

# Pecyn Dogfennau Cyhoeddus

## Cabinet

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Man Cyfarfod  
**Siambr y Cyngor - Neuadd y Sir,  
Llandrindod, Powys**

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Dyddiad y Cyfarfod  
**Dydd Mawrth, 22 Chwefror 2022**

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Amser y Cyfarfod  
**10.00 am**

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I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch â  
**Stephen Boyd**  
01597 826374  
steve.boyd@powys.gov.uk



Neuadd Y Sir  
Llandrindod  
Powys  
LD1 5LG

Dyddiad Cyhoeddi

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Mae croeso i'r rhai sy'n cymryd rhan ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg. Os hoffech chi siarad Cymraeg yn y cyfarfod, gofynnwn i chi roi gwybod i ni erbyn hanner dydd ddau ddiwrnod cyn y cyfarfod

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## AGENDA

<b>1.</b>	<b>YMDDIHEURIADAU</b>
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Derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.

<b>2.</b>	<b>COFNODION</b>
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Awdurdodi'r Arweinydd i lofnodi cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 4 Chwefror a'r 8fed Chwefror 2022 fel cofnodion cywir.

(Tudalennau 1 - 10)

<b>3.</b>	<b>DATGANIADAU O DDIDDORDEB</b>
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Derbyn unrhyw ddatganiadau o ddiddordeb gan Aelodau yn ymwneud ag eitemau i'w hystyried ar yr Agenda.

<b>4.</b>	<b>ADRODDIAD ADOLYGU CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL POWYS (CDLL) A'R CYTUNDEB CYFLAWNI AR GYFER Y CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL NEWYDD: DIWEDDARIAD AR Y CAM YMGYNGHORI CYHOEDDUS A DOGFENNAU DIWYGIADAU</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan y Cynghorydd Sir Beverley Baynham, Aelod Portffolio ar faterion Gwasanaethau Llywodraethu a Rheoleiddio.

(Tudalennau 11 - 188)

<b>5.</b>	<b>YMATEB I'R PWYSAU STAFFIO A PHWYSAU ERAILL O FEWN GWASANAETHAU CYMDEITHASOL PLANT.</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan y Cyngorydd Sir Rachel Powell, Aelod Portffolio ar faterion Pobl Ifanc a Diwylliant.

(Tudalennau 189 - 216)

<b>6.</b>	<b>CRONFA ADFER COVID DIWEDDARIAD AR Y CYNNYDD</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan yr Arweinydd, y Cyngorydd Sir Rosemarie Harris.

(Tudalennau 217 - 238)

<b>7.</b>	<b>CYNLLUN RHYDDHAD TRETHI BUSNES, HAMDDEN A LLETYGARWCH 2022-23</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan y Cyngorydd Sir Aled Davies, Aelod Portffolio ar faterion Cyllid a Thrafnidiaeth.

(Tudalennau 239 - 252)

<b>8.</b>	<b>RHAGOLYGN ARIANNOL AR GYFER Y FLWYDDYN YN DOD I BEN 31 MAWRTH 2022 (AR 31 RHAGFYR 2021)</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan y Cyngorydd Sir Aled Davies, Aelod Portffolio ar faterion Cyllid a Thrafnidiaeth.

(Tudalennau 253 - 278)

<b>9.</b>	<b>RHAGOLYGN CYFALAF AR 31 RHAGFYR 2021</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan y Cyngorydd Sir Aled Davies, Aelod Portffolio ar faterion Cyllid a Thrafnidiaeth.

(Tudalennau 279 - 288)

<b>10.</b>	<b>ADRODDIAD RHEOLI'R TRYSORLYS CHWARTER 3</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan y Cyngorydd Sir Aled Davies, Aelod Portffolio ar faterion Cyllid a Thrafnidiaeth.

(Tudalennau 289 - 310)

<b>11.</b>	<b>TREF Y TRALLWNG - RHAGLEN TRAWSNEWID ADDYSG</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan y Cyngorydd Sir Phyl Davies, Aelod Portffolio ar faterion Addysg ac Eiddo.

(I Ddilyn)

<b>12.</b>	<b>PROSIECT RHEOLWR BUSNES CLWSTWR</b>
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Ystyried adroddiad gan y Cyngorydd Sir Phyl Davies, Aelod Portffolio ar faterion Addysg ac Eiddo.

(I Ddilyn)

<b>13.</b>	<b>PENDERFYNIADAU DIRPRWYEDIG</b>
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Nodi'r penderfyniadau dirprwyedig a gymeryd gan yr Aelod Portffolio.  
(Tudalennau 311 - 312)

<b>14.</b>	<b>BLAEN RAGLEN WAITH Y CABINET</b>
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Ystyried blaen raglen waith y Cabinet.  
(Tudalennau 313 - 314)

Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwriadol



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD BY TEAMS ON FRIDAY, 4  
FEBRUARY 2022**

PRESENT

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)

County Councillors MC Alexander, B Baynham, P Davies, A W Davies, H Hulme and R Powell

In attendance: County Councillor E Vaughan

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>
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Apologies for absence were received from the Executive Director, People and Organisational Development and the Executive Director Economy and Environment.

<b>2.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>
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There were no declarations of interest reported.

