the future growth of <u>a sustainable</u> economy and housing requirements through the provision of following:</p> <p>dd into supporting text:</p> <p>The plans strategy for growth is formulated on the basis of sustainable development principles and in accordance with the goals and aspirations of the WBFG Act.</p>
LDP Response
Agreed
Changes made to policy as a result of SA
Suggested amendments incorporated.

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 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.

Include reference in supporting text to locating retail provision in sustainable locations, accessible by public transport or active travel routes in order to minimise the need for travel

Reference to ULEV charging point requirement for non-residential?

LDP Response

Policy has been rewritten. Section 3 of the policy is as follows:

- 1) Proposals for small local convenience shopping facilities in rural and urban areas within the development limits where they are of a scale appropriate to that settlement. Rural retail proposals will be considered in accordance with policy XXX.**

It is considered that a requirement for small convenience shopping facilities to be located within development limits would ensure that the proposals would need to be located in sustainable locations and therefore fulfils the suggested amendment to the policy's wording.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

The supporting text has been amended and now notes the following:

11.37 The retail strategy of the LDP reflects the social, economic and environmental principles of sustainable development which underpins the Plan. It also seeks to reflect the changing nature of retailing and the need for traditional town centres to adapt to such changes. The Strategy seeks to:

1. Protect and enhance the roles of the retail centres to ensure their continued attractiveness as town centres, shopping, commercial and leisure destinations and to protect local retail provision established in the county as well as the local businesses behind them. The challenge will be to maintain their competitiveness and market share whilst understanding the needs of each centre and their respective role and contribution in retail terms;
2. Locate and guide retail provision to sustainable locations which are accessible by public transport or active travel routes in order to minimise the need for travel;

See policy CCH2 – Electric Vehicle Charging Points which notes:

For non-residential developments where car parking is provided, at least 10% of those bays should have ULEV charging point. Rapid charging points for electric vehicles, should be provided where the local electricity network is technically able to support this.

SP 3: Providing New Homes

In order to ensure the overall housing land requirement of 9,887 homes for the plan period 2018-2033 is met, provision is made for 10,480 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 Comments and Suggestions

Suggested policy alteration: In order to ensure the overall housing land requirement of 9,887 homes for the plan period 2018-2033 is met, provision is made for 10,480 new homes **in order to promote the creation and enhancement of sustainable communities.**

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.**

Make reference in supporting text to promoting cohesive communities that are attractive, safe, well connected, and provide accessibility to cultural and leisure facilities, community services and employment opportunities.

LDP Response

Agreed

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

Suggested wording incorporated into the policy:

In order to ensure the overall housing requirement of 8,835 homes for the plan period is met, provision is made for 10,160 new homes in accordance with the settlement framework in order to promote the creation and enhancement of sustainable communities.

The suggested reference to 'sustainability principles' is agreed with. However, the wording of the Policy has been amended as noted below which suitably addresses the proposed amendment.

'The sustainable approach to the provision of new homes reflects the following principles'

The suggested amendment to the supporting text is incorporated.

SP 4: Affordable Homes
The Plan will maximise the delivery of affordable homes up to 2033 through the provision of XXXX affordable homes.
SA Comments and Suggestions
Suggested policy alteration: The Plan will maximise the delivery of affordable homes up to 2033 through the provision of XXXX affordable homes. <u>This will support the development and enhancement of sustainable, balanced communities.</u>
LDP Response
Agreed
Changes made to policy as a result of SA
Suggested amendments incorporated in to the Policy's wording.

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 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.

HRA Comments and Suggestions

Reference should be made to the fact that project level HRAs will be required for strategic projects

LDP Response

The Life Science and Well-being Village has secured an outline consent in August 2019 and Yr Egin is already constructed. Planning permission is therefore not needed.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

None. However, the supporting text has been updated to reflect the current position.

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 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**.

Include reference in supporting text to locating employment provision in sustainable locations, accessible by public transport or active travel routes in order to minimise the need for travel

Reference to ULEV charging point requirement for non-residential?

LDP Response

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

The Policy has been changed to note the following:

Sufficient land has been allocated for the provision of 77.93 hectares of employment provision for the Plan period in accordance with the Plan's Settlement Framework (Policy SP16) and sustainability principles.

The supporting text has been amended to incorporate a reference to sustainable locations as follows:

The emphasis on the Principal Centres not only reflects their sustainability credentials but also their historic legacy. It is also (particularly in relation to Llanelli) indicative of the relatively high unemployment rates and levels of deprivation and of a strong commitment to address the problems. The distribution of employment land is also well-aligned with the sustainable locations within the County which are accessible by public transport or active travel routes which minimise the need for travel.

See also the detailed policies on active travel and ULEV charging points – TRA2 and CCH2. Of particular relevance is Policy CCH2 which notes the following:

Non-Residential Development

For non-residential developments where car parking is provided, at least 10% of those bays should have ULEV charging point. Rapid charging points for electric vehicles, should be provided where the local electricity network is technically able to support this.

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 Comments and Suggestions
None made.
LDP Response
Changes made to policy as a result of SA
None.

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 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

Agreed.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

Amended wording incorporated.

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 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.

A sustainable location will be located with necessary access to physical, transport and social infrastructure

LDP Response**Changes made to policy as a result of SA**

None. The Policy has since been re-written.

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 Comments and Suggestions

Suggested policy alteration: Add in an additional criterion to support tourism related development where they exhibit high quality design and placemaking principles.

Refer to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment/green infrastructure due to its contribution to Carmarthenshire's tourism

LDP Response

Accepted.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

SP 10 and supporting updated

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 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 Comments and Suggestions

- Suggest specific reference is made to energy efficient design.

Suggested policy alteration:

Be adaptable to climate change, **promote energy efficiency** and utilise materials and resources appropriate to the area within which it is located;

- 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, sustainably sourced.**

- Suggest reference to recycling of waste

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

Suggested policy alteration:

Retain and, where appropriate, create new green infrastructure assets and encourages (creates?) opportunities to **protect and** enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity. **In particular, biophillic design will be supported.**

(g) Take out 'where feasible' from SuDS now 'where required'.

LDP Response

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

None. The Policy has since been re-written.

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 Comments and Suggestions

In supporting text, make reference in policy to accessibility to public transport, active travel and/or electric charging points? Sustainable transport hierarchy for planning. Reference to placemaking and design to reduce impacts on landscape and cultural heritage and encourage high quality design. Regard to SLA's which are largely rural (but these may be removed?).

LDP Response

It is considered that appropriate provision is made to address these matters in the Deposit Revised LDP.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

The Deposit LDP provides specific policies on Transport which refer to accessibility to public transport and active travel routes.

Policy SP11 and PSD1 make provision for reducing the impacts of development upon the landscape and to encourage high-quality design. Policy SP14 also makes appropriate provision for the protection of the built and historic environment.

There is no reference to SLAs as there are no longer SLAs identified in the Deposit Revised LDP.

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.

HRA Comments and Suggestions

In order to strengthen this policy the addition of the following wording is suggested:

All development proposals should be considered in accordance with national policy (PPW and TAN5) where a proposal for development would result in a significant adverse effect on a European designated site. Development that would result in unacceptable adverse environmental effects will not be permitted.

Discuss merits of green infrastructure for maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecological networks in the supporting text.

LDP Response

Accepted.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

Wording above incorporated into policy. Supporting text also incorporated.

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 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 Comments and Suggestions

Suggest specific reference is made to a reduction in carbon emissions in policy.

Suggested policy alteration: Contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions by reflecting sustainable transport principles and minimising the need to travel, particularly by private motor car

Add in additional criterion that refers to 'the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure assets and networks' as carbon sinks.

Refer explicitly to the transport hierarchy.

LDP Response

Agreed

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

The proposed amendments have been incorporated into the Deposit Revised LDP.

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 Comments and Suggestions

More in supporting text about sustainability principles, suitable access to services, transport infrastructure etc.

LDP Response

Agreed

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

Supporting text has been amended accordingly.

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 Comments and Suggestions

Include specific reference to transport hierarchy in policy wording or supporting text.

Include reference to Electric Charging facilities and electric car use (also include in criteria C?)

Suggested change to policy wording:

Adopt a sustainable approach to the design, function and layout of new development, including providing appropriate levels of parking, **and where applicable ULEV charging points.**

LDP Response

Agreed.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

Amended wording incorporated.

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 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.

HRA Comments and suggestions

Add in some policy wording specifically mentioning protection of European designations? In particular Cernydd Carmel SAC.

Minerals proposals within or likely to significantly affect European designated sites must be carefully examined, and if sufficient mitigation measures cannot be identified planning permission should not be granted.

LDP Response

Agreed.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

See Policy MR1, criterion f which addresses this matter.

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 Comments and Suggestions

Policy should include a criterion stating that no significant impacts on the environment should occur as a result of waste management proposals. Done – criterion i

Suggest more in the supporting text regarding sustainable location of waste management facilities especially when situated outside of development limits. Done

Make reference to design of buildings being in keeping with surrounding landscape. Policy reworded, comments no longer relevant

Include reference to the proximity principle to minimise distance between where waste is generated and managed. Done

HRA Comments and Suggestions

Suggested rewording of policy: The location and scale of developments should have regard to the availability and capacity of waste management facilities in the area. They should also have regard to ***sustainable location and protection of the natural environment***.

Reference that proposals will be supported where they reflect the priority order of the waste hierarchy.

LDP Response

Agreed.

Changes made to policy as a result of SA/HRA

Please see Criterion i of the Policy which addresses the first matter relating to the impacts upon the environment.

The supporting text has been amended to incorporate the suggested amendments relating to the sustainable location of waste management facilities.

The reference to the impact of buildings upon the landscape are no longer considered relevant as the Policy has been reworded. However, Policy SP11 and Policy PSD1 make appropriate provision for this.

A reference to the proximity principle has been incorporated into the Policy.

Other general recommendations from Initial SA

Significant impacts of the Preferred Strategy	Suggestions for avoiding or mitigating negative impacts or enhancing positive ones
Capacity for water infrastructure to facilitate growth is unclear	Confirm with Dŵr Cymru that water provision and wastewater treatment infrastructure will be adequate for the amount of development being proposed
Potential for development in Llanelli to be directed to areas within C1/C2 flood zones	Consider development of evidence base.
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.

Appendix 6 SA of rLDP revised Growth Options

PG Long Term (2019 Addendum Report)		
Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the full seventeen-year historical period (2001/02-2017/18).		
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	+/-	Development of any form has the potential for negative effects on biodiversity, depending on the choice of site and the manner in which they are developed. However this option sees a decrease in the number of dwellings required in the current plan, from 1,013 to 671 which would reduce the need for development on greenfield land and resulting 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 significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality.
SA4 – Climatic Factors	+/-	Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity and associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so may result in less carbon emissions.
SA5 – Water	+	This growth option projects a household growth of 9.6% over the plan period, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) Resource Management Plan.
SA6 – Material Assets	0	No direct link
SA7 - Soil	+	Any level of development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so will reduce the need for greenfield land.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment		The effect of this option on SA8 will be dependent on how growth is implemented.
SA9 – Landscape		The effect of this option on SA8 will be dependent on how growth is implemented.
SA10 – Population	+	This option will go some way to addressing the balance of the population, with a likely increase in the younger age cohorts.

SA11 – Welsh Language	+	The predicted increase in the numbers of young persons is likely to have positive effects on Welsh Language.
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	This option sees a projected increase in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with some 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, depending on where growth is distributed, could increase pressure on education services in densely populated areas, or may result in the retention of school facilities in rural areas.
SA14 – Economy	+	This option sees the creation of 439 jobs per annum over the plan period which aligns with the Council's Regeneration ambitions.
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	This option sees growth in the 65+ age cohort coupled with some growth in the labour workforce age groups which would go some way to balancing the County's population. Higher growth levels also supports the delivery of affordable housing.

PG 10 Year (2019 Addendum Report)		
Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on a ten-year historical period, ignoring the anomalous years around the immediate aftermath of the financial crash.		
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	+/-	Development of any form has the potential for negative effects on biodiversity, depending on the choice of site and the manner in which they are developed. However this option sees a decrease in the number of dwellings required in the current plan, from 1,013 to 589 which would reduce the need for development on greenfield land and resulting 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 significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality.
SA4 – Climatic Factors	+/-	Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity and associated carbon

		emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so may result in less carbon emissions.
SA5 – Water	+	This growth option projects a household growth of 8.1% over the plan period, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) Resource Management Plan.
SA6 – Material Assets	0	No direct link
SA7 - Soil	+	Any level of development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so will reduce the need for greenfield land.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment		The effect of this option on SA8 will be dependent on how growth is implemented.
SA9 – Landscape		The effect of this option on SA8 will be dependent on how growth is implemented.
SA10 – Population	+	This option will go some way to addressing the balance of the population, with a likely increase in the younger age cohorts.
SA11 – Welsh Language	+	The predicted increase in the numbers of young persons is likely to have positive effects on Welsh Language.
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	This option sees a projected increase in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with some 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, depending on where growth is distributed, could increase pressure on education services in densely populated areas, or may result in the retention of school facilities in rural areas.
SA14 – Economy	+	This option sees the creation of 354 jobs per annum over the plan period which aligns with the Council's Regeneration ambitions.
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	This option sees growth in the 65+ age cohort coupled with some growth in the labour workforce age groups which would go some way to balancing the County's population. Higher growth levels also supports the delivery of affordable housing.

PG Short Term (2019 Addendum Report)

Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the four-year historical period (2014/15-2017/18) which corresponds with the four-year period of recovery in housing growth.

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	+/-	Development of any form has the potential for negative effects on biodiversity, depending on the choice of site and the manner in which they are developed. However this option sees a decrease in the number of dwellings required in the current plan, from 1,013 to 585 which would reduce the need for development on greenfield land and resulting 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 significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality.
SA4 – Climatic Factors	+/-	Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity and associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so may result in less carbon emissions.
SA5 – Water	+	This growth option projects a household growth of 7.6% over the plan period, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) Resource Management Plan.
SA6 – Material Assets	0	No direct link
SA7 - Soil	+	Any level of development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement so will reduce the need for greenfield land.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment		The effect of this option on SA8 will be dependent on how growth is implemented.
SA9 – Landscape		The effect of this option on SA8 will be dependent on how growth is implemented.
SA10 – Population	+	This option will go some way to addressing the balance of the population, with a likely increase in the younger age cohorts.
SA11 – Welsh Language	+	The predicted increase in the numbers of young persons is likely to have positive effects on Welsh Language.

SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	This option sees a projected increase in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with some 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, depending on where growth is distributed, could increase pressure on education services in densely populated areas, or may result in the retention of school facilities in rural areas.
SA14 – Economy	+	This option sees the creation of 354 jobs per annum over the plan period which aligns with the Council's Regeneration ambitions.
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	This option sees growth in the 65+ age cohort coupled with some growth in the labour workforce age groups which would go some way to balancing the County's population. Higher growth levels also supports the delivery of affordable housing.

Appendix 7 SA of rLDP of Specific Policies

Strategic Policy	SP1 Strategic Growth								
Specific Policies	SG1: Regeneration and Mixed Use Sites (assessed separately under sites)								
	SG2 Reserve Sites								
	SG3 Pembrey Peninsula								
SA Objective	SG1	SG2	SG3						Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development		+	+						
SA2 – Biodiversity		-	-						SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality		-	-						PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors			-						CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water			-						CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA6 – Material Assets		0	0						
SA7 – Soil		+	-						PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage		0							SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment

SA9 – Landscape		+	I						SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution
SA10 –Population		+	+						
SA11 – Welsh Language		+	0						
SA12 – Health and Well-being		+	+						
SA13 – Education and Skills		+	0						
SA14 – Economy		++	+						
SA15 – Social Fabric		+	+						
Commentary									
<p>SG1 - Sites will be assessed separately in more detail. The use of development briefs will allow for more in detail considerations of any constraints and opportunities for enhancements, in particular the consideration and incorporation of green infrastructure and biodiversity assets on the site.</p> <p>SG2 – Specific reference in the policy to accordance with policies on high quality design, green infrastructure and active travel routes are welcomed. To further mitigate any negative impacts on SA2 – Biodiversity, suggest specific reference is made to policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment. Development would have to comply with TAN15 and policy CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance which would minimise the risks associated with flooding, in particular for sites that are located in coastal areas. The policy looks to utilise previously developed sites which is positive against SA7 – Soil and SA9 Landscape. Increasing employment provision across the county can help retain young people which in turn will have a positive effect on SA11 - Welsh Language.</p> <p>SG3 – Pembrey is currently a blue flag beach but appropriate mechanisms would need to be put in place to minimise litter and maximise recycling in order to protect water quality. The peninsula is also surrounded by C2 flood zone including the ingress and egress to the site. The Council would need to be satisfied that any development considered vulnerable satisfied he conditions under TAN15. The peninsula is also an area of high biodiversity and cultural value and any proposals would need to take careful consideration of this in any application. Development would need to be sensitive and in keeping with the natural and unique surroundings in order to reduce any potential impacts on SA9 Landscape.</p>									
SA Comments and Recommendations									

- **SG2 suggest specific reference is made to policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment**
- **SG3 suggest more wording added to supporting text about cultural and biodiversity importance of Pembrey. The accompanying SPG would need to be explicit about design and landscaping as well as cultural heritage and biodiversity to ensure any negative impacts on the landscape were minimised.**

Strategic Policy	SP2 Retail and Town Centres								
Specific Policies	RTC1 Carmarthen Town Centre RTC2 Protection of Local Shops and Facilities RTC3 Retail in Rural Areas								
SA Objective	RTC1	RTC2	RTC3						Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+						
SA2 – Biodiversity	0	0	-						SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality	+/-	+	+						PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	+/-	+	+						CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water	0	0	0						CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA6 – Material Assets	+	+	+						
SA7 – Soil	+	+	-						PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	+	+	0						
SA9 – Landscape	+	+	!						SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character

										PSD11 Noise Pollution
SA10 –Population	+	+	+							
SA11 – Welsh Language	+	+	+							
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	+	+							
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	+	+							
SA14 – Economy	++	++	+							
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	+	+							
Commentary										
<p>RTC1 – Both the primary and secondary town centre retail areas are within the Carmarthen AQMA. Increasing retail provision within this area may result in an increase in deliveries and heavy goods vehicles to this area which will have negative air quality impacts. Resulting increases in CO2 emissions should also be considered. However, Carmarthen Town Centre is well serviced by public transport which allows the opportunity to reduce air pollution and carbon emissions associated with private car use. Improving retail provision in town centres is likely to encourage needs to be met locally by retaining vital retail provision, which will also have economic and education and skills benefits.</p> <p>RTC2 – this policy looks to protect local shops and facilities which will help to ensure that needs can be met locally without the use of the private cars. This will have positive impacts on SA3 Air quality, SA4 Climatic Factors and SA6 Material Assets. This policy also scores positive against the socio-economic SA objectives as retention of facilities and services will promote the retention of young people by providing jobs and access to skills development.</p> <p>RTC3 – providing services and facilities in rural areas can reduce private car use and in turn improve air quality and associated carbon emissions. Rural development is likely to result in development of greenfield land which can have high biodiversity and /or soil value. However this can be suitably mitigated by compliance with policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the natural environment and associated specific policies.</p>										
SA Comments and Recommendations										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTC1 Acknowledgement in the policy that both primary and secondary town centre retail areas are within the Carmarthen AQMA and that retail applications would be subject to submission of an Air Quality Assessment as per policy PSD12 Light and Air Quality. 										

Strategic Policy	SP3 A Sustainable Approach to Providing New Homes									
Specific Policies	HOM1 Housing Allocations									
	HOM2 Housing within Development Limits									
	HOM3 Homes in Rural Village									
	HOM4 – Homes in Non-Defined Rural Settlements									
	HOM5 Conversion or Subdivision of Existing Dwellings									
	HOM6 Specialist Housing									
	HOM7 Renovation of Derelict or Abandoned Dwellings									
	HOM8 Residential Caravans									
	HOM9 Ancillary Residential Development									
SA Objective	HOM1	HOM2	HOM3	HOM4	HOM5	HOM6	HOM7	HOM8	HOM9	Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
SA2 – Biodiversity		+	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality			+	+	-	0	-	0	0	PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors			+	+	-	0	-	0	0	CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water		+	+/-	+/-			+/-	0		CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance SP 8: Infrastructure

SA6 – Material Assets		+	+	+	-	+	+/-	0	-	
SA7 – Soil		+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage							+	0	0	
SA9 – Landscape		+	+	+	+/-	0	+	-	-	SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution
SA10 –Population		+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	
SA11 – Welsh Language		+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	
SA12 – Health and Well-being		+	+	+	-	+	0	0	+	
SA13 – Education and Skills		+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	
SA14 – Economy		+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	
SA15 – Social Fabric		+	+	+	+	+	+/-	0	+	CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points PSD12 Light and Air Pollution TRA2 Active Travel
Commentary										
HOM1 – Housing allocations are assessed separately under Appendix X										
HOM2 –										
HOM3/HOM4 - These policies encourage small scale development within rural villages and settlements. This is likely to encourage the retention of services and facilities in rural areas, and as such should reduce private car use and associated air quality impacts. Small scale development within settlements can reduce the likelihood of										

development of greenfield land however it must be ensured that sufficient infrastructure is available to support growth in rural villages. Controlled growth in such areas will help to keep rural communities together and will in turn encourage the retention of young people, protection of the Welsh language and facilitate rural economy.

HOM5 - Converting buildings into multiple occupancy may result in an increased concentration of cars to an area. This may have implications for air quality and carbon emissions, in particular in urban areas. Connection to active travel routes and public transport should be maximised and the policy should ensure provision is made for the storage of bicycles. The policy makes reference to ensuring quality, character and appearance of the building is safeguarded, however further the policy should make more reference to the use of the building once built and ensuring effective provision of storage, for rubbish and recycling and for bicycles. Water supply and sewerage supply will be subject to consultation with Dwr Cymru which should not result in any negative impacts.

HOM6 – By providing specialist housing this policy seeks to provide a framework for considering proposals to make appropriate allowances for the needs of those requiring care. This will have positive impacts on SA10 population, SA12 Health and Wellbeing and SA15 Social fabric as the policy is ensuring that the needs of Carmarthenshire’s aging or vulnerable population are met.

HOM7 – Renovation of derelict buildings outside of settlement limits may result in unsustainable location of development, with insufficient access to facilities, services, public transport or active travel routes. This is likely to result in increased private car use and as a result degrading air quality and increasing carbon emissions. Derelict buildings will often contain Bats or other biodiversity and their redevelopment should ensure full compliance with policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment and NE2 Biodiversity, however the policy wording could be strengthened to further mitigate these impacts. Development outside settlement limits is less likely to be in proximity to supporting infrastructure and the use of less sustainable solutions such as septic tanks may be required in place of connection to the existing sewer network.

HOM8 – Care should be taken to ensure no negative effects on the landscape as a result of residential caravans.

HOM9 – Existing rural buildings of a certain age may contain protected species which would need to be investigated through an ecological survey as part of any planning application. Any potential for negative effects is mitigated through compliance with policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment and policy NE2 Biodiversity, however the policy wording could be strengthened to further mitigate these impacts.

SA Comments and Recommendations

- HOM5 – specific reference should be made to ensuring provision of secure cycle parking and access to active travel routes in particular in urban areas where air quality issues exist. This policy should require the incorporation of adequate and effective provision for the storage, recycling and other sustainable management of waste.
- HOM7 the policy should be explicit about ensuring any application for development of abandoned buildings outline how the location has access to facilities and services or is accessible by public transport/active travel. Add in text around protected species such as: **Traditional rural buildings can provide important habitats for valuable species including bats and barn owls. Proposals for the conversion of such buildings will need to ensure there would be no significant adverse effects on protected species in-line with Policy NE2 Biodiversity and the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity SPG.**

Strategic Policy	SP4 Affordable Homes Strategy								
Specific Policies	AHOM1 Provision of Affordable Homes AHOM2 Affordable Homes – Exceptions sites								
SA Objective	AHOM1	AHOM2							Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+							
SA2 – Biodiversity	0	-							SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality	0	0							PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	0	0							CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water	0	0							CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA6 – Material Assets	0	0							
SA7 – Soil	0	-							PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	I	I							
SA9 – Landscape	0	0							SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution

SA10 –Population	++	++							
SA11 – Welsh Language	+	+							
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	+							
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	+							
SA14 – Economy	+	+							
SA15 – Social Fabric	++	++							
Commentary									
<p>AHOM1/AHOM2: The provision of affordable housing will help to ensure that housing is more accessible to those who cannot afford market housing. This is likely to benefit young people and help to retain them in the county, which in turn will help to protect the Welsh Language. AHOM2 may have negative impacts on biodiversity and soil as it allows for development outside development limits which would involve greenfield land.</p>									
SA Comments and Recommendations									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 									

Strategic Policy	SP6 Employment and the Economy								
Specific Policies	EME1 Employment Safeguarding of Employment Sites								
	EME2 New Employment Proposals								
	EME3 Employment Extensions and Intensification								
	EME4 Rural Employment Exception Sites								
	EME5 Home Working								
SA Objective	EME1	EME2	EME3	EME4	EME5				Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+	+				
SA2 – Biodiversity	0	-	-	-	-				SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality	0	-	-	-	0				PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	0	-	-	-	0				CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water	0								CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA6 – Material Assets	0	+	+	+	-				
SA7 – Soil	0				0				PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	0	0	0		0				

SA9 – Landscape	0	0	0	0	-				SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution
SA10 –Population	+	+	+	+	+				
SA11 – Welsh Language	+	+	+	+	+				
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	+	+	+	+				
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	+	+	+	+				
SA14 – Economy	++	++	++	++	++				
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	+	+	+	+				
Commentary									
EME4 - The SA predicts no negative effects on SA9 Landscape as the policy wording states that development must be of scale and type compatible with the surrounding area and will cause no unacceptable harm to local amenity. It should be a requirement that proposals for rural employment are accessible by alternative means of transport other than the private car.									
SA Comments and Recommendations									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EME1/EME2 – retention of on site green infrastructure would aid in the protection of the amenity of neighbouring properties. 									

Strategic Policy	SP7 Welsh Language and Culture								
Specific Policies	WL1 The Welsh Language and New Development								
SA Objective	WL1								Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+								
SA2 – Biodiversity	0								SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality	0								PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	0								CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water	0								CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA6 – Material Assets	0								
SA7 – Soil	0								PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	++								
SA9 – Landscape	0								SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution

SA10 –Population	+								
SA11 – Welsh Language	++								
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+								
SA13 – Education and Skills	+								
SA14 – Economy	+								
SA15 – Social Fabric	+								
Commentary									
EME4 – This policy seeks to protect the Welsh Language across the County as it has been determined as linguistically sensitive which will have a strong positive effect on both SA8 Cultural Heritage and SA11 Welsh Language.									
SA Comments and Recommendations									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 									

Strategic Policy	SP8 Infrastructure								
Specific Policies	INF1 Planning Obligations								
	INF2 Healthy Communities								
	INF3 Broadband and Telecommunications								
	INF4 Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Surface Water Disposal								
SA Objective	INF1	INF2	INF3	INF4					Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+					
SA2 – Biodiversity	+	0	-	+					SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality	0	+	+	0					PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	0	+	+	+					CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water	+	0	0	+					CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA6 – Material Assets	+	+	+	+					
SA7 – Soil	0	0	0	+					PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	0	0	0	0					

SA9 – Landscape	+	+	0	+						SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution
SA10 –Population	0	+	+	+						
SA11 – Welsh Language	+	0	+	0						
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	++	+	+						
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	+	+	0						
SA14 – Economy	0	+	++	+						
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	+	+	0						
Commentary										
<p>INF1 – Planning obligations can be used to contribute towards enhancing supporting infrastructure such as roads and public transport, schools and education, health, open space and green infrastructure, flood defences, biodiversity and welsh language to ensure no negative effects remain as a result of development.</p> <p>INF2 – The requirement for major developments to undertake a Health Impact Assessment has strong positive effects against SA12 Health and wellbeing. The wording of the policy supports active travel, accessible useable green spaces and infrastructure, reducing health inequalities, addressing the social determinants of health and providing accessible health care facilities. Encouraging healthy lifestyles is likely to result in a reduction of the need for health facilities which can have positive economic effects.</p> <p>INF3 – Ensuring new development will have access to high speed and reliable broadband is likely to facilitate economic growth and allow flexible home working. This is desirable for young people as well as small businesses and will have positive effects on social fabric and the economy. Home working can also reduce commuting rates which will be beneficial for air quality and carbon emissions.</p> <p>INF4 - Commentary TBC</p>										
SA Comments and Recommendations										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 										

Strategic Policy	SP9 Gypsy and Traveller Provision								
Specific Policies	GTP1 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation								
SA Objective	GTP1								Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+								
SA2 – Biodiversity	-								SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality									PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors									CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water									CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA6 – Material Assets	+								
SA7 – Soil	-								PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage									
SA9 – Landscape									SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution

SA10 –Population	+								
SA11 – Welsh Language	0								
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+								
SA13 – Education and Skills	+								
SA14 – Economy	0								
SA15 – Social Fabric	+								
Commentary									
<p>GTP1 – Development of any form has the potential to have a negative impacts on biodiversity and soil resources, however this can be sufficiently mitigated by compliance with SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment. Similarly, any proposal for new gypsy sites or extensions to existing sites would need to ensure that sufficient water and sewerage resources were available in consultation with DCWW at the planning application stage, and sufficient access to utilities is a specific consideration in the policy. This policy seeks to provide for the needs of minority groups and therefore positive effects are predicted against socio-economic SA objectives.</p>									
SA Comments and Recommendations									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 									

Strategic Policy	SP10 The Visitor Economy								
Specific Policies	VE1 Visitor Attractions and Facilities VE2 Permanent Holiday Accommodation VE3 Touring Caravan, Camping or Temporary 'other' Camping sites VE4 Static Caravan and Chalet Sites and Permanent 'other' Camping Accommodation								
SA Objective	VE1	VE2	VE3	VE4					Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+					
SA2 – Biodiversity	-	-	-	-					SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality			-	-					PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active Travel
SA4 – Climatic Factors			-	-					CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active Travel
SA5 – Water	-	-							CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment

SA6 – Material Assets			-	-					CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active Travel
SA7 – Soil	-	-	-	-					PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	?	?	?	?					
SA9 – Landscape									SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution
SA10 –Population	+	+	0	0					
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	0	0	0					
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	+	+	+					
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	+	0	0					
SA14 – Economy	++	++	++	++					
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	+	+	+					
Commentary									
<p>VE1/VE2 – Development outside development limits can sometimes result in increased private car use to reach such locations, however mitigation already exists in the policy in the form of the wording regarding the fact that proposals should be accessible by public transport/active travel routes. Development outside of settlement limits is also likely to result in the loss of greenfield land which can reduce permeable land and reduce the resilience of areas to flooding. Policies PSD3 Green Infrastructure and CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance can mitigate for these negative impacts. Any potential negative impacts on landscape are mitigated by existing policy wording with regards to respecting the sense of place of an area in terms of scale, type, character, design etc.</p> <p>VE3 /VE4– – Development of any form has the potential to have a negative impacts on biodiversity and soil resources, however this can be sufficiently mitigated by compliance with SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment. Neither policy make reference to ensuring sites are accessible by public</p>									

transport/active travel routes which could result in developments being located at unsustainable locations. Any potential negative impacts on landscape are mitigated by existing policy wording with regards to respecting the sense of place of an area in terms of scale, type, character, design etc. Potential for impacts on cultural heritage are uncertain as the policy does not identify specific sites and so it is difficult to determine whether impacts are probable. This will be addressed at a planning application stage and is mitigated by compliance with policy SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment. Provision of development for tourism purposes has multiple socio-economic benefits, as tourism is a key component of Carmarthenshire's economy and a major source of employment. 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.

SA Comments and Recommendations

- VE3/VE4 – Suggest addition of this wording to both policies in order to mitigate for any negative effects on SA3 Air Quality and SA4 Climatic Factors: (d) they are suitably located in relation to the main highway network, **as well as public transport and active travel routes**, and adequate access can be provided without detriment to the natural and built environment; and

Strategic Policy	SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places													
Specific Policies	<p>PSD1 Sustainability and High Quality Design</p> <p>PSD2 Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods</p> <p>PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network</p> <p>PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows</p> <p>PSD5 Development and the Circular Economy</p> <p>PSD6 Community Facilities</p> <p>PSD7 Protection of Open Space</p> <p>PSD8 Provision of New Open Space</p> <p>PSD9 Advertisements</p> <p>PSD10 Extensions</p> <p>PSD11 Noise Pollution</p> <p>PSD12 Light and Air Pollution</p> <p>PSD13 Contaminated Land</p>													
SA Objective	PSD1	PSD2	PSD3	PSD4	PSD5	PSD6	PSD7	PSD8	PSD9	PSD10	PSD11	PSD12	PSD13	Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	
SA2 – Biodiversity	-		+	+	0	-	+	+	0		+	+		SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	++	0	<p>PSD12 Light and Air Pollution</p> <p>PSD3 Green Infrastructure</p> <p>CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points</p>

														TRA2 Active Travel
SA4 – Climatic Factors	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active Travel
SA5 – Water	+	+	+	+	0		+	+	0	0	0	0	+	CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA6 – Material Assets	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active Travel
SA7 – Soil	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	0	-	0	0	+	PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+		
SA9 – Landscape	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+			+	+	+	SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution

SA10 – Population	+	+	+	+	0	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	0	0	+	+	+	
SA13 – Education and Skills	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	
SA14 – Economy	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	0	+	+	0	
Commentary														
<p>PSD1 – This policy could have positive effects on SA3 Air Quality and SA4 Climatic factors if it made reference to low carbon design, renewable energy, and green infrastructure provision. Predicted negative effects on biodiversity can be somewhat mitigated by compliance with policy SP13, however this could be further mitigated by specific reference in the policy to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity. The policy specifically references the need to ensure the satisfactory generation, treatment and disposal of both surface and foul water; the policy does not reference the integration of sustainable drainage into development design, which would further enhance the positive effects of this policy on SA5 Water. The policy has neutral effects on SA6 Material Assets but an addition to the policy referencing efficient use of transportation networks including connectivity to active travel routes, as well as some reference to circular economy and ensuring the layout and design of the development facilitates provision for recycling.</p> <p>PSD2 –</p> <p>PSD9 – Positive effects are predicted against SA11 Welsh Language and SA13 Education and Skills as it may contribute to improving Welsh literacy within the County.</p>														
SA Comments and Recommendations														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSD1 Include in criteria a reference to low carbon design/ incorporation of renewable energy into development. Also make reference to incorporation of green infrastructure into development proposals. Reference should be made to the need for development to have regard to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and attributes of ecosystem resilience should identified and, as far as possible, incorporated into site design. 														

Strategic Policy	SP12 Rural Development								
Specific Policies	RD1 Replacement Dwelling in the Open Countryside RD2 Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Residential Use RD3 Farm Diversification RD4 Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Non-Residential Use RD5 Equestrian Facilities								
SA Objective	RD1	RD2	RD3	RD4	RD5				Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+	+				
SA2 – Biodiversity	-	-	0	0					SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality	-	-	+	+/-	-				PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active Travel
SA4 – Climatic Factors	-/+	-	+	+/-	-				CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active Travel
SA5 – Water	0	0	0	0	0				CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance PSD3 Green Infrastructure

									SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA6 – Material Assets	-	-	0	+	-				CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points TRA2 Active Travel
SA7 – Soil	?	?	0	0	0				PSD3 Green Infrastructure SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA8 – Cultural Heritage					0				
SA9 – Landscape									SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution
SA10 –Population	0	0	+	+	0				
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	+	+	+	+				
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+/-	+/-	0	0	+				
SA13 – Education and Skills	-	-	+	+	+				
SA14 – Economy	+	+	+	+	+				
SA15 – Social Fabric	-	-	+	+	-				
Commentary									
RD1/RD2 Existing rural buildings of a certain age may contain protected species which would need to be investigated through an ecological survey as part of any planning application. Any potential for negative effects is mitigated through compliance with policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment and policy NE2 Biodiversity, however the policy wording could be strengthened to further mitigate these impacts. Dwellings in the open countryside often require the use of private car to reach facilities and services which will have negative effects on SA3 Air Quality, SA4 Climatic Factors and SA6 Material Assets. However, the									

replacement of older dwelling is likely to result in dwellings being built to higher energy efficiency standards which can result in energy saving. Effects on SA9 Soil are uncertain as it will be dependent on the footprint of the proposed replacement dwelling. Adherence to policies PSD3 Green Infrastructure and SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment can mitigate for this uncertainty. The policy is explicit in that the dwelling to be replaced should not be a building that is important to the character of the landscape and that it should retain its traditional character which mitigates for any uncertainty of impacts on SA8 Cultural Heritage and SA9 Landscape. The policy does not encourage access to facilities and services, however it does increase access to the natural environment.

RD3 – Farm diversification can offer opportunities to add to the income streams of working farms which has a number of socio-economic benefits. It provides opportunities for young people living in rural areas to find employment without having to move out of the area, which will also have benefits for the retention of Welsh speakers in rural areas. Small enterprises such as farm shops can prevent the requirement of rural residents having to drive to larger towns in order to shop therefore reducing private car use and associated air quality issues and carbon emissions.

RD4 – This policy can have a number of socio-economic benefits, allowing conversion to non-residential uses such as employment and making use of redundant buildings in rural areas. This can contribute to encouraging rural enterprise and the provision of more facilities and services in rural areas. This is also beneficial for the retention of young people in rural areas due to the potential for increased employment opportunities, which can also result in the retention of young Welsh speakers.

RD5 – Provision of equestrian facilities in rural areas may lead to increased traffic to the area, in particular if specific events are held. This may have negative effects on air quality and increase carbon emissions. However, such facilities may introduce opportunities for employment, skills and training, as well as having recreation and economic benefits.

SA Comments and Recommendations

- Policy RD1/RD2 Add in text around protected species such as: **Traditional rural buildings can provide important habitats for valuable species including bats and barn owls. Proposals for the conversion of such buildings will need to ensure there would be no significant adverse effects on protected species in-line with Policy NE2 Biodiversity and the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity SPG.** Make reference to sustainable transport links and maximisation of adherence to the sustainable transport hierarchy for planning and policy CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points.

Strategic Policy	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment									
Specific Policies	NE1: Regional and Local NE2: Biodiversity NE3: Corridors, Networks and Features of Distinctiveness NE4: Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area NE5: Coastal Management NE6: Coastal Development NE7: Coastal Change Management Area									
	SA Objective	NE1	NE2	NE3	NE4	NE5	NE6	NE7		Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
SA2 – Biodiversity	++	++	++	++	0	0	0	0	+	SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
SA3 – Air Quality	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	
SA4 – Climatic Factors	+	+	+	0	+	+/-	+	+	+	CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance
SA5 – Water	+	+	+	0	+	-	+	+	+	CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water Resources
SA6 – Material Assets	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	
SA7 – Soil	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	
SA9 – Landscape	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	++	

SA10 –Population	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	
SA14 – Economy	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	

Commentary

Policies NE1, NE2, NE3 and NE4 all have positive effects across the SA Objectives due to the protective nature of these policies on the Natural Environment, with strong positive effects predicted on SA2 Biodiversity.

NE5 - reference in the policy to adherence with SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment sufficiently mitigates any potential for negative effects on Biodiversity.

NE6 facilitates development in coastal areas which can increase the risk of such proposals to flooding over the longer term, due to climate change, coastal erosion and sea level rise. This risk can be mitigated by Policy CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance. Increasing development on the coastline can also increase recreational pressure on such areas. This can have negative impacts on water quality, as well as increasing noise and light pollution. Reference should be made to recreational pressures in the supporting text in order to ensure such impacts are given due consideration in any planning application.

NE7 – Potential negative impacts on SA2 Biodiversity and SA9 Landscape are made neutral by the wording of the policy.

SA Comments and Recommendations

- Reference should be made in Policy NE6 to the fact that the majority of Carmarthenshire’s coastline is protected at an international level and that any proposals will be subject to Policies SP13, NE1 and NE2.
- Policy NE6, suggest adding wording to criteria - b) They will not unacceptably harm the seascape **or landscape** through inappropriate scale, mass and design to strengthen mitigation against negative impacts on SA9 Landscape.
- Policy NE6 should also make reference to the fact that recreational pressures should be considered in any planning application.

Strategic Policy	SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment
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Specific Policies	BHE1: Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas BHE2: Landscape Character							
	BHE1	BEH2						Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+						
SA2 – Biodiversity	0	+						
SA3 – Air Quality	0	+						
SA4 – Climatic Factors	0	+						
SA5 – Water	0	+						
SA6 – Material Assets	+	0						
SA7 – Soil	+	+						
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	++	+						
SA9 – Landscape	+	++						
SA10 –Population	0	+						
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	0						
SA12 – Health and Well-being	0	+						
SA13 – Education and Skills	0	0						
SA14 – Economy	+	+						
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	+						

Commentary

Policy BHE1 has positive effects across the SA Objectives due to the protective nature of these policies on the built environment, with strong positive effects predicted on SA8 Cultural Heritage.

BEH2 has positive effects across the SA objectives, with strong positive effects predicted on SA9 Landscape.

SA Comments and Recommendations

- There are no negative impacts predicted as a result of these policies.

Strategic Policy	SP15 Climate Change								
Specific Policies	CCH1 Renewable Energy CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points CCH3 Water Quality and the Protection of Water CCH4 Flood Risk Management and Avoidance CCH5 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy in New Developments CCH6 Climate Change – Forest and Woodland Planting								
SA Objective	CCH1	CCH2	CCH3	CCH4	CCH5	CCH6			Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+	+	+			
SA2 – Biodiversity	-	+	+	+	0	+			SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE2 Biodiversity
SA3 – Air Quality	+	+	0	0	+	+			
SA4 – Climatic Factors	++	+	+	++	+	+			
SA5 – Water	+	+	++	+	+	+			
SA6 – Material Assets	+	+	0	0	+	0			
SA7 – Soil	0	0	+	+	0	+			
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	I	+	0	0	0	0			SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment
SA9 – Landscape	+/-	0	0	+	+/-	+			SP11 Placemaking and Sustainable Places NE8 Landscape Character PSD11 Noise Pollution

SA10 –Population	0	+	0	0	0	0			
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	0	0	0	0	0			
SA12 – Health and Well-being	0	+	0	+	0	+			
SA13 – Education and Skills	?	0	0	0	0	0			
SA14 – Economy	+	+	+	+	+	+			
SA15 – Social Fabric	0	+	0	+	+	+			
Commentary									
<p>CCH1 – Renewable energy is essential in ensuring a low carbon energy source and combatting climate change, therefore this policy has strong positive effects on SA4 Climatic Factors. Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy development have the potential to have negative impacts on biodiversity, in particular when located in proximity to protected sites. These impacts are can be someway mitigated by policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment, however it is suggested that some wording is added into the policy itself to strengthen this mitigation. Any potential for negative impacts on SA9 Landscape can be mitigated by policies SP11 Platemaking and Sustainable Places and NE8 Landscape Character.</p> <p>CCH2 – Provision of Electric Charging Points in new developments will ensure that there is a growing network of charging point across the county to encourage electric car use. This is turn will have benefits for SA3 Air Quality and SA4 Climatic Factors, by reducing transport related emissions. Improvements to air quality are also beneficial to SA12 Health and Well-being, SA2 Biodiversity and SA8 Cultural Heritage.</p> <p>CCH3 – Is a protective policy for water quality and quantity and so has strong positive effects on SA5 Water. Protecting water quality will also have positive impacts across the SA Objectives, in particular on SA2 Biodiversity as well as SA7 Soil.</p> <p>CCH4 – Ensuring development, in particular that considered vulnerable, is not built in areas that flood is essential in increasing the resilience of Carmarthenshire to climate change, so this policy has positive effects against SA4 Climatic Factors and SA5 Water. This ensures that the wellbeing and safety of Carmarthenshire’s residents as well as their property, so is positive against SA Objectives SA12 Health and Wellbeing, SA14 Economy and SA15 Social Fabric. Encouragement of SUDS can also have positive impacts on SA2 Biodiversity.</p> <p>CCH5 – The policy is strong on low carbon energy in new developments of 100 or more homes however, the policy could be stronger in supporting renewables in new development more generally, especially in smaller developments such as provision for roof based solar panels. This would result in strong positive effects being predicted against SA4 Climatic Factors.</p>									

CCH6 – Tree planting can provide mitigation for climate change based issues including improving air quality, sequestering carbon, preventing soil erosion and reducing risks of flooding. This policy is therefore predicted to have positive effects against SA objectives SA3 – Air Quality, SA4 Climatic Factors and SA5 Water. If publically accessible, new woodland can provide opportunities for recreation which will have positive effects against SA12 Health and Wellbeing.

SA Comments and Recommendations

- Carmarthenshire has many protected sites many of which are in the proximity of the SSAs and LSAs. Specific reference should be made in policy CCH1 to the fact that any renewable energy development will not have an unacceptable impacts on Natura 2000 sites.
- Suggest CCH4 makes reference to the risks as a result of climate change, so that this is considered as well as the current risk in any application.
- Suggest stronger wording is added to CCH5, with reference to supporting new development that has high energy performance, supports decarbonisation, tackles the causes of climate change and adapts to the current and future effects of climate change through the incorporation of effective mitigation and adaptation measures. Welsh Government’s policy is to secure zero carbon buildings while continuing to promote a range of zero carbon technologies. It should also be noted that the plan also does not have any policies covering community energy projects and smaller scale renewable projects.

Strategic Policy	SP16 Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework								
Specific Policies	SD1 Development Limits								
SA Objective	SD1								Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	++								
SA2 – Biodiversity	+/-								SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
SA3 – Air Quality	+/-								PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	+								
SA5 – Water	0								
SA6 – Material Assets	+								
SA7 – Soil	+/-								PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	I								SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment

										PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	I									SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
SA10 –Population	+									
SA11 – Welsh Language	+									
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+									
SA13 – Education and Skills	+									
SA14 – Economy	++									
SA15 – Social Fabric	++									
Commentary										
<p>SD1 - Any development infers potential for negative impacts on biodiversity, however the use of development limits will prevent inappropriate development in the countryside which will protect undisturbed, greenfield land from development. This is also true of impacts on Soil. Policy SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment, as well as policies NE1 – Regional and Local Designations, NE2 Biodiversity, NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness, PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network, PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows all provide mitigation for any residual negative impacts of development on SA2 - Biodiversity and SA7 Soil.</p> <p>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. However, Principal Centres such as Llanelli and Carmarthen have existing air quality issues such as AQMA's and increasing growth in these areas may result in a further detriment to air quality. Policies PSD12 Light and Air Pollution and PSD3 Green Infrastructure can mitigate for these potential impacts.</p>										

Any potential for negative impacts on SA8 – Cultural Heritage or SA9 – Landscape in the implementation of this policy can be mitigated by policies SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment, PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places, PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods, SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places and NE8 – Landscape Character.

SA Comments and Recommendations

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Strategic Policy	SP17 Transport and Accessibility								
Specific Policies	TRA1 Transport and Highways Infrastructural Improvements TRA2 Active Travel TRA3 Gwili Railway TRA4 Redundant Railway Corridors TRA5 Highways and Access Standards in Developments								
SA Objective	TRA1	TRA2	TRA3	TRA4	TRA5				Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+	+				
SA2 – Biodiversity	-	-	-	-	0				SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
SA3 – Air Quality	+/-	++	+	+	0				PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	+/-	++	I	+/-	0				CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA5 – Water	0	+	I	0	0				
SA6 – Material Assets	+/-	++	+	+	0				

SA7 – Soil	-	-	-	+	0				PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage			+	+	0				SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape				+	0				SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
SA10 –Population	0	+	+	+	0				
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	0	0	0	0				
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+/-	++	+	+	+				CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA13 – Education and Skills	+	+	0		0				
SA14 – Economy	++	+	+	+	0				
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	+	+	+	0				
Commentary									
TRA1 – Construction of transport infrastructure can have negative impacts on SA2 Biodiversity through direct habitat loss and indirectly through decreasing air quality and disturbance. In particular, development in the Cross Hands area can have impacts on the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC by causing habitat loss of the Marsh Fritillary Butterfly. Any negative impacts on the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC impact are mitigated by the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG which seeks developer contributions to									

compensate for habitat loss. Both negative and positive effects are predicted for this policy against SA objectives SA3, SA4, SA6 and SA12. Negative impacts on air quality, as well as increasing carbon emissions may occur as a result of facilitating an increase in traditional means of transport such as cars and HGVs. This can be some way mitigated by policies CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points which increases the county's infrastructure for electric vehicles, PSD12 Light and Air Pollution and PSD3 Green Infrastructure. However this policy also makes provision for sustainable transport networks which can reduce the use of private cars and associated air quality impacts. Specific reference to improvements to walking, cycling and bus routes in Carmarthen is welcome, as the town is identified as a principal centre in the plan however has an AQMA due to air quality issues. Positive impacts are predicted against SA objectives SA13, SA14 and SA15 due to the fact that increasing infrastructure will result in better access to facilities and services including education facilities.

TRA2 – Proposals that encourage new active travel routes may have negative impacts on biodiversity and soil provision due to direct habitat loss. However, these impacts will be mitigated at a planning application level by policies SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment, NE1 – Regional and Local Designations, NE2 Biodiversity, NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness, PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network and PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows. Increasing the ability of cyclists and walkers to access safe and connected paths will have positive impacts on SA12 - Health and Wellbeing, and may result in less private car use which has positive impacts on SA3 Air Quality and SA4 Climatic Factors.

TRA3 - The Gwili Railway is immediately adjacent to the River Teifi and is in some places, within the C2 flood zone. The impacts of flooding in particular due to climate change may have negative impacts on SA4 Climatic Factors and SA5 Water.

TRA4 – The use of redundant rail corridors will facilitate benefits such as cycle paths, footpaths and bridleways, which in turn will have positive impacts on health and wellbeing as well as economy, and access to facilities and services. Railway corridors that have been redundant for some time may have valuable biodiversity associated with it and so clearance of such routes may have negative impacts, However, this is mitigated by policies SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment, NE1 – Regional and Local Designations, NE2 Biodiversity, NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness, PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network and PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows.

TRA5 – Commentary TBC

SA Comments and Recommendations

- **TRA3:** The Gwili Railway is immediately adjacent to the River Teifi and is in some places, within the C2 flood zone. This should be considered carefully under any ambitions to extend the line.

Strategic Policy	SP18 Mineral Resources								
Specific Policies	MR1 Mineral Proposals MR2 Mineral Buffer Zones MR3 Mineral Safeguarding								
SA Objective	MR1	MR2	MR3						Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+	+						
SA2 – Biodiversity	-	0	-						SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows MR1 – Mineral Proposals
SA3 – Air Quality		0	-						PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure MR1 Mineral Proposals
SA4 – Climatic Factors		0	0						CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA5 – Water		+	0						

SA6 – Material Assets	0	0	0						
SA7 – Soil	-	0	-						PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment. MR1 Mineral Proposals
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	I	0	I						SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	I	+	-						SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character MR1 Mineral Proposals
SA10 –Population	0	+	0						
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	0	0						
SA12 – Health and Well-being	0	++	0						
SA13 – Education and Skills	0	0	0						
SA14 – Economy	+	0	+						
SA15 – Social Fabric	0	+	0						
Commentary									

MR1 The location of aggregates is driven by site specific geological conditions and so has less flexibility to avoid impacts on sensitive ecological features. However, the policy itself has wording to protect no unacceptable adverse impacts upon sites of nature conservation importance and any residual impacts can be mitigated by other plan policies, in particular compliance with SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment. The policy wording itself mitigates for any potential negative impacts on SA3 Air Quality, SA4 Climatic Factors, SA5 Water, SA6 Material Assets, SA8 Cultural heritage and SA9 Landscape. The LDP policies identified in the matrix also further mitigate for any potential for impacts that may remain.