<b>3.</b>	<b>ADULT SERVICES INTERNAL DOMICILIARY CARE TEAM: DEMAND AND CAPACITY PRESSURES</b>
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Cabinet noted the current demand and capacity pressures being faced by Adult Services. During the pandemic demand for home-based care had significantly increased. Since October 2021 over 2,000 hours had been transferred back by external providers and the service was relying on overtime to deliver care and support.

Cabinet considered an additional investment into the in-house domiciliary care team so that people in Powys had the best chance of living as independently as possible, as well as reducing the need for ongoing support. This would enable the recruitment of 24 additional domiciliary care team workers.

**RESOLVED**

- 1. Subject to the agreement of the 2022/23 Council budget, that Cabinet are asked to note Adult Services pressures and the service response to them, as well as the proposals set out in section 4 of the report.**
- 2. That £420k is transferred into the Adult Social Care budget from the Corporately held Risk Budget to meet the costs of the increased demand in the current financial year.**

<b>4.</b>	<b>INCREASING THE CAPACITY TO REVIEW CARE AND SUPPORT PACKAGES IN ADULT SERVICES</b>
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Cabinet considered a proposal to use the Welsh Government 'Winter Pressures and Social Care overspend' grant to deal with a backlog of reviews and undertake additional reviews before the end of the financial year. It was proposed that Xyla health and social services undertake this work.

**RESOLVED to approve the proposals set out in section 4.1 of the report to utilise additional grant funding to resource the additional capacity.**

<b>5.</b>	<b>COUNCIL TAX PREMIUMS ON PERIODICALLY OCCUPIED PROPERTIES</b>
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Cabinet considered a proposal to increase the premium charged on periodically occupied properties from the current 50% to 75% with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

Cabinet noted the results of a consultation undertaken following a motion passed at Council in September 2020 calling for the premium to be raised to 75%. There were 780 responses to the consultation with 74% of those who had replied paying Council Tax on periodically occupied properties. The majority of respondents viewed an increase negatively and the Cabinet noted that there was a risk associated with increasing the premium if owners switched to business rates. It was felt that by delaying the rise to 2023 would give an opportunity to assess the impact of the increase and make changes if necessary.

County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan who had brought the motion to Council argued that the increase was necessary because high property prices were affecting all parts of rural Wales putting them beyond the reach of young people.

**RESOLVED**

- 1. That Cabinet notes the views of Council expressed at its meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**
- 2. That Cabinet approve an increase to the Council Tax premium for periodically occupied properties from 50% to 75% with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, and:**
  - Determine that this decision shall remain effective each financial year unless varied or revoked.**
  - To publish the determination within 21 days in at least one local newspaper in accordance with Section 12 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992**
- 3. That the financial implications of the change will be reconsidered as the budget is developed for 2023/24.**

**County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD BY TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 8  
FEBRUARY 2022**

**PRESENT**

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)

County Councillors MC Alexander, B Baynham, P Davies, A W Davies and H Hulme

In attendance: County Councillors J Gibson-Watt and H Lewis

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>
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Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor R Powell.

<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>
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The Leader was authorised to sign the minutes of the meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022 as correct records.

<b>3.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>
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County Councillor B Baynham declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 4 Llanfihangel Rhydithon School as she had family members employed at the school and involved in the campaign to save the school.

<b>4.</b>	<b>LLANFIHANGEL RHYDITHON C.P. SCHOOL</b>
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Cabinet considered responses received during the objection period following the publication of the Statutory Notice. The Leader and Portfolio Holder thanked the staff and governors for the very cordial reception given to the Cabinet when they visited the school. She also acknowledged the large amount of correspondence received by the Cabinet.

284 objections had been received during the statutory period. A summary of the objections was contained in an appendix to the report. Having considered the objections received, it was officers' recommendation that the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal to close Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. School from the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, as outlined in the Statutory Notice.

The Portfolio Holder for Education outlined the reasons for the recommendation:

- To address the issue of low pupil numbers.
- To reduce the Council's overall surplus capacity in primary schools.
- To realise a financial saving to the Council.
- To enable pupils to attend larger schools, which would be better equipped to meet the requirements of the new curriculum.
- To enable pupils to attend larger schools, which could provide a wider range of educational and extra-curricular opportunities.

- To enable pupils to attend schools with better quality accommodation.
- The proposal meets all the Critical Success Factors.

The Director of Education noted that the Council had set out a clear ambition for schools service following an extensive engagement exercise with the schools community and this strategy was now being implemented. The Director reminded the Cabinet of the guiding principles underpinning the transforming education strategy, not least the development of a world class rural education system with learning entitlement at its core. The realisation of the strategy required the reorganisation of the school infrastructure which went beyond the closure of small schools. Estyn had noted that the authority had a purposeful and ambitious vision to ensure that its education provision met the needs of all learners. The Director advised that developing and implementing the new curriculum would be a challenge for all schools particularly small schools due to the workload.