MR2 - Buffer zones are put in place in order to protect any new development, in particular residential areas, hospitals, schools, from any adverse impacts as a result of mineral extraction activities. This results in strong positive impacts on SA12 Health and Wellbeing, as well as positive effects on SA9 Landscape, SA10 Population and SA15 Social Fabric.

MR3 This policy safeguards mineral deposits, however they are safeguarded with the intention of being available for working in the future. This working of minerals deposits can have negative effects on biodiversity, soil, landscape and air quality, however the criteria of Policy MR1 Mineral Proposals will mitigate this risk.

SA Comments and Recommendations

Strategic Policy	SP19 Waste Management								
Specific Policies	WM1 Waste Management Proposals WM2 Landfill Proposals WM3 Agricultural Land – Disposal of Inert Waste								
SA Objective	WM1	WM2	WM3						Mitigating Policies
SA1 – Sustainable Development	+	+/-	+						
SA2 – Biodiversity	0	-	-						SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment NE1 – Regional and Local Designations NE2 Biodiversity NE3 Corridors, networks and features of distinctiveness PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network PSD4 Green Infrastructure – Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
SA3 – Air Quality	0	+/-	0						PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA4 – Climatic Factors	0	+/-	0						CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points PSD12 Light and Air Pollution PSD3 Green Infrastructure
SA5 – Water	0	I	0						
SA6 – Material Assets	++	-	+						
SA7 – Soil	+	I	+						PSD3 Green Infrastructure Networks

										SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment.
SA8 – Cultural Heritage	0	+	+							SP14 - Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment PSD1 Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD2 – Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
SA9 – Landscape	+	-	0							SP11 – Placemaking and Sustainable Places PSD1 – Sustainability and High Quality Design NE8 – Landscape Character
SA10 –Population	0	0	0							
SA11 – Welsh Language	0	0	0							
SA12 – Health and Well-being	+	+	0							
SA13 – Education and Skills	0	0	0							
SA14 – Economy	+	+	+							
SA15 – Social Fabric	+	0	0							
Commentary										
Commentary TBC										
SA Comments and Recommendations										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WM2 – make specific reference to having no significant impact on biodiversity in addition to natural heritage. 										

Appendix 8 Sustainability Appraisal 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 a) Bicycles b) Buses and Coaches c) 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 – Economy	14-1 To promote sustainable economic growth	Gross Value Added (GVA) per head	http://www.infobasecymru.net/IAS/profiles/profile?profileId=470&geoTypeId= (South West Wales value)
	14-2 To provide good quality employment opportunities for all sections of the population	Amount of employment land lost to non-employment uses	CCC planning data
		Percentage of population in part and full time or self-employment	https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/research-statistics/electoral-ward-county-profiles/#.W5J2dOmQyUk
	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 – Social Fabric	15-1 Improve safety and security for people and property	Average annual crime level	https://www.police.uk/dyfed-powys/110/crime/stats/
		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 social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions	Probability of having a strong sense of community (by local authority area)	Future Generations indicator 27: https://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2017/170301-national-survey-who-most-likely-strong-sense-community-en.pdf
	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 9 – Consultation Responses from Initial SA

Organisation/Comment	Response/Action
Natural Resources Wales – Sharon Luke	
General Comments	
We consider that Carmarthenshire’s landscape objective SA 9 links to a greater number of the strategic objectives that defined in Figure 3: Testing of Revised LDP Strategic Objectives against the Sustainability Objectives framework.	Noted. The landscape objective has been reassessed against the strategic objectives and has been linked to all relevant objectives.
Figure 4: Testing of Strategic Growth Options against the sustainability Objectives framework (Page 21). We consider there could be a direct link between growth options and SA9 Landscape. We anticipate that there could be effects e.g. an increased need for greenfield land and pressure on landscapes in a similar way to effects on SA2. There may be potential to mitigate these effects.	Agreed. The figure and supporting text has been amended to reflect impacts of Growth Options on SA2 – Biodiversity.
Section 4.2.1. We note the final bullet point acknowledges the potential to impact negatively on landscapes and cultural heritage.	The paragraph states that all growth has the potential to impact on landscape depending on the selection of sites and implementation of development (e.g. in terms of place making and design, materials used etc.). At the strategic level of detail provided by the preferred strategy is it difficult to say whether there will be negative impacts or not. However, at the deposit stage, there will be more detail on the allocated sites and their landscape context on which to make an assessment.
Figure 7 Testing of Revised LDP Strategic Policies against the Sustainability Objectives framework. We consider some additional strategic policies could have a negative effect on landscape e.g. SP3 and SP6, in a similar way as for biodiversity.	Agreed and amended to more closely reflect the potential impacts on SA2 – Biodiversity.
Figure 8 (page 102) Summary of Sustainability Appraisal of Preferred Strategy. We are not comfortable with the position that the preferred strategy has no negative effect on landscape.	Figure 8 is a summary of all previous sustainability appraisals carried out in the document. It does not conclude that there are no negative effects on

	Landscape, and highlights some potential issues for conflict including SP8, SP12, SP18 and SP19, as well as areas of uncertainty or areas where further information or detail may be required. This figure has now been amended to reflect changes made in other sections of the document as a result of NRW's comments.
Table 8 (page 106) Draft Sustainability Monitoring Framework refers only to Special Landscape Areas in relation to landscape, whereas Appendix 2 Data sources (page 117) refers to the number of developments refused in design grounds and the number approved on previously developed land. We ask for clarification as to the monitoring method used for landscape.	Noted, the additional monitoring data sources have been added to Table 8 to provide a more robust method of monitoring landscape.
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park - Martina Dunne	
Comments on Appraisal of the LDP Strategic Options and Alternatives:	
Spatial Options, appraisal against SA Objective 5. Mitigation for this is effectively now a legislative requirement. SuDS are required for new development under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010). As well as providing mitigation for flash flooding SuDS collect, filter and slowly release water back into the environment.	Agreed, with SuDS now in place, this mitigation is now a legislative requirement and this will be considered as such in the deposit plan.
Comments on Appraisal of LDP Strategic Policies:	
SP6 Employment and the Economy, assessments against SA4. Caveat with "but an increase in industry related traffic as per the commentary on air quality under SA3?"	Agreed. Will add in reference to industry related traffic.
General Comments	
On the whole a very balanced assessment, PCNPA support all of the changes to policy suggested by the SA.	Noted.
Missing update/re-issued review of plans and programmes and baseline information. The PPP currently available on the website is missing the	Noted. Will amend deposit plan to include missing LDPs for Pembrokeshire Coast NP and Pembrokeshire CC.

adopted Local Development Plans for Pembrokeshire Coast National Park and Pembrokeshire County Council.	
Suzy Erskine	
General Comments	
<p>2.2.4 The 15 SA Objectives that make up the framework include: ☐ SA2 Biodiversity SA3 Air Quality SA4 Climactic Factors SA5 Water SA7 Soil ☐ SA9 Landscape ☐ SA12 Health and Well-being SA13 Education and Skills SA14 Economy SA15 Social Fabric Regarding the above: Biodiversity is not just about green tourism. If we are to be truly sustainable we could start growing a wider diversity of crops in Wales. Currently only a tiny percentage of farm-land is used for market gardens or fruit trees. We could be growing our own food here and increasing the biodiversity as a result as well as improving the resilience of our local economy and improving people's health. Please let's plant more trees for wildlife, holding water in the soil and enjoying cleaner air. Sheep have been allowed to keep the hillsides bare for so long most people believe that's how they should look. Not so! With trees on the hillsides, our villages won't be flooding, because the trees take up the water and hold on to the soil.</p>	<p>Noted. These are all valid comments which will be considered in the SA of the deposit plan.</p>

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Carmarthenshire Revised Local Development Plan (LDP)

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Deposit LDP

November 2019

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Carmarthenshire County Council is preparing a new development plan for the County, referred to as the revised Local Development Plan (rLDP). This will replace the existing adopted Local Development Plan (LDP) and provide a revised framework to inform planning decision making and guide development. This report is a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the rLDP, as required under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The findings and recommendations of an earlier informal HRA Screening Report¹ of the Preferred Strategy and the Pre Deposit Proposals have informed the development of this report, as part of an iterative approach to the HRA process.

1.2 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (known as the 'Habitats Directive'), implemented in the UK by the Habitat Regulations 2017, provides legal protection for a range of habitats and species identified as being of European importance.

Article 2 of the Directive requires the maintenance or restoration of these habitats and species, in a favourable condition, and is achieved through the establishment and maintenance of protected areas referred to as Natura 2000 sites. These are comprised of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna ('the Habitats Directive') and Special Protection Areas (SPA) designated under EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds ('the Birds Directive') and Ramsar site under the Ramsar Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of Importance. Sites designated as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention are subject to the same provisions as Natura 2000 sites.

1.3 The application of Habitats Regulations to Development Plans

Chapter 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 ("the Habitats Regulations") transposes the requirements of article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) in relation to "land use plans". These plans are defined in Regulation 111 and include the following:

- Local development plans adopted or approved under the 2004 Act; and
- Unitary development plans adopted or approved under the 1990 Act, in accordance with the transitional agreements.

Welsh Assembly Government's (WAG) Technical Advice Note 5, Annex 6² states that The HRA process should consist of the following elements:

- Determining whether the development plan, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have significant effect on any European sites or European offshore marine sites and if so, scoping the "appropriate assessment";
- Undertaking the "appropriate assessment" (in consultation with NRW and/or Natural England) to identify any significant effects that the development plan may have on any European sites or European offshore marine sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of those sites' conservation objectives;

¹ Revised Local Development Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report of the Preferred Strategy. December 2018.

² <https://gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-5-nature-conservation-and-planning>

- Where the “appropriate assessment” identifies potentially significant impacts on a European site or European offshore marine site, identifying whether there are possible alternative solutions or mitigation measures which, if adopted, will avoid or counteract those adverse impacts;
- Determining, in light of the “appropriate assessment”, whether the development plan will or will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site or European offshore marine site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects;
- Where there is a possibility that the plan could have such an adverse effect, determining whether there are any alternative solutions to the development plan, or to the potentially damaging elements within that plan, which would avoid or reduce such effects upon the European site(s) or European offshore marine site(s); and
- Where there are no such alternative solutions, determining whether there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for giving effect to the development plan.

The methods and approach used for this screening are based on guidance currently available and emergent practice, which recommends that HRA is approached in four main stages - outlined in Figure 1.

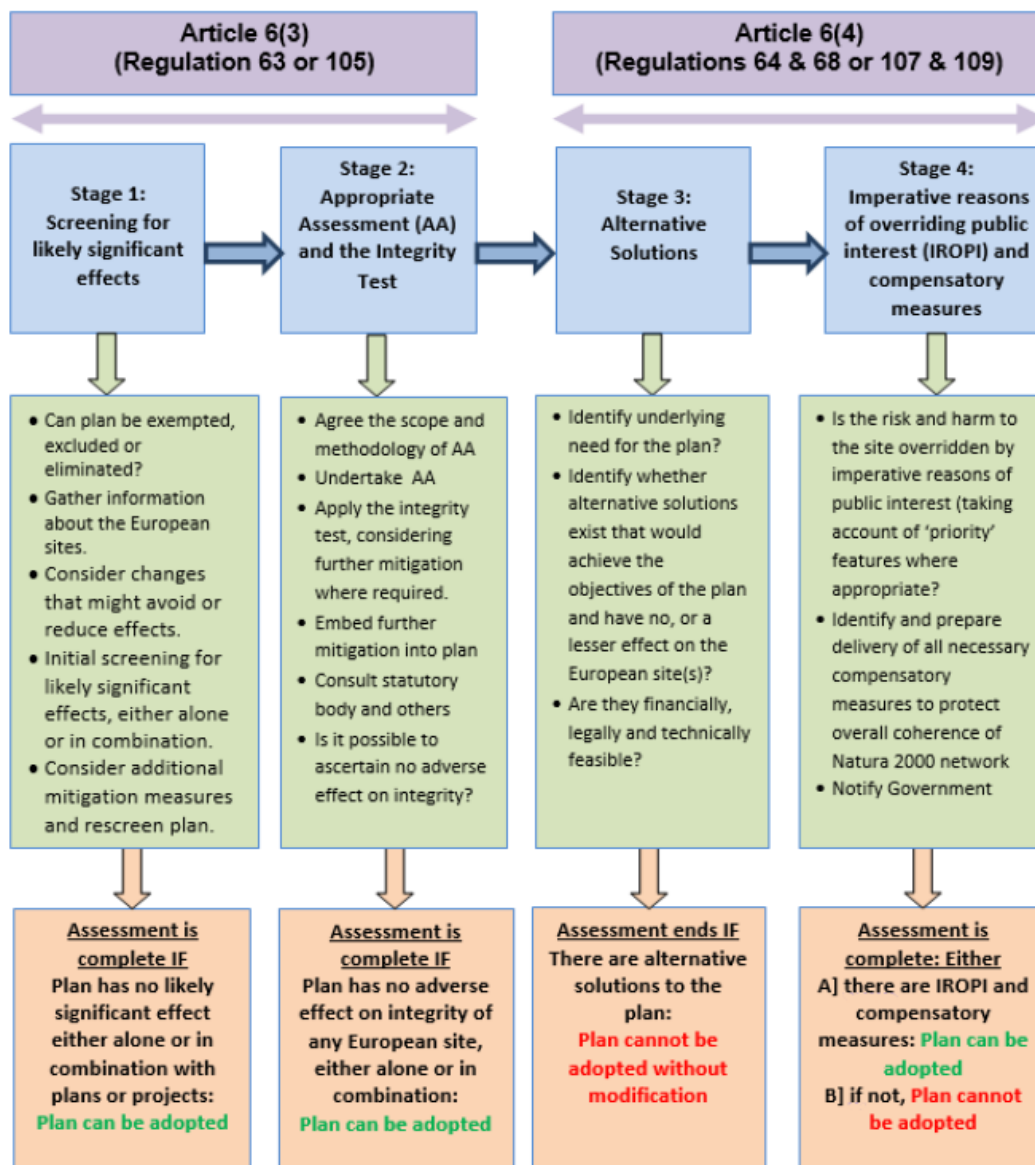


Figure 1 Outline of the four stage approach to the assessment of plans under the Habitats Regulations. Source: Tyldesley, D. and Chapman, C. (2013) *The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook*, February 2019 edition UK: DTA Publications Ltd (see www.dtapublications.co.uk)

1.4 Purpose of report

It is accepted by the Council, and agreed with Natural Resources Wales (NRW), that the Deposit LDP is a 'plan' for the purposes of Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations. This report is a Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Deposit revised Carmarthenshire LDP as required under Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations.

The scope of this assessment is unusual. Due to its strategic nature, in most cases a development 'plan' precedes and provides for subsequent 'project' level development. A plan would therefore normally be subject to assessment under the regulations before the development it provides for is considered for planning permission. In the case of the Deposit Local Development Plan, some of the development provided for relates to sites which have already been granted planning permission or built out since the 2018 base date.

To reflect this situation in respect of housing provision, the Deposit Plan refers both to 'commitments' and 'allocations' (refer to rLDP Deposit Plan Appendix 7 Housing Trajectory). Of particular relevance to this HRA, the development provided for under 'commitments' has already been subject to assessment under the Habitats Regulations at the project stage, including consultation with NRW as the statutory nature conservation body. There is no requirement to re-assess such allocations under the provisions of the Regulations, where they have already been found to be acceptable by the Council as the competent authority, at a project level, in consultation with NRW.

The scope of this HRA in respect of housing provision is therefore limited to detailed consideration of the specific 'allocations' to provide 10,160 new homes as referred to in Policy SP3.

The Council has already undertaken earlier assessment effort under the Habitats Regulations in respect of earlier stages in the development of this Local Plan including:

- HRA Screening Report of the Preferred Strategy (dated December 2018)³

Whilst that work was preliminary in nature and not a full assessment under Regulation 105 (as such an assessment is not required as a matter of law in respect of pre-deposit proposals per se) it has informed the ongoing development of the Deposit Plan. It is therefore appropriate to recognise, in the interests of efficiency, and with a view to avoiding unnecessary duplication of assessment effort, that much of the work undertaken through the earlier HRA screening work will be directly relevant to the assessment now required. This approach reflects the provisions of Regulation 67 of the Habitats Regulations, 'adopting' the reasoning, conclusion or assessment of earlier HRA work where it is appropriate to do so.

1.5 Consultation

The Habitats Regulations require the plan making/competent authority to consult the appropriate nature conservation statutory body (NRW) if undertaking an Appropriate Assessment, however consultation with other bodies and the public is left to the discretion of the local planning authority (Regulation 105 (2)(3)).

WAG guidance notes that it is good practice to make information on HRA available to the public at each formal development plan consultation stage. Therefore, in addition to the statutory consultation undertaken with NRW, this report will be made available for wider consultation.

³ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1216964/hra-screening-report-english.pdf>

Responses to this consultation should be sent in writing to:

Forward Planning Section,
Environment Department,
7/8 Spilman Street,
Carmarthen,
Carmarthenshire,
SA31 1JY

or e mail: forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

or online at www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

1.6 Structure of report

This report documents the process and the findings from the screening stages of the HRA for Carmarthenshire County Council Deposit Revised Local Development Plan. Following this introductory section, the document is organised into the following sections:

Section 2 outlines the methodology and key tasks undertaken for the HRA screening of the the rLDP, and includes reference to the key information sources used.

Section 3 outlines the process and summary findings of the Screening Process and assessment including:

- 3.1 Task 1: Identification and characterisation of European Sites
- 3.2 Task 2: Screening of rLDP to identify potential likely effects on European Sites
- 3.3 Task 3: Consideration of effects in combination with other plans, programmes and projects.
- 3.4 Task 4: Screening Assessment Summary

Section 4 outlines a further Appropriate Assessment of the identified potential likely significant effects.

2. Methodology

2.1 Stage 1 – Screening

The process of Screening can be broken down into four main task areas. Each task is outlined below.

- Task 1: Identification and characterisation of European sites
- Task 2: Review and screening of Development Plan to identify potential impacts and likely effects on European sites.
- Task 3: Consideration of other plans and projects that may act ‘in-combination’
- Task 4: Screening Assessment, recording the opinion and supporting information and analysis.

A screening assessment, both alone and in combination, with other identified plans and projects will identify if any significant environmental affects will result affecting the site and conclude whether significant affects are likely or not.

If no potential significant affects are identified, the process ends at this stage.

If there are found to be likely significant effects, having applied the precautionary principle, the plan must be subject to an appropriate assessment of its implications for the European site in view of the site’s conservation objectives. The work carried out at the evidence gathering stage and the screening stage should be drawn upon to assist in assessing the effects of the plan option on the conservation objectives

2.2 Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment

The purpose of the appropriate assessment is to establish whether the plan, by itself or in combination with other plans and projects, will adversely affect the conservation objectives of the site’s qualifying features, based on best scientific knowledge. The scope and content of an appropriate assessment will depend on the nature, location, duration and scale of the proposed plan and the qualifying features of the European site. This will involve testing whether the plan ‘in combination’ will affect the environmental factors needed to maintain site integrity, i.e. whether the plan increases air pollution, increases recreational disturbance etc. Natural Resources Wales should be consulted for further information and advice.

2.3 Determining ‘likely significant effect’

In order to decide whether a development plan at any stage requires an appropriate assessment, it is necessary to apply the two tests set out in regulation 6385B(1) of the regulations, which are:

- (1) Is the plan likely to have a significant effect on a European site or European offshore marine site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects)?
- (2) Is it directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site?

When undertaking this assessment a precautionary approach is required. The development plan should be considered ‘likely’ to have such an effect if the planning authority is unable (on the basis of objective information) to exclude the possibility that the plan could have significant effects on any European site or European offshore marine site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

An effect will be considered ‘significant’ in this context if it could undermine the conservation objectives of a European designated site. The assessment of that risk (of ‘significance’) must be made in the light, amongst other things, of the characteristics and specific environmental conditions of the site concerned.

The screening step will therefore screen out aspects of the plan which could not have any negative effect at all on a European site, because there is no link, nor pathway, nor other relationship between the effects of the policy or proposal and any European site, including cases where the link is severed or eliminated by distance, or because any potential effects would be positive, not negative.

If the likelihood of significant affects cannot be ruled out on the evidence available, then it must be assumed that a risk of significant affects may exist. These will then need to be addressed through either changes to the scheme, avoidance or through securing mitigation measures.

2.4 Guidance for Habitats Regulations Appraisal/Appropriate Assessment

The following methodology developed for the HRA screening is based upon the following regulations and guidance documents:

Regulations:

- Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 20172 (the 'Conservation Regulations').
- Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, (the 'Habitats Directive').

Guidance:

- Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites. European Commission (2001).
- Department for Communities and Local Government (2006). Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Guidance for Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents.
- TAN 5
- Habitats Regulations Assessment: A toolkit to support HRA Screening and Appropriate Assessment of Plans. South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG) (2008)
- Tyldesley, D. and Chapman, C. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook, February 2019 edition UK: DTA Publications Ltd (see www.dtapublications.co.uk).

3. Screening

3.1 Task 1: Identification and Characterisation of European Sites

Plans, programmes and projects can have spatial implications that extend beyond the intended plan boundaries. It is recognised that distance in itself is not a definitive guide to the likelihood or severity of an impact and factors such as prevailing wind direction, river flow direction and groundwater flow direction will all have bearing on the relevant distance at which an impact can occur. This means that a plan directing development some distance away from a European Site could still have effects on the site and therefore, needs to be considered as part of the screening process.

European sites on which Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan could potentially have a significant effect have been identified via data obtained through the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) Protected Sites Designations Directory and by applying a 15km buffer from the County boundary, in order to take a precautionary approach to the potential for transboundary impacts.

Twelve designated sites lie within or immediately adjacent to Carmarthenshire's County boundary and are listed in Table 1.

Table 1 European sites within the boundary of Carmarthenshire.

European Site within Plan Boundary	Designation
River Tywi	SAC
Caeau Mynydd Mawr	SAC
Cernydd Carmel	SAC
Carmarthen Bay Dunes	SAC
River Teifi	SAC
Cleddau Rivers	SAC
Carmarthen Bay and Estuary	SAC
Bristol Channel Approaches	SAC
Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen	SAC
Carmarthen Bay	SPA
Elenydd - Mallaen	SPA
Burry Inlet	SPA
Burry Inlet	Ramsar

A further 15 designated sites have been identified that lie within the 15km buffer zone and could be impacted by transboundary effects of the revised LDP and are listed in Table 2.

Table 2 European sites within 15km of Carmarthenshire

European Site within 15km buffer around Plan Boundary	Designation	Distance from Plan boundary (km)
Cardigan Bay	SAC	9.2km
North Pembrokeshire Woodlands	SAC	9.0km
Yerbeston Tops	SAC	8.8km
Rhos Llawr-cwrt	SAC	7.5km
Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes	SAC	23.0km
Gower Ash Woods	SAC	8.8km
Pembrokeshire Marine	SAC	4.7km
Gower Commons	SAC	4.0km
River Wye	SAC	1.7km
Gweunydd Blaencleddau	SAC	1.9km

Preseli	SAC	0.5km
Mynydd Epynt	SAC	1.8km
River Usk	SAC	0.2km
West Wales Marine	SAC	9.2km

Appendix 1 provides a summary of each of the European sites considered to potentially be affected by the Carmarthenshire revised LDP Deposit Plan, and sets out the Conservation Objectives and condition assessment for each of the features of interest for each site. Detailed site characterisation information for each of the identified sites can be found in the accompanying Core Management Plan and Natura 2000 standard data form for each site, which can be accessed via the Joint Nature Conservation Committee website.

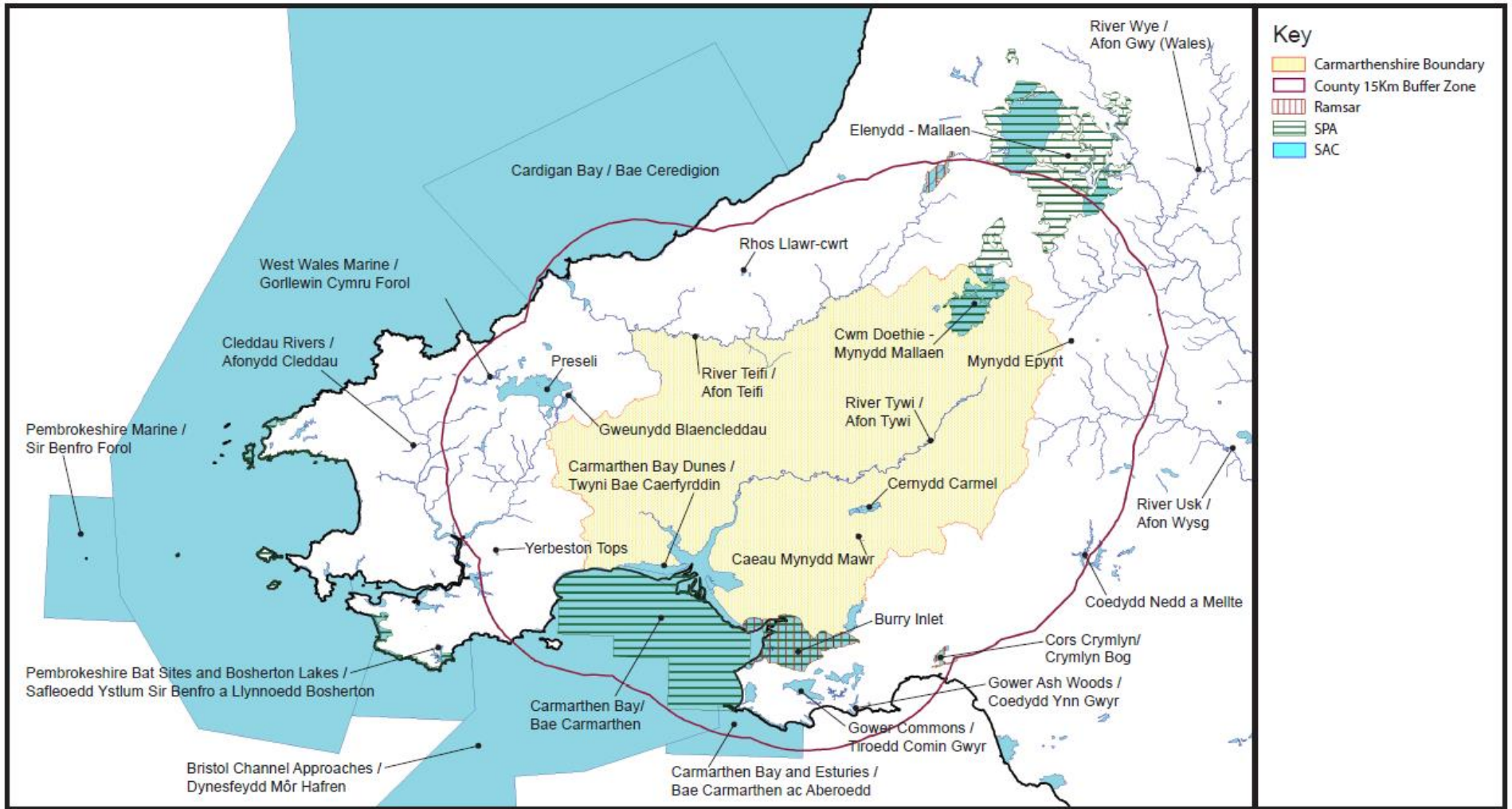


Figure 2 Location of European sites in relation to Carmarthenshire

Scanning and selection of European sites potentially affected.

The scanning stage identifies features of the N2K sites that may be affected by the plan as far beyond as necessary for sites and identifying causal connections and links between the plan proposals and the qualifying features of the sites. The Plan must not undermine the conservation objectives of the sites.

The checklist provided in Table 3 identifies potential pathways by which the Deposit LDP may impact on European sites. This checklist is taken from The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook⁴, and reflects and expands upon NRW guidance, and provides a systematic and transparent way of identifying sites and potential impact pathways of the Deposit LDP.

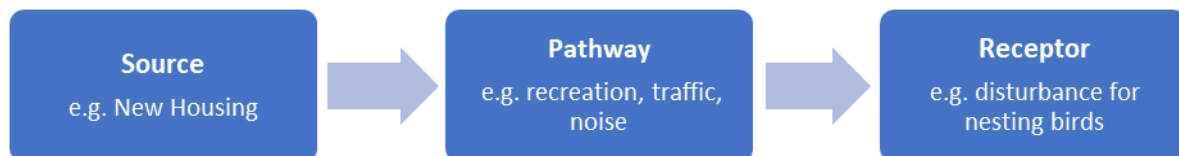


Figure 3 Impact Source, Pathway, Receptor model

This process enables an appropriate ‘short list’ of sites potentially affected to be identified, from which the final list of sites to be included in assessment can be selected after considering the relevant information. Selection of sites is an iterative process, considering and reconsidering information until there is a satisfactory degree of confidence that all sites potentially adversely affected have been selected.

If there is no causal connection or link between the Plan’s proposals and the sites qualifying features there cannot be an effect. If there is a ‘theoretical’ pathway or ‘hypothetical’ cause, but in practice there is no credible evidence of a real link to the site, it cannot be regarded as being potentially significant, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. There is no point including that supposition in further assessment.

This scan is broad ranging, but following a systematic approach is likely to ensure compliance and to provide credible and demonstrable evidence of how sites were scanned and selected.

⁴ Tyldesley, D. and Chapman, C. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook, February 2019 edition UK: DTA Publications Ltd (see www.dtapublications.co.uk).

Table 3 Scanning and site selection list for sites that could potentially be affected by the plan.

Types of plan	Site selection criteria	Sites selected for further consideration
1. All plans (terrestrial, coastal and marine)	Sites within the plan area	<p>SACs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Tywi ▪ Caeau Mynydd Mawr ▪ Cernydd Carmel ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ River Teifi ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen <p>SPA/Ramsar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay SPA ▪ Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar ▪ Elenydd - Mallaen
2. Plans that could affect the aquatic environment	Sites upstream or downstream of the plan area in the case of river or estuary sites. Effects considered include localised effects on surface/groundwater resources and quality, resulting from changes in run-off, sedimentation, erosion etc as well as effects downstream.	<p>SACs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Afon Tywi ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ River Usk ▪ River Wye ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ West Wales Marine ▪ Bristol Channel Approaches ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine <p>SPA/Ramsar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay ▪ Burry Inlet
	Open water, peatland, fen, marsh and other wetland sites with relevant hydrological links to land within the plan area, irrespective of distance	<p>SACs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Afon Teifi ▪ Caeau Mynydd Mawr ▪ Cernydd Carmel ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ Cwm Doethie-Mynydd Mallaen ▪ Gweunydd Blaencleddau ▪ Preseli ▪ River Wye <p>SPA/Ramsar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar
3. Plans that could affect the marine environment	Sites that could be affected by changes in water quality, currents or flows; or effects on the intertidal or subtidal areas or the seabed or marine species	<p>SACs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ West Wales Marine ▪ Bristol Channel Approaches ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine <p>SPA/Ramsar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay
4. Plans that could affect the coast	Sites in the same coastal 'cell' or part of the same coastal ecosystem, or where there are interrelationships with or between different physical coastal processes	SACs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ West Wales Marine ▪ Bristol Channel Approaches ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine
		SPA/Ramsar
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet ▪ Carmarthen Bay
5. Plans that could affect mobile species	Sites whose qualifying features include mobile species which may be affected by the plan irrespective of the location of the plans or whether the species would be in or out of the site when they might be affected.	SACs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Tywi ▪ River Teifi ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Caeau Mynydd Mawr ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ West Wales Marine ▪ Bristol Channel Approaches ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine ▪ River Wye ▪ River Usk ▪ North Pembrokeshire Woodlands ▪ Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes ▪ Yerboston Tops ▪ Rhos Lawr Cwrt ▪ Preseli ▪ Gower Commons ▪ Gweunydd Blaencleddau
		SPA/Ramsar
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay ▪ Burry Inlet ▪ Elenydd Mallaen
6. Plans that could increase recreational pressure on European sites potentially vulnerable to such pressure	Such sites in the plan area	SAC
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Teifi ▪ River Tywi ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen
		SPA/Ramsar
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet ▪ Carmarthen Bay ▪ Elenydd - Mallaen

	Such sites within a reasonable travel distance of the plan area boundaries that may be affected by local recreational or other visitor pressure from within the plan area	None
	Such sites within a longer travel distance of the plan area which are major (regional or national) visitor attractions such as sites which are National Nature Reserves where public visiting is promoted, sites in National Parks, coastal sites and sites in other major tourist or visitor destinations.	None
7. Plans that would increase the amount of development	Sites in the plan area or beyond that are used for, or could be affected by, water abstraction irrespective of distance from the plan area	SACs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Teifi ▪ River Tywi ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ Caeau Mynydd Mawr ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Cernydd Carmel ▪ Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen ▪ Mynydd Epynt ▪ Preseli ▪ River Wye ▪ River Usk ▪ Yerboston Tops ▪ Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine ▪ Gower Commons
	SPA/Ramsar	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet ▪ Carmarthen Bay 	
Sites used for, or which could be affected by, discharge of effluent from waste water treatment works or other waste management streams serving the plan area, irrespective of distance	SACs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Teifi ▪ River Tywi ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ West Wales Marine ▪ Bristol Channel Approaches ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine
		SPAs/Ramsar
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burry Inlet 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthen Bay
	Sites that could be affected by the provision of new or extended transport or other infrastructure	None
	Sites that could be affected by increased deposition of air pollutants arising from the plan, including emissions from significant increases in traffic	SACs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Teifi • Caeau Mynydd Mawr • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries • Carmarthen Bay Dunes • Cernydd Carmel • Cleddau Rivers • Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen • Gower Ash Woods • Gower Commons • Gweunydd Blaencleddau • Mynydd Epynt • Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes • Pembrokeshire Marine • Preseli • Rhos Llawr-cwrt • North Pembrokeshire Woodlands • Yerboston Tops
8. Plans for linear developments or infrastructure	Sites within a specified distance from the centre line of a proposed route (or alternative routes), the distance may be varied depending on type of site/qualifying features and in the absence of established good practice standards, distances are to be agreed by the statutory nature body	None (Plan does not produce such risks)
9. Plans that introduce new activities or new uses to the marine, coastal or terrestrial environment	Sites considered have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the effects of the new activities proposed by the plan	None (Plan does not produce such risks)
10. Plans that could change the nature, area, extent, intensity, density, timing or scale of existing use activities.	Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the effects of the changes to existing activities proposed by the plan	None (Plan does not produce such risks)
11. Plans that could change the quantity, quality, timing, treatment or	Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the changes in emissions or	None (Plan does not produce such risks)

mitigation of emissions or discharges to air, water or soil	discharges that could arise as a result of the plan (over and above those already identified)	
12. Plans that could change the quantity, volume, timing, rate or other characteristics of biological resources harvested, extracted or consumed	Sites whose qualifying features include the biological resources which the plan may affect, or whose qualifying features depend on the biological resources which the plan may affect e.g. as prey species or supporting habitat or which may be disturbed by the harvesting, extraction or consumption	None (Plan does not produce such risks)
13. Plans that could change the quantity, volume, timing, rate or other characteristics of physical resources extracted or consumed	Sites whose qualifying features rely on the non-biological resources which the plan may affect e.g. as habitat or physical environment on which habitat may develop or which may be disturbed by the extraction or consumption	None (Plan does not produce such risks)
14. Plans that could introduce, increase or alter the timing, nature or location of disturbance to species	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially vulnerable or sensitive to disturbance e.g. as a result of noise, activity or movement, or the presence of disturbing features that could be brought about by the plan	SACs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afon Teifi • Afon Tywi • Cleddau Rivers • Cardigan Bay • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries • Gower Commons • Gower Ash Woods • North Pembrokeshire Woodlands • Pembrokeshire Marine • Pembrokeshire Bat sites and Bosherton Lakes • River Wye • River Usk
		SPA/Ramsar
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burry Inlet • Carmarthen Bay • Elenydd - Mallaen
15. Plans which could introduce, increase or change the timing, nature or location of light or noise pollution	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially vulnerable to the effects of changes in light or noise that could be brought about by the plan	SACs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afon Teifi • Afon Tywi • Cleddau Rivers • Cardigan Bay • Carmarthen Bay • Pembrokeshire Marine • Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes • River Wye • River Usk

		SPAs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burry Inlet • Carmarthen Bay • Elenydd - Mallaen
16. Plans which could introduce or increase a potential cause of mortality of species	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially vulnerable to the source of new or increased mortality that could be brought about by the plan	Potential for mortality as a result of disturbance, however to avoid duplication this is addressed under Section 14

In summary, from the table all sites identified have potential impact pathways identified and must therefore be included in the screening of likely significant effects of the Deposit plan.

3.2 Task 2 Screening of Deposit Plan to identify potential likely effects on European Sites

Generic Screening

Based on the checklist in Table 3 and taking into account the nature, scope content and function of the Deposit Plan, it is considered that the screening will need to consider the following range of effects:

- Effects on aquatic environment
- Effects on the marine environment
- Effects on the coast
- Effects on mobile species
- Recreational effects
- Effects associated development
 - Water abstraction
 - Discharge of effluent from wastewater
 - Effects of air pollution
- Species disturbance effects
- Noise and light pollution effects

Each effect is introduced and considered at a generic level in relation to the overall Deposit Plan in the subsequent paragraphs.

Effects on the aquatic environment

The 'aquatic environment' of a site is typically the body of water in a site, taking into consideration its movement into, through and out of the site. Effects considered under this heading relate to the localised effects of development on the existing surface water and ground water movement. Direct effects (such as sediment run off or the reduction of rainwater infiltration) are distinct from indirect effects such as water abstraction and wastewater, which are assessed separately under 'effects associated with development'.

Development and changes in land use can have affect the aquatic environment. It can cause acceleration of run off by increasing hard surface and reducing areas where infiltration can occur, which can increase the amount of chemicals or other pollutants entering watercourses. Water run off can also be slowed, through water retention and the introduction of sustainable drainage systems. Sedimentation of surface water can also occur through run off from building sites or the diversion of water courses to other catchments.

Sites identified as potentially vulnerable to this effect are detailed in Table 4.

Although identified as sites sensitive to effects on the aquatic environment, Gweunydd Blaencleddau SAC, Preseli SAC and River Wye SAC are all located outside of the plan area and so will not be at risk of direct effects to the aquatic environment. In addition, they are located upstream of the plan area and are therefore unlikely to be influenced by any effects outside of the plan area **and are therefore screened out under this impact pathway.**

In the case of all remaining sites, effects are only considered likely where development is in close proximity to a water course that is in hydraulic continuity to the site, and will be considered in the screening of the rLDP allocations, where each proposed allocation is individually screened.

Table 4 Summary of generic level screening of sites identified as vulnerable to effects on aquatic environment.

Sites identified as vulnerable	Further Assessment Required?	Summary of generic level screening
SAC		
Afon Tywi	Yes	Identify allocations in close proximity to a water course that flows in/out of sites
Afon Teifi	Yes	
Caeau Mynydd Mawr	Yes	
Carmarthen Bay Dunes	Yes	
Cardigan Bay	Yes	
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	Yes	
Cernydd Carmel	Yes	
Cleddau Rivers	Yes	
Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen	Yes	
River Usk	Yes	
Pembrokeshire Marine	Yes	
Bristol Channel Approaches	Yes	
West Wales Marine	Yes	
Gweunydd Blaencleddau	No	
Preseli	No	
River Wye	No	
SPA/Ramsar		
Carmarthen Bay SPA	Yes	Identify allocations in close proximity to a water course that flows in/out of sites
Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar	Yes	

Effects on the marine environment

Development and growth can lead to effects on the marine environment. Sites identified as potentially vulnerable to this effect are identified in Table 5. **It is considered unlikely that the policies within the Deposit Plan will result in effects on the marine environment, however they will be considered on precautionary basis in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened.**

Table 5 Summary of generic level screening of sites identified as vulnerable to effects on marine environment.

Sites identified as vulnerable	Further Assessment Required?	Summary of generic level screening
SAC		

Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	Yes	Ensure no such effects occur as a result of allocations
Cardigan Bay	Yes	
Pembrokeshire Marine	Yes	
West Wales Marine	Yes	
Bristol Channel Approaches	Yes	
SPA/Ramsar		
Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar	Yes	Ensure no such effects occur as a result of allocations
Carmarthen Bay SPA	Yes	

Effects on the coast

New development and growth can result in impacts on coastal processes. Installation of coastal defence structures to protect land and property can interfere with natural sand movement and erosion, which can result in coastal squeeze and effects on coastal dynamics.

Sites identified as potentially vulnerable to this effect are detailed in Table 6. **It is considered unlikely that the policies within the Deposit Plan will result in effects on the marine environment, however they will be considered on precautionary basis in the screening of the rLDP allocations, where each proposed allocation is individually screened.**

Table 6 Summary of generic level screening of sites identified as vulnerable to effects on the coast.

Sites identified as vulnerable	Further Assessment Required?	Summary of generic level screening
SAC		
Carmarthen Bay Dunes	Yes	Ensure no such effects occur as a result of allocations
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	Yes	
Cardigan Bay	Yes	
Pembrokeshire Marine	Yes	
West Wales Marine	Yes	
Bristol Channel Approaches	Yes	
SPA/Ramsar		
Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar	Yes	Ensure no such effects occur as a result of allocations
Carmarthen Bay SPA	Yes	

Effects on mobile species

Mobile Species are those listed features of a site that are dependent on areas of land outside of the designated site boundary, such as birds, bats, fish etc. The mobile species identified as relevant to this preliminary assessment and the sites they are designated within are detailed in Table 7. In summary, mobile species to be considered are:

- a) Twaite Shad, Allis Shad, River lamprey, Sea lamprey and Atlantic Salmon
- b) Marsh Fritillary Butterfly
- c) Barbastelle Bat
- d) Greater and Lesser Horseshoe Bats
- e) European Otters
- f) Bottlenose Dolphin, Grey Seal and Harbour Porpoise
- g) SPA Bird Assemblages

a) Twaite Shad, Allis Shad, River lamprey, Sea lamprey and Atlantic salmon

Twaite Shad, Allis Shad, River lamprey, Sea Lamprey and Atlantic salmon all utilise migratory routes through both estuarine and riverine SACs within Carmarthenshire at different stages of their life cycles. In Carmarthenshire, the Rivers Tywi, Teifi and Cleddau all have migratory species as designated features. The River Tywi is of particular importance to shad species as it is thought to be one of only four rivers in Wales in which they are known to spawn.

The rivers Tywi, Teifi and Cleddau all drain into estuaries which also have shad and lamprey as protected features, namely Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC, Cardigan Bay SAC and Pembrokeshire Marine SAC respectively. The rivers Usk and Wye also have shad and lamprey as designated species and their catchment area lies partially within Carmarthenshire.

Offsite impacts on features within these sites are likely to be as a result of water quality or abstraction. However, these are assessed separately under 'effects associated with development' and will be therefore not be considered further under this effect pathway.

Growth and development could also result in barriers to migration, such as physical barriers or noise impacts. **Noise impacts are addressed separately under 'Effects of species disturbance, noise and light pollution effects' and will be therefore not be considered further under this effect pathway.**

Physical barriers to migration may be caused by the introduction of supporting infrastructure to development such as roads or bridges. **The potential for impacts as a result of physical barriers to migration will be considered in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened.**

b) Marsh Fritillary Butterfly

Marsh fritillary butterfly are designated features of a number of sites within the 15km buffer zone for consideration under HRA (Table 7). Conservation objectives for Marsh fritillary butterflies in Yerboston Tops SAC, Rhos Lawr Cwrt SAC, Preseli SAC and Gower Commons SAC state that 'There will be at least 10ha of Good Condition (optimal breeding) habitat on or within 2km radii of the SAC, set in a matrix of at least 50ha of Suitable Condition habitat'.

All but Gower Commons SAC are considered to support insufficient habitat to achieve good conservation status under the above objective and are therefore highly sensitive to habitat fragmentation and loss as a result of development within a 2km radii of SAC boundaries.

However, Yerboston tops SAC, Rhos Lawr cwrt SAC and Gower Commons SAC are sited more than 2km outside of the direct influence of Carmarthenshire's LDP and are therefore all screened out of further consideration under this impact pathway, as the LDP is not likely to have a significant effect on habitat fragmentation at these sites.

Due to its proximity to Carmarthenshire's boundary, potential for impacts on Preseli SAC as a result of supporting habitat fragmentation are screened in for further consideration in the screening of the rLDP allocations, where any allocations that may potentially impact on the 2km habitat buffer around this site must be identified and assessed.

The conservation objectives for Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC were updated by NRW in 2016, to reflect more current information and understanding of the site and its features.

These updated conservation objectives state that to be viable in the long term, the Marsh Fritillary metapopulation requires 'at least 100ha of available habitat, with adequate connectivity linked to the core SAC units'. The core SAC units have a requirement to provide a minimum of 17.5ha of available habitat, and to provide at least 6ha of good habitat within Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC.

The Conservation Objective for the Marsh Fritillary feature of Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC is considered to be in unfavourable condition, with no 'peak' count of Marsh Fritillary larval webs

since 1991, when approximately 279 were counted by Butterfly Conservation within the SAC. The amount of both Suitable and Good Condition Marsh Fritillary habitat within the SAC is also below the target included in the Conservation Objective.

During the 2009 monitoring by Butterfly Conservation it was considered that the Mynydd Mawr Marsh Fritillary population was in steady decline. This was thought to be due to neglect and unsympathetic management within some of the protected sites, in addition to habitat destruction which was occurring outside the protected sites, but within the meta-population landscape area.

The potential for impacts on Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC as a result of supporting habitat fragmentation will be considered in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened.

c) Barbastelle Bat

With regards to potential offsite impacts on Barbastelle bats, the management plan for North Pembrokeshire Woodlands SAC states that '*One threat to the barbastelle feature is that around half of the roosting sites and the majority of the foraging areas lie outside the SAC boundaries, as the boundaries were drawn up before the bats were discovered.*' To address this, the site management plan has the following conservation objectives for the Barbastelle bat feature:

'there will be continual foraging habitat within a 16km radius around Pengelli Forest, including wooded stream valleys, low and overgrown hedgerows, scrub, overgrown pastures, broken stands and woodland (which can include conifer plantations).'

'Roosts outside the [SAC] boundary will be left undisturbed, with no woodland management within 50m of a barbastelle roost and no clearance of shrub layer.'

As a result, further screening will need to be carried out to identify impacts any potential impacts on foraging habitat within a 16km radius around Pengelli, used by Barbastelle bats. This will be considered in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened.

d) Greater and Lesser Horseshoe Bats

Both Greater and Lesser horseshoe bats are features of Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes, which contains a range of important roosting sites and nursery roosts for a range of bat species.

The Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes Management Plan states that between 1-16km from the component SSSI '*extensive hedgerow systems and tree-lined watercourses, linking roost sites and grasslands foraging areas are to be retained within up to 16km of these roosts*'.

It also states that an area between 7-16km from component SSSIs may be used for foraging, but flight routes may lead further connecting to other roost sites. And that '*All existing roosts known to CCW (now NRW) should be maintained and there should be no physical deterioration in or disturbance of these sites, or loss or of roosting opportunity within 1-16 km radius of the key breeding roosts within the SAC.*'

Pembrokeshire Bat Site and Bosherton Lakes SAC sits more than 16km outside of Carmarthenshire's border and therefore the LDP deposit plan will not have any direct impacts on this objective. However, it is relevant to this assessment that the management plan does make reference to cumulative records, which show that both Greater horseshoe bats and Lesser horseshoe bats utilise roosts throughout the West Wales region, including Carmarthenshire.

Records would need to be checked to inform the screening of any such areas that are considered for development with regards to potential threats to both Greater and Lesser horseshoe bats, and as such this will be considered further in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened.

e) European Otters

European otters are designated features of a number of European sites considered for screening within this document, including River Tywi, River Teifi, Cleddau Rivers, Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuaries, Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes, Pembrokeshire Marine, River Wye and River Usk SACs. Management plans for all of the aforementioned sites highlight that otters '*may be affected by developments that affect resting and breeding sites outside of SAC boundaries*'.

With regards to riverine SACs, the management plans state that '*otters require sufficient undisturbed riparian habitat for breeding and resting to be maintained in areas adjacent to the SACs and that in urban areas focus is often placed on maintaining the river as a 'communication corridor' without considering the requirement of the surrounding supporting habitats, which enable the river corridor to function efficiently*'.

One threat of particular relevance is an increase in road use, as otter road deaths have been highlighted as having a potentially significant impact on populations within river catchments.

It is also highly likely that otters travel between water courses and along the coastline, utilising inland watercourses for breeding and coastal areas for foraging. Otters are known to utilise most areas of the coastline within and adjacent to both Pembrokeshire Marine and Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SACs, and it is likely that otters present at a particular site are part of the wider population, with no site completely isolated. Of relevance to this assessment is the emphasised link between the coastal SACs and both Tywi and Cleddau river SACs, both of which fall within Carmarthenshire's boundary

This indicates otters are highly mobile between the aforementioned SACs and as such are at risk of impacts as a result of the LDP, outside of SAC boundaries.

In light of this, this will be considered further in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened, to identify any potential impacts on the use of suitable areas of land outside of the SAC boundary by otters.

f) Bottlenose Dolphin, Grey Seal and Harbour Porpoise

Bottlenose Dolphins are designated features of Cardigan Bay SAC, which lies 9.2km west of Carmarthenshire's boundary. Data on the sightings of Bottlenose dolphin species around the coast of Wales⁵ show that there have been no sightings of bottlenose dolphins utilising waterways directly within the plan area. **Therefore, direct impacts on bottlenose dolphins are considered unlikely and are screened out under this impact pathway.**

However, upstream water quality issues within the river Teifi have the potential to negatively impact on the species within Cardigan Bay SAC. **Issues associated with water quality will be addressed in more detail under the heading 'effects associated with development – water quality' and will be therefore not be considered further under this effect pathway.**

Grey seal are features of both Cardigan Bay SAC and Pembrokeshire Marine SAC, and a small number have been observed in the Carmarthen Bay area⁶. It is unlikely that the LDP will have any direct impacts on Grey seal species as there are no Grey seal haul outs within the Bay area, however there is the potential for increased recreational use of Carmarthen Bay,

⁵ NBN Atlas Bottlenose dolphin occurrence records, Accessed 06/03/19:

<https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NBNSYS0000005179>

⁶ NBN Atlas Grey seal occurrence records Accessed 07/03/19:

https://species.nbnatlas.org/species/NBNSYS0000005137#tab_mapView

such as boating and fishing as a result of development which may have impacts. Upstream water quality issues within the rivers Cleddau or Teifi, as well as the Tywi, may also have the potential to negatively impact on Grey seal within Cardigan Bay SAC and Pembrokeshire Marine SAC, as well as their natural prey.

However, issues associated with recreation will be addressed under the heading 'species disturbance effects'. Issues associated with water quality will be addressed under the heading 'effects associated with development' and will be therefore not be considered further under this effect pathway.

A network of eight sites have been identified within UK waters for the protection of harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*). Two of these sites have the potential to be indirectly impacted by the LDP, namely Bristol Channel Approaches SAC and West Wales Marine SAC.

Seasonal differences in the relative use of the sites have been identified based on the analyses of Heinänen and Skov (2015)⁷. Bristol Channel Approaches has been designated because of its importance to harbour porpoise in the winter months (October to March), whereas West Wales Marine has been designated because of its importance to harbour porpoise in both the summer and winter months.