The Head of Transformation and Communications advised that if the proposal was approved pupils would transfer to larger schools of at least equivalent quality that would be able to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities. It was Estyn's view that the proposal was likely to at least maintain the current standards of education provision. The quality of accommodation at the alternative schools was at least equivalent to that in Llanfihangel Rhydithon School. There were sufficient school places available within a 10 mile radius. Journey times would be less than 45 minutes each way. There would be a reduction in the number of surplus places, better strategic management of the school estate and a saving to the Council. It was not anticipated that the proposal would have a negative impact on the educational attainment of any pupils from economically deprived backgrounds or that it would raise any equality issues. Support would be provided to any pupil with additional learning needs to ensure a successful transition to an alternative school. The Head of Transformation and Communications advised that although a community impact assessment concluded that there would be a negative impact on the community by closing the school, on balance it was considered that this was the most appropriate response to the issues identified for formulating the proposal. She noted that Llanfihangel Rhydithon was identified as a rural school and there was a procedural presumption in the School Organisation Code 2018 against closure. However, the closure of the school was seen as the most appropriate response to address reasons for the recommendations as outlined by the Portfolio Holder.

County Councillor Hywel Lewis spoke as the local member. He felt that it was misleading to suggest that small schools would have difficulty in delivering the curriculum and he noted the comments of Jeremy Miles the Minister for Education that the curriculum was appropriate for small rural schools. He argued that clustering would be a far more transformative approach. He felt that these options should have been considered and that by not doing so the Council was acting contrary to the Rural Schools Policy. He noted that the school had collaborated successfully with Llanelwedd Church in Wales School for seven years and that the Head teacher was a non-teaching head. He argued that the impact on Llanelwedd had not been thought out. He advised that there would be an application for a judicial review if the Cabinet went ahead with the decision.

County Councillor James Gibson-Watt speaking as the leader of the opposition asked the Cabinet to pause and reflect on what it was trying to achieve. He argued that if the Cabinet took the decision to close the school it would set it on a path of closing all small schools. He argued that schools had a wider role in rural communities and that they became less vibrant when schools closed. He noted that the school was a feeder school to Calon Cymru and that the Cabinet had not yet decided to what to do with that school.

The Portfolio Holder challenged the idea that a head teacher could develop the curriculum on two sites given the work involved. He noted that the strategy for transforming in Powys was a commitment to 13 secondary catchments. He noted that there was surplus capacity in the catchment and the Council had been charged by Estyn to address this. The Director of Education responded to the comments about misleading councillors and the curriculum. She reported that challenge adviser reports had highlighted that the development of the curriculum was placing a significant workload on all schools, particularly smaller schools. The Council was committed to work with all schools to ensure they were able to deliver the curriculum for Wales and to providing support to staff to undertake the professional learning required. The Director noted that the Cabinet had to be mindful of the long term sustainability of schools and giving time and space for teachers to develop and succeed. The challenges of teaching mixed age groups were also noted.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services advised that judicial reviews were about process and that the Council had engaged a barrister to advise the Council and ensure that the code had been followed at every stage. Responding to the point made by County Councillor Gibson-Watt about setting a precedent he advised that each decision would be made on its own merits. The Portfolio Holder for Education reiterated this point noting that in some areas catchment reviews would be required and in some areas they would not.

The Head of Transformation and Communications confirmed that there wasn't a blanket approach taken to schools transformation. She refuted the suggestion that officers were misleading members.

Cabinet was advised that of the 36 pupils at the school, just under half were closer to other schools. If the school closed, 29 pupils would be eligible for free home to school transport if they chose to attend their closest schools, 7 would not. All pupils could be accommodated on existing routes.

It was confirmed that federation with Llanelwedd had been considered but ruled out as it was not possible to federate a Community Primary School and a Church in Wales School. The local member advised that the school was willing to become a Church in Wales School. With regard to the point made about Ysgol Calon Cymru, Cabinet was advised that an informal engagement had been carried out on options but that was focused on the school in the first instance and not on primary schools in the catchment which would be looked at in a second phase.

Having considered the objections and the comments made at the meeting it was

**RESOLVED**

- 1. To receive the Objection Report in respect of closing Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. School.**
- 2. To approve the proposal to close Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. School from the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, with pupils to attend their nearest alternative schools.**
- 3. In accordance with the Scheme for Financing Schools, to introduce the following restrictions on Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. School:**
  - Spend at the school is restricted to that included in its approved budget plan and no virement of funds between budget headings is permitted unless approved by the Authority;**
  - Any staffing changes are subject to approval by the Authority;**
  - Any contracts awarded for the supply of goods or services are subject to approval by the Authority.**

<b>5.</b>	<b>YSGOL CEDEWAIN SPECIAL SCHOOL - TRANSFORMING EDUCATION PROGRAMME</b>
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The Cabinet was asked to approve the submission of a Full Business Case to the Welsh Government for capital investment to replace the existing Ysgol Cedewain building in Newtown.

The case for change was based on the need to improve facilities for pupils at Ysgol Cedewain. The school was in a very poor condition and had significant site constraints. The requested investment would deliver a brand new, purpose-built school with 108 places in age-appropriate environments. The total cost associated with the project was £19,717,670 with Welsh Government providing 75% of the total cost of the project, with Powys County Council responsible for the remaining 25%. The cost of the project was £3 million less than budgeted and this sum would be reallocated to other projects in the Schools capital programme. The Planning Taxi Licensing and Rights of Way Committee had granted planning permission the previous week and it was hoped that contractors would be on site in March.