Potential impacts on these sites include upstream water quality issues within the rivers Cleddau or Teifi, as well as the Tywi. There is also the potential for increased recreational use of Carmarthen Bay, such as boating and fishing, as a result of development which may have impacts.

Issues associated with recreation will be addressed under the heading 'Species disturbance effects'. Issues associated with water quality will be addressed under the heading 'effects associated with development' and will be therefore not be considered further under this effect pathway.

g) SPA Bird Assemblages

Elenydd-Mallaen SPA is designated for breeding Merlin, Red Kite and Peregrine. Of the national population, the SPA is known to support 0.5% of breeding Merlin, 9.3% of breeding Red Kite, and 1.3% of breeding Peregrine. To assess whether there are processes or pathways by which the plan may influence the site's qualifying interests, it is important to consider the distances that some species may travel beyond the boundaries of their SPAs. In line with the precautionary principle, the maximum foraging range of each species has been considered. For breeding Merlin, this range is 5km, for breeding Red Kite 6km and for breeding Peregrine up to 18km⁸.

In light of this, detailed screening will need to be undertaken in the screening of the rLDP allocations to identify any allocations which may impact on the use of suitable areas of foraging habitat outside the SAC boundary by Elenydd-Mallaen SPA qualifying bird species. For Merlin, this will be considered within 5km of the SPA boundary, for Red Kite 6km and for Peregrine within 18km of the SPA boundary.

The listed bird species of the Burry Inlet and Carmarthen Bay SPAs are also considered as 'mobile', as at high tide many of the wading species are likely to seek refuge in supporting habitat outside of the SPA boundary. This is due to habitats above mean high water becoming too crowded or disturbed by roosting birds, when birds that utilise intertidal habitats are forced out by the incoming tide. Therefore, the birds will, at certain time, be required to utilise supporting habitats outside of the SPA, which often include arable land or recreational playing fields. In absence of any evidence to the contrary, any suitable land within 1km inshore of the

⁷ Heinänen, S. and Skov H. 2015, The identification of discrete and persistent areas of relatively high harbour porpoise density in the wider UK marine area, JNCC Report 544, ISSN 0963 8091

⁸ Scottish Natural Heritage. Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Guidance. Version 3 – June 2016. <https://www.nature.scot/assessing-connectivity-special-protection-areas>

SPAs may be used as supporting habitat by bird species at high tide or during inclement weather.

Bird records will need to be checked to inform the screening of any such areas that are considered for development and will be considered in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened.

Table 7 Summary of generic level screening of sites identified as vulnerable to effects on mobile species.

Sites with mobile species as designated features	Distance outside CCC boundary	Potentially impacted Species	Further assessment required?
Within CCC boundary			
River Tywi SAC	N/A	Twaite shad	Yes
		Allis shad	Yes
		Sea lamprey	Yes
		River lamprey	Yes
		Otter	Yes
River Teifi SAC	N/A	Twaite shad	Yes
		Allis shad	Yes
		Sea lamprey	Yes
		River lamprey	Yes
		Otter	Yes
		Atlantic salmon	Yes
Cleddau Rivers SAC	N/A	River lamprey	Yes
		Sea lamprey	Yes
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC	N/A	Twaite shad	Yes
		Allis shad	Yes
		Sea lamprey	Yes
		River lamprey	Yes
		Otter	Yes
Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC	N/A	Marsh Fritillary Butterfly	Yes
Carmarthen Bay SPA	N/A	Bird Assemblage	Yes
Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar	N/A	Bird Assemblage	Yes
Elenydd – Mallaen SPA	N/A	Bird Assemblage	Yes
Bristol Channel Approaches SAC	N/A	Harbour Porpoise	No
Outside CCC boundary			
Cardigan Bay SAC	9.2km	Bottlenose dolphin	No
		Grey seal	No
		Sea lamprey	Yes
		River lamprey	Yes
Pembrokeshire Marine SAC	4.7km	Grey seal	No
		Sea lamprey	Yes
		River lamprey	Yes
		Allis shad	Yes
		Twaite shad	Yes
		Otter	Yes
River Wye	1.7km	Twaite shad	Yes
		Allis shad	Yes
		Sea lamprey	Yes
		River lamprey	Yes
		Otter	Yes
		Atlantic salmon	Yes
River Usk	0.2km	Twaite shad	Yes
		Allis shad	Yes
		Sea lamprey	Yes
		River lamprey	Yes
		Otter	Yes
		Atlantic salmon	Yes
West Wales Marine SAC	9.2km	Harbour porpoise	No

North Pembrokeshire Woodlands	9km	Barbastelle Bat	Yes
Pembrokeshire bat sites	6.9km	Greater Horseshoe Bat	Yes
		Lesser Horseshoe Bat	Yes
		Otter	Yes
Yerbeston Tops	8.8km	Marsh fritillary butterfly	No
Rhos Lawr-cwrt	7.5km	Marsh fritillary butterfly	No
Preseli	0.5km	Marsh fritillary butterfly	Yes
Gower Commons	4km	Marsh fritillary butterfly	No

Recreational Effects

The effects of recreational pressure on SACs and SPAs are primarily related to damage to habitats and disturbance to species for which the site is designated. Damage to habitats usually arise as a result of trampling, which over a period of time can cause paths and tracks to become established and subsequently widened. The wearing of paths from use can also cause or accelerate erosion leading to further habitat damage. Increased access can also increase the likelihood of invasive, non-native species being introduced into the SAC.

Disturbance and/or impacts on species in SACs and SPAs are largely as a result of increased use of the sites, which can lead to an increase in activities such as dog walking, recreational fishing, as well as eco-tourism activities, recreational boating and pollution associated with anthropogenic use of a site. Such recreational effects on species will be addressed in more detail under the heading 'Species disturbance effects'.

Section 9 of the rLDP Preferred Strategy states that the strategic growth option on which the strategy is based would result in a population change of + 15,115, which represents a population growth of +8.1% over the plan period. Unless development occurs in very close proximity to a European site it can be assumed, on a precautionary basis, that LDP allocations can only result in a maximum proportional 8.1% increase in visitor numbers over the plan period.

Nine sites are identified as being potentially sensitive to recreational pressures. It is considered that in relation to the potential effects from recreation associated with overall population growth, current management of site activities will be able to ensure that sites are able to absorb the anticipated overall increase of approx. 0.54% in visitor numbers per year without any likely significant effects to conservation objectives **and so effects of overall plan growth are screened out from further consideration.**

Site specific disturbance effects associated with recreation will be addressed under the heading 'Species disturbance effects' and therefore all sites are screened out under this effect pathway.

A summary of the preliminary screening of European sites identified as potentially vulnerable to effects of recreation are shown in Table 8.

Table 8 Summary of generic level screening of sites identified as vulnerable to recreational effects.

Sites identified as vulnerable	Further screening required?	Summary of generic level screening
SAC		
River Teifi	No	Identify allocations in close proximity to sites identified as vulnerable to recreational pressures.
River Tywi	No	
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	No	

Carmarthen Bay Dunes	No	
Cernydd Carmel	No	
Cwm – Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen	No	
SPA/Ramsar		
Burry Inlet SPA	No	Identify allocations in close proximity to sites identified as vulnerable to recreational pressures.
Carmarthen Bay SPA/Ramsar	No	
Elenydd – Mallaen SPA	No	

Effects as a result of development: water abstraction

Development places an increased demand on water supplies and the potential impacts of increased abstraction rates on surface water and groundwater levels can represent likely significant effects on European sites.

Water supply for new development can be abstracted from a source at some distance from the actual development location. As a result the potential effects of development through increased abstraction must be informed by the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP)

Abstraction is licenced by Natural Resources Wales (NRW), who are the competent authority under the Habitats Regulations, and therefore it is primarily the responsibility of NRW to avoid adverse effects on European sites as a result of abstraction. However, the HRA of the Deposit Plan must recognise that the consenting and management options available to NRW are limited by water availability. Welsh Water has a duty to supply new development and there is a tension within the HRA if it assumes the NRW can simply consent any associated increases in abstraction in such a way to avoid adverse effects on European Sites.

It is the responsibility of the HRA of the deposit plan to ensure that the allocation of housing as a result of the Deposit LDP is done in such a way that there are viable options available to both NRW and DCWW to meet water supply demands and avoid adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.

The water resources requirements for Carmarthenshire are supplied entirely by DCWW, and the county lies within the Tywi conjunctive use system (Tywi WRZ). The most recent DCWW Resource Management Plan⁹ predicts that the Tywi WRZ will be in surplus throughout the period of the LDP, based on a projected increase in household numbers within Carmarthenshire of 14.6% between 2014 and 2039, with an predicted increase from 82,751 to 89,532 between 2018 and 2033 .This overall growth forecast exceeds the growth provided for in the LDP deposit plan of 8.1%.

NRW and the EA undertook a detailed review of a DCWW abstraction licences and concluded that there were twenty one sites where potential adverse effects upon protected species could not be discounted. However the WRMP states that the required amendments to abstraction licences have been agreed in order to ensure that there are at sustainable levels now, and in the future, and have been built in to the baseline deployable output calculations.

DCWW were also responsible for undertaking a Habitats Regulations Assessment of the most recent Water Resources Management Plan¹⁰. This included consideration of the abstraction licence review undertaken by EA and NRW and concluded that ‘the WRMP will have no adverse effects, alone or in combination on any European sites’ at the plan level. On the basis of the detailed HRA assessment undertaken by DCWW, which was informed by the NRW and

⁹ DCWW Final Water Resources Management Plan Technical Report, March 2019.

¹⁰<https://www.dwrcymru.com/-/media/Files/My-Water/Water-Resources/WRMP19/Reports/WRMP-HRA.pdf>

EA review of consents work and subject to a wide consultation with the statutory agencies, it is reasonable for Carmarthenshire to adopt the conclusions for the purpose of the HRA of the Deposit plan. Further work would be a duplication of work undertaken by NRW and DCWW and as the most appropriate authorities in relation to the potential effects connected with water supply, any further work by Carmarthenshire is not considered to be appropriate or necessary.

Therefore, it is concluded that the deposit LDP will have no likely significant effect on any European site in respect of effects associated with water supply. Such effects can be excluded on the basis of the objective information available through the EA and NRW review of consents work and the most recent HRA of the DCWW Water Resources Management Plan.

A summary of the generic screening of European sites identified as potentially vulnerable to effects of abstraction have been provided in Table 9.

Table 9 Summary of generic level screening of sites identified as vulnerable to increased water abstraction.

Sites identified as vulnerable	Further screening required?	Summary of generic level screening
SAC		
River Teifi	No	Screened out of further consideration based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan.
River Tywi	No	
Cleddau Rivers	No	
Caeau Mynydd Mawr	No	
Cardigan Bay	No	
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	No	
Carmarthen Bay Dunes	No	
Cernydd Carmel	No	
Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen	No	
Mynydd Epynt	No	
Preseli	No	
River Wye	No	
River Usk	No	
Yerbeston Tops	No	
Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes	No	
Pembrokeshire Marine	No	
Gower Commons	No	
SPA/Ramsar		
Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar	No	Screened out of further consideration based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan.
Carmarthen Bay SPA	No	

Effects as a result of development: discharge of wastewater

Development will generate wastewater which needs to be treated prior to disposal. The preferred option for the disposal of wastewater is via connection to the mains sewerage network and treatment at the relevant wastewater treatment works (WWTW).

Discharge of wastewater by DCWW is licenced by NRW, who is also a competent authority under the Habitats Regulations. Whilst the avoidance of any adverse effects on European Sites as a result of discharge consents is principally the responsibility of NRW, the HRA of the

Deposit Plan must recognise that the consenting and management options available to NRW are limited by both capacity within infrastructure and the existing pollutant levels in the receiving environment. DCWW has a duty to accept wastewater from new development, when connection to the mains sewer system is viable; there is a tension within the HRA if it assumes either that DCWW can accept any associated increases in wastewater irrespective of limitations in capacity, or that such capacity issues can be resolved by NRW consenting options which avoid adverse effects on European sites.

DCWW are under a general duty under section 94 of the Water Industry Act 1991 to effectually drain the area. If additional capacity is required in the existing systems then they are legally obliged to provide it through their normal funding mechanisms. This general duty extends to sewerage systems as well as sewage treatment works.

It is the purpose of the HRA to ensure that the allocation of housing as part of rLDP Deposit Plan is done in such a way as to ensure that there are viable options available to both NRW and DCWW to meet wastewater drainage demands, without adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.

Under Regulation 63 of the Habitats Regulations, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) are responsible for ensuring potential effects from treated wastewater on European Designated sites are considered as part of a Review of all existing Consents (RoC). Under the RoC, discharge consents and water abstraction licences will have been considered to ensure that there were no detrimental impacts on the conservation interests in designated sites a result of these consents. Where allocations can be accommodated within the post-RoC discharge consent limits, it can be considered that there will be no likely significant effects on European Designated sites.

If the allocated development might exceed available permitted capacity, then a new or modified permit is likely to be required at the waste water treatment works in question to provide for the increased demand, and the HRA would need to consider whether it would be feasible for such additional capacity to be provided without any adverse effects on the integrity of any European Sites.

Table 10 Summary of generic level screening of sites identified as vulnerable to effects on water quality.

Sites identified as vulnerable	Further screening required?	Summary of generic level screening
SAC		
River Teifi	Yes	Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Screened at site level.
River Tywi	Yes	
Cleddau Rivers	Yes	
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	Yes	
Pembrokeshire Marine	Yes	
Cardigan Bay	Yes	
West Wales Marine	Yes	
Bristol Channel Approaches	Yes	
SPA/Ramsar		
Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar	Yes	Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment.
Carmarthen Bay	Yes	

Effects as a result of development: effects of air pollution

Air quality is influenced by levels of pollutants such as sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), ammonia (NH₃) and ozone (O₃), as well as persistent organic compounds (POPs), heavy metals and particulate matter (PM₁₀).

Carmarthenshire currently has three Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's), in Llandeilo (NO₂), Llanelli (NO₂) and Carmarthen (NO₂). AQMA's also exist in some neighbouring counties; Swansea (NO₂), Neath Port Talbot (PM₁₀) and two in Pembrokeshire (NO₂).

Housing development tends to be linked with increased traffic and therefore increased traffic related emissions. Emissions from traffic have been shown to have impacts on vegetation within 200m of the road edge¹¹¹². Beyond 200m, no significant adverse effects associated with traffic emissions (including deposition) have been observed in scientific studies. This is likely due to the fact that at this distance, pollutants contribute to background levels of atmospheric pollution, and disperse to an extent that they have no observable impacts on ground level vegetation at a local scale.

On this basis, it is considered that there will be no likely significant effects on any sites more than 200m outside of Carmarthenshire's boundary.

However, additional contributions that may arise from increased traffic could be significant where the site is known to be sensitive to such effects and where appropriate critical loads and levels are either exceeded or approaching exceedance. The Air Pollution Information Service (APIS) data shows that current air quality levels already exceed the critical loads set for many of the habitat types at European sites in Carmarthenshire (Appendix 2).

All other sites considered sensitive to air pollution will be considered in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened, however further consideration of potential effects is required only where site allocations may lead to increased traffic emissions within 200m of identified sites . This is summarised in Table 11.

Table 11 Summary of generic level screening of sites identified as vulnerable to effects on air quality.

Sites identified as vulnerable	Further screening required?	Summary of generic level screening
SAC		
Afon Teifi	Yes	Identify allocations within 200m of these sites
Caeau Mynydd Mawr	Yes	
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	Yes	
Carmarthen Bay Dunes	Yes	
Cernydd Carmel	Yes	
Cleddau Rivers	Yes	
Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen	Yes	
Gower Ash Woods	No	Screened out of further consideration as sites are more than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary
Gower Common	No	
Gweunydd Blaencleddau	No	
Mynydd Epynt	No	

¹¹ Natural England Commissioned Report NECR200: Potential risk of impacts of nitrogen oxides from road traffic on designated nature conservation sites. 2016

¹² English Nature Research report 580: The ecological effects of diffuse air pollution from road transport. 2004.

Pembrokeshire Bat Sites	No	
Pembrokeshire Marine	No	
Preseli	No	
Rhos Llawr-cwrt	No	
North Pembrokeshire Woodlands	No	
Yerbeston Tops	No	

Effects of species disturbance, noise and light pollution effects

Effects of this nature are largely associated with the physical proximity of development to a sensitive European site. Such effects include visual and noise disturbance associated with issues such as construction, lighting and the presence of development, and will be considered further in detailed assessment of site allocations. **It is considered that the LDP is not likely to have significant effects on sites outside of Carmarthenshire's boundary that do not contain mobile species and so these sites are screened out of further consideration.**

All other sites considered sensitive to species disturbance, noise and light pollution effects will be considered in the screening of the rLDP allocations where each proposed allocation is individually screened.

Sites sensitive to effects of species disturbance, noise and light pollution and the result of the generic level screening assessment is summarised in Table 12.

Table 12 Summary of generic level screening of European sites identified as vulnerable to disturbance, noise or light pollution effects.

Sites identified as vulnerable	Further screening required?	Summary of generic level screening
SAC		
Afon Teifi	Yes	Further consideration required in detailed assessment
Afon Tywi	Yes	
Cleddau Rivers	Yes	
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	Yes	
North Pembrokeshire Woodlands	Yes	
River Wye	Yes	
River Usk	Yes	
Cardigan Bay	No	Outside of Carmarthenshire boundary
Gower Commons	No	
Gower Ash Woods	No	
Pembrokeshire Marine	No	
Pembrokeshire Bat sites	No	
SPA/Ramsar		
Carmarthen Bay	Yes	Further consideration required in detailed assessment
Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar	Yes	
Elenydd Mallaen	Yes	

Generic Screening – Summary

Having considered each of the potential effect mechanisms and considered them at a generic level in relation to the overall growth provided for within the rLDP Deposit Plan, the conclusions for further detailed screening work in relation to individual allocations are detailed in Table 13.

Table 13 Summary of generic level screening of sites.

Potential Effect Mechanism	Summary of generic level screening	Further screening requirements in detailed screening of specific allocations
Aquatic Environment	Effects only likely where development is in close proximity to a water course that flows into/out of a site.	To identify such allocations
Marine and coastal Environment	Effects considered unlikely, but screened in on precautionary basis	To ensure no such effects occur
Mobile Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marsh Fritillary Butterfly - Any potential development within 2km of Preseli SAC as well as any development with potential habitat fragmentation impacts on Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC are subject to further assessment. Barbastelle Bat – Any potential development within 16km radius of Pengelli Forest should be subject to further assessment. Greater and Lesser Horseshoe Bats – Presence records should be considered to inform screening of site allocations. European Otters – Any land suitable for use by otters that may support SAC populations will need to be considered SPA Bird Assemblages – Any suitable land 1km inshore of Burry Inlet and Carmarthen Bay SPA should be subject to further assessment SPA Bird Assemblages - Any suitable foraging land within 5km for breeding Merlin, 6km breeding Red Kite and 18 km for breeding Peregrine, of Elenydd-Mallaen SPA 	To identify such allocations
Recreation	Recreational effects associated with development in close proximity to a European site, will require further assessment.	To identify such allocations
Development: Abstraction	Effects associated with water supply have been screened out based on HRA of DCWW water resources management plan	No further screening required
Development: Waste water	Effects associated with waste water discharges require further information from NRW on the post-RoC capacity. Only allocated development might exceed available permitted capacity will be considered to have LSE.	To identify such allocations

Development: Air pollution	Development which leads to increased traffic on roads within 200m of identified sensitive sites. Consideration will also be given to any potential impacts from intensive agriculture and other industrial sources.	To identify any such allocations
Disturbance, noise and light pollution	Only development in close proximity to a European Site requires further consideration	To identify such allocations

Five sites identified in Task 1 have been screened out of further detailed assessment as all potential impact pathways have been screened out at this generic screening stage. This is summarised in Table 14.

Table 14 Summary of generic level screening of sites where no likely significant effects have been identified.

European site	Designation	Scanned In	Screened Out
Yerbeston Tops	SAC	Mobile Species – Marsh Fritillary Butterfly	More than 2km outside of the direct influence of Carmarthenshire’s LDP
		Abstraction	Based on no LSE being identified in most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan.
		Air pollution	More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary
Rhos Llawr-cwrt	SAC	Mobile Species – Marsh Fritillary	More than 2km outside of the direct influence of Carmarthenshire’s LDP
		Air pollution	More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary
Gower Ash Woods	SAC	Air pollution	More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary
		Recreation	Effects only considered likely in close proximity. Site outside of Carmarthenshire boundary
Gower Commons	SAC	Mobile Species – Marsh Fritillary Butterfly	More than 2km outside of the direct influence of Carmarthenshire’s LDP
		Abstraction	Based on no LSE being identified in most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan.
		Air pollution	More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary
		Species disturbance	Effects only considered likely in close proximity. Site outside of Carmarthenshire boundary
Mynydd Epynt	SAC	Air pollution	More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary

Screening of the revised LDP Deposit Plan

The Carmarthenshire revised Deposit LDP sets the long term vision for growth and development in Carmarthenshire (excluding that area within the Brecon Beacons National Park) and the strategic objectives and the strategic land use polices to deliver that vision.

In order to assess the revised Deposit LDP, this HRA adopts the approach set out in Part F of the Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook 'Practical Guidance for the Assessment of Plans'. Section F.6.3 introduces 'screening categories' against which each policy within a plan should be assessed. The screening categories are as follows:

Category	Description	Screening Outcome
A	General statements of policy/general aspirations.	Screen Out
B	Policies listing general criteria for testing the acceptability/sustainability of proposals.	Screen Out
C	Proposal referred to but not proposed by the plan	Screen Out
D	Environmental protection/site safeguarding policy	Screen Out
E	Policies or proposals which steer change in such a way as to protect European sites from adverse effects	Screen Out
F	Policy that cannot lead to development or other change	Screen Out
G	Policy or proposal that could not have any conceivable effect on a site	Screen Out
H	Policy or proposal the (actual or theoretical) effects of which cannot undermine the conservation objectives (either alone or in combination with other aspects of this or other plans or projects)	Screen Out
I	Policy or proposal with a likely significant effect on a site alone	Screen In
J	Policy or proposal with an effect on a site but not likely to be significant alone, so need to check for likely significant effects in combination.	Check for in combination effects and re-categorised as K or L
K	Policy or proposal not likely to have significant effect either alone or in combination.	Screen out after in combination test
L	Policy or proposal likely to have a significant effect in combination	Screen in after in combination test
M	Bespoke area, site or case specific policies or proposals intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site	Screened In

Chapters 1-5 and 9-10 of Deposit LDP

For completeness, the Chapters 1-6 and 9-10 are comprised of introductory and contextual text and cannot possibly have any effects on any European Sites. **They are therefore screened out of further assessment and are not considered further.**

Chapters 6 and 7 of the Deposit LDP – Vision and Strategic Objectives

Chapter 6 outlines the draft vision for Carmarthenshire and is reported below:

One Carmarthenshire

Carmarthenshire 2033 will be a place to start, live and age well within a healthy, safe and prosperous environment, where its rich cultural and environmental qualities (including the Welsh language) are valued and respected for residents and visitors alike.

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

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

The vision sets out a general aspiration and is not considered to result in any significant effects upon European sites. **The vision is therefore screened out under category A.**

Chapter 7 discusses the development of the strategic objectives, which are categorised under the following themes in alignment with Carmarthenshire's well-being objectives:

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

The objectives listed against each of the themes and their assessment under this HRA are detailed in Appendix 3. **All of the objectives are considered to be screened out of the need for further assessment.** The category against which each objective is considered to be screened out is given in brackets after each objective.

Chapter 8 of the Deposit LDP – Growth and Spatial Strategy

Chapter 8 sets out a high level growth and spatial framework for development and as such could be a driver of potential impacts on European sites. **However, the implications of change provided for by this framework are more appropriately assessed under later, more specific, policies through which growth will be implemented.** Therefore, the growth and spatial strategies are screened out of the need for further assessment in accordance with the guidance provided at section F.6.2.3 of the HRA Handbook which states that '*even if they are the driver of a potential effect, it is likely that the plan will contain a more specific policy or proposal that would be the better target for assessment*'.

Chapter 11 of the Deposit LDP – Strategic and Specific Policies

Strategic Policies

There are 19 individual Strategic policies, and the screening conclusions for each policy are set out in Appendix 4.

Screening of the Strategic Policies concluded that they are unlikely to have significant effects on European sites alone, as the majority seek the protection/enhancement of cultural heritage and the natural environment or set out design criteria for development proposals.

In the case of policies SP1, SP3, SP4, and SP6, it was considered that potential impacts would be more appropriately assessed under specific policies that would be a better target for assessment, in line with guidance provided in section F.6.2.3 of the HRA Handbook and were therefore screened out of the need for further assessment.

A number of policies do not necessarily propose development, but support certain types of development which have the potential to impact on European designated sites. Policy SP13 – Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment – seeks to ensure development does not impact negatively on the natural environment, provides some mitigation to help minimise the impacts on European sites.

Table 15 summarises the screening outcome of the Strategic Policies

Table 15 Screening of rLDP Strategic Policies

Policy	Screening Category	Initial Screening Outcome
SP1 – Strategic Growth	G	Screened Out
SP2 – Retail and Town Centres	B	Screened Out
SP3 – Providing New Homes	G	Screened Out
SP4 – Affordable Homes	G	Screened Out
SP5 – Strategic Sites	C	Screened Out
SP6 – Employment and the Economy	G	Screened Out
SP7 – Welsh Language and Culture	F	Screened Out
SP8 - Infrastructure	B	Screened Out
SP9 – Gypsy and Traveller Provision	H	Screened Out
SP10 – The Visitor Economy	B	Screened Out
SP11 – Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design	B	Screened Out
SP12 – Rural Development	A	Screened Out
SP13 – Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment	D	Screened Out
SP14 – Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment	D	Screened Out
SP15 – Climate Change	B	Screened Out
SP16 – Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework	B	Screened Out
SP17 – Transport and Accessibility	B	Screened Out
SP18 – Mineral resources	G	Screened Out
SP19 – Waste Management	B	Screened Out

Specific Policies

Chapter 11 of the Deposit LDP sets out the specific plan policies. These policies are screened in Appendix 5 in accordance with the screening categories introduced above.

Screening of the strategic policies concluded that all policies are screened out of the need for further assessment, apart from Policy SG3 Pembrey Peninsula. This policy directs growth to an area that is immediately adjacent to the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site. There is no wording in the policy or the supporting text to acknowledge the potential risks and identify the potential need for a project level HRA.

Policy SG3 Pembrey Peninsula is identified on a precautionary basis as having a likely significant effect 'alone' on the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries Marine Site in respect of potential effects associated with species disturbance, noise and light pollution effects.

The screening conclusions for the sites listed in Policies SG1 Regeneration and Mixed Use Sites, SG2 Reserve Sites, HOM1 Housing Allocations and EME3 Employment Proposals on Allocated Sites are set out in the following section, Screening of rLDP Allocations.

Screening of rLDP Allocations

This section will be completed with a HRA screening of all allocated sites.

Reference should however be made to section 1.4 of this report where it is clarified that there is no requirement to re-assess allocations under the provisions of the Regulations where they have already been found to be acceptable by the Council as the competent authority, at a project level, in consultation with NRW.

3.3 Task 3 Consideration of effects in combination with other plans, programmes and projects

It is a requirement of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that HRA examines the potential for plans and projects to have a significant effect either individually or 'in combination' with other plans, programmes & projects (PPPs). The effects of the Deposit Plan 'in combination' with other plans or projects are the cumulative effects which will, or might, result from the addition of the effects of other relevant plans or projects to the effects of the Deposit Plan identified in the earlier sections. This is required to inform the decision whether it can be ascertained that the Deposit Plan will not, in combination, have a likely significant effect on a European site. Combined effects may be additive, or synergistic, or a combination of both.

When considering other PPPs attention was focused on the following stages:

- a. Applications lodged but not yet determined;
- b. Projects subject to periodic review e.g. annual licences, during the time that their renewal is under consideration;
- c. Refusals subject to appeal procedures and not yet determined;
- d. Projects authorised but not yet started;
- e. Projects started but not yet completed;
- f. Known projects that do not require external authorisation;
- g. Proposals in adopted plans;
- h. Proposals in finalised draft plans formally published or submitted for final consultation, examination or adoption.

To avoid unnecessary or excessive assessment the in combination steps should be carefully scoped to relate only to relevant stages of other plans or projects and only to those which could make the possible adverse effects of the subject plan more likely or more significant, or both, by way of additive or synergistic effects. If such scoping demonstrates that there are in fact no other plans or projects with effects which could operate in this way in combination with those of the subject plan, the assessment need proceed no further, and the subject plan can proceed to adoption.

As set out in Part F.6.3.11 of the HRA Handbook, only policies which are identified as having some effect on a European site, but where the effect is not likely to be significant 'alone' (category J) need to be screened for in combination effects. Where a policy has no effect on a site at all (screening categories A-H), it does not need to be screened for in combination effects as it has no effect which might act in combination with other plans and projects. Where a site has a likely significant effect alone (category I) it does not need to be screened for in combination effects as the regulations state that likely significant effects should be determine either alone or in combination and not both.

With reference to Appendices 4 and 5, all the policies (apart from those that refer to allocated sites) have been screened under categories A-H or identified to have potential likely impacts alone (category J) and so the requirement to consider in combination effects is therefore limited to Policies SG1, SG2, HOM1 and EME3.

Once these policies have been screened, if any are considered to have some effect on a European site, but that effect is not likely to be significant 'alone' (Category J) then only such plans or projects that would act in combination with the Deposit Plan in such a way as to make such effects either more likely or more significant need to be considered. A list of relevant plans to be considered are detailed in Appendix 6:

This will be updated in due course once site allocations have been screened in full.

3.4 Task 4 Screening Assessment Summary

3.4.1 In line with the screening requirement of the Habitats Regulations, an assessment was undertaken to determine the potential significant effects of the revised Carmarthenshire Deposit LDP on the integrity of the 25 European sites that lie outside and within the plan/proposal boundaries. The screening decision was informed by:

- The information gathered on the European sites – Appendix 1;
- The review of the rLDP Deposit Plan and its likely impacts ; which included an analysis of the potential environmental impacts generated by the development activities directed by the LDP and; - Appendix 4 and 5;
- The review of other relevant plans and programmes – Appendix 6; and
- WG guidance which indicates that HRA for plans is typically broader and more strategic than project level HRA and that it is proportionate to the available detail of the plan.

The detail of the screening of rLDP policies is set out in Appendices 4 and 5. In summary, the screening assessment found that only one of the policies has the potential to have significant effects on European sites either alone or in combination. Chapter 4 will carry out an Appropriate Assessment of Policy SG3 Pembrey Peninsula, and look at in more detail the potential effects on the conservation objectives of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site.

In addition, on a precautionary basis, potential significant effects on the following will also be screened in for Appropriate Assessment:

- Wastewater disposal from development in the absence of confirmation of the extent to which the growth provided for in the rLDP can be accommodated within the existing (post review) discharge consent limits, in particular potential effects upon the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site.
- The potential for impacts on Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC as a result of supporting habitat fragmentation due to the levels of growth proposed in the area (most notably Principal Centre 3 Ammanford/Cross Hands).

4. Appropriate Assessment

4.1 Summary of Screening Conclusion

Following a screening exercise, it is identified that there is a potential for a likely significant effects in respect of:

Species disturbance, noise and light pollution effects as a result of Policy SG3 directing growth towards the Pembrey Peninsula with potential effects on Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site.

- Wastewater disposal from development in the absence of confirmation of the extent to which the growth provided for in the rLDP can be accommodated within the existing (post review) discharge consent limits, in particular potential effects upon the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site.
- The potential for impacts on Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC as a result of supporting habitat fragmentation due to the levels of growth proposed in Principal Centre 3 Ammanford/Cross Hands.

4.2 Incorporation of mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects

As referred to in the case of NANT v Suffolk Coastal District Council (2015), the Court of Appeal ruled that ‘the important question... is not whether mitigation measures were considered at the stage of Core Strategy in as much detail as the available information permitted, but whether there was sufficient information at that stage to enable the Council to be duly satisfied that the proposed mitigation measures could be achieved in practice’.

As such, at this stage in the HRA of the Deposit Plan, the Council (as the competent authority) needs to be satisfied that mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects upon the integrity of the European site could be achieved in practice. It is not reasonable to seek to set out all the technical details associated with such measures; matters of detail will be considered in subsequent project level HRA when sufficient information is available concerning the nature of proposed development to enable such details to be subject to an appropriate level of scrutiny.

The potential mitigation measures which might be relied upon to avoid adverse effects are considered in Table 14 below:

Table 16 Table summarising effects and possible mitigation measures

Effect	Options for mitigation
Species disturbance, noise and light pollution effects on CBEEMS	<p>Any effects associated with development within the Pembrey Peninsula as a result of policy SG3 Pembrey Peninsula could be minimised if the potential sensitivities of the CBEEMS were directly referenced within the supporting text of the policy.</p> <p>The following mitigation measures would be sufficient to provide the necessary confidence that the policy will not adversely affect the integrity of the CBEEMS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the inclusion of specific wording to acknowledge the sensitivity of CBEEMS to increased recreational pressure, disturbance, noise and light pollution within the policy itself and the supporting text to ensure that the risks to CBEEMS are fully recognised in the development of this area. Suggested text is provided below: <p><i>‘Development in this location will need to demonstrate compliance with Policies SP13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment and NE2 Biodiversity. A Habitats Regulations Assessment will be required to fully assess potential effects upon Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site.’</i></p>

Wastewater disposal (general)	<p>At the present time, there has been no confirmation from DCWW that sufficient capacity is available to accommodate the allocated growth proposed in the rLDP, and therefore the potential for likely significant effects has not been screened out. However, Carmarthenshire County Council continue to be in close consultation with DCWW and, following the confirmation of the rLDP's projected growth and proposed housing allocations (as opposed to commitments, as these have been through the planning process and their capacity needs already considered), both parties are working towards confirming that sufficient capacity exists. On a precautionary basis, this appropriate assessment will explore the options for mitigation in the event that capacity is not available for the allocations proposed.</p> <p>In the instances where capacity is not available, developers have the option of waiting for the necessary reinforcement works to be delivered through future AMP programmes or alternatively to fund the works themselves. Water network reinforcement works can be progressed via the requisition provisions of the WIA 1991. Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) reinforcement works can be progressed via s106 of the Town & Country Planning Act (1990).</p> <p>It is not possible to foresee whether developers will wait for AMP funding to deliver the necessary reinforcement works, or fund the works themselves. If a developer did choose to fund the work themselves, it is also unclear as to whether the reinforcement works would trigger any variations or modification to the existing consent but, adopting a precautionary approach, it is reasonable to anticipate that the reinforcement works might be accompanied by such a modifications or variation.</p> <p>In this regard it is relevant to note that consent modifications and variations that are considered necessary to provide for further growth will be subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment by NRW, and that DCWW must be willing to implement mitigation measures required.</p> <p>In the unlikely event that NRW are unable to identify permitting options which can be relied upon to avoid adverse effects to Natura 2000/Ramsar sites, a Nutrient Management Plan approach to cover the catchment in question would provide the necessary reassurance that the development provided for could be delivered in a manner which would avoid adverse effects to the Natura 2000/Ramsar site.</p>
Wastewater disposal to CBEEMS	<p>Whilst DCWW have confirmed there is capacity to accommodate the rLDP growth that drains to the Llanelli WwTW catchment, they have raised concerns that the connection of foul flows generated by new development introduces the risk of deterioration in the water quality of the CBEEMS. This is because the majority of the sewer system in this area is combined (surface and foul flows). Introducing additional foul flow can lead to overloading to the WwTW, as well as an increasing the frequency of discharges from storm sewerage overflows out to the CBEEMS during significant rainfall. DCWW are therefore requesting that a scheme of compensatory surface water be taken forward.</p> <p>A plan level HRA carried out on the Adopted LDP (2006 – 2021)¹³ concluded that in the absence of any evidence to the contrary a precautionary approach be taken and therefore that there was potential for likely significant effects on CBEEMS as a result of water quality degradation via WwTW discharges. To mitigate for this potential impact, a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)¹⁴ was identified which implemented compensatory surface water removal across the Llanelli WWTW catchment area.</p> <p>This MOU has since been superseded by a number of events, most importantly targeted investment and phosphate stripping initiatives at Llanelli, Gowerton, Pontyberem and Parc Y Splott WwTW as well as the publication of a technical</p>

¹³ Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan. Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Volume 1: Main Text. November 2014. <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/3732/hra-vol-1-main-text-27nov14.pdf>

¹⁴ Safeguarding the Environment of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine

	<p>research report, compiled by the Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies (2012)¹⁵ which concluded that there is no clear evidence that water or sediment pollution is related to cockle mortalities within CBEEMS.</p> <p>It is therefore concluded that issues related to spill frequency from storm sewage outfalls are now driven by the requirements of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive and the Water Framework Directive and not the Habitats Directive. Whilst this does not in any way minimise the significance of such spills, it is important that the drivers behind the need for any compensatory surface water removal are clearly recognised. The intermittent nature of storm sewage overflows, together with the elevated flows through the estuary during periods of high rainfall mean that such events do not represent a significant threat (both alone or in combination) to the integrity of the conservation objectives of the CBEEMS.</p>
<p>Habitat fragmentation effects on Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC</p>	<p>The Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation (CMMSAC) is designated for the Marsh Fritillary Butterfly <i>Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) auriana</i> and the supporting habitat of <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>). The revised Conservation Objectives for the site recognise the importance of the maintenance of an extensive and well connected network of suitable habitat, both within and outside of the SAC for the long term security and resilience of the Marsh Fritillary butterfly population. This forms the wider 'core landscape' for the meta-population.</p> <p>Development within the area (notably Principal Centre 3 Ammanford and Crosshands) has the potential to result in habitat fragmentation of the wider core landscape, and as such mitigation is required to ensure no significant effects on the conservation objectives of the SAC.</p> <p>In order to address this, the rLDP has prepared Supplementary Planning Guidance, which requires development within the delineated SPG area to either provide on-site mitigation in the form of habitat creation to satisfy the HRA as part of seeking planning permission, or, should a developer be unable to provide the required mitigation, provides a mechanism by which developers can provide a contribution to the Council's Caeau Mynydd Mawr project. The Caeau Mynydd Mawr project will then deliver the mitigation on the developer's behalf by delivering an integrated habitat management plan, in accordance with the conservation objectives of the SAC. The SPG builds upon the provisions of a specific policy – NE4.</p> <p>The adoption of this SPG should result in any Tests of Likely Significant Effect (TLSE) conducted by the Council for developments within the SPG area to be concluded that there will be no likely significant effect (alone or in combination) on the SAC features and their conservation objectives. Further information can be found in the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG, and accompanying supporting evidence.</p>

¹⁵ Burry Inlet Cockle Mortalities Investigation 2009-2011. Technical Report to Environment Agency Wales Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies, University of Hull. January 2012.

Carmarthenshire Revised Local Development Plan (LDP)

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Deposit LDP Appendices

November 2019

Appendix 1 Conservation Objectives of Natura 2000 sites identified within the 15km buffer around Carmarthenshire

Appendix 2 Nitrogen Deposition Data for SACs/SPAs within 15km Buffer Zone of Carmarthenshire

Appendix 3 HRA Screening of rLDP Strategic Objectives

Appendix 4 HRA Screening of rLDP Strategic Policies

Appendix 5 HRA Screening of rLDP Specific Policies

Appendix 6 Plans and Programmes to be considered for potential in-combination effects.

Appendix 7 Consultation Responses to HRA Screening Report of Preferred Strategy

Appendix 1 Conservation Objectives of Natura 2000 sites identified within the 15km buffer around Carmarthenshire

Site name : Afon Tywi/ River Tywi SAC Location Grid Reference: SN687263 JNCC Site Code: UK0013010 Size: 363.45 ha			
	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex II species primary reason for selection	Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Favourable: Maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour. The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc. at road bridges and other artificial barriers.
	Twaite Shad <i>Alosa fallax</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (May 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined here XX must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis.
Annex II species qualifying feature	Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2011)	
	River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatili</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2011)	
	Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2011)	
	Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (May 2012)	
	Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	

Site name : Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN575121
 NCC Site Code: UK0030105
 Size: 25.06 ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
922 Annex I habitats qualifying features	<i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils <i>Molinion caeruleae</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent should be stable in the long term, or where appropriate increasing • Quality (including in terms of ecological structure and function) should be being maintained, or where appropriate improving. • Populations of the habitat's typical species must be being maintained or where appropriate increasing. • Factors affecting the extent and quality of the habitat and its typical species (and thus affecting the habitat's future prospects) should be under appropriate control.
Annex II species primary reason for selection	Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The size of the population should be stable or increasing, allowing for natural variability, and sustainable in the long term. • The distribution of the population should be being maintained or where appropriate increasing. • There should be sufficient habitat, of sufficient quality, to support the population in the long term. • Factors affecting the population or its habitat should be under appropriate control.

Site name : Cernydd Carmel SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN592161
 JNCC Site Code: UK0030070
 Size: 361.14 ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitat primary reason for selection	Turloughs	Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The turlough will fill and empty according to the natural seasonal fluctuations in the underlying aquifer. It will typically fill with water in the autumn-spring period and empty during the summer months. A natural pattern of vegetation zones will be apparent during the dry phase of the turlough, as determined by micro-topographical variation in the turlough basin in relation to the main swallow hole. The following vegetation zones, together with typical associated species, will be present: hydrophytic bryophyte zone; <i>Equisetum fluviatile</i> zone; <i>Carex vesicaria</i> zone; <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> zone; <i>Salix cinerea-Galium palustre</i> woodland zone. Alien plant species such as <i>Crassula helmsii</i>, <i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>, <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> and <i>Azolla filiculoides</i> will be absent All factors affecting the achievement of the above conditions, including water quality, water levels and scrub development, will be under control.
Annex I habitat qualifying feature Udalen 923	North Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Atlantic wet heath will occupy at least 6ha of Cernydd Carmel SAC. The wet heath will have a high cover (>25%) of dwarf shrubs, including heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>, cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> and bilberry <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>. Typical associates will include western gorse <i>Ulex galli</i> and <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, but not high cover. Bog mosses <i>Sphagnum</i> spp. will be prominent in the sward. Scrub and bracken will be largely absent. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions, including grazing and scrub/bracken encroachment, are under control.
	European dry heaths	Destroyed: Partially (Sept 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European dry heath will occupy at least 19ha of Cernydd Carmel SAC. The dry heath will be dominated by varying mixtures of heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>, bilberry <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> and western gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i>, although <i>U.gallii</i> itself should not exceed 50% cover. Scrub, bracken, bramble, thistles, tall rushes, large docks and nettles will be largely absent. Bare ground will not exceed 10% cover. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions, including grazing and scrub/bracken encroachment, are under control.
	Active raised bogs	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active raised bog will cover at least 13ha of Cernydd Carmel SAC. At least five raised bog peatland units will be present, occupying a series of peaty depressions within the Millstone Grit ridge. The mires will support a specialist bog flora including heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>, cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i>, deergrass <i>Scirpus cespitosus</i>, hare's-tail cotton grass <i>Eriophorum vaginatum</i> common cotton-grass <i>E.angustifolium</i>, bog asphodel <i>Bartheicum ossifragum</i> and round-leaved sundew <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bog mosses <i>Sphagnum</i> spp. Will be abundant, while purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and other grasses will be scarce. • The mire surfaces will display a characteristic hummock and hollow topography, with lawns of <i>Sphagnum</i> moss dominating the wet hollows. • Scrub and bracken will be largely absent. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions, including water levels, nutrient levels and grazing, will be under control.
	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	Favourable: Unclassified (Jul 2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tilio-Acerion woodland will occupy approx. 44ha of Cernydd Carmel SAC. • The Tilio-Acerion woodland will occur as a patchwork of small woods with areas of grassland between, forming a characteristic element of the historic landscape pattern of Cernydd Carmel. The distribution of woods will mirror the pattern of woodland mapped in 1994. • Within the high forest areas, between 10 and 25% of the woodland will comprise open glades or canopy gaps, although the location of glades/canopy gaps may vary over time. • Trees and shrubs of a wide range of ages and sizes should be present, including functionally mature canopy trees, young trees and an active shrub layer. • Regeneration of locally native trees/shrubs will be plentiful • The canopy will comprise varying mixtures of locally native species including ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>, oak <i>Quercus</i> spp., goat willow <i>Salix caprea</i>, yew <i>Taxus baccata</i> and wych elm <i>Ulmus glabra</i>. Typical shrub layer species will include hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>, hawthorn <i>Crateagus monogyna</i>, blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i>, spindle <i>Euonymus europaeus</i> and dogwood <i>Rhamnus catharticus</i>. Non-native species including sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> and beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> will be largely absent. • The field layer will comprise a rich mixture of woodland herbs including <i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>, <i>Circaea lutetiana</i>, <i>Galium odoratum</i>, <i>Allium ursinum</i>, <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>, <i>Mercurialis perennis</i>, <i>Conopodium majus</i>, <i>Paris quadrifolia</i>, <i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>, <i>Conopodium majus</i>, <i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>, <i>Arum maculatum</i> and <i>Anemone nemorosa</i>. • Dense bramble will be largely absent. • Within the high forest areas, dead wood will be present in the form of standing and fallen trunks/limbs. • All factors affecting the achievement of the above conditions, including grazing and browsing, will be under control.

Site name : Carmarthen Bay Dunes SAC

Location Grid Reference: SN285074

JNCC Site Code: UK0020019

Size: 1206.32 ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats primary reasons for selection	Embyonic shifting dunes	Favourable: Maintained (Jul 2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural processes will be allowed to determine the time and place when the strandline and embryonic dunes exist. These processes will not be impeded by direct or indirect human intervention. A strandline will be present at least one year in every five within the areas identified Embryonic dunes will be present on the seaward side of the mobile frontal dune ridge at least one year in every three All of the factors affecting the feature are under control
	“Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (“white dunes”)”	Favourable: Maintained (Jul 2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shifting dunes will exist as part of the dynamic natural processes which create the dune systems. There will be an interaction between the three dune systems such that the natural process of erosion in some parts and accretion in others will continue without direct or indirect human disturbance. Shifting dunes will comprise a significant part of the dune system but will increase and decrease in extent and location as natural processes determine the landscape of the dune systems At least two of the three sites in the SAC satisfy the limits outlined in the performance indicator below. All of the factors affecting the feature are under control.
	“Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (“grey dunes”)”	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) will occur where older, shifting dunes become more stabilised and in early successional stages become colonised by lichens and other species indicative of the transition from less mobile habitat. The habitat will encompass a range of successional stages throughout the area, determined by patterns of natural factors and grazing. Grey dunes will comprise a significant part of the dune system but will increase and decrease in extent and location as natural processes determine the landscape of the dune systems All factors are under management control.
	Dunes with Salix repens ssp. Argentea (Salicion arenariae)	Unfavourable Unclassified (Aug 2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dunes with Salix repens and humid dune slacks will occur as part of the dune system, their location will be determined by natural processes and appropriate grazing management A range of successional stages will be found in both features Factors affecting the features will be under control
	Humid dune slacks	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2015)	

Annex II Species primary reason for selection : 926 Tudalen	Narrow-mouthed whorl snail	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient suitable habitat is present to support the populations • The factors affecting the feature are under control
	Petalwort	Unfavourable: Unclassified (May 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The species will be found where conditions are suitable in sufficient numbers to form a viable and sustainable population • The population will vary from year to year depending on conditions, especially in drier years, but the long term population will remain steady and sustainable • Suitable dune slacks will have patches of bare ground that is being colonised by jelly lichens (<i>Collema</i> spp.) and <i>Barbula</i> mosses. • The factors affecting the feature are under control
	Fen orchid	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Oct 2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient suitable habitat is present to support the populations • The factors affecting the feature are under control

Site name : Afon Teifi SAC

Location Grid Reference: SN515508

JNCC Site Code: UK0012670

Size: 715.58 ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats primary reasons for selection	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation.	Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined above must be met. The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing. The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable. The typical species are defined with reference to the species composition of the appropriate JNCC river vegetation type for the particular river reach, unless differing from this type due to natural variability when other typical species may be defined as appropriate.
Annex I habitats qualifying feature	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoetes-Nanojuncetea	Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2003)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined must be met The Littorelletea uniflorae aquatic upland lake community will be present in all five of the Teifi Pools (Llyn Hir, Llyn Teifi, Llyn Egnant, Llyn y Gorlan and Llyn Bach), and will be self-maintaining on a long-term basis. A fully developed Littorelletea community will be present in Llyn Hir, including all of the component species typical of the SAC feature, as represented in the Afon Teifi SAC. For each of Llyn Teifi, Llyn Egnant, Llyn y Gorlan and Llyn Bach, the extent and species composition of the Littorelletea community will be stable or increasing in range. There will be no deterioration in the conservation status of the feature as represented in these lakes.
Annex II species	Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis.
Annex II species primary reason for selection	Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Oct 2013)	
	River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Oct 2013)	
	Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Jan 2016)	

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Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	
Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Favourable: Maintained (Mar 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour. • The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. • The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc. at road bridges and other artificial barriers.
Floating water-plantain <i>Luronium natans</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation objective for the water course as defined must be met. • The floating water-plantain populations will be viable throughout their current distribution in the SAC (maintaining themselves on a long-term basis). Each floating water-plantain population must be able to complete sexual and/or vegetative reproduction successfully. Potential for genetic exchange between floating water-plantain populations, in and/or outside the SAC, must be evident in the long-term. Dispersal of floating water-plantain must be unhindered. • The SAC will have sufficient suitable habitat to support floating water-plantain populations within their current distribution. There will be no contraction of the current floating water-plantain distribution in the SAC.

Site name : Afonydd Cleddau/ Cleddau Rivers SAC

Location Grid Reference: SM938249

JNCC Site Code: UK0030074

Size: 751.71 ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats qualifying feature	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculus fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation.	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined in 4.1 above must be met The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing. The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable condition. The typical species are defined with reference to the species composition of the appropriate JNCC river vegetation type for the particular river reach, unless differing from this type due to natural variability when other typical species may be defined as appropriate.
	Active raised bogs	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Oct 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the mire expanse there are at least 3 of Calluna vulgaris, Erica tetralix, Eriophorum angustifolium, E.vaginatum & Trichophorum cespitosum constant, with a combined cover not exceeding 80% · No single species > 50% cover · At least one of Andromeda polifolia, Drosera rotundifolia, Empetrum nigrum, Narthecium ossifragum and Vaccinium oxycoccus occurs at least frequently · On the mire expanse only there are at least 2 of the following spp. constant, with a combined cover > 20%: Sphagnum capillifolium, S. magellanicum, S. papillosum, S. tenellum · No reduction in extent of microtopographic features (e.g. bog pools).
	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The canopy is dominated by single stands of alder Alnus glutinosa or willow Salix spp. In alluvial woods with free draining soils there may be ash or oak in the canopy, but in the wetter alluvial woodlands ash Fraxinus excelsior is more likely to be limited to areas of relatively drier ground The structure of alluvial woodland is recognised as being dynamic therefore the presence of over mature trees is desirable but not essential The river itself should be dynamic to allow for areas of outwash and deposition that trees can regenerate on. Lying or standing deadwood (> 20cm diameter and > 1m length) is present at all sites The feature should support alluvial ground flora including two of the following: meadowsweet Filipendula ulmaria, yellow flag Iris pseudacorus, nettle Urtica dioica, common reed Phragmites australis, greater tussock sedge Carex paniculata, opposite-leaved golden saxifrage Chrysosplenium oppositifolium, rushes Juncus spp, tufted hair-grass Deschampsia cespitosa, hemlock water-dropwort Onanthe crocata, and wild angelica Angelica sylvestris.

Tudalen 930 Annex II Species primary reason for selection	Brook Lamprey lampetra planeri	Unfavourable: Recovering (Jan 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined is met The population of the feature in the SAC must be stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. Passage of the feature through the SAC is not to be hindered by artificial barriers such as weirs. The characteristic channel morphology provides the diversity of water depths, current velocities and substrate types necessary to fulfil the habitat requirements of the features. The close proximity of different habitats facilitates movement of fish to new preferred habitats with age.
	River lamprey Lampetra fluviatilis	Unfavourable: Recovering (Jan 2012)	
	Bullhead Cottus gobio	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined must be met The population of the feature in the SAC must be stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. Passage of the feature through the SAC is not to be hindered by artificial barriers such as weirs . The characteristic channel morphology provides the diversity of water depths, current velocities and substrate types necessary to fulfil the habitat requirements of the features. The close proximity of different habitats facilitates movement of fish to new preferred habitats with age.
	Otter Lutra lutra	Favourable: Maintained (Mar 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC The SAC will have sufficient habitat, including riparian trees and vegetation and wetlands, to support the otter population in the long term The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The otter must be able to breed and recruit successfully in the SAC. The size of breeding territories may vary depending on prey abundance. Otter food sources must be sufficient for maintenance of the population. The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers. No otter breeding site should be subject to a level of disturbance that could have an adverse effect on breeding success. Where necessary, potentially harmful levels of disturbance must be managed.
Annex II Species qualifying feature	Sea lamprey Petromyzon marinus	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined in 4.1 above is met. The population of the feature in the SAC must be stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. Passage of the feature through the SAC is not to be hindered by artificial barriers such as weirs. The characteristic channel morphology provides the diversity of water depths, current velocities and substrate types necessary to fulfil the habitat requirements of the features. The close proximity of different habitats facilitates movement of fish to new preferred habitats with age.

Site name : Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC

Location Grid Reference: SS357991

JNCC Site Code: UK0020020

Size: 66092.05

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats primary reasons for selection	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006)	<p>Range: The overall distribution and extent of the habitat features within the site, and each of their main component parts is stable or increasing.</p> <p>Structure and function: The physical biological and chemical structure and functions necessary for the long-term maintenance and quality of the habitat are not degraded. Important elements include; geology, sedimentology, geomorphology, hydrography and meteorology, water and sediment chemistry, biological interactions.</p> <p>This includes a need for nutrient levels in the water column and sediments to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations within ranges that are not potentially detrimental to the long term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance and range. <p>Contaminant levels in the water column and sediments derived from human activity to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations below levels that would potentially result in increase in contaminant concentrations within sediments or biota below levels potentially detrimental to the long-term maintenance of the feature species populations, their abundance or range. <p>For Atlantic saltmeadows this includes the morphology of the saltmarsh creeks and pans.</p> <p>Typical Species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of typical species is such that habitat quality is not degraded. Important elements include: species richness population structure and dynamics, physiological health, reproductive capacity recruitment, mobility range</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> populations of typical species subject to existing commercial fisheries need to be at an abundance equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term the management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the habitat feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term.
	Estuaries	Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006)	
	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006)	
	Large shallow inlets and bays	Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006)	
	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Oct 2006)	
	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> 2009 09 22 Annex II Species primary reason for selection </p>	<p>Twaite Shad <i>Alosa fallax</i></p>	<p>Unfavourable: No change (Nov 2006)</p>	<p>Population: The population is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitat. Important elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • population size • structure, production • condition of the species within the site. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminant burdens derived from human activity are below levels that may cause physiological damage, or immune or reproductive suppression
	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> Annex II Species qualifying feature </p>	<p>Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i></p>	<p>Unfavourable: Unclassified (Apr 2005)</p>
<p>River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i></p>		<p>Unfavourable: Unclassified (Apr 2005)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their range within the SAC and adjacent inter-connected areas is not constrained or hindered. • There are appropriate and sufficient food resources within the SAC and beyond. • The sites and amount of supporting habitat used by these species are accessible and their extent and quality is stable or increasing. <p>Supporting habitats and species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations dynamics of the species within the site and population beyond the site is stable or increasing.</p> <p>Important considerations include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distribution • extent • structure • function and quality of habitat • prey availability and quality. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that;</p>
<p>Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i></p>		<p>Unfavourable: No change (Nov 2006)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The abundance of prey species subject to existing commercial fisheries needs to be equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term. • The management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the species feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term.
<p>Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i></p>		<p>Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2010)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contamination of potential prey species should be below concentrations potentially harmful to their physiological health. • Disturbance by human activity is below levels that suppress reproductive success, physiological health or long-term behaviour. • For otter there are sufficient sources within the SAC and beyond of high quality freshwater for drinking and bathing.

Site name : Cwm Doethie - Mynydd Mallaen SAC

Location Grid Reference: SN747458

JNCC Site Code: UK0030128

Size: 4121.73ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Tudalèn 933 Annex I habitats primary reasons for selection	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Aug 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old sessile oak woodlands remain a significant and conspicuous feature of the upland valley sides within the plan area. Those in the Elan and Claerwen valleys and Rhayader area, the Dinas and Gwenffrwd area of the upper Tywi valley and the Cothi valley to the north of Mynydd Mallaen are particularly well developed and extensive. • The boundary between the woodland and adjacent upland habitat is often a flexible one where trees regenerate on to open ground. At many locations oak woodland forms patches in 'ffridd' areas where there is less grazing pressure on the upland fringe. • The oak woodland has of a variety of different structures and its character varies from place to place, ranging from long standing closed canopy areas to largely open wood pasture. • The dominant trees are sessile oaks, but in places birch is more conspicuous. Rowans and other trees occur as a minor component while at the foot of slopes where the oak woodland grades into wet woodland, there are some alders and willows. Non-native trees such as beech and sycamore will be present only in small numbers are generally scarce. • Under-storey shrubs are generally quite sparse, but scattered groups of hazel or holly will be found in some woods. • Ground cover varies widely. Parts will be bracken covered, others grassy, others again have a wider range of flowering plants and ferns and are often carpeted with bluebells in spring. On thin soils in shaded moist situations there are luxuriant carpets of mosses and liverworts, with or without under-shrubs like heather and bilberry. • The larger trees support a variety of lichens on their trunks and branches. • In each woodland block, trees in most age classes are present and veteran trees are prominent in some areas, particularly where there is wood pasture. • In all areas except wood pasture, there is evidence of actual regeneration in the form of seedlings and saplings or potential for regeneration, while in some wood pasture areas the planting and protecting of young trees, especially oak, may be appropriate. • Dead wood is well distributed and sometimes abundant, both lying on the woodland floor and occurring as standing dead trees or branches of trees. • The majority of the oak woodland has a closed canopy, but there are some clearings and much larger areas that are effectively wood pasture. These conditions should be sympathetic to the important populations of mosses and liverworts on the one hand and lichens on the other. • The oak woods support a characteristic assemblage of birds, such as wood warbler, pied flycatcher and redstart. • The pattern and distribution of grazed and un-grazed woods may change over time as different conservation needs arise. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> Annex I habitats qualifying feature </p>	<p>European dry heaths</p>	<p>Unfavourable: Recovering (Sept 2012)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent, quality and diversity of heath vegetation within the constituent sites is maintained and, where possible, degraded heath is restored to good condition. • · The main heathland areas have a varied age structure with a mosaic of young heath, mature heath and degenerate heath. • · Sunny slopes in certain areas support vegetation that includes bell heather and western gorse and steep north and east facing slopes have a rich variety of mosses and liverworts beneath the dwarf shrub canopy, including bog mosses in some areas. • · Populations of uncommon plants, such as lesser twayblade, are stable or increasing. • · The larger heathland areas provide suitable habitat for breeding birds, including red grouse and merlin. • · All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control
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Site name : Cardigan Bay SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN214641
 JNCC Site Code: UK0012712
 Size: 4121.73ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Tudalen 935	Annex I habitats qualifying feature Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	Not Assessed	<p>Range: The overall distribution and extent of the habitat features within the site, and each of their main component parts is stable or increasing. For the reef feature these include; Intertidal bedrock reefs Intertidal cobble, pebble with Sabellaria alveolata (biogenic) reefs Subtidal bedrock reefs Subtidal pebble, cobble and boulder reefs Sea caves</p> <p>Structure and Function: The physical biological and chemical structure and functions necessary for the long-term maintenance and quality of the habitat are not degraded. Important elements include; geology, sedimentology, geomorphology, hydrography and meteorology, water and sediment chemistry, biological interactions</p> <p>This includes a need for nutrient levels in the water column and sediments to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • within ranges that are not potentially detrimental to the long term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance and range. <p>Contaminant levels in the water column and sediments derived from human activity to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • below levels that would potentially result in increase in contaminant concentrations within • sediments or biota • below levels potentially detrimental to the long-term maintenance of the feature species populations, their abundance or range taking into account bioaccumulation and biomagnification. <p>Typical species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of typical species is such that habitat quality is not degraded. Important elements include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • species richness: • population structure and dynamics, • physiological health, • reproductive capacity • recruitment, • mobility • range <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • populations of typical species subject to existing commercial fisheries need to be at an abundance equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term • the management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the habitat feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term.
	Reefs	Not Assessed	
	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006)	

Annex II Species primary reason for selection	Bottlenose dolphin Tursiops truncatus	Favourable: Maintained (Jan 2007)	<p>Populations: The population is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitat.</p> <p>Important elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • population size • structure, production • condition of the species within the site. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for bottlenose dolphin and grey seal;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminant burdens derived from human activity are below levels that may cause physiological damage, or immune or reproductive suppression <p>For grey seal populations should not be reduced as a consequence of human activity</p> <p>Range: The species population within the site is such that the natural range of the population is not being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for bottlenose dolphin and grey seal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their range within the SAC and adjacent inter-connected areas is not constrained or hindered • There are appropriate and sufficient food resources within the SAC and beyond • The sites and amount of supporting habitat used by these species are accessible and their • extent and quality is stable or increasing
	Annex II Species qualifying feature	Sea lamprey Petromyzon marinus	Unfavourable: Unclassified (April 2005)
River lamprey Lampetra fluviatilis		Unfavourable: Unclassified (April 2005)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distribution • extent • structure • function and quality of habitat • prey availability and quality.
Grey seal Halichoerus grypus		Favourable: Maintained (Jan 2007)	<p>As part of this objective it should be noted that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The abundance of prey species subject to existing commercial fisheries needs to be equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term. • The management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the species feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term. • Contamination of potential prey species should be below concentrations potentially harmful to their physiological health. • Disturbance by human activity is below levels that suppress reproductive success, physiological health or long-term behaviour <p>Restoration and recovery: As part of this objective it should be noted that for the bottlenose dolphin populations should be increasing.</p>

Site name : North Pembrokeshire Woodlands/Coedydd Gogledd Sir Benfro SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN046345
 JNCC Site Code: UK0030227
 Size: 4121.73ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats primary reasons for selection	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	Unfavourable: Recovering (May 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of the SAC will be covered by oak woodland. • There will be no measurable, permanent loss of semi-natural woodland. • The trees will be locally native, with a dominance of oak in the canopy, and include ash and rowan. • No more than 5% of the canopy forming trees will consist of non-native species. • Each woodland will include trees of a wide range of age classes, including veteran trees. • Between 10-25% of the woodland area will comprise a dynamic, shifting pattern of gaps: in the long-term, most of these will be created by natural processes. • There will be sufficient natural regeneration to replace the canopy in these gaps over time. • There will be abundant dead and dying trees with holes and hollows, rot columns, torn off limbs and rotten branches. Dead wood, both standing and fallen, will be retained to provide habitats for other species, and will represent at least 10% (by volume) of the total timber. • Veteran trees will be favoured during any silvicultural management because they support a wide variety of species, including lichens. • Old forest lichen species will be found throughout the site, especially on well-lit trees around woodland edges and glades. • Invasive alien species, such as rhododendron, laurel and Japanese knotweed, will eventually be eradicated from the site, or restricted to very low cover. • There will be a well-developed shrub layer throughout the SAC, including hazel and holly. • The field layer will be diverse and include broad-buckler fern, greater wood-rush, bluebell, honeysuckle, wood-sorrel, dog's-mercury, opposite-leaved golden-saxifrage, bilberry, bracken, bramble and violets. • The woodlands will support populations of butterflies, birds and mammals. • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control.

Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*)

Unfavourable: Unclassified (June 2016)

- At least 2% of the SAC will be covered by alluvial woodland.
- The canopy will consist of locally native trees, with an overall dominance of alder. At least 90% of the canopy trees will be wet woodland species. There will be no non-native trees present in the canopy.
- In the long-term, each woodland will include trees of a broad range of age classes, including saplings and veteran trees.
- At any given time, around 30% of the woodland area will consist of a dynamic, shifting pattern of canopy gaps, maintained by natural processes.
- There will be sufficient natural regeneration in the gaps (from seed or vegetative) to replace the canopy, 90% of which will be alder or willow.
- There will be abundant dead and dying trees with holes and hollows, rot columns, torn off limbs and rotten branches. Dead wood, both standing and fallen, will be retained to provide habitats for other species, and will represent at least 10% (by volume) of the total timber.
- There will be no evidence of alder disease.
- Veteran trees will be favoured during any silvicultural management because they support a wide variety of species, including lichens. Old forest lichen species will be found throughout the sites, especially on well-lit trees around woodland edges and glades.
- Invasive alien species, such as rhododendron, laurel and Japanese knotweed, will be eradicated from the site, or subject to a control programme of eradication.
- The field layer will be diverse and dominated by alluvial species. Indicators of drying out (bramble) and over-grazing (creeping buttercup) will be scarce.
- All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control.

Annex II species primary reasons for selection	Barbastelle Bat <i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>	Favourable: Maintained (Aug 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no loss of ancient semi-natural woodland at the site. • Canopy gaps will be present throughout the site, with two or more young trees growing in each. • Canopy cover will be 50-90% throughout the site (except in Hawthorn fields). • A well-developed shrub layer with holly will be present throughout the woodland, to provide a favourable micro-climate for roosting barbastelles. • A minimum of 4 trees per hectare will be allowed to die standing, will not be removed or cut down. These will be distributed across the site and will include trees with splits, fallen, leaning trees and hollow trees. • Ivy will be allowed to grow on trees throughout the site, to provide roosting opportunities. • There will be no overall loss of open water. • There will be no increase in disturbance (eg paths or rides) near any of the roosting sites. • No roosting sites will be lost as a result of human intervention. • Barbastelle bat passes will be detected on at least 4 out of 6 transects between 25 July and 7 September. • There will be contiguous suitable foraging habitat within a 16km radius around Pengelli Forest, including wooded stream valleys, low and overgrown hedgerows, scrub, overgrown pastures, bracken stands and woodland (which can include conifer plantations). • Roosts outside the SSSI boundary will be left undisturbed, with no woodland management within 50m of a barbastelle roost, and no clearance of the shrub layer. Over-mature trees in any of the woodlands within 2km of Pengelli should be left undisturbed except where they pose a risk to public safety, in which case minimal trees surgery can be permitted. • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control.
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Site name : Yerbeston Tops SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN057099
 NCC Site Code: UK0030305
 Size: 18.6ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I Habitat qualifying feature	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molinia meadows will cover at least 4ha • The following plants will be common in the Molinia meadows: purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; small sedges including <i>Carex pulicaris</i> and <i>hostiana</i>, and devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. • Soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and species indicative of agricultural modification, such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> will be largely absent from the Molinia meadows. • Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the Molinia meadows • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions will be under control
Annex II species primary reasons for selection	Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density of larval webs during sampling is at least 200 per hectare of optimal breeding habitat • There are at least 10ha of Good Condition (optimal breeding) habitat on or within 2 km radii of the SSSI • There are at least 50ha of Suitable Condition habitat on or within 2km radii of the SSSI • Optimal breeding habitat comprises grassland, with <i>Molinia</i> abundant, where the vegetation height is within the range of 10 to 20 cm, and where, for at least 80% of sampling points, <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present within a 1 m radius. Scrub (>1 metre tall) covers no more than 10% of area. • The factors influencing the breeding habitat are under control. • Trees, bracken, scrub and saplings are of no more than scattered occurrence within the marshy grassland. • A range of characteristic wetland plants and insects are present. • Species indicating agricultural improvement are rare or absent.

Site name : Rhos Llawr-cwrt SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN411497
 JNCC Site Code: UK0012680
 Size: 45.95ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex II species primary reasons for selection	Marsh fritillary butterfly Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia	Unfavourable: Recovering (Aug 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SAC will continue to support a nationally important population of the marsh fritillary butterfly. Although, numbers of adult butterflies and larvae will fluctuate annually in response to a parasitic wasp and weather conditions, the population will be robust, resilient and viable in the long term. • During peak years, a visitor taking a walk through the site on a sunny day in June will see several hundreds of adult butterflies. In these years the caterpillars, feeding communally in silken webs on their food plant devil's bit scabious, will be found in their thousands throughout the SAC. • The SAC population will be the core of the Rhos Llawr Cwrt marsh fritillary metapopulation. The metapopulation will consist of the SAC population, plus populations breeding on land outside the SAC, within the Rhos Llawr Cwrt National Nature Reserve and elsewhere in the immediate vicinity (research indicates that a marsh fritillary metapopulation requires at least 50 hectares of available habitat to be viable in the long term). • The population will breed throughout all 4 SAC units, where it will be a key species driving the management of each unit. • Rosettes of devil's bit scabious will be both very numerous and widespread throughout the SAC, growing amongst a short turf of grasses, sedges and flowering herbs with scattered tussocks of purple moor grass and rushes providing shelter for the caterpillars in wet weather. This colourful wet grassland mosaic will extend throughout all the management units and some of the NNR fields outside the SAC and other non-designated areas nearby. • Dense mixed hedges of hawthorn, hazel, mountain ash and other locally native species will grow around the external and internal boundaries and offer vital shelter to the breeding adult butterflies during poor weather in what is otherwise a very exposed landscape with little shelter. • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control.

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> Tudalen 7 Annex II species qualifying for protection </p>	<p>Slender green feather-moss <i>Drepanocladus</i> <i>(Hamatocaulis) vernicosus</i></p>	<p>Unfavourable: unclassified (Oct 2005)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slender green feather moss will be common across the Bwdram and Clettwr valley bottoms, with more than five populations of plants, appearing as groups of uniform dark green 'patches' scattered amongst the marshy grassland and fen vegetation communities. • The populations of moss will grow in a series of flushes, old peat cuttings and shallow excavations, where ground conditions are wet throughout the year, the water table being at, or near the surface. This habitat will have an open, relatively short sward and scrub will be confined to hedge banks on old field boundaries. • Groundwater across the valley bottom will range from slightly acid to slightly basic. • Associated site-specific herbs, grasses and sedges will grow in close proximity to the moss populations. These plants share the habitat requirements of the moss; they include Lesser Spearwort, Sharp-flowered Rush, Purple Moor Grass, Star Sedge, Carnation Sedge, Devil's-bit Scabious, Lesser Skullcap, Large Birdsfoot Trefoil, Bogbean, Common marsh-bedstraw, Common Cotton Sedge, Bottle Sedge, Common Sedge, Common Yellow Sedge, Velvet Bent and Flea Sedge. • • The site will continue to be summer-grazed by cattle; this will maintain the short open sward conditions favoured by the moss. • • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control.
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Site name : Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes /
 Safleodd Ystlum Sir Befro a Llynnoedd Bosherton SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SR966954
 JNCC Site Code: UK0014793
 Size: 121.26ha

Tudalen 943 Annex I habitat primary reasons for selection	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.	<p>Unfavourable: No Change (Dec 2011)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submerged Chara beds (mainly Chara hispida in places up to a metre long) will form the predominant submerged macrophyte vegetation throughout most of Central and Western Arms and Central Lake of Bosherton Lakes (unit 1a) and may be present in the Eastern Arm (unit 1b). • Chara will occur at more than 50% frequency along regular surveillance transects within the Western and Central arms. • Chara species (not necessarily hispida) will be present in other embayments and pools, including the Eastern Arm of Bosherton Lakes (unit 1b) and pools in the Mere Pool Valley (unit 1d). • The Western and Central Arms are spring-fed, so nutrient levels here remain low. One of the main nutrients (phosphorous) will reach no more than 25 micrograms per litre in regular sampling areas. Nitrogen levels in the water will be low (less than 1 milligram per litre) and declining or stable. • The Western Arm, Central Arm and Central Lake water will be fairly clear, but well vegetated with submerged and marginal plants. In natural openings (e.g. over springs) within otherwise dense Chara beds, a sechii disk will be viewable on the lakebed. • Water depth will vary from about 3.5 metres OD (winter maximum) to about 0.5 metres or less in places in summer. • Fringing the Chara beds, are beds of white water lilies Nymphaea alba. They will remain fairly abundant in the Western and Central Arms, with smaller populations in Central Lake. • Reed and swamp and fringing burr-reed will be restricted to shallow zones – covering not more than 10 % of the site. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.
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<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Annex II species primarily dependent on seasonal features</p>	<p>Greater horseshoe bat Rhinolophus ferrumequinum</p>	<p>Favourable: Maintained (Aug 2012)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The greater horseshoe bat population will be capable of maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats. • The natural range of greater horseshoe bats will neither be reduced nor will be likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and • There will be sufficient habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis. • At least three SSSI maternity roosts will be occupied annually by adult greater horseshoe bats and their babies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stackpole Courtyard Flats and Walled Garden SSSI • Slebech Stable Yard Loft, Cellars and Tunnels SSSI • Felin Llwyngwair SSSI • Carew Castle SSSI will continue to be used as an intermediate greater horseshoe bat roost, during the spring and autumn, as a male summer roost and an autumn/spring mating roost. • The greater horseshoe bat population at the component SSSI's will be stable or increasing. • There will be a sufficiently large area of suitable habitat surrounding these roosts to support the bat population, including continuous networks of sheltered, broadleaved woodland, tree lines and hedgerows connecting the various types of roosts with areas of insect-rich grassland and open water. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Annex II species qualifying features</p>	<p>Lesser horseshoe bat Rhinolophus hipposideros</p>	<p>Unfavourable: Declining (Aug 2012)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lesser horseshoe bat population will be capable of maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats. • The natural range of lesser horseshoe bats will be neither being reduced nor will be likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and • There will be sufficient habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis. • At least four SSSI maternity roosts will be occupied annually by adult lesser horseshoe bats and their babies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beech Cottage, Waterwynch SSSI, • Orielton Stable Block and Cellars SSSI, • Park House Outbuildings SSSI, • Stackpole Courtyard Flats and Walled Garden SSSI • The lesser horseshoe bat population at the component SSSI's will be stable or increasing. • There will be a sufficiently large area of suitable habitat surrounding these roosts to support the bat population, including continuous networks of sheltered, broadleaved woodland, tree lines and hedgerows connecting the various types of roosts with areas of insect-rich grassland and open water. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.

	Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Otter population will be capable of maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats. • The natural range of otters will neither be reduced nor will be likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and • There will be sufficient habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis. • The otter population will be stable or increasing. • There will be a sufficiently large area of suitable habitat to support an otter breeding population, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open water with sufficient food resources (notably eels and other fish species) and • a continuous network of undisturbed sheltered resting places along the lake shoreline – including swamp, broadleaved woodland and calcareous scrub. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.
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Site name : Gower Ash Woods SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SS574882
 NCC Site Code: UK0030157
 Size: 233.15ha

946

Annex I habitat primary reasons for selection

Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	Unfavourable: Unclassified (May 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The steep sided valleys found across most of the site will be covered with woodland dominated by ash. • The rocky slopes will be covered with a rich ground flora including species such as dog's mercury, hart's tongue fern and ramsons. • Fallen trees left on the ground will provide homes for invertebrates and fungi. • The steep slopes will prevent the canopy trees reaching full size. • Amongst the canopy ash will dominate, with other species like field maple, oak and sycamore also present. • A shrub layer of hazel, hawthorn, spindle and saplings of ash will fill the spaces between the ground flora and the canopy. • Mosses and hart's tongue fern will cover limestone boulders that pepper the ground. • The ground flora on the slopes and on the flatter ground will be full of colour in the spring, with bluebells and ransoms providing a haze of blue and white. • Mature rotting trees will be found standing and fallen. • Young trees will grow in the ground flora and shrub layer ready to take the place of a fallen tree. • Some uncommon vascular plants will be found in the woods these include herb Paris, purple gromwell, butcher's broom and spurge laurel. • On the flatter areas fallen planted conifers will support mosses and ferns and ash trees will grow up from between the fallen conifers. Old conifer and beech plantations will support developing ash woodland. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions will be under control.

Annex I habitat qualifying features

Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jun 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alongside the Pennard Pill and the Ilston stream alluvial woodland will grow in the silts from the river, • Alder will dominate these areas but hazel and elder will also grow here, • Creeping buttercup, nettles and meadowsweet will dominate the ground flora. • There will be no signs of disturbance such as over-grazing or fly-tipping and no non-native species will grow in these areas. • Young saplings of alder and hazel will be numerous and waiting to fill the spaces left by fallen trees. • All other factors will be under control.
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Site name : Pembrokeshire Marine SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SM503093
 JNCC Site Code: UK0013116
 Size: 138038.50ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitat primary reason for selection	Estuaries	Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006)	<p>Range: The overall distribution and extent of the habitat features within the site, and each of their main component parts is stable or increasing. For the inlets and bays feature these include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The embayment of St.Brides Bay • The ria of Milford Haven • Peripheral embayments and inlets <p>For the coastal lagoons feature this is subject to the requirements for maintenance of the artificial impoundment structure and maintenance of the lagoons for the original purpose or subsequent purpose that pre-dates classification of the site.</p> <p>Structure and Function: The physical biological and chemical structure and functions necessary for the long-term maintenance and quality of the habitat are not degraded. Important elements include; geology, sedimentology, geomorphology, hydrography and meteorology, water and sediment chemistry, biological interactions.</p> <p>This includes a need for nutrient levels in the water column and sediments to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • within ranges that are not potentially detrimental to the long term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance and range. <p>Contaminant levels in the water column and sediments derived from human activity to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • below levels that would potentially result in increase in contaminant concentrations within sediments or biota • below levels potentially detrimental to the long-term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance or range. <p>Restoration and recovery: As part of this objective it should be noted that; the Milford Haven waterway complex would benefit from restorative action, for example through the removal of non-natural beach material, and the removal, replacement or improved maintenance of rock filled gabions.</p>
	Large shallow inlets and bays	Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006)	
	Reefs	Unfavourable: Declining (Jul 2008)	
Annex I habitats qualifying features	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	Unfavourable: No change (Dec 2006)	<p>This includes a need for nutrient levels in the water column and sediments to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • within ranges that are not potentially detrimental to the long term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance and range. <p>Contaminant levels in the water column and sediments derived from human activity to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • below levels that would potentially result in increase in contaminant concentrations within sediments or biota • below levels potentially detrimental to the long-term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance or range. <p>Restoration and recovery: As part of this objective it should be noted that; the Milford Haven waterway complex would benefit from restorative action, for example through the removal of non-natural beach material, and the removal, replacement or improved maintenance of rock filled gabions.</p>
	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006)	
	Coastal lagoons	Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006)	

Tudalen 948	Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Oct 2006)	<p>There is also need for some restoration of the populations of several typical species of the Milford Haven waterway complex that are severely depleted with respect to historical levels as a consequence primarily of human exploitation.</p> <p>In the Milford Haven waterways complex inputs of nutrients and contaminants to the water column and sediments derived from human activity must remain at or below levels at the time the site became a candidate SAC.</p> <p>For the lagoons feature this is subject to the requirements for maintenance of the artificial impoundment structures of coastal lagoons and maintenance of the lagoons for their original purpose or subsequent purpose that pre-dates classification of the site.</p> <p>For the inlets and bays features this includes the need for some restoration of the populations of several typical species which are severely depleted with respect to historical levels as a consequence, primarily of human exploitation.</p> <p>In the Milford Haven waterways complex inputs of nutrients and contaminants to the water column and sediments derived from human activity must remain at or below levels at the time the site became a candidate SAC.</p> <p>Typical Species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of typical species are such that habitat quality is not degraded. Important elements include species richness, population structure and dynamics, physiological health, reproductive capacity, recruitment, mobility, range.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • populations of typical species subject to existing commercial fisheries need to be at an abundance equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and be secure in the long term • the management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the habitat feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term.
	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006)	<p>In the Milford Haven waterways complex inputs of nutrients and contaminants to the water column and sediments derived from human activity must remain at or below levels at the time the site became a candidate SAC.</p> <p>Typical Species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of typical species are such that habitat quality is not degraded. Important elements include species richness, population structure and dynamics, physiological health, reproductive capacity, recruitment, mobility, range.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • populations of typical species subject to existing commercial fisheries need to be at an abundance equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and be secure in the long term • the management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the habitat feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term.
Annex II species primary reason for selection	Grey seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Populations: The population is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitat. Important elements are population size, structure, production, and condition of the species within the site. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for otter and grey seal;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminant burdens derived from human activity are below levels that may cause physiological damage, or immune or reproductive suppression <p>For grey seal, populations should not be reduced as a consequence of human activity</p> <p>Range: The species population within the site is such that the natural range of the population is not being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for otter and grey seal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their range within the SAC and adjacent inter-connected areas is not constrained or hindered • There are appropriate and sufficient food resources within the SAC and beyond • The sites and amount of supporting habitat used by these species are accessible and their extent and quality is stable or increasing <p>Supporting Habitats and Species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations</p>
	Shore dock <i>Rumex rupestris</i>	Favourable: Maintained (Feb 2006)	<p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for otter and grey seal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their range within the SAC and adjacent inter-connected areas is not constrained or hindered • There are appropriate and sufficient food resources within the SAC and beyond • The sites and amount of supporting habitat used by these species are accessible and their extent and quality is stable or increasing <p>Supporting Habitats and Species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations</p>

Annex II species qualifying features	Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Unfavourable: Declining (Apr 2005)	<p>dynamics of the species within the site and population beyond the site is stable or increasing. Important considerations include; distribution, extent, structure, function and quality of habitat, prey availability and quality.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The abundance of prey species subject to existing commercial fisheries needs to be equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term. • The management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the species feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term. • Contamination of potential prey species should be below concentrations potentially harmful to their physiological health. • Disturbance by human activity is below levels that suppress reproductive success, physiological health or long-term behaviour • For otter there are sufficient sources within the SAC and beyond of high quality freshwater for drinking and bathing. <p>Restoration and recovery: In the Milford Haven waterways complex inputs of nutrients and contaminants to the water column and sediments derived from human activity must remain at or below levels at the time the site became a candidate SAC.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for the otter, populations should be increasing.</p>
	River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	Unfavourable: No change (Apr 2005)	
	Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>	Not Assessed	
	Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i>	Not Assessed	
	Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2010)	

Tudalen 950

Site name : Gower Commons / Tiroedd Comin SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SS497900
 JNCC Site Code: UK0012685
 Size: 1775.29ha

Annex I habitat primary reason for selection

Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wet heath will be found on moist and generally acidic soils across the commons. • The wet heath will be characterised by western gorse growing amongst cross-leaved heath and purple moor grass. The gorse will be low growing and does not seem to dominate the heath. The yellow of the gorse and the pink of the cross-leaved heath make a spectacular display. Pink lousewort will be seen growing amongst the mixture of gorse and heath, with grasses and sedges weaving their way through the mix of species such as cotton grass, heath bedstraw, heath milkwort, flea sedge and carnation sedge. • Sphagnum mosses grow beneath the heath, holding moisture like a sponge. Plants capable of growing in certain very wet areas associated with wet heath like bog asphodel and the insect eating sundews will also be found as you walk around the wet heath. • The wet heath is not poached by grazing animals, but is evenly and sensitively grazed. There are no invasive species like Rhododendron or Japanese Knotweed growing in the wet heath and willow and birch are found only very thinly scattered throughout the site, mainly on the edges. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.

	European dry heaths	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry heath is found on the free-draining parts of the commons. In some parts of the SAC dry heath grows in large continuous areas like at Rhossili Down, in other parts of the SAC, the dry heath grows in mosaics with wet heath and acid grassland. Bell heather and cross-leaved heath grow along side European and western gorse. There is a lack of purple moor grass and sphagnum mosses which tell us that the heath is drier. Heath milkwort, tormentil and heath bedstraw are seen regularly decorating the dry heaths. • Scrub like birch and overgrown gorse is rare with the dry heaths, except where island of scrub provide some shelter for grazing animals. These islands will be accepted within the heathland landscape. • Bracken is present within the dry heath and grows around the edges but bracken never dominates stands of dry heath and does not encroach on the dry heath. • Burning of the heath is only carried out as a controlled management technique to create a mosaic of different ages of heath. There are no signs of burning causing damage or causing bracken to spread.
	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016)	<p>On the wettest ground, marshy grassland will be found; it will often be found growing in a mosaic with wet heath.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The marshy grassland will be dominated by tussocks of purple moor grass. The tussocks will provide little sheltered areas where flowers grow and help to provide some shelter for the marsh fritillary butterfly. • The tussocks are uneven in size, but there will always be young purple moor grass coming through each spring. Only a few of the tussocks will have old and 'rank' purple moor grass growing on them. • Devil's bit scabious, the food plant for the larvae of marsh fritillary butterflies will be found commonly growing amongst the purple moor grass. Whorled caraway and soft leaved sedge are both scarce plants that will be commonly found in the marshy grassland areas. • Often heathy plants like cross-leaved heath and gorse will be found in marshy grassland – this is a transition area between the two habitats.

<p>Southern damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i></p>	<p>Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2017)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seepages and runnels at Rhossili Down, Cefn Bryn and Sluxton Marsh will be well maintained, clear and pollution free. • They will support good numbers of native aquatic plants. • On summer days each year southern damselflies will be seen darting over the seepages and runnels. • Each year the population of southern damselflies will stay the same or increase.
<p>Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i>, <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i></p>	<p>Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2009)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site will contribute towards supporting a sustainable metapopulation of the marsh fritillary on Gower. This will require a minimum of 50ha of suitable habitat, of which at least 10ha must be in good condition. Some will be on nearby land within a radius of about 2km. • The population will be viable in the long term, acknowledging the extreme population fluctuations of the species. • Habitats on the site will be in optimal condition to support the metapopulation. • At least 50ha of the total site area within the SAC & associated SSSI will be marshy grassland suitable for supporting marsh fritillary, with <i>Succisa pratensis</i> present and only a low cover of scrub. • At least 10ha will be good marsh fritillary breeding habitat in good condition, dominated by purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, with <i>S. pratensis</i> present throughout and a vegetation height of 10-20cm over the winter period. • Suitable marsh fritillary habitat is defined as stands of grassland where <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present and where scrub more than 1 metre tall covers no more than 10% of the stands • Optimal marsh fritillary breeding habitat will be characterised by grassland where the vegetation height is 10-20 cm, with abundant purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, frequent “large-leaved” devil’s-bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i> suitable for marsh fritillaries to lay their eggs and only occasional scrub. In peak years, a density of 200 larval webs per hectare of optimal habitat will be found across the site. (Fowles 20042) • The marshy grassland will be well sheltered by hedgerows and mature trees. • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions are under control.

Site name : River Wye / Afon Gwy SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SO109369
 JNCC Site Code: UK0012642
 Size: 2147.64ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats primary reason for selection	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined must be met The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable.
Annex I habitat qualifying feature	Transition mires and quaking bogs	Unfavourable: Declining (Jul 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined must be met The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable.

Tudalen Annex II species primary reason for selection	White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis.
	Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Favourable: Recovered (Mar 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour. The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers.
	Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis.
	Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	
	River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	
	Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	
	Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	
	Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Dec 2016)	
Annex II species qualifying features	Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	

Site name : Gweunydd Blaencleddau SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN155317
 JNCC Site Code: UK0030144
 Size: 149.13ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats qualifying features	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wet heath will occupy at least 6% of the total site area. The following plants will be common in the wet heath: heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>; cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i>; purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; bog asphodel <i>Narthecium ossifragum</i>; short sedges <i>Carex</i> species; mosses including bog moss <i>Sphagnum</i> species; devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and western gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i> will be kept in check. Bracken, and scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the wet heath.
	<i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>)	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Molinia</i> meadows will occur as small patches around the site. The following plants will be common: purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; small sedges including <i>Carex pulicaris</i> and <i>hostiana</i>, and devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. Soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and species indicative of agricultural modification, such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> will be virtually absent. Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions will be under control.
	Blanket bogs	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blanket bog will occupy at least 4% of the total site area. The following plants will be common in the blanket bog: hare's-tail cotton grass <i>Eriophorum vaginatum</i>; heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>; cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> and bog moss <i>Sphagnum</i> species. Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> will be kept in check. Bracken, and scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the blanket bog.
	Transition mires and quaking bogs	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transition mire and quaking bog will occupy at least 2% of the total site area. Bottle sedge should be abundant over carpets of bog mosses, 'brown' mosses or swamp species such as marsh cinquefoil Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> will be kept in check. Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent.

Tudalen 956	Alkaline fens	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flushes will occupy at least 10% of the total site area. • The majority of the flushes will naturally support carpets of bog moss below a canopy of tall rushes or sedges. • A proportion (at least 15%) should support short, open vegetation rich in small mosses, sedges and wildflowers characteristic of less acidic conditions. This type of flush corresponds to the Alkaline Fen feature of European interest. • Many of the flushes will have short, open vegetation to suit the requirements of the southern damselfly. • Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> will be kept in check. • Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent.
Annex II species primary reason for selection	Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density of larval webs during sampling will be at least 200 per hectare of Good Condition habitat • There are at least 50ha of Suitable habitat on the site or within a 2km radius around it. • At least 10ha of the suitable habitat is Good Condition habitat • Good Condition habitat comprises grassland, with <i>Molinia</i> abundant, where the vegetation height is within the range of 10 to 20 cm, and where, for at least 80% of sampling points, <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present within a 1 m radius. Scrub (>1 metre tall) covers no more than 10% of area. • Suitable marshy grassland comprises grassland where <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present at lower frequencies but still widely distributed throughout the habitat patch and in which scrub (>1 metre tall) covers no more than 20% of area. Alternatively, <i>Succisa</i> may be present at high density in close-cropped swards. • The factors influencing the breeding habitat are under control
Annex II species qualifying feature	Southern damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density of adult males during sampling is at least 1 male per 10 square metres of breeding habitat • The extent of breeding habitat is at least 1500 square metres. • Breeding habitat will be mapped where patches of oviposition plants are present as more than 20% cover over areas greater than 0.5 square metres and no more than 20% of the total cover consists of <i>Apium nodiflorum</i> greater than 15cm tall. Southern damselfly females lay their eggs into the tissue of emergent aquatic plants and in Wales the key species are <i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i> (bog-bean), <i>Hypericum elodes</i> (marsh St. John's wort), <i>Potamogeton polygonifolius</i> (bog pondweed) and <i>Apium nodiflorum</i> (fool's watercress). • The factors influencing the flush habitat are under control

Site name : Preseli SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN110320
 JNCC Site Code: UK0012598
 Size: 2701.68ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats qualifying features	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jun 2012)	<p>Wet heath will cover at least 11%3 of the site and display a range of plant species typical of the habitat. Most of the wet heath will have a mixture of tussocks of purple moor-grass, separated by closely grazed patches rich in deer grass, bog mosses and heathers such as cross-leaved heath. A proportion should also have a range of short sedges and flowering plants such as round leaved sundew.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following plants will be common in the wet heath: heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>; cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i>; purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; bog asphodel <i>Narthecium ossifragum</i>; short sedges <i>Carex</i> species; mosses including bog moss <i>Sphagnum</i> species; devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly Purple Moor Grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and Western Gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i> will be kept in check. Bracken, and scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the wet heath.
	European dry heaths	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jun 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry heath will cover at least 11%2 of Mynydd Preseli SSSI and display a range of plant, insect and bird species typical of the habitat. The following plants will be common in the dry heath: heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>; bell heather <i>Erica cinerea</i> and western gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i>. Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>, purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and western gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i> will be kept in check.
	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	Unfavourable: Declining (Aug 2012)	<p>Depressions on peat substrates is a habitat type which typically occurs in complex mosaics with wet heath and flush habitats. The vegetation will be open, and have an abundance of species such as white beak-sedge <i>Rhynchospora alba</i>, the bog moss <i>Sphagnum auriculatum</i>, marsh clubmoss <i>Lycopodiella inundata</i> and round-leaved sundew <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>. The amount of this habitat on the site has not been clearly defined yet, but is thought to be around 1-2% of the total site area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion will occupy roughly 1-2% of the SAC, and be present in at least two management units (currently units 2 and 3). The following plants will be common: white beaked sedge <i>Rhynchospora alba</i>, the bog moss, <i>Sphagnum denticulatum</i>, round-leaved sundew <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i> and, in relatively base-rich sites, brown mosses such as <i>Drepanocladus revolvens</i> and <i>Scorpidium scorpioides</i>. The vegetation in these areas will be typically very open and competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, will be kept in check. Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent.

Tudalen 958	Alkaline fens	Favourable: Unclassified (Dec 2004)	<p>Alkaline fen will be present in patches across the site and display a range of plant and insect species typical of the habitat, including the southern damselfly. The flushes supporting this specific habitat will comprise short, open vegetation rich in small mosses, sedges and plants characteristic of less acidic conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alkaline fens will be present in 8 out of the 10 pink areas as shown on map. • Characteristic flush species such as <i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>, <i>Triglochin palustre</i>, <i>Anagallis tenella</i>, <i>Pedicularis palustris</i> and <i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i> will be present • Species indicative of negative change, such as <i>Juncus squarrosus</i>, will be absent. • Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent.
Annex II habitats qualifying features	Southern damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The density of adult males, during sampling, will be at least 1 male per 10 square metres of breeding habitat • • There will be at least 3500 square metres of breeding habitat • • All factors affecting the feature will be under control
	Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i>	Unfavourable: No change (Sept 2011)	<p>A healthy population of the marsh fritillary butterfly will be present on and around the SAC. There will be sufficient suitable and good condition habitat to support viable meta-populations of the butterfly which is dependent here on marshy grassland and flush, with tussocks of purple moor-grass and plenty of the caterpillar's main food-plant, devil's bit scabious. The swards will vary in height so that there are short 'lawn' areas for the caterpillars to sun themselves on, and taller tussocky areas to provide shelter. For each of the two Meta-populations present within the SAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • There should be at least 200 larval webs per hectare of Good Condition habitat • • There should be at least 50ha of Suitable habitat on the SAC or within a 2km radius around it. • • At least 10ha of this suitable habitat should be Good Condition Habitat • All factors affecting the feature must be under control
	Slender green feather-moss <i>Drepanocladus</i> (<i>Hamatocaulis</i>) <i>vernicosus</i>	Favourable: Maintained (Feb 2006)	<p>Slender green feather moss is a qualifying feature in the SAC, but has been found to be considerably more frequent and abundant both within Preseli SAC, and indeed in a number of other sites in Wales than was previously thought. In the light of this, it has been decided to treat the feature as part of the Rare mosses on damp ground SSSI feature.</p>

Site name : Mynydd Epynt SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN883400
 JNCC Site Code: UK0030221
 Size: 40.11ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex II species primary reason for selection	Slender green feather-moss Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus	Favourable: Unclassified (Aug 2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a thriving population of varnished hook-moss in the mildly base-rich flushes, at six different locations spread throughout the site. • Around 1.5 ha of suitable flush vegetation will continue to occur at Mynydd Epynt at the six different locations and the moss will continue to be present and maintain its distribution throughout the suitable areas of flush in at least ten separate locations overall. • The water table is maintained at or near to the surface for most of the year within the flushes. • The flushes are open in character with no woody shrubs present. • The flushes are not dominated by rushes, purple moor-grass or bog-mosses (<i>Sphagnum</i> spp.). • The following plants are typically found in the flushes scattered amongst the moss carpet but not dominant: carnation sedge <i>Carex panicea</i>, star sedge <i>C. echinata</i>, common sedge <i>C. nigra</i>, purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and rushes <i>Juncus acutifolius</i> and <i>J. articulatus</i>. • Species indicative of agricultural modification, such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> are absent from the flushes and the surrounding areas of SSSI/SAC in the six locations. • All six locations continue to be grazed by sheep at a level which maintains the short open sward of the flushes without poaching. • All six locations are free from physical damage such as trampling/poaching caused by livestock, troop activity, passage of agricultural/other vehicles, or impact damage from weapons practice. • The population of varnished hook-moss is stable and is sustainable in the long term with its range not contracting and all factors that may affect the species are under control.

Site name : River Usk / Afon Wysg SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SO301113
 JNCC Site Code: UK0013007
 Size: 967.97ha

	Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Annex I habitats qualifying features	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing. The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable. The typical species are defined with reference to the species composition of the appropriate JNCC river vegetation type for the particular river reach, unless differing from this type due to natural variability when other typical species may be defined as appropriate.
Annex II species primary reason for selection	Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Favourable: Recovered (Mar 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour. The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers.
	Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis.
	Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2012)	
	River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2012)	
	Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	
	Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	
	Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	
Annex II species qualifying feature	Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>	Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012)	

Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites		
Site name : Elenydd-Mallaen SPA Location Grid Reference: JNCC Site Code: UK9014111 Size: 30022.14ha		
Qualifying Features	Condition Assessment	Conservation Objectives
Breeding Red Kite <i>Milvus milvus</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Jun 2000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SPA area continues to support at least 15 pairs of breeding red kites, or 0.5% of the British population. Traditional nest sites within the SPA continue to be used. The extent of suitable semi-natural feeding habitat within the SPA is maintained. Availability of carrion within the SPA is maintained. Roosting sites within the SPA are maintained. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.
Breeding Merlin <i>Falco columbaris</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Jun 2003)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SPA area continues to support at least 7 pairs of breeding merlins, or 0.5% of the British population. Traditional nest sites within the SPA continue to be used. The extent of suitable semi-natural feeding habitat within the SPA is maintained. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.
Breeding Peregrine <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Favourable: Maintained (2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SPA area continues to support at least 15 pairs of breeding peregrines, or 0.5% of the British population. Traditional nest sites within the SPA continue to be used. The extent of suitable semi-natural feeding habitat within the SPA is maintained. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.
Site name : Carmarthen Bay SPA Location Grid Reference: JNCC Site Code: UK9014091 Size: 30022.14ha		
Common scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i> . Tudalen 961	Not Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The numbers of all SPA bird species are stable or increasing. The abundance and distribution of suitable prey are sufficient and appropriate to support the numbers of all SPA bird species. All SPA birds are allowed to inhabit their feeding grounds and resting areas with minimum disturbance, and are allowed to move unhindered between them. All states of the Conservation Objectives for the supporting habitats and species, subject to natural processes, are fulfilled and maintained in the long-term. Supporting habitats for bird species of the Burry Inlet SPA include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Estuaries •Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide •Atlantic salt meadows •Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand 'Large shallow inlets and bays' are the supporting habitat for the common scoter of the Carmarthen Bay SPA.