The Section 151 Officer confirmed that funding to support the project was included within the Council's Capital Programme and the financing of the borrowing was considered within the Council's revenue budget.

#### **RESOLVED**

- 1. To approve the submission of the Full Business Case, as set out in Appendix A to the report, to Welsh Government's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme for capital investment to replace the existing Ysgol Cedewain building in Newtown.**

- 2. To note that the estimated cost of the overall project is £19,717,670 with Welsh Government funding 75% of the costs, and the Council funding 25%.**

<b>6.</b>	<b>21ST CENTURY SCHOOL PROGRAMME GATEWAY REVIEW FINDINGS</b>
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Cabinet noted the Delivery Confidence Assessment rating of the Welsh Government Gateway Review of 21st Century Schools Programme in Powys. The Delivery Confidence Assessment rating was Amber Green which put the programme in the top 10% in Wales. The review team had made a number of recommendations that officers would implement. Cabinet was pleased to note the findings of the independent regulators which provided reassurance that the Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) was well crafted and there was high confidence in its deliverability. Officers in the Schools Transformation Team were thanked for their work.

**RESOLVED that the recommendations within the Gateway review report are noted.**

<b>7.</b>	<b>HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT RENT AND RELATED CHARGES CHANGES FOR 2022-23</b>
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Cabinet considered changes to Council Housing Rents, Garage Rents and all property and tenancy related Service Charges, for the financial year 2022-23 to ensure the HRA Business Plan remained both sustainable and viable. The recommendations took into account compliance with the Welsh Government's Policy for Social Housing Rents (Rent Policy).

Cabinet noted that the proposed 3.1% rise was below inflation. Cabinet also noted that the rise was necessary in order to invest in maintaining existing homes and develop new homes to address the needs of more than 4,000 households on the waiting list for affordable homes, and 200 households in temporary accommodation awaiting availability of permanent accommodation. The Powys Tenants Scrutiny Panel had expressed concerns at the rise but had also acknowledged that getting the balance between keeping rents affordable and being able to invest in current and new homes was challenging. Cabinet was advised that the proportionate and pragmatic approach to the collection of rent during the Covid pandemic would remain and that tenants facing unavoidable financial challenges linked to Covid would continue to be offered support to secure additional income.

**RESOLVED**

- 1. That with effect from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the average rent in Powys will increase by 3.1% (the average rent being £96.37 per week) for all 5,446 Council owned homes, excluding service charges.**
- 2. That service charges charged to HRA tenants are amended with effect from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to allow the Council to recover the cost incurred in providing these services.**

3. That the weekly cost effect from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for Careline in 2022-2023 is £1.10 per week.
4. That HRA garage rents in Powys with effect from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for 2022-2023 are increased by £0.39 per week.
5. That garage plot charges effect from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for 2022-2023 increase by £4.93 per annum.
6. That the weekly occupation charge from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 charges for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in 2022-2023 will be increased by 3.1% the average rent being £108.60.
7. That all other rental and service charges, not detailed above, effect from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 will increase by 3.1%.

<b>8.</b>	<b>ADOPTION OF THE POWYS EMPTY PROPERTY ENFORCEMENT ACTION PLAN</b>
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Cabinet considered an Empty Property Enforcement Action Plan. The Plan had been developed in collaboration with Welsh Government, which had requested all local authorities in Wales to set out a clear plan of action to bring into productive use, long term empty properties in their area. The plan set out how the Council could both improve and develop its approach to bringing into use empty properties. It also highlighted a number of challenging properties that needed urgent attention, but which were also an opportunity to develop in 'real-time' the techniques, resources and capacity needed to enhance the Council's future ability to bring more empty properties into productive use.

The Section 151 Officer confirmed that the Plan could be delivered within existing resources.

**RESOLVED that the Powys Empty Property Enforcement Action Plan is adopted by the Council.**

<b>9.</b>	<b>PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2022 -25</b>
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Cabinet was asked to endorse a Procurement Strategy for the purchase of all the Council's goods, and services to cover the period from 2021 to 2025. The strategy set out the Council's ambitions for procurement for the next 4 years and had been aligned closely to Vision 2025 objectives for all services. It also took cognisance of other Welsh Government key legislative and policy documents and attempted to anticipate some change such as the arrival of the new intended Transform Procurement legislation due to replace the current regulations.

**RESOLVED to approve the procurement strategy in Appendix 1 to the report and task the Head of Finance with developing an implementation plan for the next 3 years to realise the benefits including the development of measures and outcomes to demonstrate progress.**

<b>10.</b>	<b>DELEGATED DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING</b>
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Cabinet noted the delegated decisions taken by Portfolio Holders.

<b>11.</b>	<b>FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME</b>
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Cabinet noted the forward work programme.

**County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)**

Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwriadol

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.****CABINET  
22nd February 2022**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Beverley Baynham  
Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance and  
Regulatory Services

**REPORT TITLE:** Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) Review Report  
and the Delivery Agreement for the Replacement Local  
Development Plan (RLDP): Update on Public  
Consultation Stage and Revised Documents

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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**1. Purpose**

1.1 Cabinet are asked to consider the representations received from the recent consultations on:

- i) the Local Development Plan (LDP) Review Report Consultation Draft January 2022 and
- ii) the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) Delivery Agreement Consultation Draft January 2022.