Tudalen 9622		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management and control of activities or operations likely to be of significant effect to the oystercatchers, is appropriate for maintaining the feature at FCS and is secure in the long-term. 	
	Site name : Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar Location Grid Reference: NCC Site Code: Size: 6627.99		
	Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The numbers of all SPA bird species are stable or increasing. The abundance and distribution of suitable prey are sufficient and appropriate to support the numbers of all SPA bird species. All SPA birds are allowed to inhabit their feeding grounds and resting areas with minimum disturbance, and are allowed to move unhindered between them. All states of the Conservation Objectives for the supporting habitats and species, subject to natural processes, are fulfilled and maintained in the long-term. Supporting habitats for bird species of the Burry Inlet SPA include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Estuaries •Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide •Atlantic salt meadows •Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand <p>'Large shallow inlets and bays' are the supporting habitat for the common scoter of the Carmarthen Bay SPA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management and control of activities or operations likely to be of significant effect to the oystercatchers, is appropriate for maintaining the feature at FCS and is secure in the long-term.
	Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)	
	Grey plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)	
	Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)	
	Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)	
	Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)	
	Redshank <i>Tringa tetanus</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)	
	Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)	
Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)		
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)		
Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Not Assessed		
Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>	Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004)		

Appendix 2 Nitrogen Deposition Data for SACs/SPAs within 15km Buffer Zone of Carmarthenshire

Site	Designated features	Critical Load Class	Critical Load (kg N/ha/yr)	Site Average (kg N/ha/yr)
Afon Teifi	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoeto-Nanojuncetea	Permanent oligotrophic waters: Softwater lakes	3 - 10	14.2
	Luronium natans – Floating water-plantain		3 - 10	14.2
Caeau Mynydd Mawr	Marsh fritillary butterfly - Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia	Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland	10	22
		Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland	15	22
		Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows	10	22
	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows	15	22.0
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries	Atlantic salt meadows Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	Pioneer, low-mid, mid-upper salt marshes	30	11.1
Carmarthen Bay and Dunes	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Coastal stable dune grasslands - acid type	8	12.7
		Coastal stable dune grasslands - calcareous type	10	12.7
	Humid dune slacks	Moist to wet dune slacks – acid type	10	12.7
		Moist to wet dune slacks – calcareous type	15	12.7
	Fen Orchid – Liparis loeselii	Moist to wet dune slacks	10-15	12.7
	Petalwort - Petalophyllum ralfsii			
	Dunes with Salix repens ssp argentea (Salicion arenariae)			

	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") Embryonic shifting dunes	Shifting coastal dunes	10	12.7	
Cernydd Carmel	Active raised bogs	Raised and blanket bogs	5	21.1	
	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Northern wet heath: <i>Erica tetralix</i> dominated wet heath	10	21.1	
	European dry heaths	Dry heaths	10	21.1	
	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	Meso- and eutrophic <i>Quercus</i> woodland	15	31.3	
Cleddau Rivers	Active raised bogs	Raised and blanket bogs	5	19.2	
Cwm Doethie	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles	Acidophilous <i>Quercus</i> -dominated woodland	10	21.5	
	European dry heaths	Dry heaths	10	13.8	
Gower Ash Woods	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	Meso- and eutrophic <i>Quercus</i> woodland	15	17.3	
Gower Commons	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> Southern damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>	Northern wet heath: <i>Erica tetralix</i> dominated wet heath	10	11.9	
	European dry heaths	Dry heaths	10	11.9	
	Marsh fritillary butterfly	Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland		10	11.9
		Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland		15	11.9
	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>)	Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: <i>Molinia caerulea</i> meadows		10	11.9
Gweunydd Blaencleddau	Blanket bogs	Raised and blanket bogs	5	21.3	
	Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i>	Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland	10	21.3	
		Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland	15	21.3	

		Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: <i>Molinia caerulea</i> meadows	10	21.3
	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>)			
	Transition mires and quaking bogs	Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires	10	21.3
	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> Southern damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>	Northern wet heath: <i>Erica tetralix</i> dominated wet heath	10	21.3
	Alkaline fens	Rich fens	15	21.3
Mynydd Epynt	Slender green feather-moss <i>Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus</i>	Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires	10	14.9
Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes	<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> - Lesser horseshoe bat <i>Rhinolophus ferrumequinum</i> - Greater horseshoe bat	Broadleaved deciduous woodland	10	18.1
Pembrokeshire Marine	Shore Dock – <i>Rumex rupestris</i>	Moist to wet dune slacks	10	8.9
	Coastal lagoons	Pioneer, low-mid, mid-upper saltmarshes	30	5.8
	Atlantic salt meadows		30	8.9
	Estuaries		30	8.9
Preseli	Marsh fritillary butterfly – <i>Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia</i>	Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland	10	18.9
		Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland	15	18.9
		Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: <i>Molinia caerulea</i> meadows	10	18.9
	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires	15	18.9
	Slender green feather-moss - <i>Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus</i>		15	18.9
	European dry heaths	Dry heaths	10	18.9
	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Northern wet heath: <i>Erica tetralix</i> dominated wet heath	10	18.9
	Southern damselfly – <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>		10	18.9
	Alkaline Fens	Rich fens	15	18.9
	Rhos Llawr-cwrt		Non-mediterranean	10

	Marsh fritillary butterfly - Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia	dry acid and neutral closed grassland		
		Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland	15	19.9
		Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows	10	19.9
	Slender green featherelmoss - Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus	Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires	15	19.9
North Pembrokeshire Woodlands	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	Acidophilous Quercus-dominated woodland	10	28.6
	Barbastelle Bat - Barbastella barbastellus	Broadleaved deciduous woodland	10	28.6
Yerbeston Tops	Marsh fritillary butterfly - Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia	Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland	10	17.4
		Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland	15	17.4
		Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows	10	17.4
Burry Inlet SPA	Eurasian curlew – Numenius arquata	Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Heath (Juncus) meadows and humid (Nardus stricta) swards	10- 20	11.7
		Pioneer, low-mid, mid-upper saltmarshes	20 - 30	11.7
		Low and medium altitude hay meadows	20 - 30	11.7
	Tringa tetanus (eastern Atlantic – wintering) – Common redshank	Pioneer, low-mid, mid-upper saltmarshes	20 - 30	11.7
	Calidris alpina alpina (Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa) DUnlin			11.7

Appendix 3 HRA Screening of rLDP Strategic Objectives

Objective		Assessment category	Screening Conclusion
Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life and make healthy choices about their lives and environment			
SO1	To ensure that the natural environment, including habitats and species, are safeguarded and enhanced	D	Screened Out
SO2	To assist with widening and promoting wellbeing opportunities through access to community, leisure and recreational facilities as well as the countryside	A	Screened Out
SO5	To safeguarded and enhance the built and historic environment and promote the appropriate reuse of redundant buildings.	A	Screened Out
Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it			
SO3	To assist in widening and promoting education and skills training opportunities for all.	A	Screened Out
SO4	To ensure that the principles of equal opportunities and social inclusion are upheld by promoting access to a high quality and diverse mix of public services, healthcare, shops, leisure facilities and work opportunities, as well as vibrant town centres.	A	Screened Out
Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change			
SO6	To ensure that the principles of spatial sustainability are upheld by directing development to sustainable locations with access to services and facilities and wherever possible encouraging the reuse of previously developed land.	A	Screened Out
SO7	To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting renewable energy and the efficient use and safeguarding of resources.	D	Screened Out

SO8	To contribute to the delivery of an accessible integrated and sustainable transport system, including links to alternative transport methods	A	Screened Out
Prosperous People and Places – To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county			
SO9	To protect and enhance the diverse character, distinctiveness, safety and vibrancy of the County's communities by promoting a place making approach and a sense of place.	A	Screened Out
SO10	To make provision for an appropriate number and mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities.	A	Screened Out
SO11	To assist in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Welsh Language and the County's unique cultural identity, assets and social fabric.	A	Screened Out
SO12	To encourage investment & innovation in rural and urban areas by making adequate provision to meet employment need and to contribute at a regional level to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal.	A	Screened Out
SO13	To make provision for sustainable & high quality all year round tourism related initiatives.	A	Screened Out
SO14	To reflect the requirements associated with the delivery of new development, both in terms of hard and soft infrastructure (including broadband).	A	Screened Out

Appendix 4 HRA Screening of rLDP Strategic Policies

Policy	Screening Category	Justification and conclusion		Screening Outcome
SP1 – Strategic Growth	G	<p>This policy is an overarching policy which provides for residential and employment growth. As such it is a driver of potential impacts on European Sites. However, the implications of change provided for by SP1 are more appropriately assessed under specific policies through which such growth will be implemented.</p> <p>Therefore, <u>this policy is screened out of the need for further assessment in accordance with the guidance provided at section F.6.2.3 of the HRA Handbook.</u></p>		Screened Out
SP2 – Retail and Town Centres	B	<p>This policy relates specifically to town centre locations and maintaining the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of Carmarthenshire’s town, district, and local centres. Implementation of this policy would not lead directly to development, as they list general criteria for testing the acceptability of proposals.</p>	N/A	Screened Out

		<u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u>		
SP3 – Providing New Homes	G	<p>This policy is an overarching policy which provides for residential and employment growth. As such it is a driver of potential impacts on European Sites. However, the implications of change provided for by SP1 are more appropriately assessed under specific policies through which such growth will be implemented.</p> <p>Therefore, <u>this policy is screened out of the need for further assessment in accordance with the guidance provided at section F.6.2.3 of the HRA Handbook.</u></p>		Screened Out
SP4 – Affordable Homes	G	<p>This policy is an overarching policy which provides for residential growth. As such it is a driver of potential impacts on European Sites. However, the implications of change provided for by SP4 are more appropriately assessed under specific policies through which such growth will be implemented.</p> <p>Therefore, <u>this policy is screened out of the need for further assessment in</u></p>		Screened Out

		<u>accordance with the guidance provided at section F.6.2.3 of the HRA Handbook.</u>		
SP5 - Strategic Sites	C	<p>This policy refers to specific proposals for projects that would progress irrespective of LDP adoption.</p> <p>Both proposals will be subject to HRA if required through the planning process.</p> <p><u>Therefore, it is determined that there will be no likely significant impacts on European sites as a result of the implementation of this policy.</u></p>		Screened Out
SP6 Employment and the Economy	G	<p>This policy is an overarching policy which provides for employment growth. As such it is a driver of potential impacts on European Sites. However, the implications of change provided for by SP6 are more appropriately assessed under specific policies through which such growth will be implemented.</p> <p>Therefore, <u>this policy is screened out of the need for further assessment in accordance with the guidance provided at section F.6.2.3 of the HRA Handbook.</u></p>		Screened Out

SP7 – Welsh Language and Culture	F	This policy will not lead to any development and it relates to general safeguarding of Welsh language. <u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u>	N/A	Screened Out
SP8 – Infrastructure	B	This policy sets out the general criteria for testing the suitability of development and cannot have any effect on a European Site. <u>Screened out.</u>	N/A	Screened Out
SP9 – Gypsy and Traveller Provision	H	This policy identifies the need to address the accommodation needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople. The policy sets out the Council’s legal duty, but the policy itself does not allocate any sites. Given the likely small-scale nature of such sites, and their likely location adjacent to existing development, <u>it is considered unlikely that there would be LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy.</u>		Screened Out
SP10 – The Visitor Economy	B	This policy relates to supporting sustainable tourism within the County. Although SP10 supports new	N/A	Screened Out

		<p>development, there are no specific sites allocated under this policy.</p> <p>The policy states that tourism related developments will be '<i>sustainably located</i>' and will '<i>preserve social, economic and environmental fabric for future generations</i>'.</p> <p><u>Given that the aim of this policy emphasises sustainable tourism, it is considered unlikely that there would be LSE on European sites as a result of this policy.</u></p>		
SP11 – Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design	B	<p>This policy refers specifically to ensuring that development is considers placemaking, sustainability and high quality design, and proposed criteria to test plan proposals for their general acceptability.</p> <p>Therefore, <u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p>	N/A	Screened Out
SP12 – Rural Development	A	<p>Although this policy does support development in rural areas, there are no</p>	N/A	Screened Out

		<p>specific areas or sites allocated under the policy.</p> <p>The policy does state that ‘the sustainability of the countryside and natural environment’ is ‘imperative’ and that ‘development would need to demonstrate that they accord with the provisions of national planning policies’.</p> <p><u>Given that this policy emphasises that the consideration of the sustainability of countryside and natural environment is imperative and that national planning policy must be adhered to, it is considered unlikely that there would be LSE on European sites as a result of this policy.</u></p>		
SP13 – Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment	D	<p>The direct purpose of this policy is the protection and enhancement of the natural environment.</p> <p>For this reason, <u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p>	<p>In order to strengthen this policy the addition of the following wording is suggested:</p> <p><i>All development proposals should be considered in accordance with national policy (PPW and TAN5) where a proposal for development would result in a significant adverse effect on a European designated site.</i></p>	Screened Out

			<i>Development that would result in unacceptable adverse environmental effects will not be permitted.</i>	
SP14 – Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment	D	<p>The direct purpose of this policy is the protection and enhancement of the built and historic environment.</p> <p>For this reason, <u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p>	N/A	Screened Out
SP15 – Climate Change	B	<p>This policy relates specifically to ensuring development is resilient to climate change Implementation of this policy would not lead directly to development, as they list general criteria for testing the acceptability of proposals.</p> <p><u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p>	N/A	Screened Out
SP16 – Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework	B	<p>This policy sets out a strategic approach to the allocation of housing and employment across the county. The specific location of the proposed allocation is considered in more detail in policy XX, and subject to separate screening.</p>		Screened Out

		<u>The overarching policy itself is simply referring to the strategic approach adopted and therefore cannot have any effect on a European Site and is screened out</u>		
SP17 – Transport and Accessibility	B	<p>This policy relates specifically to ensuring the plan contributes to the delivery of a sustainable transport system through sustainable location of development and does not directly provide for transport infrastructure</p> <p>Implementation of this policy would not lead directly to development, as they list general criteria for testing the acceptability of proposals.</p> <p><u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p>	N/A	Screened Out
SP18 – Mineral Resources	G	<p>The distribution of mineral reserves in the county (which includes part of Cernydd Carmel SAC) are specifically protected through the national policy position that such resources should only be exploited in exceptional circumstances</p>	<p>Add in some policy wording specifically mentioning protection of European designations?</p>	Screened Out

SP19 – Waste Management	B	<p>This policy promotes change, but the wording of the policy includes reference to there being no significant, adverse effects upon the environment.</p> <p><u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p>		Screened Out
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Appendix 5 HRA Screening of rLDP Specific Policies

Policy	Screening Justification	Screening Decision
SG1 Regeneration and Mixed Use Sites	Sites assessed individually in Chapter X	
SG2 Reserve Sites	Sites assessed individually in Chapter X	
SG3 Pembrey Peninsula	This policy seeks to support development in the Pembrey Peninsula. The Pembrey Peninsula is immediately adjacent to Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site and although the fact that it is an 'ecologically sensitive area' is mentioned in the policy text, it cannot be assumed that there would be no likely significant effects upon Natura 2000/ Ramsar sites.	Screened In (Category I)
RTC1 Carmarthen Town Centre	This policy seeks to encourage retail proposals in Carmarthen Town Centre. The town centre identified is adjacent to the River Tywi SAC, however has no causal connection or link between them and the qualifying features of any European site and can therefore be screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)
RTC2 Protection of Local Shops	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of retail proposals outside of town centres and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is therefore screened out	Screened Out (Category B)
RTC3 Retail in Rural Areas	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of retail proposals in rural areas and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is therefore screened out	Screened Out (Category B)
HOM1 Housing Allocations	Sites assessed individually in Chapter X	
HOM2 Housing within Development Limits	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of housing development on non-allocated sites and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is therefore screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
HOM3 Homes in Rural Villages	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of housing in Rural Villages and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
HOM4 Homes in Non-defined Rural	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of housing in Non-Defined Rural Settlements and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)

HOM5 Conversion or Subdivision of Existing	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of the conversion or subdivision of existing dwellings and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
HOM6 Specialist Housing	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of specialist housing facilities proposals and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
HOM7 Renovation of Derelict or Abandoned	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of the renovation of abandoned or derelict buildings and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
HOM8 Residential Caravans	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of proposals for residential caravans and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
HOM9 Ancillary Residential Development	This policy lists general criteria to test the acceptability of proposals for ancillary residential development and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
AHOM1 Provision of Affordable Homes	This policy sets criteria for ensuring the delivery of affordable homes. Details of the locations for growth, including housing developments, are assessed under other policies.	Screened Out (Category B)
AHOM2 Affordable Homes Exception Sites	This policy sets criteria for ensuring the delivery of affordable homes. Details of the locations for growth, including housing developments, are assessed under other policies.	Screened Out (Category B)
EME1 Safeguarding of Employment Sites	This policy sets criteria under which employment sites can be used for other development and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
EME2 Employment – Extensions	This policy sets criteria under which proposals for extensions or intensification of employment can be used for other development and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
EME3 Employment Proposals on Allocated Sites	Sites assessed individually in Chapter X	
EME4 Employment Proposals on Non-Allocated Sites	This policy sets criteria under which proposals for extensions or intensification of employment can be used for other development and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)

EME5 Home Working	This policy sets criteria under which home working proposals will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
WLI The Welsh Language and New Development	This policy looks to protect Welsh Language interests in the County and therefore cannot have any conceivable on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)
INF1 Planning Obligations	This policy outlines where planning obligations will be sought as a result of development and therefore cannot have any conceivable on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)
INF2 Healthy Communities	This policy seeks to encourage and support healthy design features in development and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category F)
INF3 Broadband and Telecommunications	This policy is a statement of intent to help the broadband and telecommunications industry to deliver their investment plans to address any deficiencies in coverage.	Screened Out (Category A):
INF4 Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Surface Water Disposal	This policy has been included in the plan with the intension of avoiding or reducing effects on specific European site(s) whose qualifying features may otherwise be affected by the plan being implemented.	Screened In (Category M)
GTPI Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	This policy outlines the locations for an extension to an existing and a new gypsy traveller site. These sites have no causal connection or link between them and the qualifying features of any European site and can therefore be screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)
VE1 Visitor Attractions and Facilities	This policy sets criteria under which visitor attractions and facilities will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
VE2 Permanent Serviced or Self-catering Holiday	This policy sets criteria under which permanent holiday accommodation will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
VE3 Touring Caravan, Camping or Temporary	This policy sets criteria under which touring caravan, camping or temporary 'other' camping sites will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)

VE4 Static caravan and Chalet Sites and Perm 'other'	This policy sets criteria under which Static caravan and Chalet Sites and Perm 'other' will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
PSD1 Sustainability and High Quality Design	This policy sets criteria to which development should accord in order to result in high quality, sustainable design and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
PSD2 Masterplanning Principles	This policy sets criteria to which development should accord in proposals of over 100 homes in order to result in high quality, sustainable design and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
PSD3 Green Infrastructure Network	This policy seeks to encourage development to incorporate green infrastructure into its design and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category F)
PSD4 GI Trees Woodlands and Hedgerows	This policy is protective in nature and seeks to protect existing trees, woodland and hedgerows and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category D)
PSD5 Development and the Circular Economy	This policy outlines criteria for the submission of a natural materials management plan and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
PSD6 Community Facilities	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for community facilities will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
PSD7 Protection of Open Space	This policy seeks to protect open space and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category D)
PSD8 Provision of New Open Space	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals must make provision for open space and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
PSD9 Advertisements	This policy lists general criteria under which advertisements will be allowed and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
PSD10 Extensions	This policy lists general criteria under which extensions will be allowed and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)

PSD11 Noise Pollution	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)
PSD12 Light and Air Pollution	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)
PSD13 Contaminated Land	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals must consider contaminated land and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
RD1 Replacement Dwelling in Open Countryside	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for replacement dwellings in the open countryside will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
RD2 Conversion and Reuse of Rural for Resi	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for the reuse of rural buildings will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
RD3 Farm Diversification	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for farm diversification will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
RD4 Conversion and Reuse of Rural for Non-resi	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for the reuse of rural buildings for non-residential uses will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
RD5 Equestrian Facilities	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for equestrian facilities will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category D)
NE1 Regional and Local Designations	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)
NE2 Biodiversity	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)

NE3 Corridors, Networks and Features	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)
NE4 Development within CMM SPG Area	This policy has been included in the plan with the intention of avoiding or reducing effects on specific European site(s) whose qualifying features may otherwise be affected by the plan being implemented.	Screened In (Category M)
NE5 Coastal Management	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for coastal management schemes will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
NE6 Coastal Development	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for coastal development will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
NE7 Coastal Change Management Area	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals located within coastal change management areas should be dealt with in applications and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
BEH1 Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)
BEH2 Landscape Character	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)
CCH1 Renewable Energy	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for renewable energy will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
CCH2 Electric Vehicle Charging Points	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for EV charging points will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
CCH3 Water Quality and Protection of Water	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)

CCH4 – Flood Risk Management and Avoidance	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals must consider flood risk management and avoidance and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
CCH5 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy in New Dev	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for renewable energy in development will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
CCH6 – Climate Change Woodland Planting	This policy is protective in nature and the implementation of the policy is likely to protect rather than adversely affect European sites and would not undermine their conservation objectives.	Screened Out (Category D)
SDI Development Limits	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals within development limits will be permitted and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
TRA1 Transport and Highways Infra Improvement	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals will be supported with regards to linking to transport networks and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
TRA2 Active Travel	This policy lists general criteria under which sites integrating active travel will be supported and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
TRA3 Gwili Railway	This policy seeks to safeguard the route of the Gwili Railway and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)
TRA4 Redundant Rail Corridors	This policy seeks to safeguard redundant rail corridors and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)
TRA5 Highways and Access Standards in Development	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals will be permitted where they accord with highways and access standards and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
MR1 Mineral Proposals	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for mineral extraction will be permitted and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
MR2 Mineral Buffer Zones	This policy seeks to establish buffer zones around mineral extraction and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)

MR3 Mineral Safeguarding	This policy seeks to safeguard redundant rail corridors and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)
WMI Waste Management Proposals	This policy seeks to ensure the provision of sustainable management of waste in new development and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category G)
WM2 Landfill Proposals	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for landfill sites will be permitted and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)
WM3 Agricultural Land Disposal of Inert Waste	This policy lists general criteria under which proposals for the disposal of inert waste will be permitted and therefore cannot have any effect on a European site and is screened out.	Screened Out (Category B)

Appendix 6 Plans and Programmes to be considered for potential in-combination effects.

National	
People, Places, futures – The Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) (2008 update)	
Document Details	Potential ‘in-combination’ effects
<p>The Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) provides an overarching policy context for spatial planning and development in Wales by establishing cross-cutting national priorities.</p> <p>Carmarthenshire is situated within three of the six sub areas identified within the WSP.</p> <p>Carmarthen, is identified as playing a vital role between this area, Swansea Bay and Pembrokeshire; and Newtown, with a key role in the Severn Valley area, providing services to the surrounding settlements. These have all been identified by Wales Spatial Plan partners as primary settlements for the future development of Central Wales.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct loss of habitat and/or migratory routes through development, particularly localised hub & cluster development for specific sites • Housing and employment growth in rural areas may lead to increased transport movements - the potential for in-combination effect is greater where housing sites are in close proximity to Natura 2000 sites. • Added growth in rural communities require increased infrastructure - potential for land take, pollution increase, disturbance / fragmentation & severance of habitats and species. • Atmospheric pollution generated as a result of housing, employment and transport growth leading to further climate change impact. • Encouraging tourism and diversification in rural areas will open up the countryside and increase possibility of further pollution and disturbance to the European sites via noise and physical erosion through walking activities. <p><i>NOTE: Wales Spatial Plan does not set policy although, has considerable influence insofar as the Local Development Plan must have regard to the Plan.</i></p> <p>A HRA screening report of the Wales Spatial plan concluded that specific impacts could not be identified at this stage due to the lack of detail on the development</p>

<p>The Wales Spatial Plan Area of Pembrokeshire and western Carmarthenshire combines exemplary coast and countryside, with a history of development based on agriculture, tourism, defence and the Milford Haven Waterway.</p>	<p>that might occur under the plan but did identify the following potential impact pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrology, water quality and water resources • Population pressure • Recreation pressure • Direct and indirect effects from transport
<p>The Wales Transport Strategy 2008</p>	
<p>Document Details</p>	<p>Potential 'in-combination' effects</p>
<p>The National Transport Plan (2008) sits alongside the Regional Transport Plans in delivering the Wales Transport Strategy. This Plan details the approach to putting transport onto a carbon reduction pathway, whilst at the same time ensuring that it can continue to support sustainable economic development and social inclusion.</p>	<p>Improving the efficient, reliable and sustainable movement of people and freight as well as reducing the contribution of transport to greenhouse gas emissions may help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy.</p> <p>Supports investment travel infrastructure, which could, in turn, have negative effects on qualifying features within a European Site, through disturbance and habitat fragmentation.</p>
<p>Wales Coastal Tourism Strategy 2008</p>	
<p>Document Details</p>	<p>Potential 'in-combination' effects</p>
<p>The Coastal Tourism Strategy for Wales was launched in 2008. The purpose of the strategy was to identify a clear way forward for the development of Coastal Tourism, which realised and built on the economic potential of the coastline of</p>	<p>There is the potential for the following impacts on all coastal SACs and SPAs related to the plan area:</p>

<p>Wales whilst respecting its environmental quality and recognising the importance of achieving community benefits.</p> <p>Within the regions, seaside tourism is particularly important for South West Wales where it accounts for half of all tourism activity.</p> <p>Carmarthenshire has a number of coastal towns including Llanelli and Burry Port, which have not traditionally attracted much tourism activity, but the development of their coastal resources such as the Burry Port Harbour Development, Pembrey and the Millennium Coastal Parks provide opportunities for attracting a wider day visitor market as well as staying tourists.</p> <p>Tourism is an important contributor to the local economy, with villages attracting both staying and day visitors, as well as acting as service points for the surrounding rural areas. Most have an attractive environment and ambience for the visitor as well as specific heritage attractions, cultural or historic associations such as Laugharne, Llansteffan. Pendine and Pembrey</p> <p>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased levels of tourism and employment may lead to increased transport movements, which could then result in increased noise/ disturbance and increased levels of atmospheric pollution. • Potential for increased recreational pressure and therefore disturbance through various activities such as water sports. • An increased level of waterborne transport and development along the coast has the potential to increase diffuse levels of water pollution.
<p>Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020</p>	
<p>Document Details</p>	<p>Potential ‘in-combination’ effects</p>
<p>This strategy sets the vision for the Welsh Government and the industry to work in partnership to increase visitor spend to Wales.</p> <p>The strategy focuses on 5 key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting the Brand • product Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for the plan to increase levels of disturbance through increased tourism and therefore recreational activity. • Increased levels of tourism and employment may lead to increased transport movements, which could then result in increased noise/ disturbance and increased levels of atmospheric pollution.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people Development • profitable Performance • place building. <p>The strategy identifies a product-led approach to developing and marketing tourism in Wales. This means working with iconic, high quality, reputation-changing products and events. We will be focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more luxury and branded hotels • more well-being facilities, such as spas • more heritage hotels that utilise historic and distinctive buildings • more all year round attractions, activities and cultural experiences • more innovative, unusual and distinctive products. <p>The Great Britain domestic market is the main market for Wales and will continue to be the main focus. Marketing activity will be increased in London and South East Midlands and Yorkshire, as well as within Wales itself for the first time. Overseas, the 3 key markets identified by the panel are Ireland, Germany and USA.</p>	
<p>Active Travel Action Plan (2016)</p>	
<p>Document Details</p>	<p>Potential 'in-combination' effects</p>
<p>The purpose of the Active Travel Plan (2016) is to set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Welsh Government's vision for active travel and how it relates to wider aims • how WG will work with others to achieve the changes required • how WG will embed consideration of active travel across different portfolios 	<p>Supports investment in highway and active travel infrastructure, which could, in turn, have negative effects on qualifying features within a European Site, through disturbance and habitat fragmentation.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how WG will monitor progress against these actions and the rates of active travel across Wales 	<p>Improving the efficient, reliable and sustainable movement of as well as reducing the contribution of transport to greenhouse gas emissions may help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy.</p>
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[A Walking and Cycling Action Plan for Wales \(2009 – 2013\)](#)

Document Details	Potential ‘in-combination’ effects
<p>This Action Plan brings together the key initiatives which the Welsh Assembly Government and its partners are planning to undertake in support of walking and cycling in Wales. It replaces the previous Walking and Cycling Action Plan which ran from 2007 – 2013. The plans core objectives are to improve the health and well-being of the population and the environment by encouraging sustainable travel. This should be done by promoting walking and cycling and associated facilities in crosscutting policies, guidance and funding.</p>	<p>Promoting sustainable travel may influence infrastructure such as cycleways, paths, lighting which in turn may have a substantial negative effect to the qualifying features within a European Site.</p> <p>Improving the efficient, reliable and sustainable movement of as well as reducing the contribution of transport to greenhouse gas emissions may help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy.</p>

[Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – Water Resources Management Plan \(2015-2040\)](#)

Document Details	Potential ‘in-combination’ effects
<p>The Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) up to 2035 sets out how Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) intends to achieve the required balance between supply and demand. The aim is to do so efficiently so that water bills are no higher than they need to be and the impact on our environment is minimised. In order to develop the plan, DCWW have projected the future demand for water from our customers, we have calculated how much will be available from current sources, and, where there is a shortfall, looked at all the ways of increasing supply and reducing demand so as to arrive at the best overall package of solutions.</p>	<p>The Water Resource Management plan does not set out policy although gives prioritised direction and guidance on what achievements are required during the plan period to take consideration of water demand and water supply in the context of future challenges including that of climate change.</p> <p>A HRA of the WRMP concluded that no significant or adverse effects on any European sites as a result of its implementation (alone or in combination with</p>

	other plans and programmes), and that sufficient safeguards are in place to ensure this.
<u>Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2019</u>	
Document Details	Potential ‘in-combination’ effects
In line with our 2050 strategy, this Plan describes the water resources risks that need to be overcome between 2020 and 2050, whether this be from the balance between our ability to supply water against the demand from our customers, the need to invest in our water resource infrastructure to maintain resilient water supplies or to meet the expectations of our regulators and customers.	<p>The Water Resource Management plan does not set out policy although gives prioritised direction and guidance on what achievements are required during the plan period to take consideration of water demand and water supply in the context of future challenges including that of climate change.</p> <p>The preliminary conclusion of the draft HRA for the draft Water Resources Management Plan (2019) found that the plan would have no adverse effects alone, or in combination. However, it is possible that some aspects of the plan (and therefore HRA conclusion) may change whilst the plan is in draft format and undergoing consultation.</p>
<u>Towards Zero Waste – One Wales One Planet: The Overarching Waste Strategy for Wales (2010)</u>	
Document Details	Potential ‘in-combination’ effects
This Strategy sets out a long term framework for resource efficiency and waste management up to 2050. It identifies the outcomes to achieve, sets high level targets and lays out the general approach to delivering these targets and other key actions. The Strategy identifies high level outcomes, policies and targets, and forms part of a suite of documents that comprise the national waste management plan for Wales. The Strategy is accompanied by a number of Sector plans - implementation plans that describe the role of the individual sector, the Welsh	<p>There are a number of potential impacts that a Waste development can have on qualifying features. These are summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration should be given to the presence of protected or rare species • Dust • Hours of operation / disturbance • Litter • Impact of landfill on existing nature conservation and archaeology • Noise

<p>Assembly Government and others in delivering the outcomes, targets and policies in Towards Zero Waste.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odours • Protection of surface and groundwater • Transport and access • Visual impact <p>LDP is not proposing landfill sites so minimal impact on qualifying features.</p>
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Regional	
The Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 - 2030	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
<p>Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy represents an ambitious strategic framework to support South West Wales and its future economic development. The strategy contains 5 strategic aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business growth, retention and specialisation • Skilled and ambitious long-term success • Maximising job creation for all • Knowledge, economy and innovation • Distinctive places and competitive infrastructures 	<p>This strategy supports economic investment in the South West Wales area, including Carmarthenshire.</p> <p>This has the potential to result in increased growth and development and could result in the following, in combination effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrology, water quality and water resources • Population pressure • Recreation pressure • Direct and indirect effects from transport • Habitat fragmentation

Swansea Bay City Deal 2017	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
<p>The £1.3 billion Swansea Bay City Deal was signed in March 2017. It is claimed that the Deal will transform the economic landscape of the area, boost the local economy by £1.8 billion, and generate almost 10,000 new jobs over the next 15 years. There is reference to 11 major projects overall, with the following specific projects proposed for Carmarthenshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness and Life Science Village in Llanelli • Creative industry project Yr Egin in Carmarthen <p>4 key themes of Economic acceleration, Life science and Well-being, Energy and Smart manufacturing. An enhanced Digital infrastructure and next generation wireless networks and the development of workforce skills and talent will underpin each.</p>	<p>The proposed Wellness and Life Science village in Llanelli is situated adjacent to the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site. It has the potential to have to following in combination effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on mobile species (bird assemblages and otter populations) • Water Quality • Noise, disturbance • Recreation • Population pressure • Transport related air pollution
Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015 – 2020)	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
<p>The joint local transport plan sets out a long term strategy for improvements to transport across four Local Authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthenshire County Council • Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council • Pembrokeshire County Council • City and County of Swansea 	<p>Potential to improve air quality through proposed mitigation</p> <p>Supports investment in travel infrastructure, which could, in turn, have negative effects on qualifying features within a European Site, through disturbance and habitat fragmentation.</p>

<p>Aims include: Economic Growth, Access to employment, tackling poverty, sustainable travel and safety and access to services.</p> <p>The plan lays out a programme of schemes to improve transportation across Carmarthenshire.</p>	
<p>Lavernock Point to St Ann's Head Shoreline Management Plan 2 (2012)</p>	
<p>Document Details</p>	<p>Potential 'in-combination' effects</p>
<p>A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) provides a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal erosion and flooding at the coast. It also presents policies to help manage these risks to people and to the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>This document is the second generation Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) for the shoreline between Lavernock Point (Vale of Glamorgan) in the east and St Ann's Head (Pembrokeshire) in the west, including the counties of Vale of Glamorgan, Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot, Swansea, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire.</p> <p>The study area includes the Neath Estuary, the Tawe Estuary, the Loughor Estuary (Burry Inlet), the Three Rivers Estuarine Complex (Gwendraeth, Towy and Taf) and Milford Haven, as well as a number of smaller estuaries.</p>	<p>The overall conclusion of the Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Shoreline Management Plan was that its policies may lead to adverse effects on the Integrity of the following Natura 2000 sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation (SAC); • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC; • Burry Inlet Special Protection Area (SPA); and • Burry Inlet Ramsar Site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat loss • Surface water pollution <p>An 'in combination' assessment refers to the total effect of all influences acting on a feature from all plans and projects in the context of prevailing environmental conditions. No effects were identified that might, in combination with the Lavernock Point to St Ann's Head SMP2, adversely affect the integrity of the SAC, SPA or Ramsar designations present.</p>

Waste Planning Monitoring Report(s) for the South West Wales Region	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
<p>The principal purpose of the Plan is to provide a land use planning framework which will assist in the provision of a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable network of new waste management facilities throughout the South West Wales Region to deal with the future waste forecast to be generated in the Region in 2013. The plan, which deals with all controlled waste, provides a sustainable land use planning framework for the Region for the next ten years.</p> <p>The Plan provides guidance on how the individual Authorities in the Region should plan for the future sustainable management of waste in their Unitary Development Plans. It does this by forecasting what waste will be generated in each Authority area as well as providing a broad commentary on the different waste management methods and facilities that are available. While not specifically allocating sites the Plan provides the relevant information to allow each Unitary Authority in the Region to allocate sites, or to come to cross border</p>	<p>Each of the Unitary Authorities in the Region have a duty to allocate within their own development plan an integrated and adequate network of waste management facilities to deal with the forecast waste generated within their own Local Authority area. In doing the HRA we need to be aware of neighbouring authority plans for waste management.</p> <p>Neighbouring planning authorities have the potential to cause 'in-combination' effects to the European sites within Carmarthenshire through their waste management policies and proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration should be given to the presence of protected or rare species • Dust • Hours of operation / disturbance • Litter • Impact of landfill on existing nature conservation and archaeology • Noise • Odours • Protection of surface and groundwater • Transport and access • Visual impact <p>In combination effects may arise in the very nature of a waste management facility being developed either within the plan area or a neighbouring plan area</p> <p>The waste plans state "Where it is not possible / practicable for an Authority to deal with all forecast waste arising within its area, then that Authority's LDP shall identify how that particular element of waste generated within its area is to be managed by reference to cross boundary arrangements. The allocation of waste management facilities within the Region shall have a cumulative capacity that deals with all of the waste forecast to be generated in the Region. Any additional</p>

	capacity over and above the waste forecast to be generated in the Region will need to be fully justified.
Regional Technical Statement Regional Aggregate Working Parties (2014)	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
<p>The main purpose of the statement is to set out the strategy for the provision of the aggregates in the North Wales region for the period until 2021. As appropriate, MPAs in South Wales will then include allocations for future aggregates provision in their area, as part of the UDP / LDP process. The RTS will therefore seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise the use of secondary and recycled materials and mineral wastes. • Safeguard land-based minerals which may be needed in the long term. • Acknowledge that where the principles of sustainable development can be achieved, the extension of existing aggregate quarries is likely to be appropriate. • Where there is a need for new areas of aggregates supply, these should come from locations of low environmental constraint and take into account transport implications. • Maintain supply of marine aggregate consistent with the requirements of good environmental practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of Habitat - land-take. • Loss of Supporting Habitat - land-take adjacent to European sites. • Habitat Fragmentation Impacts - land-take due. • increased levels of disturbance - acoustic, noise and light pollution; and • Impacts for Increased Use of Roads - Impacts from increased numbers of heavy vehicles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increased noise impacts (volume, duration); - increased vehicular emissions; - increased road mortality; and - increased fragmentation impacts.

Local	
<u>Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years (2018)</u>	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects

<p>The Council has identified almost 100 priority projects, schemes or services that it wants to deliver over the next five years to make Carmarthenshire “<i>the best place to live, work and visit</i>”. The Council will be investing in key areas as it strives to improve economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being in the county.</p>	<p>Has potential to deliver mitigating effects for some potential impacts, such as improvements to sewerage system may have positive effects, as well improvements to active travel routes which could contribute to improvements in air quality.</p> <p>A number of the projects outlined for delivery in this strategy are in proximity to European designated sites.</p> <p>Potential in combination impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Disturbance (noise, light, recreation) • Habitat fragmentation • Water quality • Water supply
<p><u>Transformations: A Strategic Regeneration Plan for Carmarthenshire – 2015 – 2030</u></p>	
<p>Document Details</p>	<p>Potential ‘in-combination’ effects</p>
<p>The economic landscape is evolving with Carmarthenshire’s position in the new Swansea Bay City Region for which the strategy has been adopted by the Council; “by 2030, Carmarthenshire will be a confident, ambitious and connected component of a European City Region.”</p> <p>Strategic regeneration sites highlighted include:</p>	<p>A number of the projects outlined for delivery in this plan are in proximity to European designated sites.</p> <p>Generic impacts associated with growth and development include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Disturbance (noise, light, recreation) • Habitat fragmentation • Water quality • Water supply

Delta Lakes	
The Beacon	
Cross Hands Food Park	
Carmarthen Town Centre	
Llanelli Town Centre	
Ammanford Town Centre	

[Affordable Homes Delivery Plan 2016 – 2020: Delivering more homes for the people of Carmarthenshire – 2015 – 2030](#)

Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
<p>This sets out the Council's five year vision for maximising the supply of affordable homes. Its purpose is to provide detail on how and where more homes will be delivered and what resources will be used and how more could potentially be accessed. It also outlines how an ambitious new build programme can be delivered.</p> <p>The programme will initially deliver over 1000 additional affordable homes over five years, with a total investment exceeding £60m.</p>	<p>Generic impacts associated with growth and development include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Disturbance (noise, light, recreation) • Habitat fragmentation • Water quality • Water supply

Carmarthenshire Destination Management Plan 2015 – 2020 (June 2015) – Carmarthenshire Destination Partnership	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
The purpose of the Destination Management Plan (DMP) for Carmarthenshire is to clarify what is important to get right for the future, to shape policy and priorities, to steer resources and to form the basis for people, businesses and organisations to work together to achieve common goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for the plan to increase levels of disturbance through increased tourism and therefore recreational activity. • Increased levels of tourism and employment may lead to increased transport movements, which could then result in increased noise/ disturbance and increased levels of atmospheric pollution.
Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2013)	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
This document identifies the Risk Management Authorities within Carmarthenshire, the key requirements and contents of the strategy, and outlines the high level objectives and measures for implementing the strategy. In addition, this document identifies the potential sources which could fund the implementation of the measures. The document also discusses the context within which the strategy is required to achieve wider environmental benefits.	<p>No structural measures to control flood risk are proposed in this strategy and therefore there are unlikely to be in-combination effects. However the strategy does state that is requirements for structural measures do arise, that the strategy would be subject to a HRA and in-combination effects may be possible.</p> <p>These may include disturbance, barriers to migration and pollution.</p>
Flood Risk Management Plan for the Western Wales River Basin District	
Document Details	Potential 'in-combination' effects
	The HRA of the FRMP concluded that the plan contained insufficient detail to ascertain significant effects and consequently the assessment for these measures have been deferred to lower tier plans or projects. Environmental Assessment and HRA will be undertaken of these lower tier plans or projects.

Sites a relevance to Carmarthenshire which likely significant effects could not be screened out include:

- Burry Inlet
- Elenydd – Mallaen
- Cleddau Rivers
- North Pembrokeshire Woodlands
- Pembrokeshire Bat sites and Bosherton lakes
- River Usk
- River Wye

Sites were screened in for potential impacts on mobile species (birds, otters lamprey, bullhead, shad, bats)

Appendix 7 Consultation Responses to HRA Screening Report of Preferred Strategy

Please Note: Text provided in red is text that has been added in response to the comments provided in this report.	
Organisation/Comment	Response/Action
Natural Resources Wales – Sharon Luke	
General Comments	
Reference is made to 2010 Regulations throughout the report this requires updating to The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.	Noted and amended throughout document.
Table 1 Habitats Regulation Assessment: Key Stages	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under Purpose for Appropriate Assessment we would include the precautionary principal and that the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of the sites. 	<p>Agreed. Wording amended to read:</p> <p><u>To ensure that the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of sites.</u> Consideration of impacts on integrity of the site, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, having regard to the site’s structure, function and conservation objectives, <u>whilst applying the precautionary principle.</u> Where adverse impacts are identified <u>or remain unknown,</u> assess mitigation options to identify impacts on the integrity of the site. This stage should involve consultation. If mitigation options do not result in avoidance of adverse effects permission can only be granted if the remaining 2 stages are followed.</p>
1.3.1. We acknowledge that the HRA for the site-specific allocations will be carried out as part of the drawing up of the Deposit LDP.	Comments noted.
1.4.1. We advise the reference to Regulation 85B (3) is incorrect. Regulation 77 covers consultation with the relevant nature conservation body.	Amended.
2.2.1. This should refer to regulation 63 (1).	Amended.
2.3. This should refer to The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.	Amended throughout document.

3.1.1. Potential offsite impacts are listed here but not mentioned earlier in the report.	Wording added to Table 1. Under Screening – Purpose, to describe how the screening stage must consider the potential for offsite impacts. Table now reads: Process for identifying impacts of a plan or project on a European site, either individually or in combination, and consideration of whether likely effects will be significant. <u>This will include consideration of the potential for direct, indirect and cross-boundary effects.</u>
3.1.3 The West Wales Marine Candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC) should be included.	Amended. Figure 1 has also been amended to include the West Wales Marine cSAC. Appendix 1 has also been updated to include information and the conservation objectives of the West Wales Marine cSAC.
3.2.3. We would amend this to read ‘features of the N2K sites’. We would also advise the inclusion of ‘The Plan must not undermine the conservation objectives of the sites’.	Amended. Paragraph now reads: 3.2.3 The scanning stage identifies <u>features of the N2K sites</u> that may be affected by the plan as far beyond as necessary for sites and identifying causal connections and links between the plan proposals and the qualifying features of the sites. <u>The Plan must not undermine the conservation objectives of the sites.</u>
3.2.8 Disturbance should be included.	This paragraph simply gives examples of the types of impacts that could be caused by development and is therefore not exhaustive. Table 2. Covers disturbance in more detail.
Table 2 Scanning and site selection lists for sites that could potentially be affected by the plan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Afon Tywi is not included under SAC’s under Section 2. 	Amended to include Afon Tywi.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carmarthen Bay Dunes is entitled incorrectly under Section 3. 	Amended.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Wales Marine Candidate Site needs to be added to Section 4. 	Amended to include West Wales Marine cSAC.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We would suggest the Afon Tywi and Carmel should be included in Section 6. 	Disagree. Neither the Management Plan nor Standard Data form for Afon Tywi or Cernydd Carmel reference recreation to be considered as a

	pressure or threat on the features of the SAC and therefore it is not included for consideration under this section.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We seek clarification as to how all sites have been screened out of Section 7 that could be affected by provision of new or extended transport or other infrastructure. These could be barriers to migratory fish, bats and otters. 	Agreed. This will be amended and considered further in the deposit HRA report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We would add Elenydd-Mallaen to Section 7 sites that could be affected by increased deposition of air pollutants. This is as the diet and nesting habits of Merlin could be impacted by air pollution. 	Disagree. The management plan of Elenydd-Mallaen does not reference any sensitivity of Merlin or their prey to air quality issues in the conservation objectives or management requirements and therefore they are not included for consideration under this section.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 14 included Cwm Doethie which is not the sites full name, we would remove it from here as it does not include any mobile species. Elenydd Special Protection Area (SPA) should be added. 	Noted and amended. Cwm Doethie has been removed and Elenydd-Mallaen SPA has been added.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We would expect the same sites (again taking Cwm Doethie out) to be noted under Section 15 as in 14. 	Noted and amended accordingly as above.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 16 – We do not agree with the conclusion that no sites require further consideration. If there is potential to disturb species as noted in Section 14 of the table then potential exists to cause mortality. We would expect the same sites to be included in both sections. 	<p>Whilst we agree that if there is potential to disturb species noted in Section 14 then there is a risk of mortality, for the purposes of this HRA, it is considered that the effects of this category will be captured effectively via Section 14 of the table. Therefore, in order to avoid duplication, sites are screened out of this section.</p> <p>The following worded has been added to Section 16 as clarification:</p> <p><u>Potential for mortality as a result of disturbance, however to avoid duplication this is addressed under Section 14.</u></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile features need to be considered outside the designated site boundaries. 	Mobile features outside of designated site boundaries are considered in Section 5 – Plans that could affect mobile species.
3.2.9. Effects associated with development should include effects of contaminated land run off.	<p>The effects of contaminated land run off will be considered under Section 2 – Plans that could affect the aquatic environment.</p> <p>The following wording has been added to Section 2 to provide clarification:</p>

	Sites upstream or downstream of the plan area in the case of river or estuary sites. <u>Effects considered include localised effects on surface/groundwater resources and quality, resulting from changes in run-off, sedimentation, erosion etc.</u>
Table 4, 5 and 6	
West Wales Marine Candidate SAC needs to be included.	Agreed. West Wales Candidate SAC has now been included.
Table 6 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects on the coast.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration should be given to whether the title to this table should be mobile species as it includes Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC. 	Agreed and amended.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fish species have been screened out due to water quality although this is not clear; disturbance and barriers have not been included. 	Noted, however any impacts as a result of disturbance is considered separately under Section 14.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We question if Elenydd-Mallaen should be included for bird assemblage? 	Agreed, amended to include Elenydd - Mallaen
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification is required as to why Lesser Horseshoe Bats have been screened out when we have records and known roosts in Carmarthenshire. 	Agreed, Lesser Horseshoe Bat will be screened in on a precautionary basis.
3.2.19 This paragraph may be better placed before the screening table (6) to understand why fish species have been screened out.	Agreed, screening table now placed at the end of this section.
3.2.20 Requires updating with the new conservation objectives for the SAC.	<p>We acknowledge receipt of the updated objectives as part of NRW's representation to the HRA Screening report and have updated the conservation objectives in Appendix 1 and have been amended in the text</p> <p>Paragraph now reads: The conservation objectives for Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC were updated by NRW in 2016, to reflect more current information and understanding of the site and its features. These updated conservation objectives state that to be viable in the long term, the Marsh Fritillary metapopulation requires <i>'at least 100ha of available habitat, with adequate connectivity linked to the core SAC units'</i>. The core SAC units have a requirement to provide a</p>

	minimum of 17.5ha of Available habitat towards this target, and to provide at least 6ha of good habitat within Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC.
3.2.25 We agree detailed screening will be required as the species are known to be on the county border with Pembrokeshire in areas such as Cenarth.	Noted. This will be addressed in more detail at the detailed screening stage.
3.2.29 The distance from Carmarthenshire's border is given as 16km in this point whereas it states 6.9km in section 3.1.4. The addition of Lesser Horseshoe bats is required as there are records for Carmarthenshire, a roost (possibly maternity) was also found in the Llansteffan area during the last few years.	This has now been corrected in section 3.1.4 as the site is actually 23km outside of Carmarthenshire. Lesser Horseshoe Bats have now been screened in on a precautionary basis.
3.2.32 There is text missing from the end of this paragraph.	The 'Therefore,' to which this refers has now been deleted.
3.2.31- 3.2.36 European otters. Consideration should be given to breeding sites within this section.	<p>Reference is made to breeding sites in this paragraph:</p> <p>3.2.31 European otters are designated features of a number of European sites considered for screening within this document, including River Tywi, River Teifi, Cleddau Rivers, Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuaries, Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes, Pembrokeshire Marine, River Wye and River Usk SACs. Management plans for all of the aforementioned sites highlight that otters 'may be affected by developments that affect resting and breeding sites outside of SAC boundaries'.</p> <p>The text has been amended to provide further clarity:</p> <p><u>3.2.36 In light of this, detailed screening will need to be undertaken to identify any site allocations which may impact on the use of suitable areas of land used for both breeding and resting outside the SAC boundary by otters.</u></p>

3.2.37 We do not agree that neither species utilise any of the waterways. Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries and the West Wales Marine Candidate SAC lie within the plan area.	This section has been renamed: <i>Bottlenose Dolphin, Grey Seal and Harbour Porpoise</i> so as to include the primary features of the Bristol Channel Approaches cSAC and the resulting paragraphs have been redrafted in light of NRW's comment.
3.2.38 Consideration for the Elenydd -Mallaen SPA is required under SPA Bird Assemblages and its mobile features notably Red kite, Merlin and Peregrine. The SPA is noted in Table 7.	Consideration is now given to Elenydd-Mallaen Bird Assemblages under this section.
Table 7 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to recreational effects.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The River Tywi SAC is missing from this table. We suggest there are potential pressures from increased boating/kayaking etc. 	Agreed. River Tywi is screened in based on the potential for increased disturbance to Otters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We consider that Cernydd Camel SAC should also be included as potential for increased pressure from increased visitor numbers in the reserves. 	Agreed. Although recreation is not listed as a threat on the Natura 2000 standard data form or the site's management plan, due to the proximity of Cernydd Carmel SAC to existing settlement limits and to the Crosshands growth area, it is screened in on a precautionary basis.
3.2.56 Refers to the Environment Agency, this should read NRW.	Amended.
3.2.59 Acronym for NRW is used in this section although NRW used before hand in the document.	Amended.
Table 9 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects on water quality.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carmarthen Bay Dunes SAC to be added due to slack habitat and petalwort features. 	Amended to include Carmarthen Bay Dunes SAC. Table 2 has also been amended to reflect this.
3.2.68 Consideration needs to be given to mobile species such as bats and otters for sites outside Carmarthenshire's boundary.	Agreed. Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes SAC screened in.
Table 11 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects of disturbance, noise and light pollution effects.	
Cwm Doethie- Mynydd Mallaen SAC has no mobile species features listed so may be able to be screened out.	Amended. Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen SAC now screened out of this section.

Elenydd Mallaen SPA to be added and screened in.	Amended to include Elenydd Mallaen. Table 2 has also been amended to reflect this.
North Pembrokeshire Woodlands may require screening back in due to Barbastelle records on the County border and possible lighting and disturbance issues.	Agreed. Screened in on a precautionary basis.
Table 12 Summary of the preliminary screening based on overall growth projection of Preferred Strategy.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic environment – Hydrological links also need to be considered. 	Agreed. Generic level screening text now amended to read: Effects only likely where development is in close proximity to a water course that flows into/out of a site. <u>Hydrological links must also be considered.</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile species – Requires addition of Lesser Horseshoe bats. 	Amended.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile species – Requires addition of terrestrial SPA (Elenydd-Mallaen) 	Amended
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development: Air pollution – We do not agree with the generic screening level; intensive agriculture and other industrial sources have a potential to impact. 	Agreed. Wording of generic screening level amended to address this. Text now reads: Development which leads to increased traffic on roads within 200m of identified sensitive sites. <u>Consideration will also be given to any potential impacts from intensive agriculture and other industrial sources.</u>
Table 14 Summary of preliminary screening of draft Strategic Policies.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP8 Infrastructure – Clarification is required as to why this has been screened out, we consider it could have potential impacts to sites and features. 	Agreed. Policy will be screened back in and will be considered further in light of specific policies and site allocations in order to determine likely significant effects. Screened in under Category I.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP12 Rural development – Should we consider agricultural development under this? If so, it cannot be screened out. 	The Strategic Policy on Rural Development does not consider agricultural development. These matters are considered under existing national planning policy and legislation, and further detailed policies will be developed in the Deposit Plan.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP17 Transport and Accessibility - Clarification is required as to why this has been screened out, we consider it could have potential impacts to sites and features. 	<p>Agreed. Policy will be screened back in and will be considered further in light of specific policies and site allocations in order to determine likely significant effects. Screened in under Category I.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP18 Mineral resources -This should not be screened out due to Cernydd Carmel SAC. 	<p>Disagree. This policy is a safeguarding policy for mineral resources and does not facilitate the removal of mineral deposits. This policy essentially provides a second layer of safeguarding of the site from development and is therefore screened out as having likely significant impacts.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.4.2 Further Strategic Policies from Table 14, such as mineral resources, should added. 	<p>This section will be updated accordingly.</p>
<p>Appendix 1: Conservation objectives of sites identified as within 15km buffer zone of Carmarthenshire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The updated conservation objectives for the sites can be in the appendices to this letter. 	<p>Conservation objectives have been amended to reflect most up to date information provided by NRW in their representation.</p>
<p>Appendix 2 Nitrogen Deposition Data for SAC's/SPA's within Carmarthenshire and 15km buffer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Afon Tywi should be included. 	<p>Noted. Appendix will be amended to include Afon Tywi.</p>
<p>Appendix 3 Plans and Programmes with potential in-combination effects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Wales Tourism Strategy 2008 – West Wales Marine candidate SAC to be included. Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013-2020 - West Wales Marine candidate SAC and the SPA's to be included due to disturbance. A walking and Cycling Action Plan for Wales (2009-2013) – Disturbance and erosion should be included as potential issues. The Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013-2030 - Disturbance and erosion should be included as potential issues. Carmarthenshire Designation Management Plan 2015 – 2020 – We would advise that there is potential for increased soil erosion from increased tourism and recreation activities. Flood Risk Management Plan for Western Wales River Basin District – The River Tywi and River Teifi are not included. 	<p>Noted. This Appendix will be updated for the Deposit Plan HRA to include the documents suggested.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swansea Local Development Plan (2010-2025) – Burry Inlet RAMSAR site. 	
<p>Appendix 5 Preliminary screening of draft Strategic Policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SP18 - Mineral Resources – We consider Cernydd Carmel should be screened back in. 	Disagree. As explained in response to comments made on SP18.
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park - Martina Dunne	
General Comments	
<p>The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017</p> <p>Para 2.3 page 7. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 consolidate the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 with subsequent amendments.</p>	Noted and amended throughout document.
<p>People Over Wind</p> <p>In April 2018 the Court of Justice of the European Union handed down their judgment in the case of People Over Wind. The court ruled that it is not appropriate, at the screening stage, to take account of measures intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site. It is suggested that the HRA Screening Report should make explicit mention of the judgment and describe how the HRA is incorporating the ruling. The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (DTA Publications Limited) listed on page 7 has been updated to reflect the judgment.</p>	Noted. Reference to this judgement will be included in the deposit plan HRA.
<p>Sites and species of European importance</p> <p>It is suggested that the Preferred Strategy should include specific policy wording in regard to sites and species of European importance, as implied in the “specific policy restriction” identified as being required for several of the screened in elements. This policy wording might be included within policy SP13, or as an additional policy on sites and species of European importance. Screened-in elements of the Preferred Strategy may then be amended to cross-refer to this policy wording, e.g. ‘subject to there being no unacceptable adverse effects on Carmarthenshire’s environment (see SP13), including sites and species of European importance (see SP13 (and /</p>	Noted. Consideration will be given to the wording of a specific policy for inclusion in the Deposit plan.

<p>or new policy reference))". This would complement the approach taken in Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Local Development Plan 2 and enhance the compatibility of the plans.</p>	
<p>Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Local Development Plan Page 36 and Appendix 3 – there is no mention of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Local Development Plan (adopted or LDP2).</p>	<p>Noted, this section will be updated to include reference to the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park LDP.</p>
<p>Typos "Bosherton" should be replaced by "Bosherston" wherever necessary. "Affects" should be replaced by "effects" where appropriate.</p>	<p>Noted and amended.</p>

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan

Burry Inlet

Supplementary Planning Guidance

DECEMBER 2019

DRAFT



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Guidance

- 1.1 This Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) is an elaboration and consolidation of the policies and provisions of the Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (rLDP) 2018-2033 - Deposit Draft (December 2019), most notably policy INF4: Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Surface Water Disposal, as well as SP 8: Infrastructure and CCH3: Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources.
- 1.2 Whilst the rLDP does not repeat national policy statements, reference can also be made to policy SP 13: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment, most notably in terms of the reference to Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5. It is also noted that reference is made to PPW TAN 15 within policy SP15: Climate Change.
- 1.3 This SPG provides specific guidance in relation to the consideration of relevant development proposals located within the Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) catchment area. Whilst Llanelli (Principal Centre) and Burry Port (Service Centre) are identified as a focus for growth in the rLDP, they are also subject to high level environmental considerations, not least the water quality of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site (CBEEMS). This SPG seeks to balance these considerations with a view to facilitating the delivery of growth within the rLDP up to 2033.
- 1.4 Whilst Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) have confirmed there is capacity to accommodate the rLDP growth that drains to the Llanelli WWTW catchment, they have concerns that the connection of foul flows generated by new development introduces the risk of deterioration in the water quality of the CBEEMS. This is because the majority of the sewer system in this area is combined (surface and foul flows). Introducing additional foul flow can lead to overloading to the WWTW, as well as an increasing the frequency of discharges from storm sewerage overflows out to the CBEEMS during significant rainfall. There can also be potential localised flooding issues resulting from these issues. DCWW are therefore requesting that a scheme of compensatory surface water be taken forward.
- 1.5 This SPG provides a mechanism to address the concerns outlined above by allowing additional foul flows to be connected subject to relevant developments taking out surface water from the combined sewer as part of a compensatory / betterment measure. In this regard, it builds upon the provisions of the established Burry Inlet Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- 1.6 Those development proposals of relevance to this SPG will be those located within the Llanelli WWTW area and defined as 'major development' within Article 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 (DMPWO).
- 1.7 The adoption of this SPG is also a recognition by the Council of a range of legislation and guidance, notably the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and the Environment Act 2016.

- 1.8 This SPG establishes a transparent and consistent approach that supports the delivery of new development across the Llanelli WWTW area without increasing the pollution (including nutrients) within the estuary and thus preventing the deterioration of the environmental quality of the CBEEMS. The wider context is one of partnership and collaboration with the former MoU replaced by a high level statement of common ground between Natural Resources Wales (NRW), DCWW, City and County of Swansea (CCS) and Carmarthenshire County Council.
- 1.9 This SPG will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and appeals located within the Llanelli WWTW area.
- 1.10 The preparation of this SPG will be subject to a public consultation exercise alongside the draft deposit rLDP with comments invited on its content. The consultation has been conducted in a manner consistent with that set out within the Delivery Agreement for the rLDP. It is intended to be adopted concurrently with the rLDP. It should be noted that the Plan should be read in its entirety in formulating any proposals.

2.0 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

2.1 There are a range of legislative and policy drivers that are of relevance to the Burry Inlet area within the context of balancing developmental and environmental interests.

Legislative Context

2.2 **Water Framework Directive (WFD):** The Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary form part of the WFD Carmarthen Bay and Gower Management Catchment. The catchment is divided into Burry Inlet Inner, which is a transitional waterbody, Burry Inlet Outer and Carmarthen Bay (sub-divided into 'North' and 'South'), both of which are coastal waterbodies. All three are required to meet Good ecological status under the UK's Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2003 referred to in this agreement as the WFD.

2.3 In the 2015 Cycle 2 WFD classification, both the Burry Inlet Inner and Burry Inlet Outer water bodies achieved Poor status. Carmarthen Bay's status was classed as moderate. As the waterbodies are not meeting the required WFD ecological status today (and even the existing status could deteriorate) when the additional nutrients resulting from sewage produced from an increased population (even though the WWTWs remain within the permit limits) are treated and discharged to the estuary, additional mitigation measures may be necessary to safeguard water quality.

2.4 **Habitats Directive** - The Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary also form part of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Burry Inlet Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar that are collectively referred to as the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Sites (CBEEMS). Targeted investment in recent years at Llanelli, Gowerton, Pontyberem and Parc Y Splott WWTWs, as a result of the 2010 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations review of consents process (implemented through the DCWW AMP funding) has resulted in all the licensed discharges being compliant with the Habitats Regulations. Any consent modification which might be identified as necessary to provide capacity for increased development will need to be subject to assessment under the Habitat Regulations.

2.5 **Shellfish Waters Protected Area** - The Water Framework Directive requires specification of protected areas for those areas designated for the protection of economically significant species. Areas previously designated under the repealed Shellfish Waters Directive are now specified under the Water Framework Directive. The Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary contains two designated shellfish waters, Burry Inlet North and Burry Inlet South.

2.6 Water quality in these areas has met minimum statutory standards for shellfish waters since 2000 but not all shellfish collected in the estuary meet Class B under the Hygiene Regulations, the desired quality determined by Welsh Government policy. It is necessary to protect shellfish water quality from deterioration that could result from increased bacteriological loadings being discharged to the estuary as a result of an increase in the local population.

2.7 **Judgment of the Court (Ninth Chamber) of 4 May 2017. European Commission v United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Case C-502/15** - Further to public complaints to the European Commission relating to inadequacies in the implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, the European Court of Justice ruled in May 2017 that the UK had failed to ensure that the waters collected in a combined urban waste water and rainwater system in the Gowerton and Llanelli agglomerations were retained and conducted for treatment in accordance with the Directive (91/271).

2.8 As a result of the ruling, competent authorities are implementing a comprehensive programme of works to ensure compliance with the judgment by 2020, taking account of the overall objective to protect the environment. The programme of works is undertaken in accordance with the principle of the ‘best technical knowledge not entailing excessive costs’ and will contribute to significantly reduce spill frequencies and volumes of surface water from the collecting system prior to treatment.

2.9 Whilst it can be argued that the primary driver of this programme of works is regulatory compliance, as opposed to the delivery of new development, reference can be made to the indirect contribution of the Memorandum of Understanding as outlined below.

Memorandum of Understanding -

2.10 A “Memorandum of Understanding - Safeguarding the Environment of the Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary whilst enabling Social and Economic Development for Communities in the Llanelli and Gowerton area” has been in place for some time, with the most recent iteration being dated September 2011.

2.11 Whilst its primary driver is to deliver new development, the MoU has helped support the comprehensive programme of works referred to in 2.8 above. It is intended to ensure a transparent approach to safeguarding the water quality of the Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary. It sets out a collaborative approach that supports the delivery of new development across the MoU area without increasing the pollution, including nutrients, within the estuary and thus preventing the deterioration of the environmental quality of the Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary.

National Planning Policy

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 10, December 2018)

2.12 PPW sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government and is supplemented by a number of documents, including TANs. Paragraph 6.4.14 of PPW states that “International and national responsibilities and obligations for conservation should be fully met, and, consistent with the objectives of the designation, statutorily designated sites protected from damage and deterioration, with their important features conserved and enhanced by appropriate management”. Reference should also be made to Paragraph 6.4.18 of PPW, notably “...development can normally only be authorised or the plan adopted, if the planning authority ascertains that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site, if necessary taking into account any additional measures planning conditions or obligations”.

2.13 Paragraph 6.6.9 of PPW provides guidance on capacity of water supply and sewerage/drainage infrastructure – whilst 6.6.14 provides guidance on water quality and surface water flooding. Of note within Paragraph 6.6.15 of PPW is the reference to “.....sustainable places will be those with resilient, well-maintained networks for sewerage and drainage with sufficient capacity to manage the demand placed upon them without causing pollution or surface water flooding”.

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5, Nature Conservation and Planning (September 2009):

2.14 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” (paragraph 1.6.1). TAN 5 also provides guidance on the use of planning obligations and conditions – (sections 4.6 and 4.7 of TAN 5).

2.15 It is noted that paragraph 3.4.2 of TAN 5 states that “Local planning authorities may adopt SPG to provide more detailed, locally relevant guidance for -achieving more sustainable solutions to development problems and opportunities that respect natural processes and ecological systems.

Planning Conditions and Obligations

2.16 Reference is made to the Development Management Manual (Revision 2 Welsh Government, May 2017 – the DMM 2017). Paragraph 10.1.1 states that conditions and planning obligations can enable development proposals to proceed where it would otherwise be necessary to refuse planning permission.

2.17 Welsh Government Circular 016/2014 provides guidance on the Use of Planning Conditions for Development Management. Paragraph 1.2 states that the power to impose conditions when granting planning permission is very wide. If used properly, conditions can enhance the quality of development and enable many development proposals to proceed where it would otherwise have been necessary to refuse planning permission. The objectives of planning, however, are best served when that power is exercised in such a way that conditions are clearly seen to be fair, understandable, reasonable and practicable. This circular sets out guidance on how this can be achieved.

2.18 The below six tests are set out in paragraph 3.1 of the Circular. In adopting this SPG, the Council is satisfied that this SPG meets these tests in identifying a Plan level policy intervention for implementation within the rLDP period – notably to support the delivery of development in the Llanelli and Burry Port areas. In terms of need, reference is made to the specific request from DCWW for compensatory surface water removal to be undertaken as part of planning approvals. It should also be noted that this SPG represents a policy intervention within a defined spatial area (i.e. Llanelli WWTW catchment).

- (i) necessary;
- (ii) relevant to planning;
- (iii) relevant to the development to be permitted;
- (iv) enforceable;
- (v) precise; and
- (vi) reasonable in all other respects.

2.19 Paragraph 10.3.8 of DMM2017 clarifies that planning obligations should only be used where it is not possible to address unacceptable impacts through a planning condition. It is considered unlikely that the Council will enter into a planning obligation with a developer in the implementation of this SPG.

2.20 The legal tests for planning obligations are set out in the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) (set out below).

- necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms
- directly related to the development
- fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development

2.21 Procedural guidance on how planning obligations should be properly negotiated and used by Planning Authorities is provided by Planning Obligations Welsh Office Circular 13/97 (8th July 1997).

Local Planning Policy – Revised Carmarthenshire LDP

2.22 This Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) is an elaboration and consolidation of the policies and provisions of the Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (rLDP) 2018-2033 - Deposit Draft (December 2019), most notably policy INF4 which is set out below.

2.23 **‘INF4: Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Surface Water Disposal**

Proposals that drain to Llanelli Waste Water Treatment Works and are defined as major under Article 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 will be subject to a requirement to remove a quantifiable amount of surface water from the combined sewer system as set out within the Burry Inlet Supplementary Planning Guidance.’

2.24 Whilst the rLDP does not repeat national policy statements, reference can also be made to policy SP 13: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment, most notably in terms of the reference to Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5. It is also noted that reference is made to PPW TAN 15 within policy SP15: Climate Change.

3.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 The alignment of potentially competing demands has led to an established partnership approach. In this regard, the roles of identified key stakeholders follows below:

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW)

3.2 DCWW is responsible for the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage in the areas served by Llanelli WWTW. DCWW is responsible for providing sewerage services to its customers, complying with its discharge permits and accommodating appropriate development. Through the MoU (see paragraph 3.11 below) and ongoing dialogue in preparation of revised LDPs, DCWW works with NRW, CCS and Carmarthenshire County Council in order to facilitate development and playing its part in improving the WFD ecological status for the Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary, in line with all relevant legislation.

3.3 DCWW continue to meet increased demand for sewerage services through legislative and regulatory mechanisms, and supply/demand investment as set out within the Asset Management Programme (AMP). The AMP investment will support future growth and regeneration as identified in Development Plans.

3.4 DCWW are also investing in additional improvements to its sewerage infrastructure required to improve service and meet its obligations under the National Environment Programme (NEP) for Wales. This £113m programme commenced in 2010 and will continue to the end of 2020. The objectives of the programme are to reduce the frequency and volume discharged by combined sewer overflows (CSO) in line with their NEP obligations and reduce the risk of sewage flooding for their customers in a sustainable and technically feasible way. This programme is not designed to create headroom for development and runs in parallel to any works required to meet increased demand for sewerage services. An example is the Rainscape investment in the Llanelli area.

3.5 DCWW work with NRW especially where concerns over compliance with quantitative or qualitative limits at the receiving works might restrict planned growth in the area. DCWW (along with NRW) are a statutory consultee in the planning process as well as being a statutory water and sewerage undertaker, and that as such can influence the inclusion of conditions on the matter of SW removal.

Local Planning Authorities (LPAs)

3.6 The City and County of Swansea and Carmarthenshire County Council are the Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) responsible for setting out the strategic context for future development and land use objectives within Local Development Plans within the area. Swansea and Carmarthenshire LPAs are also responsible for the determination of planning applications against the policies and provisions of their adopted Development Plans unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

3.7 Swansea and Carmarthenshire LPAs consult with DCWW and NRW throughout the Local Development Plan preparation process, in order that future demands on infrastructure provision can be identified in a timely manner.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

3.8 NRW are the competent authority responsible for implementing Welsh Government's environmental and flood protection policies. They do this by determining permit conditions for existing or new discharges, monitoring and enforcing compliance with permits, managing flood protection and consulting on new development to ensure it does not breach flood protection policies.

3.9 NRW will also work with DCWW to ensure their discharges are permitted appropriately and to determine any proposed variations or modifications to permits in a manner that is compliant with all relevant legislation. In particular, NRW will ensure that any new permit applications or variations/modifications to existing permits are subject to assessment under regulation 61 of the Habitats Regulations.

3.10 NRW will consult on developments brought forward for planning to ensure they comply with the appropriate Welsh Government policy on flooding and flood protection.

The Memorandum of Understanding for the Burry Inlet

3.11 A “Memorandum of Understanding - Safeguarding the Environment of the Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary whilst enabling Social and Economic Development for Communities in the Llanelli and Gowerton area” has been in place for some time, with the most recent iteration being dated September 2011.

3.12 The MoU is intended to ensure a transparent approach to safeguarding the water quality of the Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary. It sets out a collaborative approach that supports the delivery of new development across the MoU area without increasing the pollution, including nutrients, within the estuary and thus preventing the deterioration of the environmental quality of the Burry Inlet and Loughor Estuary.

3.13 As a headline guide the MoU is underpinned by two key facets. These are (1) partnership and (2) implementation of a scheme of compensatory surface water removal as part of granting planning permission. In terms of partnership, the signatories to the MoU are City and County of Swansea, NRW, Carmarthenshire County Council and DCWW. This partnership approach to addressing water quality issues being taken by the parties through the MoU is not to be interpreted as being a legal document, with parties wishing to terminate their participation in this MoU able to do so with written notice.

3.14 In terms of the compensatory surface water removal requirement, this is a firmly established approach with the area which is supported by well associated processes – eg provision of surface water removal register. The MoU has allowed development to continue across the area over recent years and did feature as a deliverability indicator during the adoption of the Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2006-2021 (adopted 2014).

3.15 With the advent of compensatory surface water removal through the planning system, Swansea and Carmarthenshire LPAs are making a contribution to those wider efforts to water quality and localised infrastructural issues in the area (see Section 2 of this SPG). Development that removes surface water from the combined system would therefore be a contributor towards improving the position in an area of challenge as opposed to creating a detrimental position.

The Way Ahead

3.16 As part of the preparation of the rLDP, DCWW have indicated that whilst there is sufficient capacity to accommodate the growth earmarked for Llanelli and Burry Port, there is concern with regards the fact that the foul and surface system is combined. As such, the ongoing requirement to build on the provisions of the MOU within rLDP is noted as part of a partnership approach.

3.17 Furthermore, the September 2011 version of the MoU is in need of review. To this end, it is proposed that in terms of Carmarthenshire, this SPG be utilised in the preparation of the rLDP and provide the mechanism for compensatory surface water removal. In terms of wider governance and partnership, a high level statement of common ground will be signed by all parties.

3.18 The adoption of this SPG is intended to satisfy those other key stakeholders in terms of their regulatory requirements and also confirm the deliverability of the rLDP. Reference should also be made to Section 7 (management and monitoring).

4.0 CARMARTHEN BAY AND ESTUARIES EUROPEAN MARINE SITE

4.1 A recognition of the developmental context is important, particularly in terms of the environmental considerations and designations.

Overview

4.2 The Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site (CBEEMS) is part of a European-wide network of areas – the Natura 2000 series – designated under the European Union’s Habitats and Birds Directives to safeguard habitats and species that are important and threatened on a European scale. Three marine Natura 2000 sites together form the European Marine Site – Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Carmarthen Bay Special Protection Area (SPA) and Burry Inlet SPA. The Burry Inlet is also a Ramsar site and it should be noted that sites designated as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention are subject to the same provisions as Natura 2000 sites.

4.3 In framing this SPG, regard has been made to European Directive 92/43/EEC (as implemented in the UK by the Habitat Regulations 2017) together with guidance issued within Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 5. Reference is made to Section 2 of this SPG (legislative and policy context) in this regard.

4.4 Detailed information on the designations, interest features and conservation objectives, as well as potential pressures on the CBEEMS, are available from NRW. However, within the context of this SPG, it is noted that these waters are some of the most heavily designated and protected in Europe. An awareness of such issues has been an implicit part of the preparation of the rLDP, which has been informed at all stages by the plan level HRA.

4.5 The CBEEMS sits directly adjacent to the Llanelli and Burry Port coastline. Section 5 of this SPG outlines the strategic importance of these settlements to the rLDP from a growth / developmental perspective.

4.6 Reference is also made to Section 2 of this SPG – legislative and policy context – notably Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 5.

rLDP - Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (December 2018)

4.7 This report comprises of a high-level preliminary screening stage of the Preferred Strategy. It undertook a high level, generic screening of issues that could result in likely significant impacts, and identifies any strategic policies which would clearly have no effects upon European sites enabling these to be ‘screened out’ of any further assessment. Therefore, the focus of further, more detailed assessment would only be applied to allocation sites, or policies, where a likely significant effect could be possible. It should be noted that the potential impact of the rLDP on the CBEEMS could not be ruled out at this early stage.

rLDP - Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (December 2019)

4.8 This report comprises of a more detailed review of the draft deposit rLDP given that the detailed policies have been prepared and a full list of allocation sites has been set out in the draft deposit Plan. The draft deposit also sets out the overall growth requirement for the Llanelli and Burry Port areas.

4.9 This SPG should be seen as a positive policy intervention, which reflects the importance of the natural environment but also reaffirms the deliverability of development identified within the Plan.

4.10 Furthermore, rather than having a negative impact, development can assist in improving the position 'betterment' by assisting in those wider efforts to remove surface water from the combined system (see Section 3 of this SPG for other partners efforts – eg DCWW Rainscape programme).

Wider benefits

4.11 This SPG also provides opportunities to address other issues which may emerge given the nature of the combined sewer system in the Llanelli area – notably localised flooding. This is in recognition of key legislative drivers – notably the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and the Environment Act 2016.

5.0 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT – LLANELLI AND BURRY PORT

5.1 A recognition of the developmental context is important, particularly in terms of the role of Llanelli and Burry Port in delivering the development identified in the rLDP.

Llanelli

5.2 Llanelli is identified as a Principal Centre within the rLDP deposit draft (December 2019). There are 1707 residential units allocated within Llanelli (including Pwll). There is around 16 hectares of proposed employment land allocated. This is a notable amount of growth in terms of the overall Plan for the County and as such it is important that deliverability of this growth is facilitated.

5.3 A Wellness and Life Science Village is planned for Llanelli. The £200million complex planned for Delta Lakes on the Llanelli coast is expected to create close to 2,000 jobs and give the local economy a £467million boost. Other notable housing sites identified within the rLDP include the Cwm Y Nant allocation in the Dafen area.

5.4 There is a wider corporate emphasis on Llanelli. Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire - the next 5 years - is the Council's Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023 (approved 2018 – updated 2019). The Tyisha area, Llanelli Town centre, the Wellness and Life Science Village are amongst those projects cited within this Corporate Strategy. The Council has a commitment to the delivery of affordable homes, and a report “building more homes – increasing our ambition” was received by the Council in February 2019 – with a banding framework in place to guide delivery. It is noted that across Bands A, B and C, a total County wide figure of 917 units and £141m investment is cited. Of these, 439 units and £73.5m of investment is earmarked for the Llanelli and District area. A further report was provided to Council in September 2019.

5.5 Llanelli's spatial and functioning contribution to the Swansea Bay City Region/ Deal and any emerging Swansea Strategic Development Plan is also readily apparent. Reference is made to the explicit reference to Swansea Bay and Llanelli within the emerging National Development Framework (draft – published 7 August 2019) in this regard.

5.6 Reference to the Appendix 3 off this SPG for a more detailed appraisal of the development context.

Burry Port

5.7 Burry Port (including Pembrey) is identified as a Service Centre within the rLDP deposit draft (December 2019). There are 501 residential units allocated in Burry Port (minus the Cwrt Farm and Garreglwyl sites which are in Pembrey and won't drain to Llanelli WWTW). There is around 3 hectares of proposed employment land allocated in Burry Port.

5.8 The transformation of Burry Port is underway and already a number of exciting developments are being delivered, with more in the pipeline. The regeneration of Burry Port Harbour is a major project supported by the Llanelli Waterside Joint Venture Partnership (JV) between Carmarthenshire County Council and Welsh Government.

5.9 Reference to the Appendix 3 off this SPG for a more detailed appraisal of the development context.

Waste Water Treatment Works

5.10 A key aspect in the delivery of sustainable development – notably from an infrastructural, amenity and environmental point of view - is a suitable means of treatment of flows. Development within Llanelli and Burry Port (not including Pembrey) drains to Llanelli WWTW. An illustrative plan is provided in Appendix 4. DCWW have indicated that whilst there is sufficient capacity to accommodate the growth earmarked for Llanelli and Burry Port, there is concern with regards the fact that the network is combined (foul and surface) and are therefore requesting that a scheme of compensatory surface water be taken forward.

5.11 Within the Llanelli WWTW catchment, there are concerns that the connection of foul flows generated by new development introduces the risk of deterioration in the water quality of the CBEEMS. This is because the majority of the sewer system in this area is combined (surface and foul flows). Introducing additional foul flow can lead to overloading to the WWTW, as well as an increasing the frequency of discharges from storm sewerage overflows out to the CBEEMS during significant rainfall. There can also be potential localised flooding issues resulting from these issues.

Deliverability of rLDP growth in Llanelli and Burry Port

5.12 In order to re-affirm the deliverability of the sites identified in Llanelli and Burry Port within the rLDP, Carmarthenshire County Council recognises the need to proposed to build upon established approaches set in place within the Burry Inlet Memorandum of Understanding (Mou).

5.13 This SPG provides a mechanism to address these concerns by allowing additional foul flows to be connected subject to relevant developments taking out surface water from the combined sewer as part of a compensatory / betterment measure. Reference should be made to Section 6 of this SPG in this regard.

5.14 The mechanism outlined within this SPG re-affirms the deliverability of development in both Llanelli and Burry Port. It provides a transparent and consistent approach that provides certainty to developers and investors, whilst also satisfying key stakeholders including DCWW and NRW.

6.0 COMPENSATORY SURFACE WATER REMOVAL REQUIREMENT

Overview

6.1 As part of granting planning permission for relevant developments, Carmarthenshire LPA requires the removal of a quantifiable amount of surface water from the combined system as expressed in l/s. Such credits will then be entered onto the register of surface water removal (see Section 7 of this SPG).

6.2 Removal of surface water is likely to involve bespoke solutions, dependant on the size and location of the development. In terms of the l/s credit, the actual betterment figure achieved may be negligible. Notwithstanding this, there should be no detriment in terms of flows, with the credits achieved quantifiable and measurable. Reference should be made however to paragraph 2.3.5 in Appendix 1 of this SPG.

6.3 There will be a requirement to submit a drainage report to Carmarthenshire LPA that demonstrates that betterment can be achieved and that the required sequential search has been followed. Reference is made to Appendix 6 of this SPG (flow chart). Appendix 1 of this SPG provides information on flow calculations along with an illustrative example for a residential unit factoring in a x2 betterment factor.

6.4 Whilst the submission of the drainage report is not a validation requirement, developers are strongly advised that early and timely consideration should be implicit within development proposals. Timely engagement with key stakeholders – particularly DCWW - is strongly advised in this regard. It should be noted that relevant developments will be those that are subject to Pre-application consultation and as such this provides an early opportunity to consider the requirements of this SPG – see paragraph 6.16 below.

Relevant Developments

6.5 Those developments subject to the betterment requirement are those which drain to Llanelli WWTW **and** are defined as major under Article 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 (DMPWO). Reference is also made to paragraph 6.14 below. In summary, major development is:

- Housing developments of 10 or more dwellings or where the site area is of 0.5 ha or more (if the number of dwellings is not known);
- The provision of a building(s) where the floorspace created exceeds 1,000 sqm;
- The winning and working of minerals or the use of land for mineral-working deposits;
- Waste development; and
- Development carried out on a site of 1 ha or more.

6.6 Where the Council identifies that developers have sub-divided sites in order to avoid contributing towards the provisions of rLDP policy INF4 as elaborated upon by this SPG, the total provision of the scheme will be calculated and the policy requirement will be applied accordingly. This approach will also apply where planning applications are staggered over a period of time.

Sequential Search requirement

6.7 This should be documented within the drainage report. Carmarthenshire LPA will need to be satisfied that there has been a thorough assessment undertaken and will liaise with key stakeholders – notably DCWW- in this regard.

It should be noted that in all instances, no new surface water shall be allowed to enter the system.

- 1 Onsite solution for the removal of compensatory Surface Water from the public sewerage system (at or adjoining the site);
- 2a Sub - catchment area solution for the removal of Surface Water from the public sewerage system;
- 2b Wider catchment area solution for the removal of Surface Water from the public sewerage system.

6.8 Should the drainage report demonstrate, to the satisfaction of Carmarthenshire LPA, that the removal of a quantifiable amount of surface water cannot be achieved, then developers can approach DCWW to see whether there is an opportunity fund a DCWW scheme. Carmarthenshire LPA will notify the developer of this option in writing, following feedback from DCWW.

6.9 Reference should be made to 6.11 below for Carmarthenshire County Council proposals.

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water

6.10 Should an applicant pass through the sequential search and be unable to identify a scheme, then they can approach DCWW to see whether there is an opportunity fund one of their schemes. This approach cannot be undertaken until Carmarthenshire LPA inform the applicant in writing. Negotiations will then take place between DCWW and the developer and Carmarthenshire LPA will require written confirmation from DCWW that an acceptable solution has been identified.

6.11 Whilst being unable to make available a list of 'back up' schemes to be included in this SPG, DCWW does recognise the valuable contribution that has been made in terms of surface water removal through the development system in recent years. Such development is only a part of a wider package of interventions to address infrastructural issues in the Llanelli area. They will seek to work constructively with applicants, however in all instances the sequential search should be firstly exhausted.

Carmarthenshire County Council planning applications – The Betterment Bank

6.12 In all instances where Carmarthenshire County Council is the applicant for planning permission for a relevant development as defined within this SPG, Carmarthenshire County Council will be required to submit a drainage report which fully details the feasibility of on site or adjacent to site removal (stage 1 of the sequential search). Should it be demonstrated to the satisfaction of Carmarthenshire LPA and where appropriate DCWW, that this cannot be achieved, then this SPG makes provision for Carmarthenshire LPA to waive the requirement for Carmarthenshire County Council to progress to Stage 2 of the sequential search process. This will be considered on a case by case basis. This is known as the Betterment Bank exception.

6.13 The Betterment Bank exception will be subject to:

- Carmarthenshire County Council demonstrating to the satisfaction of Carmarthenshire LPA that it has surplus betterment capacity already accrued on the register through development and other surface water removal schemes; and
- Carmarthenshire County Council demonstrating to the satisfaction of Carmarthenshire LPA that the proposal is of strategic significance in terms of corporate / rLDP alignment through submission of a justification report; and
- Carmarthenshire County Council demonstrating to the satisfaction of Carmarthenshire LPA that on site (or adjoining) surface water removal cannot be achieved (stage 1 of the sequential search) through submission of a drainage report; and
- Carmarthenshire LPA being satisfied that the amount of credit being taken from the register will not unduly affect the headroom of the overall surface water removal register.

6.14 The planning justification for implementing the 'betterment bank' approach is to support the Council's contribution towards the delivery of the rLDP and its associated corporate objectives. Reference is made to Section 5 of this SPG, together with Appendix 3 of this SPG. The public interest justification for implementing the 'betterment bank' approach is that the Council has already invested significant amounts of public money in implementing betterment schemes. Due to its reliance on the beneficial use of public funds, the 'betterment bank' is only available to the Council and cannot be utilised by private developers.

Other Considerations

Pre Application Consultation (PAC)

6.15 On 16 March 2016, key elements of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 (the Act) were implemented. This included a need for developers to carry out statutory pre-application consultation on planning applications for major developments in Wales. From 1 August 2016 applicants (developers) proposing major development were required to show how they had adhered to the new consultation requirements as part of their planning application submissions. Reference is made to paragraph 6.5 above.

6.16 There are clear opportunities, as part of a meaningful PAC engagement process, for developers to have their proposed betterment scheme in place at an early stage. Developers are encouraged to make the drainage strategy available as part of their suite of PAC consultation documents.

Sustainable Drainage Systems

6.17 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (Schedule 3) establishes Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB) in County Councils and requires new developments to include Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) features that comply with national standards. This legislation came into force from January 7th 2019. Developers are advised to confirm the requirements at an early stage – particularly as part of formulating the drainage report.

Placemaking

6.18 The incorporation of a place making approach into concept development from the outset could allow for wider benefits – including green infrastructure. In developing drainage solutions, there are opportunities to acknowledge placemaking opportunities – including wider wins – eg biodiversity.

7.0 MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT

Strategic governance

7.1 The former MoU was based on a signatory process. This has now been revised to be as a statement of common ground for the Burry Inlet. Signatories are Carmarthenshire County Council, City and County of Swansea, Natural Resources Wales and Dwr Cymru Welsh Water.

Register of Surface Water Removal – Carmarthenshire LPA

7.2 Carmarthenshire LPA will keep an updated register of surface water removal. The register will be available to all signatory organisations and the Welsh Government.

7.3 With regards to the betterment bank for Carmarthenshire County Council proposals (paragraph 6.12 of this SPG refers), Carmarthenshire LPA will separately account for credits attributed to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Timeframe

7.4 It is intended that this SPG will accompany the rLDP for the duration of the Plan period. It should be noted that the rLDP is subject to Annual Monitoring Reports and a four yearly review.

APPENDIX 1 - TECHNICAL GUIDANCE AND FLOW CALCULATIONS

1 Background

1.1 This appendix provides information to inform calculations undertaken on compensatory surface water removal. It is intended to inform drainage reports that will be required to be undertaken and submitted to Carmarthenshire LPA.

1.2 It should be noted that the information is largely illustrative and as such timely engagement with stakeholders is encouraged – notably DCWW. A list of key contacts is provided at appendix 2.

2 Calculation Basis

2.1 Foul Flows – residential

2.1.1 The peak flow per residential property arriving in the public sewer system should be based on the following criteria as a guide:

Water Consumption	180 litres/head/day
Residential Infiltration allowance	120 litres/head/day
Miscellaneous consumption	25 litres/head/day
Residential occupancy	2.5 persons/property
Peak flow factor (diurnal)	2.0 x

Given the above criteria the contribution of peak flow from an individual household will be approximately:

$$[(180+25) \times 2.5 \times 2.0] + 120 \text{ litres/day} = 1,145 \text{ litres/day}$$

Quantification of proposed new foul flows = **0.013 litres / second for 1 residential property**

2.2 Foul Flows – Other

2.2.1 The peak flow for non-residential arriving in the public sewer system should be based on the following criteria as a guide, however this should be subject to agreement with DCWW on a case by case basis.

2.2.2 Reference is made to the table 1 overleaf for guidance on flows for non-residential

2.2.3 **Table 1 - Guidance for Peak Foul Flows – Other:**

Commercial Property Type	Water Consumption l/head/day	Peak foul flows (For comparison) l/head/second	Peak foul flow by Area
Offices	55	0.006	

Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan

Schools	50	0.005	
Rest Homes	300	0.031	
Hospitals	450	0.046	
Public Houses	15	0.002	
Caravans	120	0.012	
Camp Sites	75	0.008	
Hotels	200	0.021	
Restaurants	25	0.003	
Industrial Sites* (Expected Large water use)			55m ³ / Hectare /day = 2.5l/s per Hectare
Industrial Sites* (Light Industry)			10m ³ / Hectare /day = 0.7l/s per Hectare

* Note: For Industrial sites the figures above are a guide only. In ALL cases DCWW MUST be contacted to confirm appropriate figures to be used

2.2.4 * Note: For Industrial sites the figures above are a guide only. In ALL cases DCWW **MUST** be contacted to confirm appropriate figures to be used. The Figures are based on average daily flows assume an 8 and 12 hour working day for light /heavy industries respectively. A peaking factor of x 2 has been used, Peak rain intensity = 10.8 mm/hr and a Betterment Factors = x 2.

2.2.5 It is advised that in all instances, DCWW are contacted in a timely manner.

2.3 Surface Water Flows

2.3.1 **No new surface water shall be allowed to enter the system.**

2.3.2 In addition assessment of existing surface water flows for compensatory removal should be as follows:

2.3.3 Peak storm flow is the amount of flow runoff expected per m² area at the peak of the storm, and is the flow that would be expected to impact the drainage system. This is dependent on the storm duration (hours) and return period for a rainfall event. The Flood Estimations Handbook (FEH) provides statistical information relevant to different geographical areas. Table 2 below summarises FEH data for a 1:30 year rainfall event in the Burry Inlet area.

Storm Duration (hrs)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Rain in Storm (mm)	30.6	39.0	45.0	49.8	53.8	57.3
Peak Rain Rate (Linear distribution) mm/hr	30.6	19.5	15.0	12.5	10.8	9.6
Peak Rain Rate (FEH (peak) mm/hr		28.6	26.3	34.0	22.2	20.6

Table 2 FEH peaks and linear distribution of rainfall intensities for a 1:30 year return period storm in the Burry Inlet area.

2.3.4 The hourly figure for a 5-hour duration, 1 in 30-year return period event, using linear rainfall distribution is to be used to calculate rainfall run-off, ie. 10.8mm/hr. This equates to 10.8 litres/hr/m², or **0.003 litres/second/m²**.

2.3.5 The industry standard 1:30 year storm return period has been employed as a basis for calculation of surface water flow rates to be used in identifying suitably sized impermeable areas for drainage re-direction. Due to the fact that new connections introduce - for all intents and purposes - new continuous flow, it is clearly not possible to simply match a comparable surface water flow rate in mitigation against risk of increased down-sewer CSO spills, as most surface water entering combined sewers is rainfall-related, and thereby transient. Consequently, to provide added reassurance of adequate mitigation with a reduced risk of down-sewer storm sewage spills, in appropriate circumstances an additional betterment margin may be sought pending advice of DCWW.

2.4 Removal of surface water – illustrative example for a residential unit

2.4.1 Including a 2x betterment margin, the impermeable area required to have drainage redirected may then be calculated as follows:

Area redirected = (Per property foul flow / per metre² run-off) x 2
Area = (0.013 / 0.003) x 2

Impermeable area to have drainage diverted	= 9m² per property
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APPENDIX 2 – USEFUL CONTACTS

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water

developer.services@dwrwymru.com 0800 917 265

Carmarthenshire County Council Development Management

planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk 01558 825285

Carmarthenshire Sustainability Drainage Body

SAB@carmarthenshire.gov.uk 01267 228342

APPENDIX 3 STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTAL CONTEXT AND THE BETTERMENT BANK FOR CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS

1. Introduction

1.1 The Draft Deposit Revised LDP (rLDP) December 2019, as supported by this Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), provides a clear approach in the consideration of development proposals within the Llanelli WWTW area.

1.2 Section 2 of this appendix reviews matters in relation to the Council's key corporate / regeneration initiatives. This is with a view to framing the corporate / regeneration context for public investment in the Llanelli / Burry Port areas. Reference is also made to Section 5 of the SPG itself.

1.3 Section 3 of this appendix elaborates upon the exception that can apply where Carmarthenshire County Council is the applicant for planning permission. Reference is also made to paragraph 6.12 of this SPG itself. The SPG provides a mechanism for the Council to utilise "surplus betterment" it has already secured as part of 'public investment' and developments across the Llanelli and Burry Port areas (including surface water removal schemes). This is designed to support the Council in its delivery of its regeneration objectives across Llanelli and Burry Port through the rLDP.

2. Development and Corporate Context

2.1 In recognising and complying with the relevant environmental and infrastructural considerations and legislative provisions / directives, this SPG also sets out to facilitate and support the delivery of development as shaped by the rLDP.

Llanelli and the Waterfront: A Developmental Context

2.2 Carmarthenshire County Council (the Council) is the Local Planning Authority for the Llanelli WWTW area. The rLDP sets out a framework for the development and use of land as well as for the protection of the environment. It guides and facilitates investment decisions as well as the delivery of services and infrastructure. The Plan determines the level of provision and location of new housing, employment opportunities and other uses, and sets the framework for considering all land use proposals during the plan period.

2.3 Carmarthenshire is part of the Swansea Bay City Region which also encompasses the Local Authority areas of Pembrokeshire, City and County of Swansea and Neath Port Talbot. The City Region, in bringing together business, local government, and a range of other partners, published the Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 – 2030. The role of the rLDP in guiding and supporting the City Region's aspirations will be central to its success. The £1.3 billion Swansea Bay City Deal was signed in March 2017. The City Deal is expected to give the Swansea Bay City Region a permanent uplift in its GVA of £1.8 billion and will generate almost 10,000 new jobs over the next 15 years. There is reference to 11 major projects overall. Within Carmarthenshire, two specific projects are proposed – including the Wellness and Life Science Village along the Llanelli coastline – see paragraph 2.13 below. There is therefore a recognition of Llanelli at this strategic regional level and its geographic position in relation to Swansea is also noted in this regard.

2.4 The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 (The Act) introduces a legislative basis for the introduction of a National Development Framework (NDF). The NDF, in effectively superseding the Wales Spatial Plan, will set out national policies in relation to the development and use of land in Wales. Reference is made to the explicit reference to

Swansea Bay and Llanelli within the emerging National Development Framework (draft – published 7 August 2019) in this regard.

2.5 The Act also introduces the potential for Strategic Development Plans (SDP's) to allow 'larger than local' issues to be considered and planned for within a strategic context. In relation to the reference to Swansea Bay and Llanelli in the draft NDF, it is highly likely that the cross border context in spatial terms would include the Llanelli area, with those issues under potential consideration including housing, employment and infrastructure. The potential for links with the objectives of the City Region are recognised, whilst in preparing their respective LDP's, there is already an emphasis on cross border collaboration and discussion between the City and County of Swansea and Carmarthenshire.

2.6 Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire - the next 5 years - is the Council's Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023 (approved 2018 – updated 2019). It sets out the direction for Carmarthenshire County Council over the next five years, incorporating its improvement and well-being objectives. It also references the Executive Board's key projects and programmes for the next five years, a set of almost 100 priority projects. The Tyisha area, Llanelli Town centre, the Wellness and Life Science Village, along with Burry Port Harbour are cited.

2.7 There is also a corporate drive to deliver 1,000 new affordable homes across the County. The Affordable Housing Delivery Plan 2016-2020 is supported by the Council Housing Company. A report "building more homes – increasing our ambition" was received by the Council in February 2019 – with a banding framework in place to guide delivery. It is noted that across Bands A, B and C, a total County wide figure of 917 units and £141m investment is cited. Of these, 439 units and £73.5m of investment is earmarked for the Llanelli and District area.

2.8 "Transformations: A Strategic Regeneration Plan for Carmarthenshire 2015-2030" identifies the Council's regeneration plans with a view to facilitating the delivery of employment development, improvement and investment. Within the current position / regeneration to date chapter, Delta Lakes and The Beacon are identified as strategic regeneration sites, whilst Llanelli Town Centre is part of the 'primary towns' classification. Burry Port is listed in the 'vibrant market towns and valley growth zones'. Moving forward, it should be noted that (a) Carmarthenshire Coastal Belt and (b) Llanelli are listed as two of the six transformational projects.

The Carmarthenshire rLDP 2018-2033 (draft deposit – December 2019)

2.9 The rLDP provides a spatial expression and key delivery mechanism for the Council and wider region's developmental ambitions.

2.10 The rLDP provides the framework for all future development within the County until 2033. The vision includes reference to Carmarthenshire having a strong economy that reflects its position as a confident and ambitious driver for the Swansea Bay City Region.

2.11 Listed below are some of the strategic objectives (SO) of the rLDP that are deemed particularly relevant to the Llanelli / coastal belt area, however it could be argued that there is a strong alignment with all of the Strategic Objectives.

- SO1 To ensure that the natural environment, including habitats and species, are safeguarded and enhanced.
- 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.

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

2.12 Reference is also given to the Plan's strategic policies that have been formulated with due regard to the Plan's vision and strategic objectives. Whilst they are an essential contributor in implementing the strategy, they do not comprise the full suite of policies. The Strategic Policies comprise those of a strategic nature and are supplemented by the detailed policies and proposals which are set out in subsequent sections of this Plan. Listed below are those Strategic Policies that are deemed particularly relevant to the Llanelli / coastal belt area, however it could be argued that there is a strong alignment with all of the Strategic Objectives.

- Strategic Policy – SP 1: Strategic Growth
- Strategic Policy – SP 2: Retail and Town Centres
- Strategic Policy – SP 3: A Sustainable Approach to Providing New Homes
- Strategic Policy – SP 4: Affordable Homes Strategy
- Strategic Policy – SP 5: Strategic Sites (one of which is Llanelli Life Science and Well-being Village)
- Strategic Policy – SP 6: Employment and the Economy
- Strategic Policy – SP 8: Infrastructure
- Strategic Policy – SP 10: The Visitor Economy
- Strategic Policy – SP 13: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment
- Strategic Policy – SP 16: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework

2.13 With reference to SP16, Llanelli is identified as a Principal Centre within the rLDP. The adoption of a Local Development Order (LDO) for Llanelli Town Centre in 2019 is a reflection of the corporate emphasis on the town centre. The ongoing investments into the area (both through the Council and its partnerships with the Welsh Government (WG)) have been successful in regenerating areas left derelict through industrial decline.

2.14 A Wellness and Life Science Village is planned for Llanelli. The £200million complex planned for Delta Lakes on the Llanelli coast is expected to create close to 2,000 jobs and give the local economy a £467million boost. As well as an Institute of Life Science, a Community Health Hub facility at the Village is set to include a Wellness Education Centre and a Clinical Delivery Centre. A state-of-the-art leisure centre, assisted living accommodation are also planned for the Village, along with landscaped outdoor spaces for recreation.

2.15 Burry Port (including Pembrey) is identified as a Service Centre within the rLDP. The settlement has a history of industrial activity (focused on the harbour) which has now evolved to reflect the tourism potential offered by a waterfront location and high amenity value. Burry Port Harbour offers regeneration potential. It should be noted that Pembrey does not drain to Llanelli WWTW, but Burry Port does.

2.16 The transformation of Burry Port is underway and already a number of exciting developments are being delivered, with more in the pipeline. The regeneration of Burry Port Harbour is a major project supported by the Llanelli Waterside Joint Venture Partnership (JV) between Carmarthenshire County Council and Welsh Government.

2.17 The Llanelli / Burry Port area represents a key economic and regeneration driver for the Joint Venture Partnership (JV) which consists of Carmarthenshire County Council and the Welsh Government (WG). Development of the area seeks to provide an opportunity to deliver sustainable growth in a manner which also reflects the rLDP objectives in respect of previously developed land. The strategic interests of the JV are demonstrated via its significant land holdings and as such the intent to dispose as part of a holistic approach to redevelopment is readily apparent.

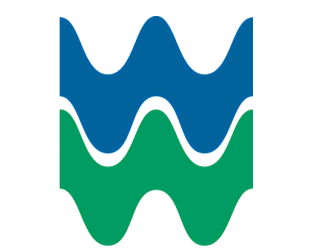
3 The Betterment Bank

3.1 The SPG provides a mechanism for the Council to utilise “surplus betterment” it has already secured as part of ‘public investment’ and developments across the Llanelli and Burry Port areas (including surface water removal schemes). This is designed to support the Council in its delivery of its regeneration / corporate objectives across the Llanelli and Burry Port areas through the rLDP.

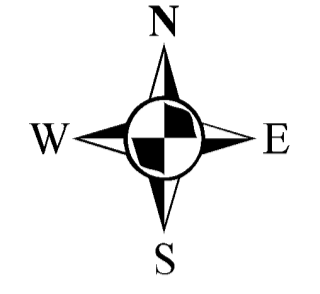
3.2 The planning justification for implementing the ‘betterment bank’ approach is to support the Council’s contribution towards the delivery of the rLDP and its associated corporate objectives – including those set out in Section 2 of this Appendix. Further information is set out in paragraph 6.13 of the SPG in terms of the implementation of the betterment bank.

3.3 The public interest justification for implementing the ‘betterment bank’ approach is that the Council has already invested significant amounts of public money in implementing betterment schemes. It is deemed reasonable that the surplus betterment created by the Council is made available for utilisation by the Council.

APPENDIX 4

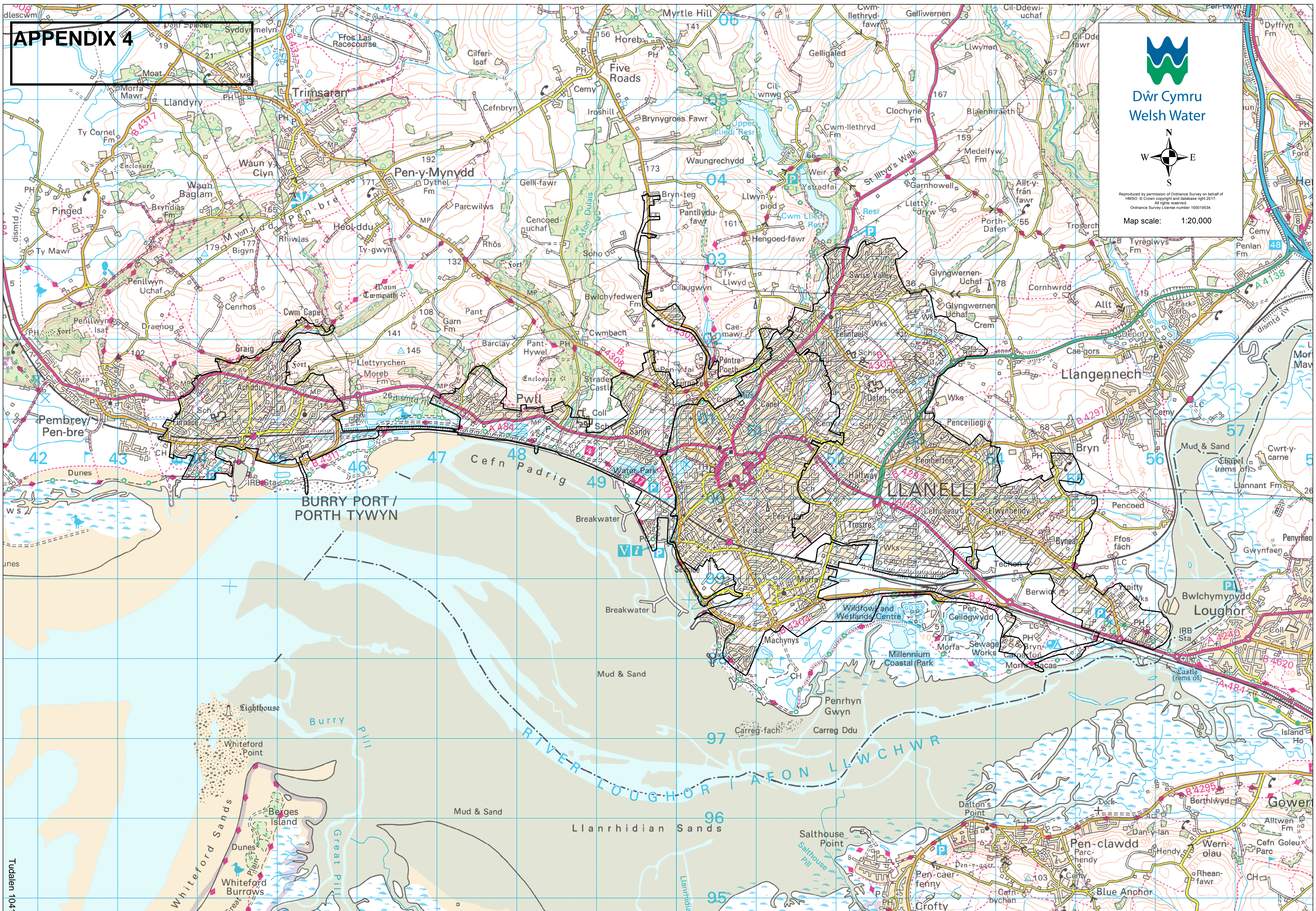


Dŵr Cymru
Welsh Water



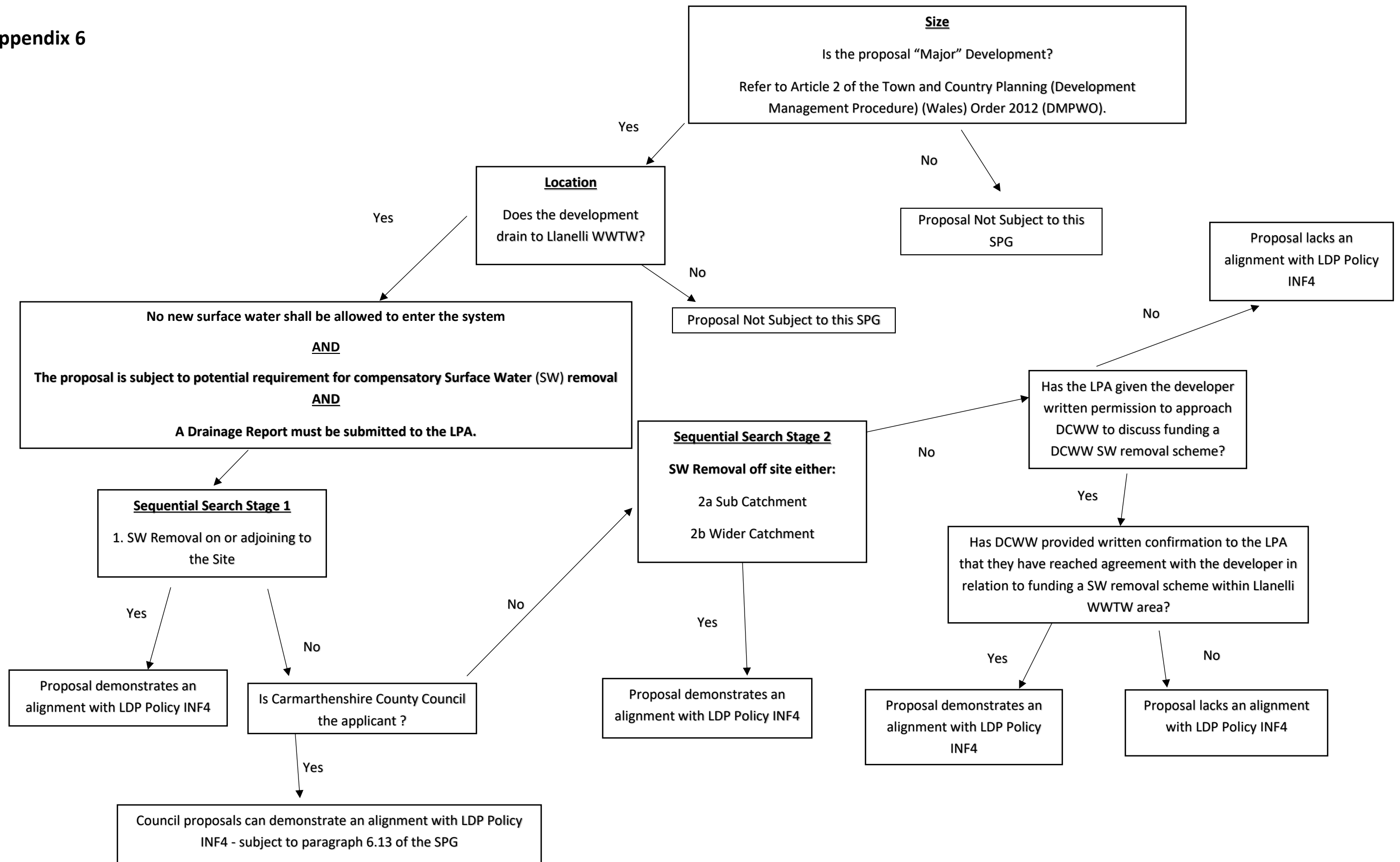
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Map scale: 1:20,000





Appendix 6



Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwiadol

Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan
Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation
Supplementary Planning Guidance
DECEMBER 2019
DRAFT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Guidance

- 1.1 This Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) is an elaboration and consolidation of the policies and provisions of the Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (rLDP) Deposit Draft (December 2019), most notably policy NE4: Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area.
- 1.2 This SPG provides specific guidance in relation to the consideration of development proposals impacting upon the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation (SAC). In noting its environmental credentials, this SPG is intended to assist in facilitating the delivery of the rLDP up to 2033 – most notably within the Cross Hands Principal Centre and surrounding areas as part of a place making approach.
- 1.3 The compiling (and future adoption) of this SPG is a recognition by the Council of the outcomes of the Plan level Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) undertaken on the rLDP. It also reflects a range of legislation and guidance, notably the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and the Environment Act 2016. This SPG replaces a previous iteration of the SPG which supported the previous Carmarthenshire LDP (2006-2021). The previous SPG, and its supporting evidence, has been fully revised in this regard.
- 1.4 Should a developer be unable to provide the required mitigation to satisfy the HRA as part of the seeking of a planning permission within the SPG area, then this SPG provides a mechanism for the developer to provide a contribution to the Council's Caeau Mynydd Mawr project instead. The project will then deliver the mitigation on the developer's behalf. The Caeau Mynydd Mawr project will mitigate for any loss of habitat and reduction in the permeability / connectivity of the landscape within the SPG area by delivering an integrated habitat management plan, in accordance with the conservation objectives of the SAC.
- 1.5 The compiling (and future adoption) of this SPG indicates that any Tests of Likely Significant Effect (TLSE) conducted by the Council for developments within the SPG area should generally be able to conclude that there will be no likely significant effect (alone and in combination) on the features (and their conservation objectives) for which the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC has been designated. This should generally enable planning permission to be granted in a timely manner, subject to the proposal meeting the policies and provisions of the rLDP as a whole.
- 1.6 This SPG reflects the conservation objectives of the SAC and the marsh fritillary butterfly metapopulation. It is supported and informed by the following 3 papers (available upon request) which fully evidence the following key facets:
 - the delineation of the SPG Area;
 - the calculation of the contribution sum to be levied; and
 - the habitat management specifications and quantification of success.
- 1.7 It is intended that the potential impact of losing connectivity between supporting habitat within the SPG area as a result of development will be addressed by securing appropriate management of other areas suitable for the marsh fritillary within the SPG area. The project also seeks to provide links (such as areas of open grassland of suitable size) between other areas of supporting habitat within the SPG area.