1.2 Cabinet are asked to consider the proposed Council responses and approve the revised documents and to recommend the Delivery Agreement to Full Council.

1.3 Under the Town & Country Planning LDP Regulations, Regulation 41 (as amended) states the Local Planning Authority (LPA), in this instance the Cabinet, must approve the Review Report by resolution before submitting to the Welsh Government (s.69(2) of Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act (PCPA) 2004). It will also be published on the Council's website and deposited for inspection.

1.4 LDP Regulation 9 (as amended) states the LPA, in this instance Full Council, must approve the Delivery Agreement (DA) by resolution before submitting to the Welsh Government for agreement. Welsh Government agreement to the DA signals the formal commencement of the RLDP preparation process. Once agreed it will be published on the Council's website and deposited for inspection.

1.5 The Council intends to submit the DA to the Welsh Government by 1st June 2022 enabling the Council's RLDP preparation to start from 1st July 2022 in line with the proposed Timetable.

## 2. **Background**

2.1 At the meeting held 14th September 2021, Cabinet approved the commencement of the LDP Review process.

2.2 Officers reviewed the LDP in accordance with the requirements of legislation (PCPA 2004 s.69 (1)) and the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3) and a Review Report Consultation Draft was produced for public consultation.

2.3 The draft Review Report recommends that the LDP is subject to a Full Revision which will result in a replacement LDP. The first step in producing a RLDP is to compile a Delivery Agreement setting out a Timetable for the Plan's production and a Community Involvement Scheme. A draft DA for the RLDP was produced to enable a concurrent public consultation alongside the draft Review Report.

2.4 The LDP Working Group considered and approved the Consultation Draft documents at their meeting on 13th December 2021.

2.5 Between 6th January 2022 and 1st February 2022, public consultation was undertaken on:

- i) the Review Report Consultation Draft and
- ii) the Delivery Agreement Consultation Draft

The consultation received the following number of comments:

<b>Document</b>	<b>No. of Comments Received</b>
Review Report	20
Delivery Agreement	19

2.6 The comments (representations) have been summarised and recorded in Appendix 1 together with the Council's proposed responses. The proposed changes resulting from the consultation have been added into the draft documents and are shown as highlighted changes in Appendix 2 (Review Report) and Appendix 3 (Delivery Agreement).

2.7 The consultation feedback, revised Review Report and revised Delivery Agreement were reported to the LDP Working Group on 7th February 2022.

### **3. Advice**

3.1 The Powys Local Development Plan was adopted in April 2018 and sets out the Council's policies for the development and use of land in Powys (except for the area within the Brecon Beacons National Park) up to 2026.

3.2 The main conclusion of the Review Report is that the current LDP is now ready for a Full Revision (replacement) rather than the alternative of a Short Form revision. This recommendation is due to various reasons including the results of the Annual Monitoring Report 2021 which assessed the performance of the current LDP and identified strategic issues that needed to be addressed and, equally significantly, the fact that national policy has undergone substantial change since 2018 including the adoption of a National Development Plan – *Future Wales – The National Plan 2040* - in February 2021.

3.3 Another significant factor is that the current adopted LDP will expire on 31st March 2026. The Welsh Government have clarified that for LDPs adopted after 4th January 2016, the plan will cease to be the LDP on expiry of the period specified in the plan. As the Powys LDP (2011-26) was adopted in 2018 it means it cannot remain in place after March 2026 for determining planning applications. A replacement Plan needs to be ready to take effect on or before the end of the current LDP.

3.4 The Council proposes that a RLDP would be prepared for the period 2022-2037, a 15-year Plan period. Whilst evidence gathering and stakeholder involvement in the RLDP process is due to start in 2022, the RLDP can only take effect from adoption, scheduled for 2026.

3.5 In keeping with the requirement across Wales, the Mid Wales Region will be developing a regional-level Strategic Development Plan (SDP). However, this is prepared under a separate process to the RLDP, albeit the process does broadly mirror that of an LDP in terms of the statutory stages. When Mid Wales has an adopted SDP, Local Development Plans will be able to be replaced by "LDP Lites". The SDP focuses only on issues, topics, or places of regional scale/significance with the LDP Lite being a shorter, focussed plan dealing with land allocations and local policies.

### **4. Resource Implications**

4.1 The Review Report has no additional resource requirements.

4.2 The DA sets out an overview (see *paras 2.8-2.13* Appendix 3) of resource requirements for the RLDP, including staffing and finance. It also includes a risk assessment.

4.3 Funding as shown below has been requested as part of the 2022-23 budget setting process, within the Finance resource model. The budget

including the Finance resource model, will go to Full council on the 24th February 2022, requesting approval.

<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>Total</b>
360,030	222,640	293,310	295,030	1,171,010

4.4 Once the DA is agreed and the RLDP process commences, it will be of significant public and service user interest and requires news release and social media activity to publicise the decision. Engagement exercises held during Plan preparation are also expected to need the input of the Communications department.