- 1.8** The habitat management / mitigation will be undertaken by the Council's Caeau Mynydd Mawr project. This project will secure the ongoing and future management of habitat within the SPG area and will be funded by the developer contributions secured through planning obligations as part of the granting of planning permission within the SPG area. A contribution will be required from the developer which has been calculated to be sufficient to fund the management of twice that area lost to development for the perpetuity period (i.e. 20 years).
- 1.9** This SPG establishes a transparent and consistent approach to securing contributions that will resource the Caeau Mynydd Mawr project. It also makes applicants aware, at an early stage of the development process, of the Council's expectations in respect of the level of contributions required and where the SPG area is located.
- 1.10** The rLDP does not repeat national policy statements. The Council will therefore utilise national policy to assist in determining development proposals that have potential to impact on international and nationally designated sites. Such policies also underpin the implementation of this SPG. Reference can however be made to rLDP policy SP 13 Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment– most notably in terms of the cross reference to Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 5.
- 1.11** This SPG is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and appeals located within the SPG area.
- 1.12** The preparation of this SPG will be subject to a public consultation exercise alongside the draft deposit rLDP with comments invited on its content. The consultation has been conducted in a manner consistent with that set out within the Delivery Agreement for the rLDP. It is intended to be adopted concurrently with the rLDP. It should be noted that the Plan should be read in its entirety in formulating any proposals.

2.0 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

National Policy Context

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 10, December 2018)

- 2.1 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government and is supplemented by a number of documents, including Technical Advice Notes (TANs). Paragraph 2.17 of PPW states that “in responding to the key principles for the planning system, the creation of sustainable places and in recognition of the need to contribute to the well-being of future generations in Wales through placemaking, development plans and development proposals must seek to deliver developments that address the national sustainable placemaking outcomes”. Reference should be made to ‘The Distinctive and Natural Places theme’, with paragraph 6.4.9 setting out the broad framework for implementing the Section 6 Duty under the Environment Act of 2016 and building resilience through the planning system.
- 2.2 Paragraph 6.4.14 of PPW states that “International and national responsibilities and obligations for conservation should be fully met, and, consistent with the objectives of the designation, statutorily designated sites protected from damage and deterioration, with their important features conserved and enhanced by appropriate management”. Reference should also be made to Paragraph 6.4.18 of PPW, notably “...development can normally only be authorised or the plan adopted, if the planning authority ascertains that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site, if necessary taking into account any additional measures planning conditions or obligations”

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5, Nature Conservation and Planning (September 2009):

- 2.3 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” (paragraph 1.6.1).
- paragraph 2.4 states that local planning authorities should.. “adopt a step-wise approach to avoid harm to nature conservation, minimise unavoidable harm by mitigation measures, offset residual harm by compensation measures and look for new opportunities to enhance nature conservation...”
 - paragraph 3.2.6 states that “Local development plans should include policies in respect of the conservation of the natural beauty and amenity of the land; such policies should encourage the management of features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild flora and fauna. Suitable planning conditions and obligations may serve to promote such management.”
 - paragraph 3.4.2 states that “Local planning authorities may adopt SPG to provide more detailed, locally relevant guidance for:
 - achieving more sustainable solutions to development problems and opportunities that respect natural processes and ecological systems...
 - developers to avoid adverse effects on nature conservation, minimise

unavoidable effects by mitigation measures and compensate for residual effects on nature conservation, and providing new benefits for conservation, using examples of different types of development and different conservation scenarios and initiatives...

-the creation of new wildlife habitats and the enhancement of nature conservation interests..”

- paragraph 4.1.1 states that “The development control process is a critical stage in delivering the protection and enhancement of nature conservation required by PPW. The following can help to achieve these objectives...securing necessary measures to protect, enhance, mitigate and compensate through planning conditions and obligations”

2.4 Section 4.7 confirms that planning obligations can also be an effective way of avoiding potential adverse effects on nature conservation enabling a permission to be granted. It states that if there is a choice between imposing conditions and entering into a planning obligation, the imposition of a condition is preferable, however in many circumstances, for nature conservation matters, obligations provide a more flexible, but equally reliable and enforceable, means of controlling development. It adds that obligations are “particularly useful for delivering the measures in a proposed development to avoid, mitigate or compensate for potential harm to nature conservation and to ensure proposed natural heritage benefits are delivered in a timely and appropriate way, where these have been material considerations in the planning decision.”

2.5 Paragraph 4.7.1 states that obligations may be appropriate for providing:

- for the management of land and conservation of natural heritage features associated with development including any compensatory areas;
- monitoring systems and the means of reporting, reviewing and adjusting, monitoring and mitigation and compensation measures;
- new habitats or enhancing existing habitats, on or off-site;
- information and interpretation, for example, about the geological interest of a site or feature;
- improved access for all to sites or features of nature conservation interest;
- new nature reserves or the funding of nature reserve management or provision;
- warden or ranger services to help manage recreational or other pressures on land on or off-site;
- measures to avoid harm to protected species in buildings or elsewhere;
- other appropriate financial contributions to nature conservation.

2.6 TAN 5 confirms that “whilst the above is not an exhaustive list but illustrates the scope of use of planning obligations. Local planning authorities and developers are encouraged to use obligations in a positive and innovative way....”

Developer contributions / obligations

2.7 Paragraph 10.3.1 of The Development Management Manual (Revision 2 Welsh Government, May 2017 – the DMM 2017) outlines that developers may be asked to provide contributions in several ways. This may be through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) or planning obligations in the form of an agreement under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - as amended by Section 12 of the Planning and Compensation Act (1991).

- 2.8** It should be noted that at the time of writing there is no CIL in Carmarthenshire. Planning obligations secured by way of a Section 106 agreement or Unilateral Undertaking (also called a Unilateral Obligation), are binding on the land and are therefore enforceable against all successors in title.
- 2.9** Paragraph 10.3.7 of DMM2017 clarifies that obligations created under section 106 of the 1990 Act can:
- restrict the development or use of the land in any specified way;
 - require specified operations or activities to be carried out in, on, under or over the land;
 - require the land to be used in any specified way;
 - require a sum or sums to be paid to the authority on a specified date or dates or periodically.
- 2.10** Paragraph 10.3.8 of DMM2017 clarifies that planning obligations should only be used where it is not possible to address unacceptable impacts through a planning condition. The Council accepts that conditions are unlikely to suffice in relation to Mynydd Mawr given that matters are being considered at a landscape / metatpopulation scale with the provisions of the Habitat Regulations (including 'in combination' matters) being paramount. It is noted in this regard that there is an emphasis on addressing off-site / connectivity issues at a landscape scale. However, it is accepted that conditions may prove useful for any 'on site' conservation / mitigation measures, with their use a matter for consideration on a site by site basis – reference is made to paragraph 5.5 of this SPG.
- 2.11** The legal tests for planning obligations are set out in the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) (set out below). In adopting this SPG, the Council is satisfied that this SPG meets these tests in identifying a Plan level policy intervention for implementation within the rLDP period:
- necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
 - directly related to the development;
 - fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.
- 2.12** Procedural guidance on how planning obligations should be properly negotiated and used by Planning Authorities is provided by Planning Obligations Welsh Office Circular 13/97 (8th July 1997). It is stated that planning obligations should be necessary; relevant to planning; directly related to the proposed development; fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the proposed development, and; reasonable in all other respects.
- 2.13** Annex B of Circular 13/97 provides further guidance on how these tests should be met. Paragraph B2 of Annex B states that planning obligations 'should only be sought where they are necessary to make a proposal acceptable in land-use planning terms' and that 'Planning obligations may relate to matters other than those covered by a planning permission, provided there is a direct relationship between the planning obligation and the planning permission... but they should not be sought where this connection does not exist or is too remote..'

- 2.14** Paragraph B9 of Annex B to the Circular provides some illustrations of what might be 'reasonable' in the terms of the policy test. It requires that what is sought or offered must be: Necessary from a practical point of view to enable the development to go ahead and Necessary from a planning point of view and is so directly related to the proposed development and to the use of the land after its completion that the development ought not to be permitted without it.
- 2.15** All contributions levied within the SPG area will be utilised towards funding the implementation of specific habitat management initiatives within that same SPG area. This area has been robustly defined. This satisfies the requirements of the circular in relation to the tests for the use of planning obligations with a clear link made in spatial terms. This SPG also adheres to paragraph B9 of Annex B in that it provides the framework for contributions to address the below tests:
- Necessary from a practical point of view: There are barriers to giving permission for schemes that comply with the development plan because a precautionary principle approach may be unable to conclude that there are no potential 'in combination effects' on the SAC on a landscape scale;
 - Necessary from a planning point of view: A long term and suitably resourced strategy is required to increase managed land so as to accord with the conservation objectives of the SAC. The Plan level HRA undertaken on the rLDP states that the adoption of this SPG is required.
- 2.16** Reference should be made to rLDP Policy INF1: Planning Obligations, together with Appendix 3 (useful contacts) for further information on the use of developer contributions in Carmarthenshire and the implementation of this SPG.

Local Policy Context

Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018-2033

- 2.17** The rLDP will become the statutory development plan for the County. Its spatial strategy is underpinned by the identification of three Principal Centres along with a range of settlements arranged within 6 clusters. The Plan is informed, and supported by extensive input from plan level Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA-SEA).
- 2.18** Ammanford/Cross Hands is identified as a Principal Centre in the rLDP. The area is well served by those facilities which are vital to supporting the principles of sustainability and are capable of accommodating a proportionally high level of growth. It represents a large and established urban area located on sustainable transport routes.
- 2.19** The Plan Level HRA on the rLDP recommended that a mitigation strategy is required to ameliorate the loss of habitat in relation to the SAC marsh fritillary metapopulation.
- 2.20** rLDP Policy INF1 (Planning Obligations) provides the overarching context for the negotiation of developer contributions in Carmarthenshire and is set out below. Reference should also be made to its supporting text in terms of any prioritisation of obligations, notably in terms of the provisions of rLDP Policy NE4 and this SPG – in recognition of the Habitats Directive. Constructive negotiation in terms of developer contributions needs to be undertaken by all parties. Such negotiations should be informed by the provisions of this SPG which seeks to provide certainty and transparency to all parties.

‘INF1: Planning Obligations

Where necessary, planning obligations will be sought to ensure that the effects of developments are fully addressed in order to make the development acceptable. Contributions will be required to deliver or fund improvements to infrastructure, community facilities and other services and facilities to address requirements or impacts arising from new developments.

Where applicable, contributions will also be sought towards the future and ongoing maintenance of such provision.

In instances where there is a dispute regarding matters relating to the financial viability of delivering the requirements, the applicant will be required to meet the Council’s costs of securing an independent financial viability appraisal / assessment.’

- 2.21** The rLDP does not repeat national policy statements, albeit rLDP policy SP 13 does cross reference to Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5. The Council will therefore utilise national policy to assist in determining development proposals that have potential to impact on international and nationally designated sites (notably Technical Advice Note 5 – see paragraph 2.3 of this SPG). Such policies also underpin the implementation of this SPG. Policy NE4 below provides sets the provisions for consideration of such matters in relation to Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area.

‘NE4: Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area

Proposals will be permitted where they accord with the Council’s commitment to promote and contribute to the delivery of the Conservation Objectives of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation (CMM SAC) in line with the Habitats Regulations. Proposals located within the SPG Area will be required to contribute towards increasing the quality and amount of available habitat for the Marsh Fritillary butterfly within the SPG Area. The SPG Area is defined on the Proposals Map.

In order to achieve these objectives, and to mitigate for the loss of potential supporting habitat and connectivity for the marsh fritillary butterfly that may result through the development, the Council will (where applicable) seek to secure Planning Obligations (in accordance with LDP policy INF1 and the provisions of the SPG for the CMM SAC) from relevant developments within the SPG area.’

2.22 Regard is also afforded to the following relevant rLDP policies:

- SP 13: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment;
- NE1: Regional and Local Designations;
- NE2: Biodiversity; and
- NE3: Corridors, Networks and Features of Distinctiveness.

3.0 THE CAEAU MYNYDD MAWR SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION

3.1 The Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation (SAC) has been designated as it contains habitats and species that are rare or threatened within a European context namely:

- Marsh Fritillary butterfly, for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom;
- *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.

3.2 The SAC lies at the centre of a wider area that sustains one of Wales' most important marsh fritillary populations. The butterfly functions in a meta-population – a group of local (smaller) populations connected by migrating individuals. The marsh fritillary requires large areas of continuous or closely connected marshy grassland in order to survive in the long term. The food plant on which the eggs are laid, and on which larvae feed is devil's bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*), these plants need to be abundant throughout the habitat in order to support the butterfly. The marshy grassland that supports the butterfly and its food plant will also include species such as purple moor grass, sweet vernal grass, greater bird's foot trefoil, whorled caraway, sneezewort, ragged robin and wild angelica.

3.3 While the marsh fritillary population in and around the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC is one of the most important in the United Kingdom it is threatened by loss of habitat as a result of development, and also by the deterioration in the condition of its habitat due to inappropriate management. Over-grazing results in the loss of the food plant, and under grazing in scrub encroachment which similarly results in a loss of the food plant.

3.4 In terms of the conservation objectives for the SAC, it should be noted that the long term security and resilience of the population is dependent on the maintenance of an extensive and well connected network of suitable habitat (not all of which will be occupied by Marsh Fritillaries at any one time) both within and outside of the protected site boundary. This forms the wider 'Core Landscape' for the meta-population. At Caeau Mynydd Mawr, this core landscape has been mapped and contains 249 ha of Available habitat or land with potential to support Marsh Fritillary. Research (Bulman. 2007) suggests that to be viable in the long term a Marsh Fritillary metapopulation requires at least 100 ha of Available habitat, with adequate connectivity linked to the core SAC units. Future resilience against further urbanisation, climate change and to allow movement within a dynamic landscape will depend on retaining as much Available habitat as possible within the core landscape. Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC will contribute a minimum of 17.5 ha of Available habitat, including at least 6 ha of Good Condition habitat to this meta-population.

3.5 The site location plan of the SAC is set out in Appendix 2.

4.0 BACKGROUND, THE PROJECT AND DEFINING THE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE AREA

Place making

- 4.1** Cross Hands and a number of the surrounding settlements form part of the Ammanford/Cross Hands Growth Principal Centre as defined within the rLDP. Its identification forms an important element of the plan's spatial strategy, providing a focus for the provision of growth. The Cross Hands area also sustains one of Wales' most important populations of the marsh fritillary butterfly a species that requires large areas of continuous or closely connected habitat to survive in the long term. Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation (SAC) lies at the centre of this area and the marsh fritillary is a feature of this SAC. The rLDP and this SPG seek to balance these potentially conflicting demands as part of a place making approach.
- 4.2** As part of the statutory responsibility of the Council, under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 as the relevant "competent authority", development proposals shown (at the detailed assessment stage) to have an adverse significant affect upon the qualifying interest (or features), conservation objectives and integrity (in relation to the site's ability to support its objectives) of the SAC – alone or in combination with other plans or projects – which do not provide for, or are unable to achieve an acceptable standard of mitigation should not be permitted.
- 4.3** This SPG provides a framework for the delivery of development within (and surrounding) the Ammanford / Cross Hands principal centre. It also provides a mechanism for the resourcing of an integrated management project which will be delivered by the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Project Team. This SPG satisfies the tests set by the CIL Regulations, accords with the guidance of WG circular 13/97 and also implements the recommendations of the HRA undertaken on the rLDP.

Previous iterations of this SPG and developments

- 4.4** Previous iterations of this SPG have been adopted by the Council in support of the former Carmarthenshire Unitary Development Plan in February 2014 and the former Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan in December 2014.
- 4.5** These previous iterations have assisted in bringing forward some notable developments across the Cross Hands area in recent years. These include Cross Hands West, Cross Hands Strategic Employment Site and the Cross Hands Economic Relief Road.

The Caeau Mynydd Mawr project

- 4.6** A habitat management specification and quantifying success report has been prepared in support of this SPG. This report provides full information on the following:
- The aims of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC project;
 - How land is acquired by the project and its long term management;
 - Defines the baseline condition survey of habitat used to identify suitable sites;
 - Specifies the habitat management options; and
 - Sets out monitoring methods.

- 4.7** The Council has detailed information on the costs of running the project since its inception back in 2014. This information has been pivotal in identifying the contribution sums to be levied from developers. Reference should be made to Section 5 of this SPG and the Mitigation Payment Calculation Paper.

The Supplementary Planning Guidance Area

- 4.8** The SPG area denotes the area from which contributions will be secured and where the project team will commit these contributions. The delineation of the SPG area has been informed by robust evidence. The SPG area identified on the rLDP proposals map and is set out in Appendix 1 of this SPG.
- 4.9** The Defining the SPG Area report explains how the SPG area has been delineated.
- 4.10** The SPG area consists of 7,897 ha of land. This is a notable increase from that which was set out in the previous iteration of the SPG that underpinned the previous LDP (2006-2021).
- 4.11** Developers should note that their contributions are likely to be committed on delivering off site rather than on site management options/mitigation. This off site contribution will however be committed within the area identified in this SPG. Developers can be certain that their contributions will all go towards funding the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Project and deliver the required HRA mitigation on their behalf.
- 4.12** Adequate long term resourcing of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr project is critical. This reflects the fact that mitigation needs to be in place before development commences and because there will be ongoing revenue costs associated with the project's delivery. Such considerations have informed the levy calculation – see section 5 of this SPG and supporting paper.
- 4.13** Whilst the project needs to be suitably resourced, it is accepted that in some instances (e.g. larger developments) developers are unlikely to be able to provide the total sums of agreed contributions to the Council upon commencement. Financial modelling by virtue of a cash flow analysis will form an important part of the Council's management of the SPG. Such as cash flow / budget analysis, and the project's monitoring framework, can inform any negotiations with regards to phasing of contributions. Reference should be made to paragraph 5.4 of this SPG.

5.0 CONTRIBUTION SUMS - INCLUDING FLOWCHART

- 5.1** This section provides guidance on the amount of contributions that will be sought by the Council. It also confirms the various classifications of development that are privy to the provisions of the SPG levy.
- 5.2** The justification for the sums to be levied is set out within the Mitigation Payment Calculation Paper which is available upon request.
- 5.3** The flowchart (Figure 1) overleaf confirms the amount of developer contributions that the Council will seek to secure. The flowchart also confirms the specific classifications of development that will be subject to the provisions of the levy.
- 5.4** Where established through negotiation and the production of evidence to the satisfaction of the Council, consideration will be given to the phasing of contributions. Such phasing (including timing of contributions) will be set out within the legal agreements and will be negotiated by the Council on a case by case basis.
- 5.5** Suitable evidence in terms of 'in kind' contributions (eg land/retention of connectivity corridors) will also need to be confirmed to the satisfaction of the Council if these are to be used to offset/part offset the financial sums owed. The flowchart does allow for offsetting (or part offsetting) of contributions in lieu of mitigation (which could be conditioned).
- 5.6** The below classifications of development are subject to the provisions of the levy set out in future 1 overleaf and are thus 'chargeable':-
- Housing
 - Commercial/ Retail
 - Employment
 - Education/Community
 - Transport/highways infrastructure

The above list is not exhaustive and does not preclude the Council seeking contributions from other development proposals within the SPG area

- 5.7** The provisions of this SPG does not preclude the Council from undertaking Tests of Likely Significant Effects or Appropriate Assessment with regards to planning applications within the SPG area as and where it considers them appropriate.
- 5.8** The SPG contribution (which is likely to be set out in a legal agreement) will not include any legal fees owed to the Council or incurred by the applicant. In terms of what to submit and when, it is advisable that applicants liaise with the Council in advance of submitting a planning application. In order to validate the application and inform a legal agreement, the Council will require the necessary legal documentation to be made available at submission. A range of useful contacts is set out in Appendix 3 – including the Council's Legal Department. Template agreements are available for small-scale proposals. Reference should also be made to rLDP policy INF1 – Planning Obligations.

Figure 1 – Flowchart

1 Is the development proposal situated within the revised SPG area? Yes/No

If No then the development is not subject to the provisions of this revised SPG. If Yes then please proceed to stage 2 below.

2 Does the development fall into any of the below classifications? Yes/No.

If No then the development is not subject to the provisions of this revised SPG. If Yes then the development is chargeable at the stated rate.

- **Housing:** £1,531 per dwelling.
- **Commercial/Retail:** Site area pro rata with equivalent of 30 dwellings per hectare
- **Employment:** Site area pro rata with equivalent of 30 dwellings per hectare
- **Education/Community:** Site area pro rata with equivalent of 30 dwellings per hectare.
- **Transport/highways infrastructure:** Site area pro rata with equivalent of 30 dwellings per hectare.

The above list is not exhaustive and does not preclude the Council seeking contributions from other development proposals within the revised SPG area

3 In the instance of housing development, calculate a residual figure for the number of 'chargeable' dwellings proposed as agreed with the Council.

4. In the instance of 'other' development, calculate a residual figure for the amount of 'chargeable' land take/site area proposed as agreed with the Council.

5. In the instance where an in kind/site specific mitigation scheme has been agreed with the Council, quantify (in monetary terms) the amount of financial contribution that will be offset from that owing to the Council as a result. **Subtract this sum to form a residual overall chargeable total at this point*.*

6 What is the total amount of 'chargeable' development?

- Housing (number of chargeable units x £1,531) = £
- Other (chargeable site area pro rata where 1ha is £45,930) = £

7. Total financial contribution required (i.e. the sum owed to the Council and to be included within the legal agreement).

£_____

The contribution sum identified in 7 above does not include any legal fees owed to the Council or incurred by the applicant

6.0 MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT

Measuring success

- 6.1** The Council gives a commitment to monitor, both in terms of the project and the planning policy aspects. In legislative terms, there will be a need to ensure compliance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) as well as the tests for the use of planning obligations – notably the CIL tests.
- 6.2** In terms of monitoring the success of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr project, reference should be made to the Habitat management specification and quantifying success Paper which is available upon request. The report refers to a Steering Group which will receive updates on the project. The project team will also undertake a continual review of the key supporting facets to this SPG, most notably delineation of the SPG area and the calculation sum. A full review of these will be undertaken no later than 4 years after the adoption of the rLDP and this SPG. This will coincide with the rLDP review (see paragraph 6.4 below).
- 6.3** The day to day running of the project is undertaken by a dedicated project officer whose salary is funded by the developer contributions secured. The Council commits to monitor and account for the receipt and allocation of developer contributions into dedicated financial ledgers.
- 6.4** In terms of monitoring the rLDP and this SPG in planning policy terms, the rLDP monitoring framework contains a specific monitoring indicator. There is a requirement with the rLDP to produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), whilst a review is required to be undertaken every 4 years.
- 6.5** The Council acknowledges the importance of developing partnerships, whilst it is also considered that the project presents opportunities in terms of education and awareness raising of nature conservation issues. It is also considered that the project has the potential to continue to act as a pilot for habitat management techniques and best practice. Notwithstanding these wider benefits, the focus of the contributions raised through development must be on delivering the required mitigation on behalf of developers with a view to satisfying the requirements of the HRA.

Further information

- 6.6** Reference should be made to Appendix 3 – useful contacts.

Revised Carmarthenshire LDP

Caeau Mynydd Mawr Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

Appendix 1

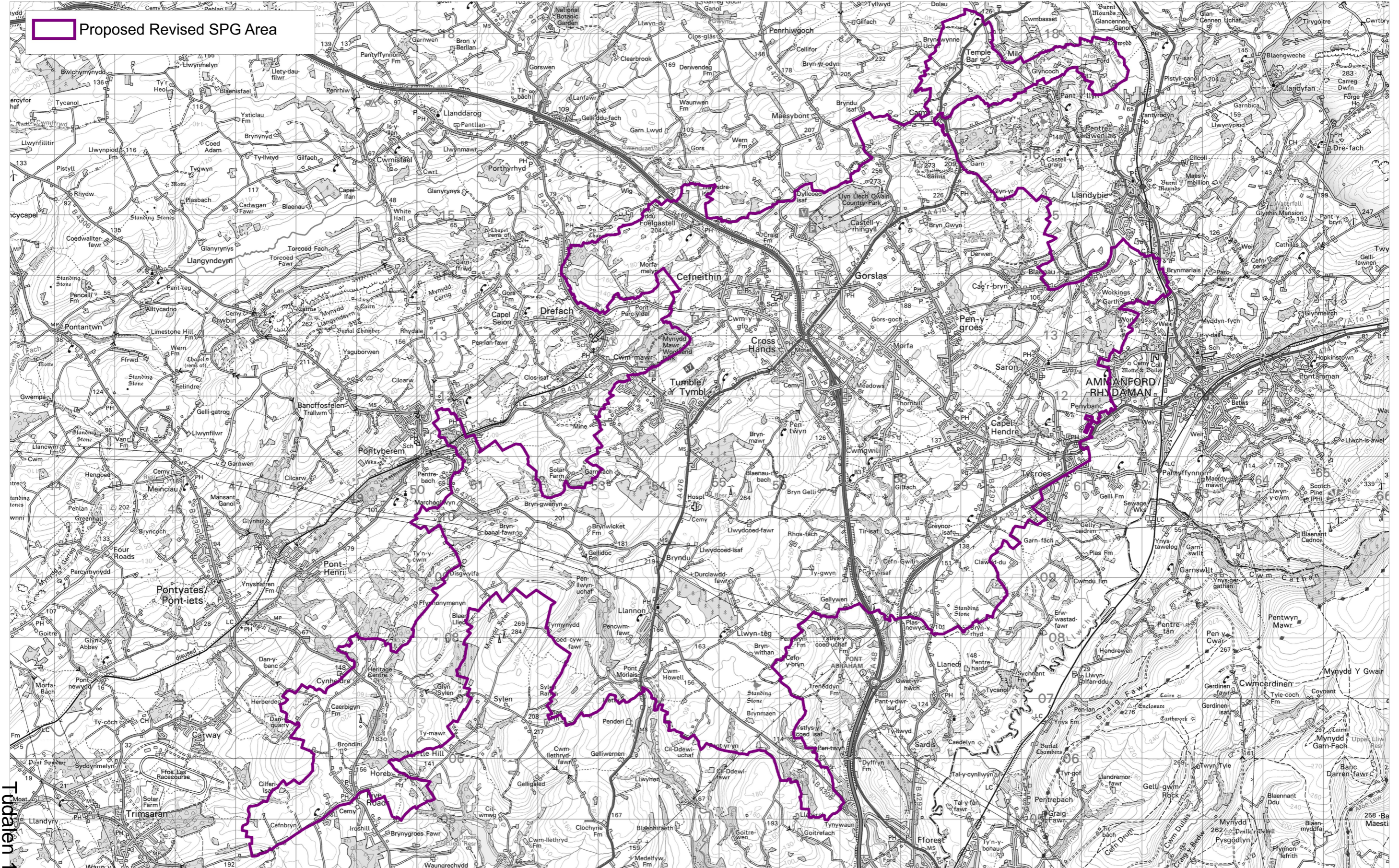
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Gwasanaethau Cynllunio
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8 Heol Spilman
Caerfyrddin
SA31 1JY

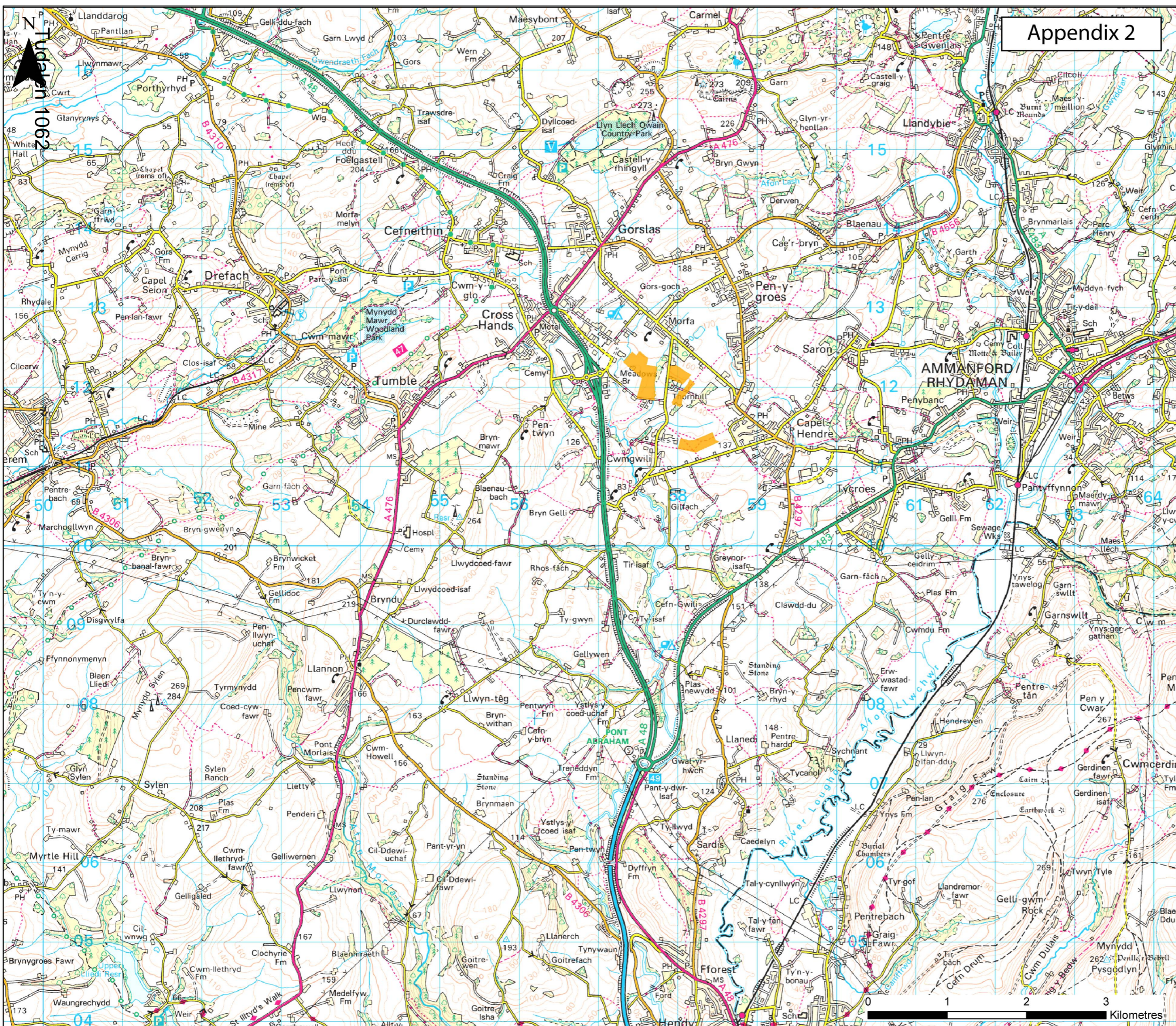
Carmarthenshire County Council
Planning Services
Environment Department
8 Spilman Street
Carmarthen
SA31 1JY



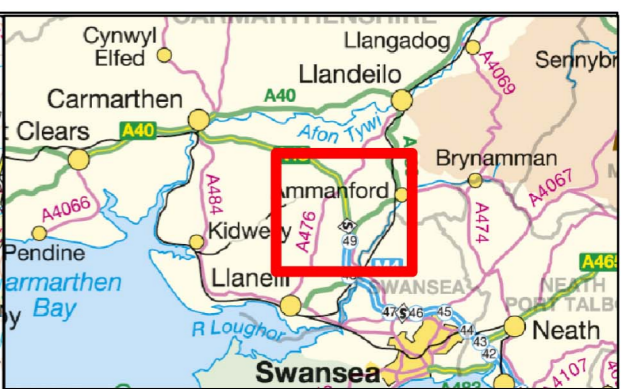
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Appendix 2



Legend

Special Area of Conservation

- Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC

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Rev.	Rev. Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checked	Reviewed	Approved
C	10.12.12	Final	IP	WB	WB	HMW
B	28.09.12	Final Draft	IP	WB	WB	HMW
A	10.08.12	Draft	IP	IP	WB	WB

This drawing is not to be used in whole or part other than for the intended purpose and project as defined on this drawing. Refer to the contract for full terms and conditions.



**Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC
Supplementary Planning Guidance**

Drawing Title	Location of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC		
Drawing Status	Final		
Scale	1:45,000 @ A3	DO NOT SCALE	
Drawing No.	Figure 1		C



APPENDIX 3 – USEFUL CONTACTS

Carmarthenshire County Council Development Management

planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk 01558 825285

Carmarthenshire County Council Biodiversity

Biodiversity@carmarthenshire.gov.uk 01558 825390

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Carmarthenshire

Population & Household Forecasts

Addendum

September 2019



For the attention of:

Carmarthenshire County Council



Nexus | Discovery Way | University of Leeds | Leeds | LS2 3AA
0113 819 5087 | www.edgeanalytics.co.uk

Tudalen 1065

Acknowledgements

Demographic statistics used in this report have been derived from data from the Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government Licence v.3.0.

The authors of this report do not accept liability for any costs or consequential loss involved following the use of the data and analysis referred to here; this is entirely the responsibility of the users of the information presented in this report.

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1 Introduction

Context & Requirements

- 1.1 In 2018, Carmarthenshire County Council commissioned Edge Analytics to provide a range of demographic and economic scenarios to inform its emerging Local Development Plan (LDP)¹. The LDP has a plan period of 2018-2033 and is due for adoption in 2021.
- 1.2 Based upon the range of demographic and economic evidence presented in the report, the Council's Preferred Strategy set out a housing requirement figure of 9,887 dwellings (2018-2033), aligning directly to the **PG Long Term** scenario presented in the Edge Analytics analysis.
- 1.3 The Council now wishes to review its housing requirement in the light of a range of new evidence, including Carmarthenshire's 2018 mid-year population estimate and the draft National Development Framework² (NDF).
- 1.4 The draft NDF identifies Llanelli in Carmarthenshire as part of the primary growth area for the Mid and West Wales region (which comprises Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, Powys, Swansea and the Brecon Beacons and Pembrokeshire Coast National Parks). Carmarthen is also identified as a regional centre, which is to be supported by a 'managed growth' approach to enhance its regional role. The Welsh Government has estimated that 23,400 additional homes are required in the Mid and West Wales region by 2038. Apportioning this regional housing requirement based upon population distribution, would allocate approximately 5,000 of these 23,400 additional homes to Carmarthenshire.

Approach

- 1.5 Edge Analytics has re-configured its POPGROUP model for Carmarthenshire County to develop a range of scenarios taking account of the latest demographic evidence, alternative trends and growth aspirations of the Council. The outcomes and analysis of these re-configured scenarios are presented in this *addendum* report.
- 1.6 Analysis of the re-configured POPGROUP scenarios is preceded by an updated demographic profile of Carmarthenshire County. This incorporates the latest components of population change (births, deaths and migration), historical patterns of international and internal migration, in addition to housing completion statistics and an updated analysis of the county's age profile.

¹ Carmarthenshire Population and Household Forecasts – Edge Analytics Ltd (October 2018)

² <https://gov.wales/draft-national-development-framework>

2 Carmarthenshire Profile

Population Change

2.1 Carmarthenshire’s population rose by 1,116 to an estimated 187,568 between mid-year 2017 and mid-year 2018 (Figure 1).

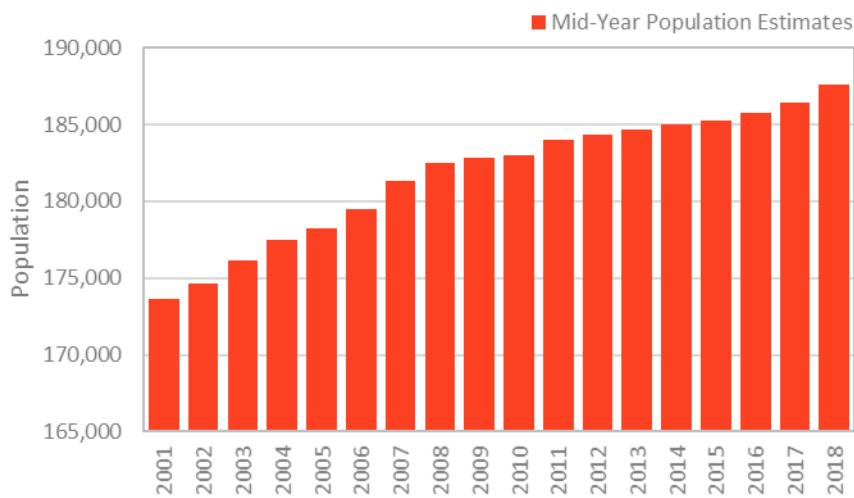


Figure 1: Carmarthenshire UA population 2001–2018

2.2 The rate of annual growth is at the highest annual rate (+0.6%) since 2007/8, a continuation of accelerated annual population growth since 2015 (Figure 2).

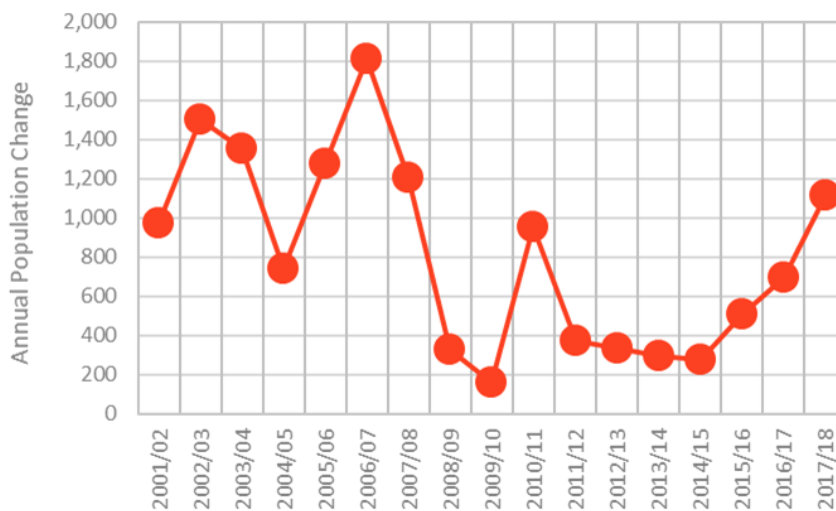


Figure 2: Annual Population Change

2.3 Although Carmarthenshire’s population growth rate of 8.0% since 2001 now exceeds the national rate, it continues to be lower than neighbouring Pembrokeshire (10.6%) and Swansea (10.3%). However, it retains a higher growth rate than Neath Port Talbot (6.3%), Powys (4.8%), and Ceredigion (-3.2%) (Figure 3).

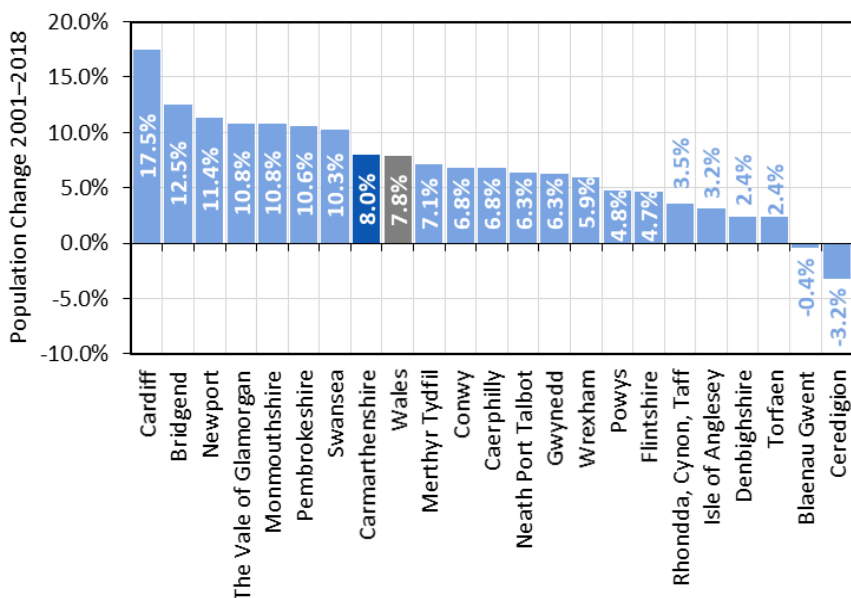


Figure 3: Population Change in Wales 2001-2018

2.4 Net internal migration continues to be the dominant driver of population change, with a sharp increase in the level of net inflow, reaching approximately +1600 in 2017/18 and showing a significant increase of over 700 compared to the previous year (Figure 4).

2.5 As in all previous years since 2001, natural change has continued to have a negative impact on population growth. The 2017/18 period recorded the highest number of deaths (2,453) since 2001.

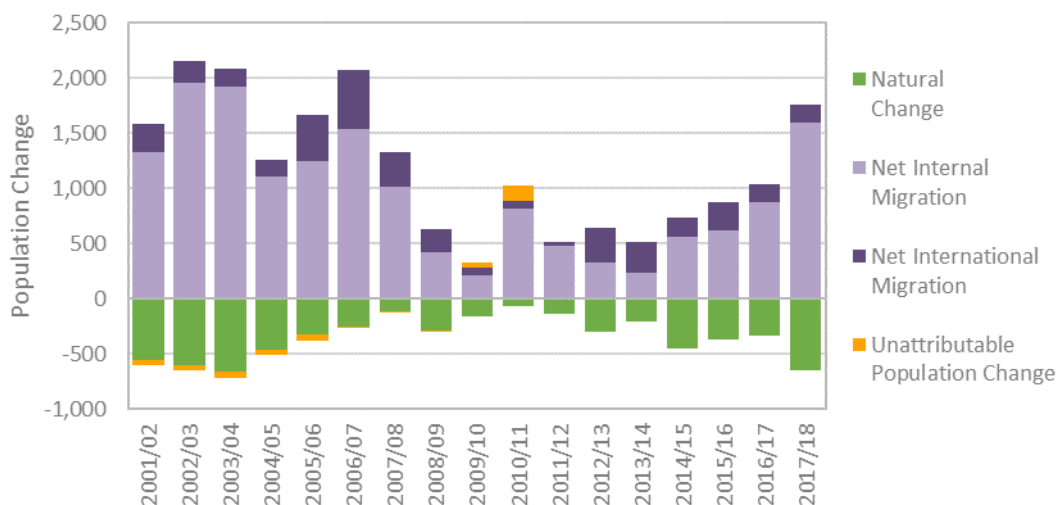


Figure 4 Carmarthenshire UA components of change 2001/2-2017/18

Internal Migration

2.6 Net internal migration has had a positive impact on population change since 2001. The 2017/18 period had the highest net internal migration since 2003/04, as a result of the continued steady rise in inflows but also a greater retention of the current population, reducing outflows (Figure 5).

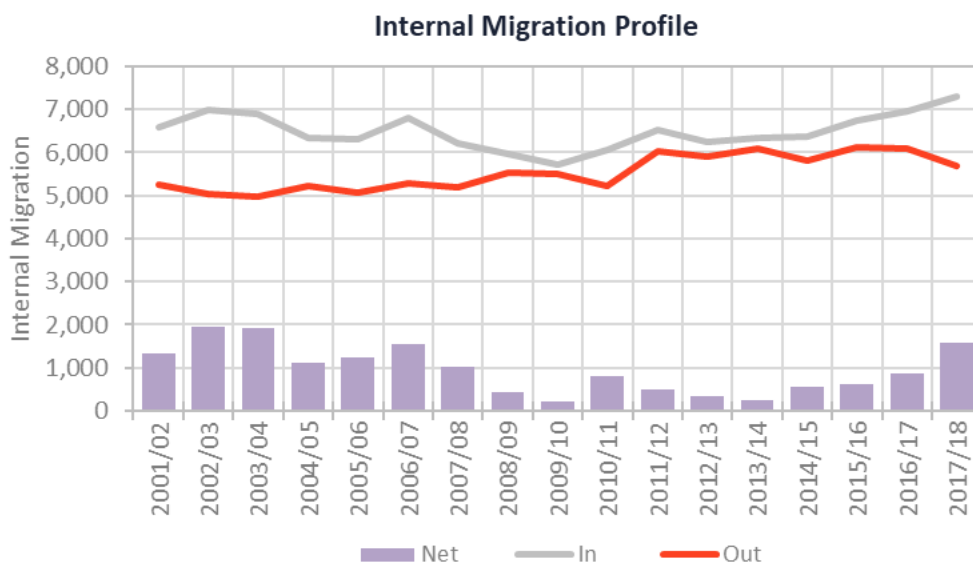


Figure 5: Carmarthenshire UA internal migration flows

2.7 The most recent data on age profiles of domestic migrants presents a continuing trend of predominantly student populations migrating out of Carmarthenshire, with little evidence of return in the 20-29 young adult age groups (Figure 6). The net inflow of migrants is highest in the 30-65 age range and corresponds with an average higher net inflow of 0-14-year olds. This is likely due to family age migration.

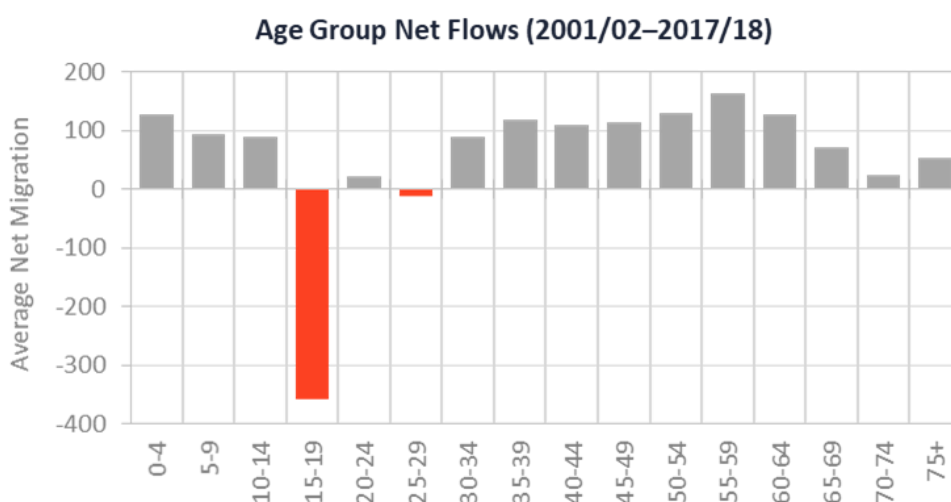


Figure 6: Average annual net migration flow by age group 2001/02–2017/18

2.8 The dominant exchanges of migration to and from Carmarthenshire remain similar to previous years, with Swansea and Ceredigion being the highest average annual exporters of population to Carmarthenshire since 2001/02. Cardiff is overwhelmingly the largest importer of population from Carmarthenshire, most likely driven by student population flows. Pembrokeshire has also been a popular migration destination both to and from Carmarthenshire, with an estimated average annual inflow of 425 and outflow of 424. However, the small difference means the net migration balance is not significant (Figure 7).

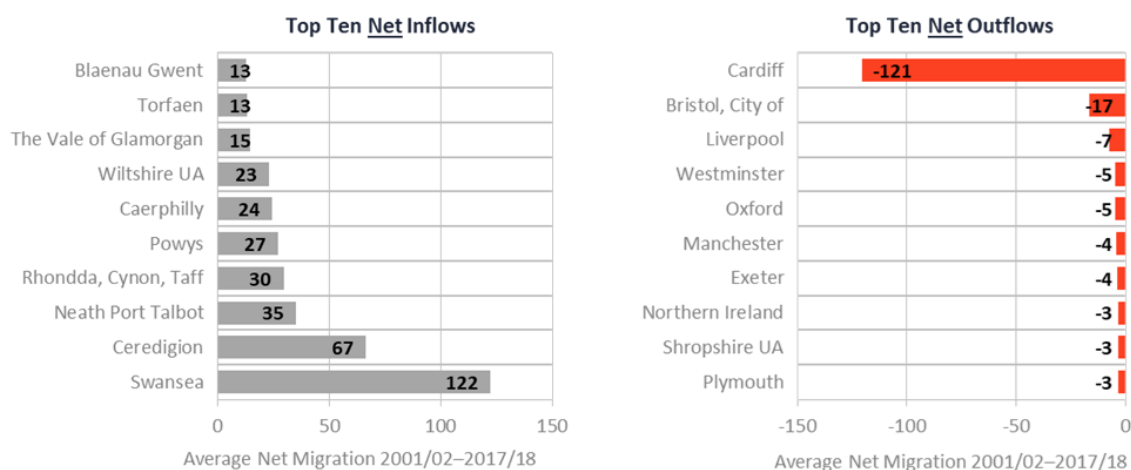


Figure 7: Carmarthenshire Average Top Ten Net Migration Inflow and Outflow Destinations 2001/02–2017/18

International Migration

2.9 The most recent NINo statistics illustrate a plateau in the recent trend of falling NINo registrations since 2015. However, the number of registrations in 2018 was the 3rd lowest since 2008 at 473, remaining consistent with the previous year (Figure 8).

2.10 Whilst Poland has still contributed 58% of all NINo registrations in Carmarthenshire between 2002-2018, Romania was the highest contributor in 2018 (157 registrations).

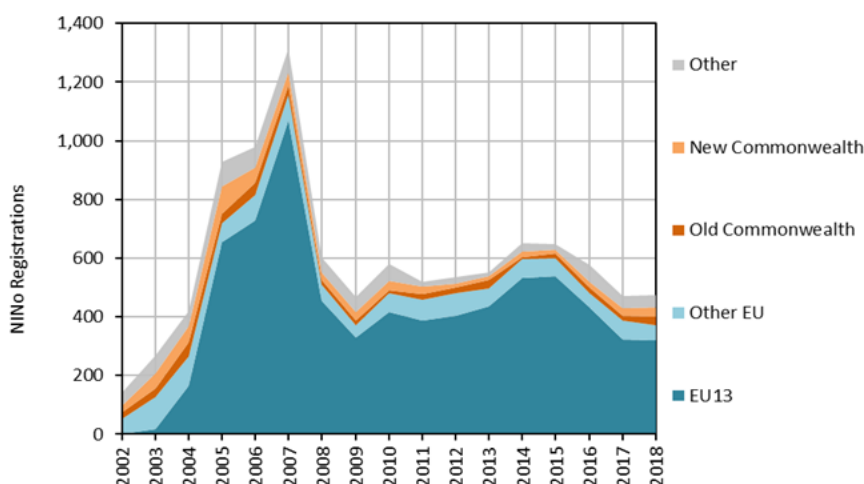


Figure 8: Carmarthenshire UA NINo registrations by country of origin 2002–2018

Age Profile

2.11 The 65+ and 80+ age groups continue to experience the highest annual population growth, having growth rates of 30% and 28% respectively since 2001. In 2017/18, the population aged 16-64 age increased marginally, for the first time since 2006/07 (Figure 9).

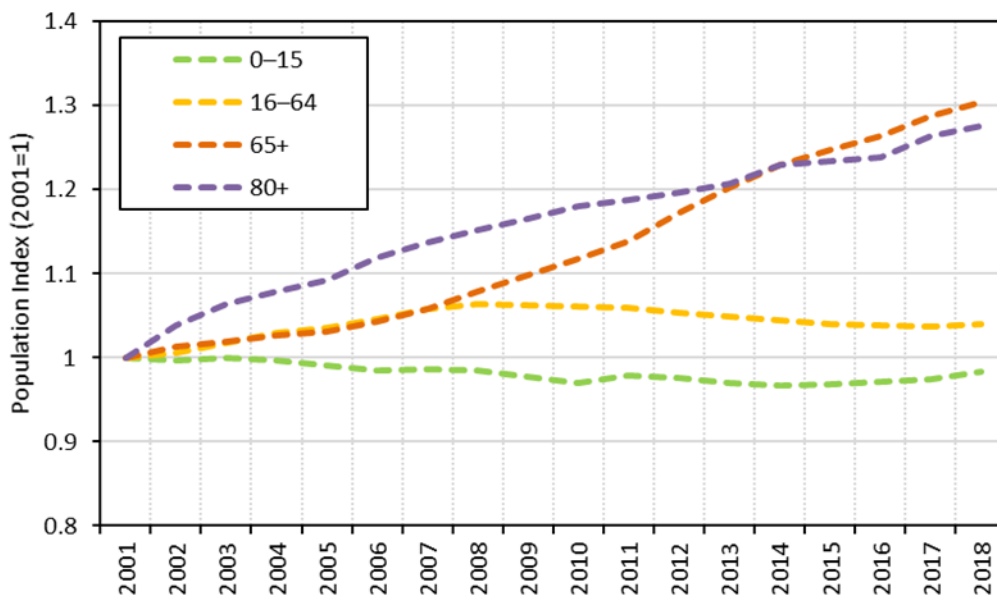


Figure 9: Carmarthenshire population growth index by age group (2001-2018)

Housing Completions

2.12 A comparison of housing completions and population growth reveals a disparity between the two since 2016. Completion rates have fallen since 2016, whilst population growth has accelerated over the same period (Figure 10).

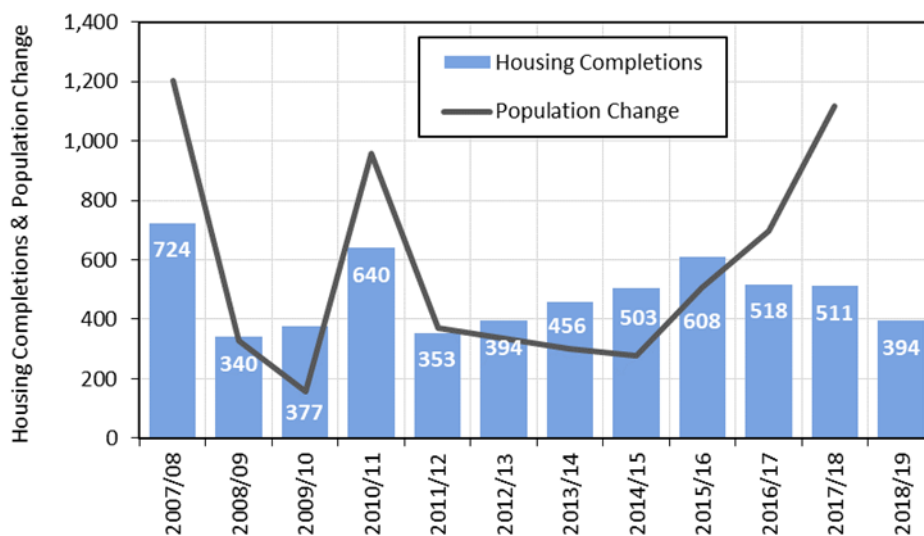


Figure 10: Carmarthenshire housing completions and population change 2007/08 - 2018/19

3 Demographic Scenarios

Scenario Definition

- 3.1 There is no single definitive view on the likely level of growth expected in Carmarthenshire. Ultimately, a mix of demographic, economic and local policy issues will determine the speed and scale of change.
- 3.2 These new scenarios have been re-configured to provide further evidence to support Carmarthenshire's Deposit LDP – especially its planned dwelling growth over the plan period (2018-33). They are presented in the context of the draft NDF and the latest demographic statistics for the county.
- 3.3 In addition to the WG 2014-based scenario, three alternative demographic scenarios have been configured, which consider alternative migration histories from which to derive trend assumptions. The full suite of scenarios is as follows:
- **WG 2014-based:** this replicates the WG 2014-based population projections
 - **PG Short Term:** Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the four-year historical period (2014/15-2017/18) which corresponds with the four-year period of recovery in housing growth.
 - **PG Long Term:** Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the full seventeen-year historical period (2001/02-2017/18).
 - **PG 10yr:** Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on a ten-year historical period, ignoring the anomalous years around the immediate aftermath of the financial crash.

Household and dwelling growth under the demographic scenarios has continued to be estimated using assumptions from the WG 2014-based household projection model, with the 2017-based household projections not yet published. Each scenario has been configured using the 2011 Census vacancy rate of 6.3% together with an alternative vacancy rate of 3.4%. The lower vacancy rate results in higher occupancy and subsequently a lower dwelling requirement relative to population growth.

Scenario Outcomes

- 3.4 The 2001-2033 growth trajectories for all re-configured trend-based scenarios in addition to the WG 2014-based scenario are presented in Figure 11. In Table 1, each scenario is summarised in terms of population and household growth for the 2018-2033 plan period, alongside the average annual net migration and dwelling growth outcomes (under the Census and alternative vacancy rates).
- 3.5 The population growth outcomes range from 1.7% under the **WG 2014-based** scenario to 9.6% under the **PG Long Term** scenario. Population change is significantly higher under each of the trend-based demographic scenarios, compared to that estimated under the **WG 2014-based** scenario, driven in each case by higher net migration assumptions and a subsequently smaller net loss due to natural change.
- 3.6 The **PG Short Term** scenario projects the lowest population change over the plan period, consistent with the scenarios in the previous report³. Under this scenario, estimated population growth is 7.6% over the plan period, compared to 5.7% previously. This is due to the sharp rise in net internal migration in 2017/18 that is now captured in this scenario, and the focus on the four years of housing growth recovery. The estimated population growth would support a total dwelling growth of 9,147 over the plan period or 8,871 using the alternative vacancy rate. This would require an average annual dwellings growth of +610/+591 dwellings per annum (dpa).
- 3.7 The **PG 10yr** scenario results in higher population compared to the **PG Short Term** scenario. This is because it captures migration estimates in years immediately preceding the recession and the more recent recovery period. This results in average annual dwellings growth of +615 dpa and +596 dpa with the alternative vacancy rate.
- 3.8 Of the three trend-based scenarios, the **PG Long Term** scenario returns the highest population, household and dwelling growth by a significant margin. This is due to the recent trend of relatively high net internal migration, in conjunction with the higher migration totals pre-recession, which are all encompassed in this scenario. Total dwelling growth in the plan period exceeds 10,000 under each vacancy rate, equivalent to 679 dpa assuming the lower vacancy rate.
- 3.9 A small proportion of Carmarthenshire's population sits within the Brecon Beacons National Park. Excluding this geography from the Carmarthenshire scenarios results in a marginally smaller population total and growth outcomes (Appendix A).

³ Carmarthenshire Population and Household Forecasts – Edge Analytics Ltd (October 2018)

Carmarthenshire Scenario Outcomes

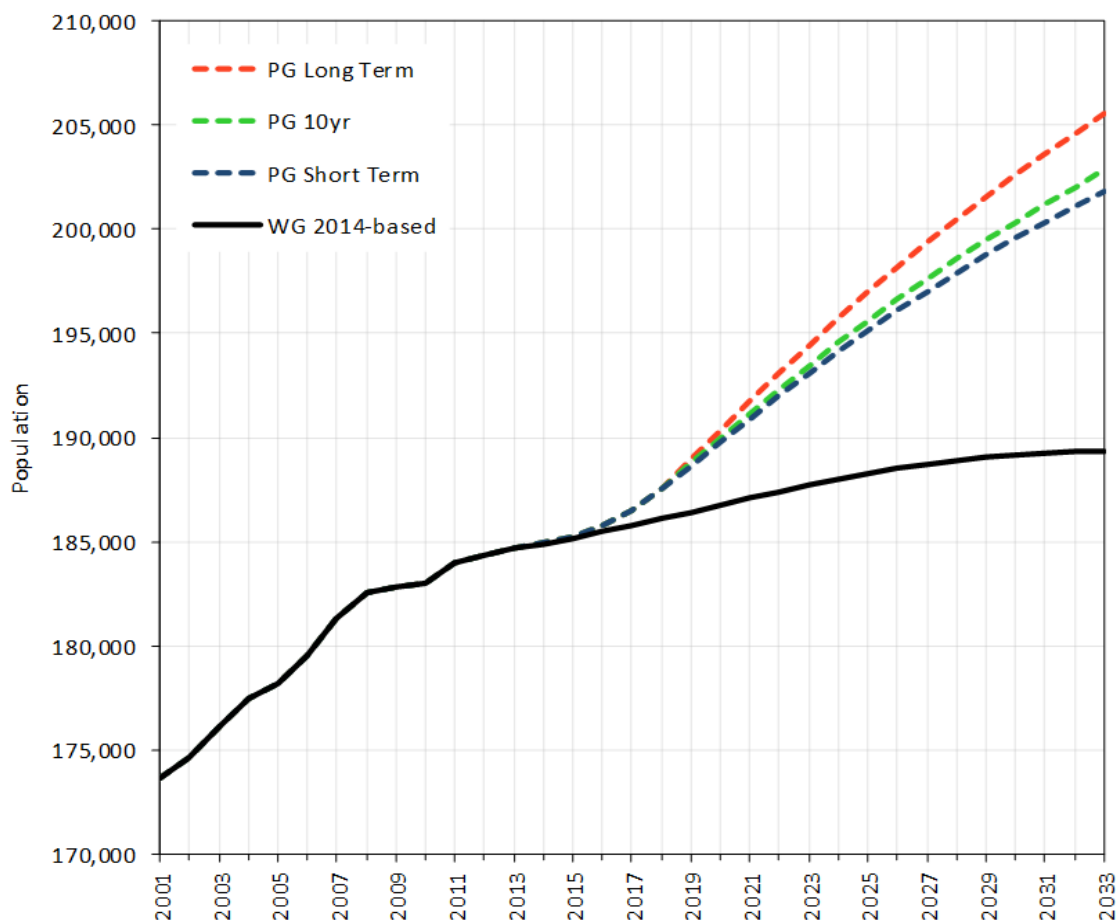


Figure 11: Carmarthenshire population growth 2001-2033

Scenario	Change 2018 - 2033				Average per year			Total Dwellings Growth (Census VR)	Total Dwellings Growth (Alt. VR)
	Population Change	Population Change %	Households Change	Households Change %	Net Migration	Dwellings (Census VR)	Dwellings (Alt. VR)		
PG Long Term	17,991	9.6%	9,842	12.1%	1,448	700	679	10,502	10,185
PG 10yr	15,284	8.1%	8,641	10.6%	1,266	615	596	9,221	8,942
PG Short Term	14,273	7.6%	8,573	10.5%	1,245	610	591	9,147	8,871
WG 2014-based	3,207	1.7%	3,254	4.0%	546	231	224	3,472	3,367

Table 1: Carmarthenshire Demographic Scenario Outcomes 2018-2033 (In order of population change)

4 Employment Growth Estimates

- 4.1 Each of the scenarios presented above has been configured to consider the potential growth in employment that is implied by each population growth outcome. To quantify the relationship between population and employment, three key assumptions must be determined: age-specific economic activity rates, an unemployment rate, and a commuting ratio (see Appendix B).
- 4.2 **Economic activity rates** quantify the proportion of the population (by age-group) that is actively engaged in the labour market, either employed or unemployed. This analysis uses the latest Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) long-term forecasts of changing labour force participation levels by age group to estimate changes to Carmarthenshire's economic activity rate profile over its plan period. At the same time, an **unemployment rate** of 3.6% (Carmarthenshire's 2018 figure) is applied throughout the forecast period.
- 4.3 The **commuting ratio** specifies the balance between the number of resident workers and the level of employment. A ratio greater than 1.0 indicates a net out-commute (more workers than jobs), whilst a ratio less than 1.0 indicates a net in-commute (more jobs than workers). In this analysis, the commuting ratio has been fixed at Carmarthenshire's 2011 Census level (1.09) throughout the plan period.
- 4.4 The average annual employment growth outcomes range from -55 under the **WG 2014-based** scenario to +439 under the **PG Long Term** scenario (Figure 12). Table 2 illustrates the total employment change over the 2018-33 plan period. The **PG Long Term** scenario is estimated to support a total employment growth of 8.4% over the plan period, driven by the highest in-migration of people of working age.

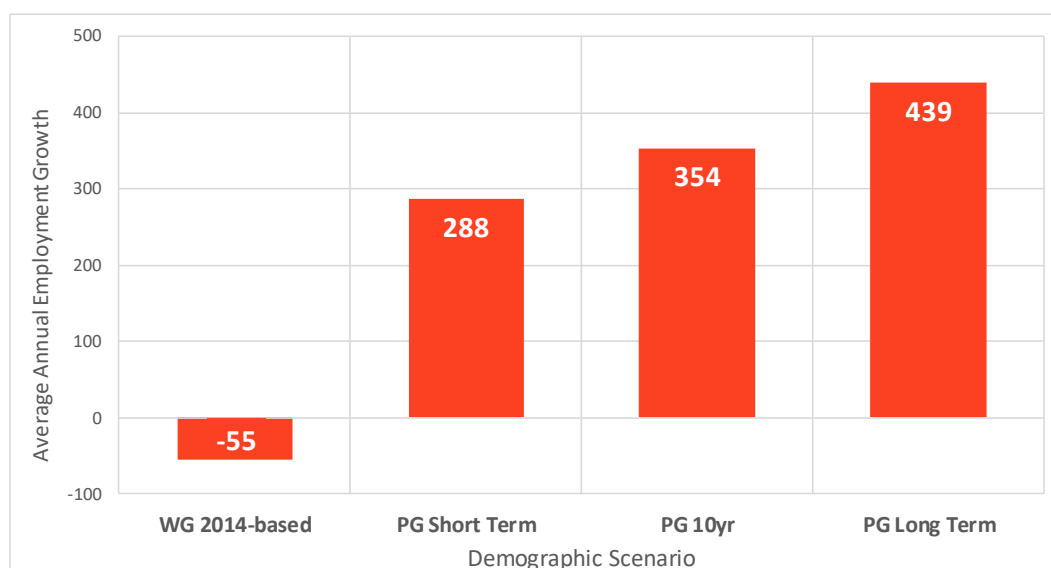


Figure 12: Average Annual Employment Growth for each Demographic Scenario

4.5 However, the **PG 10yr** and **PG Short Term** scenarios also estimate relatively buoyant employment growth over the plan period of 6.7% and 5.5% respectively (Table 2). A range of both demographic factors and economic assumptions drive these estimations of employment growth. Accelerating population growth projections and estimated migration trends are key factors that are also supported by Carmarthenshire's age profile (illustrated in Figure 9) – in which the most recent evidence recorded growth of the working age population for the first time since 2006/07.

Scenario	Change 2018 - 2033		Average Annual Growth
	Employment Change	% Employment Change	
PG Long Term	6,581	8.4%	439
PG 10yr	5,307	6.7%	354
PG Short Term	4,318	5.5%	288
WG 2014-based	-829	-1.1%	-55

Table 2: Employment Outcomes for each Demographic Scenario (In order of employment change)

5 Summary

- 5.1 Carmarthenshire County Council is reviewing its Deposit LDP to include an amended housing requirement figure for the 2018-2033 plan period. The existing preferred strategy has identified a housing requirement figure of 9,887 (average of +659 dpa.), consistent with a **PG Long Term** scenario⁴.
- 5.2 The Council has sought to review its housing requirement in the light of a range of new evidence, including Carmarthenshire’s 2018 mid-year population estimate, plus the guidance and regional housing growth aspirations detailed in the draft National Development Framework⁵ (NDF).
- 5.3 A range of scenarios have been presented using POPGROUP technology to consider alternative growth outcomes. The **PG Short Term** and **PG 10yr** scenarios have been reconfigured, ignoring the years in the immediate aftermath of the financial crash (**PG 10yr**), and using a shorter migration history of four years to capture the recovery in housing growth post-2014 (**PG Short Term**).
- 5.4 Figure 13 summarises the total projected dwelling growth during the plan period under each scenario, for both the Census and alternative vacancy rates, together with the percentage population growth (circles).

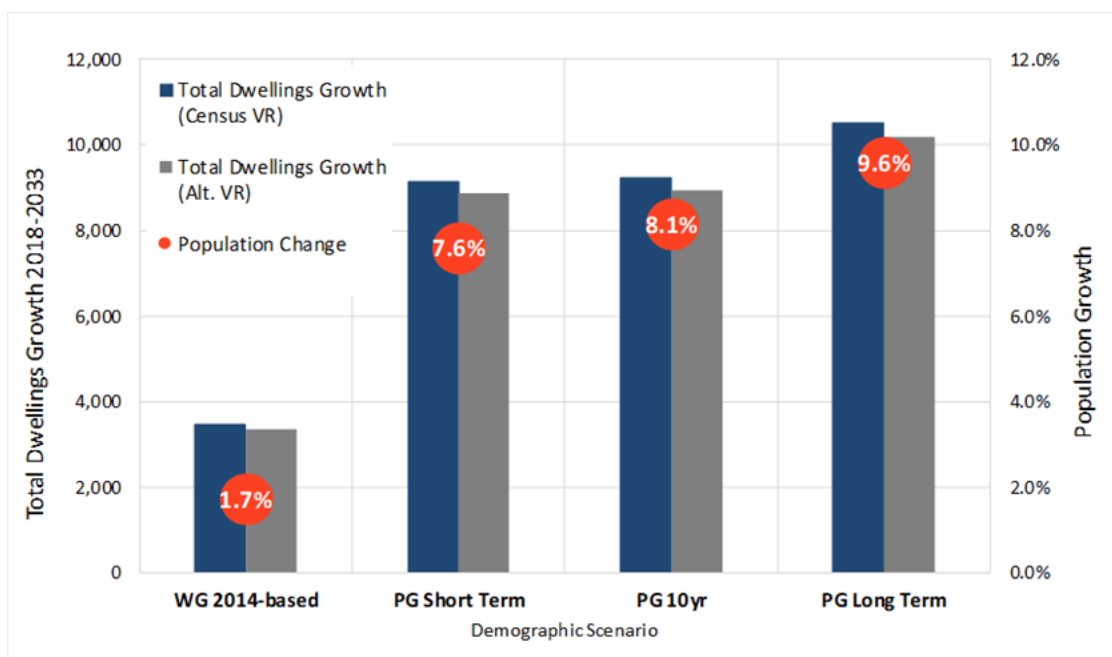


Figure 13: Average Annual Dwellings Growth and Population Growth for each Demographic Scenario

- 5.5 The **PG 10yr** and **PG Short Term** scenarios present very similar outcomes. Total dwelling growth exceeds 9,000 in both scenarios under the Census vacancy rate (9,221 and 9,147), falling below the 9,000 total under the alternative vacancy rate (8,942 and 8,871 respectively). The **PG Long Term**

⁴ Carmarthenshire Population and Household Forecasts – Edge Analytics Ltd (October 2018)

⁵ <https://gov.wales/draft-national-development-framework>

scenario estimates total dwelling growth of over 10,000 under each vacancy rate (692 and 671 dpa) and projects the highest population growth of 9.6% between 2018-2033.

- 5.6 Using a combination of economic activity rates, unemployment rate and commuting ratio assumptions, each scenario outcome has been converted to an estimated employment growth that could potentially be supported by its population change. Whilst the estimate for the **WG 2014-based** scenario is for employment decline, the three PG scenarios, with higher net-migration impacts, estimate an average employment growth of 288-439 pa.

Appendix A

Carmarthenshire Outside Brecon Beacons NP

Carmarthenshire Scenario Outcomes

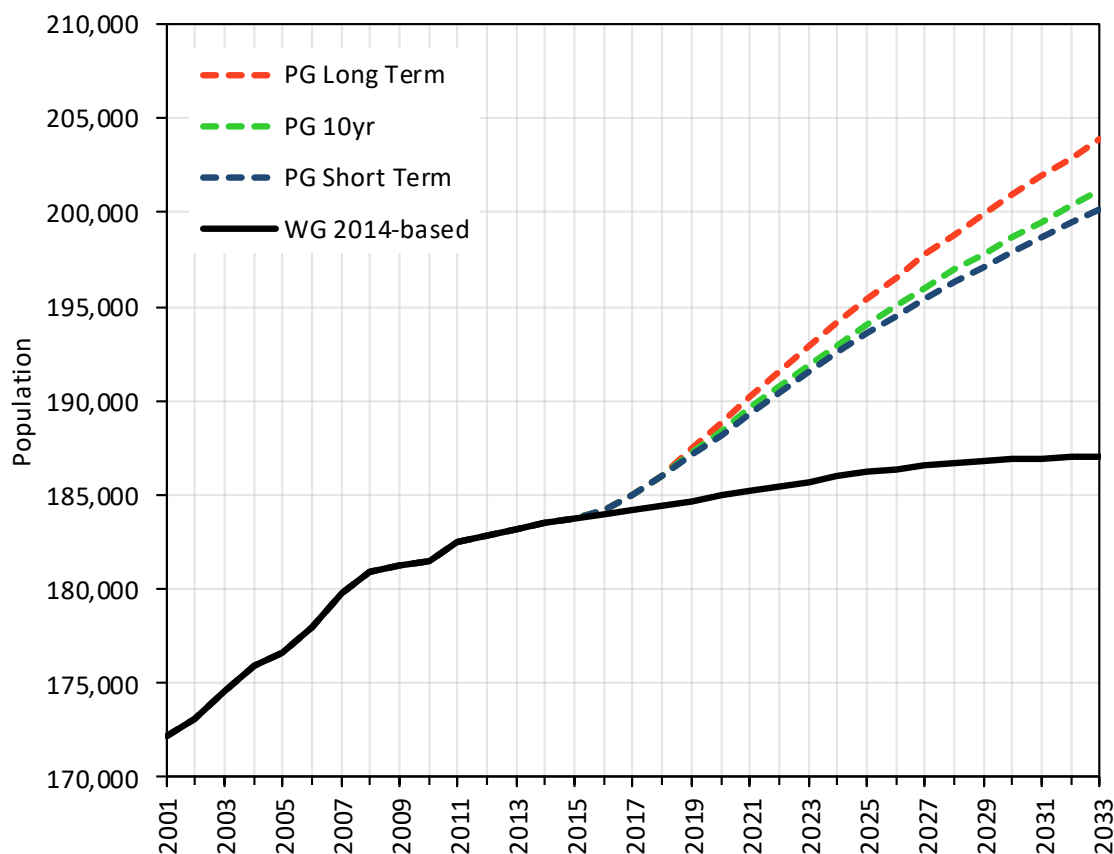


Figure 14: Carmarthenshire Population Growth 2001–2018 - Outside Brecon Beacons National Park

Scenario	Change 2018 - 2033				Average per year			Total Dwellings Growth (Census VR)	Total Dwellings Growth (Alt. VR)
	Population Change	Population Change %	Households Change	Households Change %	Net Migration	Dwellings (Census VR)	Dwellings (Alt. VR)		
PG Long Term	17,811	9.6%	9,726	12.0%	1,516	692	671	10,375	10,065
PG 10yr	15,115	8.1%	8,538	10.6%	1,337	607	589	9,108	8,835
PG Short Term	14,133	7.6%	8,474	10.5%	1,317	603	585	9,040	8,769
WG 2014-based	2,581	1.4%	2,878	3.6%	481	205	199	3,070	2,978

Table 3: Carmarthenshire Scenario Outcomes – Outside Brecon Beacons National Park

Appendix B

Economic Assumptions

Economic Activity Rates

- B.1 Economic activity rates (also referred to as labour force participation rates) are the proportion of the population that are actively involved in the labour force, either employed or unemployed and looking for work.
- B.2 As a part of the 2018 Fiscal sustainability report⁶, the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) published its latest long-term forecasts regarding changes to age and sex-specific economic activity rates. These are informed by age and sex-specific population projections and historical economic activity rates, whilst also accounting for the rising state pension age which increases economic activity rates among older age groups.
- B.3 The OBR national forecasts of economic activity have been used to estimate Carmarthenshire's economic activity rate profile to 2033. For males, the 35-54 age-groups show a marginal reduction in economic activity rates between 2018-33; whilst females have increasing economic activity rates across all age groups, reflecting present and future socio-economic changes.
- B.4 The most significant changes are observed in the 60+ age groups, in which all economic activity rates increase for both sexes over the plan period. There are some especially large changes for older aged females over the plan period, as economic activity rates for 75-89 year-old females is projected to increase from 4.8% in 2018 to 11.9% by 2033.

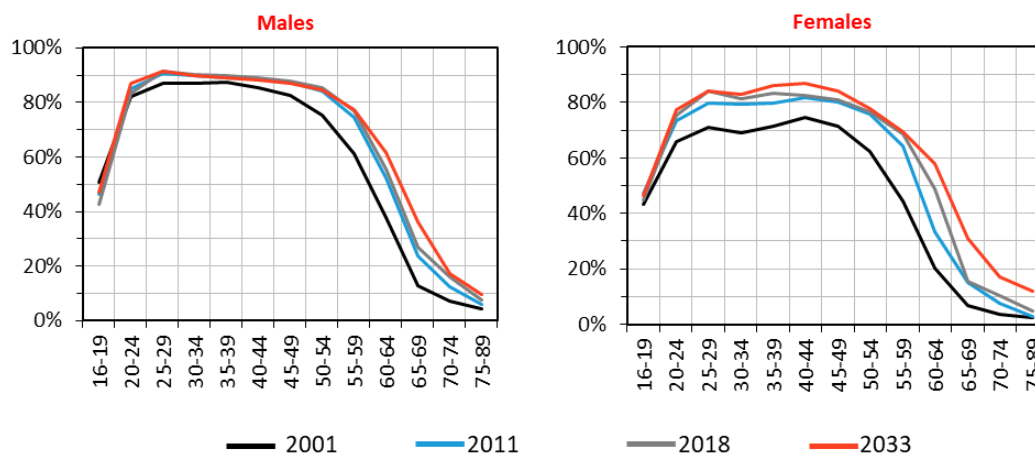


Figure 15: Carmarthenshire Economic Activity Rates: 2001, 2011, 2018 and 2033

Unemployment Rate

- B.5 Carmarthenshire's unemployment rate has fallen steadily since 2013, reaching a low-point of 3.6% in 2018 (Figure 16).

⁶ <https://obr.uk/fsr/fiscal-sustainability-report-july-2018/>

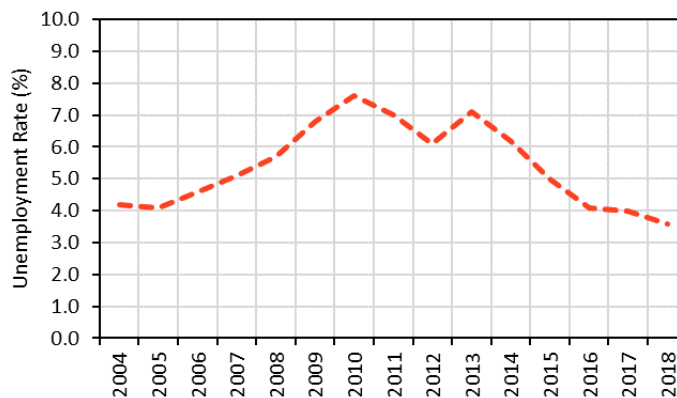


Figure 16: Carmarthenshire Unemployment Rate 2004-2018

- B.6 The unemployment rate is the proportion of unemployed people within the total economically active population. Its value is based on the ONS ‘model based’ estimates derived from the ONS Annual Population Survey⁷ (APS). The model-based approach improves on the raw APS output by also utilising data from the claimant count (a count of people claiming benefit for the principal reason of being unemployed). This increases the precision lost in the small and often unreliable sample size of the APS.
- B.7 Each scenario assumes a fixed 2018 unemployment rate value until the end of the plan period.

Commuting Ratio

- B.8 The commuting ratio indicates the balance between the number of resident workers and the level of employment (Figure 17).

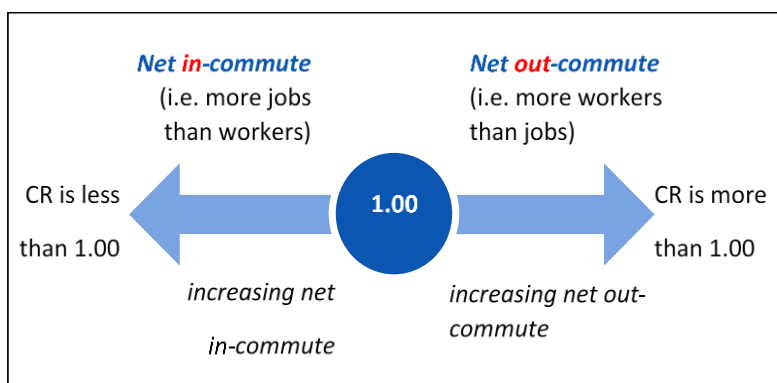


Figure 17: Commuting Ratio Summary

- 5.7 The 2011 Census recorded 81,402 workers in Carmarthenshire and an employment level of 74,569; resulting in a commuting ratio of 1.09 (i.e. more workers than employment in the area, resulting in a net out-commute from the UA).⁸
- 5.8 Each scenario assumes a fixed commuting ratio value of 1.09 until the end of the plan period.

⁷ https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157392/subreports/ea_time_series/report.aspx?

⁸ <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/wu02uk>

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

BWRDD GWEITHREDOL

Dydd Llun, 21 Hydref 2019

YN BRESENNOL: Y Cynghorydd E. Dole (Cadeirydd)**Y Cynghorwyr:**

G. Davies, H.A.L. Evans, L.D. Evans, P.M. Hughes, P. Hughes-Griffiths, D.M. Jenkins, L.M. Stephens and J. Tremlett

Hefyd yn bresennol:Y Cynghorwr D.M.Cundy
Mr J. Cooper & Mr H. Watkins (Estyn)**Yr oedd y swyddogion canlynol yn gwasanaethu yn y cyfarfod:**W. Walters, Prif Weithredwr
J. Morgan, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cymunedau
C. Moore, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol
G. Morgans, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Addysg a Phlant
Mrs R. Mullen, Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd
S. Pilliner, Pennaeth Priffyrdd a Thrafnidiaeth
L. Quelch, Y Pennaeth Cynllunio
J. Jones, Rheolwr Eiddo a Phrosiectau Mawr
R. Edgecombe, Rheolwr y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol
D. Hockenull, Rheolwr y y Cyfryngau a Marchnata
I.R. Llewelyn, Rheolwr Blaen-gynllunio
S Burford, Rheolwr y Prosiect
M. Evans Thomas, Principal Democratic Services Officer
E. Bryer, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd**Siambr, Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin - 10.00 yb - 11.00 yb****1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB.**

Cafwyd ymddiheuriad am absenoldeb gan y Cynghorydd C.A. Campbell.

Estynnodd y Cadeirydd groeso i'r cyfarfod i Mr Jon Cooper a Mr Hugh Watkins o swyddfa Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru (Estyn).

2. DATGAN BUDDIANNAU PERSONOL.

Y Cynghorydd	Rhif(au) y Cofnod	Y Math o Fuddiant
E. Dole	Rhif 6 - Y Gronfa Cyllid a Dargedir a Chronfa'r Degwm.	Mae'r Cynghorydd Dole yn Weinidog rhan-amser Capel Annibynnol Caersalem

3. LLOFNODI FEL COFNOD CYWIR COFNODION CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALWYD AR Y 23AIN MEDI, 2019

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL lofnodi bod cofnodion cyfarfod y Bwrdd Gweithredol a gynhaliwyd ar 23 Medi, 2019 yn gofnod cywir.

4. CWESTIYNAU Â RHYBUDD GAN YR AELODAU

Dyweddodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau â rhybudd wedi cael eu cyflwyno gan yr Aelodau.

5. CWESTIYNAU A RHYBYDD GAN Y CYHOEDD

Dyweddodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau â rhybudd wedi dod i law gan y cyhoedd.

6. CYMORTH ARIANNOL O'R CRONFEYDD GRANT CANLYNOL: CRONFA'R DEGWM

[Sylwer: Gan ei fod wedi datgan buddiant yn yr eitem hon, nid oedd yr Arweinydd yn bresennol yn y cyfarfod tra oedd y cais dan sylw]

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried cais am gymorth gan Gronfa'r Degwm. Roedd y cais, a fyddai fel arfer yn cael ei benderfynu fel rhan o gyfarfod Penderfyniadau Aelodau'r Bwrdd Gweithredol ar gyfer yr Arweinydd, wedi'i gyfeirio at y Bwrdd Gweithredol gan fod y Cynghorydd E. Dole, wedi datgan buddiant.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gymeradwyo'r cais canlynol am gymorth o Gronfa'r Degwm yn amodol ar y telerau a'r amodau arferol ac ar y rhai a bennwyd yn yr adroddiad:

Ymgeisydd

Capel Annibynnol Caersalem

Dyfarniad

£2,319.00

Ar ôl i'r eitem uchod ddod i ben, dychwelodd y Cynghorydd E. Dole i'r cyfarfod ac ailgychwyn ei rôl fel Cadeirydd.

7. ARDAL TY-ISA/HEOL YR ORSAF: AMLINELLU EIN HUCHELGAIS HIRDYMOR A'N CAMAU YN Y TYMOR BYR

Rhoddodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol ystyriaeth i adroddiad a oedd yn manylu ar yr uchelgais hirdymor ar gyfer ardal Tŷ-isa/Heol yr Orsaf, gan dynnu sylw at y gwaith a wnaed hyd yn hyn, y cynllun gweithredu tymor byr, a'r trefniadau llywodraethu gofynnol er mwyn i'r rhaglen gamu ymlaen.

Pwysleisiodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol bwysigrwydd y prosiect hwn gan y byddai'n ysgogi newid cadarnhaol yn y gymuned a oedd wedi bod yn rhagweithiol wrth ddiffinio'r gofynion.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL:

7.2 Cadarnhau'r uchelgais hirdymor ar gyfer ardal Tŷ-isa/Heol yr Orsaf.

- 7.3 Nodi'r cynnydd a wnaed hyd yn hyn.
- 7.4 Cadarnhau'r camau cyntaf er mwyn i swyddogion ddechrau ar y rhaglen newid, fel y manylwyd arnynt yn yr adroddiad.
- 7.5 Sicrhau bod trefniadau llywodraethu cadarn ar waith i yrru'r rhaglen newid yn ei blaen.

8. DEISEB YNGHYLCH CAIS I ADFER Y TOILEDAU YN HARBWR Y DWYRAIN, PORTH TYWYN

Rhoddodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol ystyriaeth i ddeiseb a ddaeth i law ynghylch y ddarpariaeth doiledau yn Harbwr Porth Tywyn. Yn ei gyfarfod ar 10 Gorffennaf 2019 (gweler cofnod 8), derbyniodd y Cyngor ddeiseb i adfer y toiledau ar ochr ddwyreiniol yr harbwr, Porth Tywyn. Gan fod y mater a godwyd yn y ddeiseb yn swyddogaeth weithredol, cyfeiriodd y Cyngor y ddeiseb at y Bwrdd Gweithredol i'w hystyried. Roedd yr adroddiad yn rhoi ymateb drafft i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol ei ystyried.

Gofynnwyd i'r swyddogion ystyried gwella'r arwyddion fel eu bod yn fwy ystyriol o bobl â dementia.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gymeradwyo'r ymateb i'r ddeiseb fel y nodwyd yn yr adroddiad.

9. ARDAL GWELLA BUSNES (AGB) CAERFYRDDIN

Rhoddodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol ystyriaeth i adroddiad ynghylch Ardal Gwella Busnes (AGB) Caerfyrddin. Ym mis Mawrth 2017, ymgynghorwyd â 190 o fusnesau yng Nghaerfyrddin ynghylch canol y dref a'r rhagolygon ar gyfer AGB. Cafwyd ail gyfle i gynnig sylwadau a gwneud awgrymiadau drwy sesiwn galw heibio ym mis Tachwedd 2017. Ceisiodd yr ymgynghoriadau weld a fyddai busnesau'n cefnogi cyflwyno AGB ac roedd yr ymateb yn gadarnhaol dros ben.

Drwy ei hardoll, byddai AGB Caerfyrddin yn cynhyrchu incwm o tua £165,000 y flwyddyn, neu £847,000 dros gyfnod y pum mlynedd (chwyddiant o 2% y flwyddyn) i'w fuddsoddi mewn prosiectau a gwasanaethau er budd busnesau yng Nghaerfyrddin. Byddai'r AGB yn canolbwyntio ar bedwar maes gweithgarwch gan gynnwys gwneud busnesau'n fwy proffidiol, gwella proffil y dref, gwella'r profiad parcio a golwg y dref.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR:-

- 9.1 Cefnogi 'Cwmni AGB Caerfyrddin' er mwyn ei alluogi i gynnal pleidlais ffurfiol ynghylch a fyddai busnesau ardrethol y dref yn dymuno gweithredu Ardal Gwella Busnes (AGB) Caerfyrddin am gyfnod cychwynnol o 5 mlynedd neu beidio.
- 9.2 Cytuno ar ei safbwynt o ran rhoi cefnogaeth i egwyddor yr AGB a phleidleisio o ran ei 15 eiddo ardrethol yr effeithir arnynt o fewn y parth AGB (amcangyfrif o gost flynyddol yr ardoll yw £20,061 ynghyd â chwyddiant o 2% y flwyddyn).
- 9.3 Cytuno ar yr egwyddor o ymgymryd â chasglu ardoll yr AGB fel y nodwyd yn y Cytundeb Gweithredol ar ran Cwmni AGB Caerfyrddin, heb unrhyw gost i'r AGB am y cyfnod cyntaf o 5 mlynedd.

- 9.4 Cymeradwyo'r Datganiad o Wasanaethau Sylfaenol ar gyfer Cwmni'r AGB.
- 9.5 Enwebu cynrychiolydd aelodau i fod ar Fwrdd Cwmni'r AGB.
- 9.6 Cytuno i reoli, heb unrhyw gost, broses bleidleisio yr AGB ar ran Cwmni AGB Caerfyrddin.

10. LLYTHYR BLYNYDDOL YR OMBWDSMON 2018/19 CYNGOR SIR CAERFYRDDIN

Bu'r Bwrdd yn ystyried Llythyr Blynyddol Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Cymru ar gyfer 2018/19. Roedd taflen ffeithiau a data ynghlwm wrth y llythyr, sy'n cynorthwyo'r Awdurdod i adolygu perfformiad.

Nodwyd y bu cynnydd o ran nifer y cwynion a gafwyd gan Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Cymru ynghylch awdurdodau lleol yn genedlaethol a bod nifer y cwynion a gafwyd gan yr Ombwdsmon ynghylch Sir Gaerfyrddin wedi cynyddu yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf o 25 i 49. Ni chyflwynwyd unrhyw adroddiadau yn erbyn Sir Gaerfyrddin, ac yn gyffredinol roedd perfformiad yn cymharu'n ffafriol â'r canlyniadau addasedig.

Roedd Llywodraeth Cymru wedi rhoi pwerau newydd i Ombwdsmon y Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus a fydd yn arwain at broesau yn y dyfodol sy'n llai beichus.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL dderbyn Llythyr Blynyddol Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Cymru 2018-19.

11. CYNLLUN GWELLA HAWLIAU TRAMWY (CGHT) SIR GAERFYRDDIN

Rhoddodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol ystyriaeth i Gynllun Gwella Hawliau Tramwy Sir Gaerfyrddin 2019 - 2029.

O dan Adran 60 (3) o Ddeddf Cefn Gwlad a Hawliau Tramwy 2000, disgwylir i bob Awdurdod Lleol yng Nghymru fod yn destun adolygiad statudol o'i CGHT presennol cyn pen 10 mlynedd ar ôl ei gyhoeddi. Cyhoeddwyd CGHT Sir Gaerfyrddin 2007-2017 yn 2008 ac felly roedd yn ofynnol ei adolygu yn unol â'r rhwymedigaeth statudol.

Diolchwyd i'r tîm bach sy'n cyfrannu cymaint at y gwaith o gynnal a chadw'r Hawliau Tramwy a gofynnwyd am roi ystyriaeth i gynyddu maint y tîm hwn.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR gymeradwyo mabwysiadu a chyhoeddi'r ddogfen bolisi hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus 10 mlynedd - CGHT Sir Gaerfyrddin 2019-2029.

12. YMGYNGHORIAD LLYWODRAETH CYMRU FFRAMWAITH DATBLYGU CENEDLAETHOL 2020-2040

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried y Fframwaith Datblygu Cenedlaethol (FfDC). Roedd yr adroddiad yn nodi'r strategaeth ar gyfer ymdrin â blaenoriaethau cenedlaethol allweddol drwy'r system gynllunio, gan gynnwys cynnal a datblygu economi fywiog, datgarboneiddio, datblygu ecosystemau cydnerth a gwella iechyd a llesiant ein cymunedau.

Nodwyd mai'r prif fater sy'n peri pryder i Sir Gaerfyrddin yw'r diffyg pwyslais ar gymunedau ac economïau gwledig. Byddai llythyr yn cael ei anfon at Lywodraeth Cymru a fydd yn rhoi sylw i'r pryderon hyn ac yn cynnwys argymhellion ar gyfer Sir Gaerfyrddin.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR:

- 12.1 Nodi cynnwys yr ymgynghoriad.
- 12.2 Cymeradwyo'r ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad i'w cyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru.

13. FERSIWN ADNEUOL DRAFFT O GYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL DIWYGIEDIG SIR GAERFYRDDIN 2018 - 2033

Rhoddodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol ystyriaeth i fersiwn adneuol drafft o Gynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig Sir Gaerfyrddin 2018-2033. Lluniwyd yr adroddiad hwn yn dilyn penderfyniad y Cyngor Sir ar 10 Ionawr 2018 i ddechrau'n ffurfiol ar y gwaith o baratoi Cynllun Datblygu Lleol (CDLI) diwygiedig (newydd), ac ar ôl cael cymeradwyaeth gan Lywodraeth Cymru o'r Cytundeb Cyflawni ar 28 Mehefin 2018, gan gynnwys yr amserlen ar gyfer paratoi'r cynllun.

Roedd yr adroddiad yn disgrifio'r fersiwn adneuol drafft o'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig drwy nodi gweledigaeth y Cyngor o ran defnydd y tir, amcanion strategol a gofynion twf strategol ar gyfer y Sir hyd at 2033 ynghyd â set o bolisïau a darpariaethau cynhwysfawr a manwl - gan gynnwys dyraniadau penodol i safle (sy'n cynnwys tai a chyflogaeth yn ogystal ag ystyriaethau amgylcheddol ac ystyriaethau gofodol eraill).

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR:

- 13.1 Ystyried a chymeradwyo cynnwys y Fersiwn Adneuol Drafft o Gynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig 2018 - 2033 (a dogfennau atodol) at ddibenion ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ffurfiol.
- 13.2 Rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i swyddogion wneud addasiadau teipograffyddol neu ffeithiol ansylweddol yn ôl yr angen, i wella eglurder a chywirdeb y Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth a Ffefir.
- 13.3 Cymeradwyo'r Fersiwn Drafft o'r Canllawiau Cynllunio Atodol ynghylch Moryd Byrri ac Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig Caeau Mynydd Mawr at ddibenion ymgynghori yr un pryd â'r CDLI Adneuo.

14. UNRHYW FATER ARALL Y GALL Y CADEIRYDD OHERWYDD AMGYLCHIADAU ARBENNIG BENDERFYNU EI YSTYRIED YN FATER BRYN YN UNOL AG ADRAN 100B(4)(B) O DDEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL, 1972.

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd unrhyw eitemau eraill o fater brys i'w hystyried.

15. GORCHYMYN I'R CYHOEDD ADAEL Y CYFARFOD

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL, yn unol â Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972, fel y'i newidiwyd gan Orchymyn Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad at Wybodaeth) (Amrywio) (Cymru) 2007, orchymyn i'r cyhoedd adael y cyfarfod tra oedd yr eitemau canlynol yn cael eu hystyried, gan fod yr adroddiadau'n cynnwys

gwybodaeth eithriedig fel y'i diffiniwyd ym mharagraff 14 o Ran 4 o Atodlen 12A i'r Ddeddf.

16. PENTREF LLESIANT A GWYDDOR BYWYD LLANELLI

Yn dilyn cynnal prawf budd y cyhoedd, PENDERFYNWYD yn unol â'r Ddeddf y cyfeiriwyd ati yng nghofnod 15 uchod, beidio â chyhoeddi cynnwys yr adroddiad gan ei fod yn cynnwys gwybodaeth eithriedig am faterion ariannol neu faterion busnes unigolyn penodol (gan gynnwys yr Awdurdod oedd yn meddu ar y wybodaeth honno) (Paragraff 14 o Ran 4 o Atodlen 12A i'r Ddeddf).

Roedd prawf budd y cyhoedd mewn perthynas â'r mater hwn yn ymwneud â'r wybodaeth ariannol yn ymwneud â gwasanaethau dylunio cam 3 RIBA a fydd yn cael eu darparu. Er y byddai'r budd i'r cyhoedd fel rheol yn ffafrio tryloywder a diffuantrwydd, mae'r budd i'r cyhoedd o gadw cyfrinachedd yn drech yn yr achos hwn er mwyn diogelu buddiannau masnachol y darparwr yn y farchnad ehangach, ynghyd â buddiannau'r Awdurdod at ddibenion ceisio rhagor o wasanaethau dylunio.

Rhoddodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol ystyriaeth i adroddiad Pentref Llesiant a Gwyddor Bywyd Llanelli er mwyn symud datblygiad y Pentref Llesiant yn ei flaen gan gynnwys manylu ar y dyluniad, comisiynu a'r broses i sicrhau cyllid, gyda'r nod o sicrhau bod parth un y Pentref yn cael ei ddarparu'n amserol.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL:

- 16.1 Cymeradwyo comisiynu parhaus o ARUP ar ail ran gwaith dylunio Cam 3 RIBA, fel y manylwyd arno yn yr adroddiad, drwy gyllid gan y Gronfa Wrth Gefn bresennol a glustnodwyd ar gyfer y Fargen Ddinesig.
- 16.2 Cymeradwyo'r strategaeth adeiladu a chaffael arfaethedig ar gyfer y Pentref sy'n nodi llwybr caffael a ffefrir a rhaglen ar gyfer adeiladu parth 1.
- 16.2 Cydnabod yr ymagwedd tuag at y marchnadoedd ariannol a wnaed dan arweinyddiaeth weithredol Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol.
- 16.4 Cymeradwyo'r Achos Busnes presennol (fel y'i atodir yn Atodiad 16.4) a rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i Brif Weithredwr a Chyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol, drwy ymgynghori â'r Arweinydd, i gwblhau unrhyw ddiwygiadau pellach i'r Achos Busnes hwn (gan gynnwys cadarnhau partneriaid) a'i gyflwyno'n ffurfiol i Gyd-bwyllgor Dinas-ranbarth Bae Abertawe i'w gymeradwyo er mwyn ei gyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y DU.
- 16.5 Cymeradwyo'r trafodaethau sy'n parhau gyda'r Partneriaid Addysg Uwch gyda'r bwriad o gytuno ar statws partneriaeth ffurfiol.
- 16.6 Cymeradwyo allbwn cychwynnol yr ymarfer o ran brand.

CADEIRYDD

DYDDIAD