4.5 The preparation of the RLDP is a cross-cutting process that will impact across the Council in many portfolio and service areas. This includes the need to align to other corporate plans such as the Well-being Plan and Regional Transport and Economic Frameworks. It will be important that other Council Officers remain engaged with the preparation process and engage as stakeholders for evidence gathering and policy making in topics such as the Economy and Employment, Tourism, Housing, Regeneration, the Environment and Climate Change, Habitat Protection, Renewable Energy and Green Infrastructure/Open Space. Sharing research on population change and arising household needs will also be essential. There is a new requirement for an Infrastructure Plan to support the RLDP that will require cross-departmental working.

4.6 Due to the requirement to “deposit” RLDP documents at physical location(s), namely the Council’s principal office (i.e. County Hall, Llandrindod) there is a need to retain public access to this building and ensure that a Customer Service Advisor is available to signpost users to the library/document section. This need for a physical building will also be important at the Examination stage when the Council is obliged to provide access to hard-copy papers at an Examination Library. The Community Involvement Scheme also names 12 main libraries across Powys where it is intended to make consultation documents available for inspection.

## **5. Legal implications**

5.1 The LDP Review Report and the RLDP Delivery Agreement are statutory requirements prepared in line with the PCPA 2004 and The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended).

5.2 It is important that the RLDP preparation commences this year (summer 2022) to enable the RLDP to be adopted in Spring 2026, prior to the adopted LDP reaching its end date.

5.3 The Principal Solicitor (Shire) recognises the importance of the review report and the delivery agreement for the existing LDP and the proposed replacement LDP respectively and as such recommends that they be supported.

## **6. Data Protection**

6.1 The consultation stage has been undertaken with regard to Data Protection legislation. The service will continue to engage with Information Compliance to ensure that records continue to be managed appropriately going forward.

## **7. Comment from local member(s)**

Not applicable.

## **8. Impact Assessment**

8.1 An assessment is not required at this stage.

8.2 Preparation of the RLDP's policies and proposals will be informed by statutory assessment processes (Integrated Assessment and Habitat Regulation Assessment) as set out in the DA (Appendix 3). This ensures the plan is prepared having regard to its impact on sustainability, the environment, equalities, health, Welsh language etc.

8.3 The LDP will be subject to an Examination In Public by a Planning Inspector who will test the plan for 'soundness'. The soundness tests include tests on sustainability and consistency with other relevant strategies.

## **9. Recommendation**

9.1 Having considered the representations received and the Council responses, it is recommended that Cabinet:

- i) Approves the revised LDP Review Report (Appendix 2).
- ii) Recommends the revised RLDP Delivery Agreement (Appendix 3) to Full Council for approval.

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### **Appendices:**

**Appendix 1:** Summary of comments (representations) received and draft Council responses

**Appendix 2:** Revised LDP Review Report

**Appendix 3:** Revised RLDP Delivery Agreement

Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwriadol



## Representations and Council Responses on the Review Report Consultation Draft – 08.02.22

Tudalen 17

No.	Representor	Summary of Comments	Council Responses
1.	Swansea Canal Society	<p><b>Tourism and historic environment</b> Supportive of the further safeguarding of the historic and cultural heritage of Powys and benefits to tourism. Refers to restoration work on the Swansea Canal and the numerous industrial archaeological monuments surviving in the southern Powys region around the Ystradgynlais and Abercraf areas, with reference to various publications, lists and indexes. Considers the industrial monuments listed in the response to be worthy of inclusion in the lists of structures to be protected and promoted to support the heritage and cultural aspects and also the tourism potential of the County of Powys.</p>	<p><b>Tourism and historic environment</b> The Council notes the detailed response provided in respect of the history of the Swansea canal and the recorded surviving structures, together with the tourism benefits. Additional text is to be inserted under section 8.5 of the Review Report regarding the consideration of important tourism and heritage features as part of the Replacement LDP.</p>
2.	Coal Authority	<p><b>Coal mining features, resources and potential risks</b> Refers to Coal Authority records indicating coal mining features (mining features and surface coal resources) within the Powys County Council area at surface and shallow depth, and also surface coal resource present within the area, referring to planning advice in this respect. Also refers to the conclusion of the review in respect of retaining Policy DM10 Contaminated and Unstable Land, with no objections raised subject to the policy including consideration of the potential risks posed by past coal mining activity.</p>	<p><b>Coal mining features, resources and potential risks</b> The Council notes the comments received. As set out in the Review Report, there is no longer a requirement for LDP policies to safeguard coal resources, as explained in Planning Policy Wales (para. 5.10.17). However, additional text will be provided under section 8.11 of the Review Report in order to reflect considerations relating to coal mining features and resources in the review of LDP policy DM10.</p>
3.	CPRW Montgomeryshire	<p><b>Housing</b></p>	<p><b>Housing</b></p>

	<p>Allocations and the settlement tier system need to be reviewed so that smaller settlements are not subject to the same large proposals as towns. Issues around the impact on infrastructure, resources, and communities, employment opportunities, travel and carbon footprint. The character of the site, settlement and area needs to be considered.</p> <p><b>Carbon retention</b> Need to protect important peat and dark soils from inappropriate industrial scale development.</p> <p><b>Pre-assessed Areas</b> List of factors not taken into account, a full assessment and consultation is needed to refine Pre-assessed Areas at a local level, along with a benefit analysis taking into account disbenefits, potential damage and decreasing wind.</p> <p><b>Intensive Agricultural Unit</b> Support the need for a policy with rigorous guidance, must take into account proximity of unrelated dwellings and highways impacts of manure disposal.</p> <p><b>Active Travel</b> Measures need to encourage walking and cycling between communities and should not be limited by population size, with little or no public transport in smaller communities.</p> <p><b>Landscape</b> This needs to be carried out and rigorously applied in planning, along with protection for best and most versatile agricultural land, and the importance of Powys landscape as a resource needs to be an overriding consideration throughout.</p> <p><b>Planning obligations</b> Needs to include funds to maintain community resources in perpetuity, perhaps managed by Town and Community</p>	<p>As set out in the Review Report, the LDP’s spatial strategy, including the settlement tiers and allocations, will be reviewed as part of the Replacement LDP process, informed by a Settlement Assessment. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Carbon retention</b> As set out in the Review Report, LDP policy DM13, which includes criteria relating to thick peat, is to be re-considered as part of the Replacement LDP. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Pre-assessed Areas</b> These comments relate to national planning policy within Future Wales and PPW, which includes detailed policies and criteria for assessing wind energy proposals within these areas. PPW states that LPAs should not seek to amend the pre-assessed areas within their boundaries as they form part of the development plan. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Intensive Agricultural Unit</b> As set out in the Review Report, the LDP’s agricultural policies will be reconsidered to reflect contextual changes. Additional text to be inserted under section 8.2 of the Review Report to clarify that this will include consideration of including an appropriate policy for intensive agricultural developments within the Replacement LDP.</p> <p><b>Active Travel</b> The Council notes the comments on active travel, which will be an important consideration for the Replacement LDP, and included as part of the Settlement Assessment. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Landscape</b> The Local Landscape Character Assessment will inform the strategy, policies and proposals of the LDP, and is also</p>
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		Councils who should be consulted early in the process to ensure the right planning gain is achieved for the community.	intended to provide Supplementary Planning Guidance to inform development proposals and planning decisions. Planning Policy Wales contains national policy on best and most versatile agricultural land, which will be considered in the site selection process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect. <b>Planning obligations</b> As set out in the Review Report, the methods for providing infrastructure to support development will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. The Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Guidance will also be reviewed, which will include consideration around how obligations are managed. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
4.	Cadw, Historic Environment Branch, Welsh Government	<b>Consultation with Cadw and CPAT</b> No comments but a reminder that Cadw should be consulted as part of the SEA process and that it is important to consult with Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) who are funded to provide advice during the LDP process, in relation to the archaeological issues.	<b>Consultation with Cadw and CPAT</b> The Council notes the reminder with regards to consultation with Cadw as part of the SEA process associated with the Replacement LDP. The Council has already engaged with CPAT in reviewing the LDP and will continue to do so as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
5.	United Utilities	<b>Water infrastructure</b> Express wish to work in partnership, to pro-actively identify needs and share information between LPA and UU. Provides contacts for developers to access free pre-application advice on waste and water. Highlights the need to protect strategic water infrastructure assets and for early engagement on proposed allocations at RLDP stage to ascertain constraints and implications. Request for continued consultation as the Plan moves forward.	<b>Water infrastructure</b> The Council recognises the relevance of the matters raised for the Replacement LDP in terms of infrastructure planning, the site selection process and for site promoters, and as part of the Settlement Assessment to identify opportunities and constraints. The Council will continue to consult with United Utilities as part of the Replacement LDP process and for relevant planning applications. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
6.	Network Rail	<b>Rail infrastructure</b> Policies relating to the protection and enhancement of railway infrastructure are relevant and development	<b>Rail infrastructure</b> The Council recognises the relevance of the matters raised for the Replacement LDP in terms of infrastructure planning,

		<p>schemes may necessitate developer contributions. Reminding LPA of statutory duty to consult regarding development impacts upon level crossings and developers to fund any required improvements. Request to please consult Network Rail on any future policy, pre-application or planning applications should they be submitted for sites adjoining the railway or within close proximity to the railway as development may impact upon operation of the railway, e.g. use of the nearby station and/or railway crossings and Network Rail would make specific comments as required.</p>	<p>development schemes close to railways and the potential impact of new development on the operation of the railway and level crossing use. The Council will continue to consult with Network Rail as part of the Replacement LDP process and for relevant planning applications. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
7.	Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales	<p><b>Montgomery Canal</b> Comments related LDP Policy TD3. The Trust looks forward to working with the Council on how best to ensure that the important multifunctional nature and status of the Canal, as well as supporting the restoration of the Canal and ensuring that future development does not prejudice the restoration, and to align regional priorities. Preference for a standalone policy relating to the Montgomery Canal to cover the breadth of topic areas involved, including the suggestion that it may sit under a Transport or Environmental Protection chapter within the LDP. Offer to work with the Council to draft suggested wording for a Montgomery Canal related policy.</p>	<p><b>Montgomery Canal</b> The Council notes the comments received in relation to the Montgomery Canal. As set out within the Review Report, the current LDP policy TD3 will be reconsidered to reflect the role of the Canal across several LDP topic areas and in terms of where the policy should sit within the LDP. The Council will continue to consult with the Canal &amp; River Trust in Wales as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
8.	Mineral Products Association Wales	<p>Support proposed Full Revision of the plan. <b>Minerals Safeguarding</b> Concerns raised by the Annual Monitoring Report regarding inconsistencies in the implementation of LDP Policy DM8. This is a major cause for concern to the minerals industry. The Council will need to clarify how this will be addressed. <b>Regional Technical Statement</b></p>	<p>Support noted. Technical advice has been obtained regionally in order to respond to these comments, which highlights some errors within the MPA Wales response. <b>Minerals Safeguarding</b> The concern is noted. As explained in the Review Report, further officer training and constraints mapping will assist, together with revised policy wording to improve clarity as part of the Replacement LDP. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>

	<p>Disagreement with certain statements made within the Review Report regarding the future requirements for sand and gravel aggregate allocations. Highlighting the need for changes in mineral reserves to be reflected in the Council's evidence base. The landbank will fall below that required during the mid-term period of the Replacement LDP. Highlights the need for Statements of Subregional Collaboration (SSRC) as indicated in the Regional Technical Statement. The need for allocations should be considered in the Replacement LDP and the Plan will need to refer to the requirement for a minimum 10 year landbank of crushed rock throughout the plan period and for the RTS to be reviewed at 5 year intervals. Reference to PPW, commenting that mineral reserves in Powys are undoubtedly of national importance and we welcome the council's consideration of the wider context of the reserves.</p> <p><b>New Evidence Base Requirements Infrastructure Plan</b> New infrastructure proposals should be supported by a complementary resource assessment and supply chain audits, which identify the quantities and sources of raw materials required to deliver the infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Replacement dwellings policy</b> Support policies which seek to maintain local vernacular, however, seek a positive approach to the supply of local building stone which help to maintain the character of an area.</p> <p><b>Supplementary Planning Guidance</b> Suggest appropriate guidance on Minerals Safeguarding should be brought forward at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p><b>Collaborative working</b> Request reference to the Statements of Sub-Regional Collaboration (SSRCs) detailed in the RTS 2<sup>nd</sup> Review, given</p>	<p><b>Regional Technical Statement</b> The Council have taken advice on the comments submitted and disagree with the points made regarding calculations on the land bank and also on the content regarding land won sand and gravel. Para 5.2.7 of the Review Report specifies what the RTS2 sets out as the reserves and landbank. The SWRAWP Annual Report for 2019 (the latest one) shows that the landbank had increased to more than 50 years. With regards to the need for SSRC, Powys is a Sub-region in its own right and therefore only needs to agree with itself and does not cover the requirements of other LPAs. The comments on land won sand and gravel are incorrect as there is no requirement for Powys.</p> <p><b>New Evidence Base Requirements Infrastructure Plan</b> The scope of the Infrastructure Plan will be determined as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Replacement dwellings policy</b> LDP Policy H9 will be revised to address issues identified around the implementation of the policy, as set out in the Review Report. The details of the policy and scope to address the supply of local building stone will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Supplementary Planning Guidance</b> In addition to reviewing adopted SPG, the LPA will also identify the need for new SPG to support the implementation of RLDP policies. The need for SPG to support the minerals safeguarding policy will be considered. Additional text to be inserted under section 8.14 clarifying this.</p> <p><b>Collaborative working</b> The RTS is mentioned in several places in the Review Report, and, as explained above, the SSRC process is not relevant to</p>
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		Powys is recognised as an important supplier of mineral products on a local, regional and national scale.	Powys. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
9.	Powys Local Access Forum	<p>Welcome proposal to prepare a new LDP.</p> <p><b>Public rights of way</b> The loss of access to public rights of way through lack of maintenance, blockages and illegal development is not referenced and should be highlighted. Request the protection given to, and provision made for, public open space to be extended to consider rights of way. The current condition of the rights of way in Powys is adversely affecting the attractiveness of the area to tourists.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Assessment</b> Request for a specific assessment of the condition of rights of way in Powys that includes how much of it is accessible and easy to use.</p> <p><b>Transport issues</b> Request for horse riders to be included alongside walking and cycling, including those with mobility issues and the extent to which the current infrastructure makes appropriate provision for them. It will also be important to consider the extent to which highways no longer publicly maintained and Other Routes with Public Access (ORPAs) could be used to improve the transport infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Planning obligations</b> Request for an assessment to be made on the extent to which to Council is maximising such obligations when planning applications are close to, or on, development sites, and query about introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy to replace planning obligations.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p> <p><b>Public rights of way</b> The results of LDP's Annual Monitoring Report, summarised in the Review Report, do not capture the loss of access to public rights of way. LDP Policy SP7, together with LDP Policy DM13 which includes a criterion relating public rights of way, is to be reconsidered as part of the Replacement LDP, including how effective these policies have been implemented. Some of the matters raised are addressed by Highways Operations, rather than Planning, and may be part of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan. The Replacement LDP will need to consider public rights of way in the context of Green Infrastructure. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Assessment</b> Public rights of way will be considered, however the scope of this may not extend to assessment of the condition. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Transport issues</b> These comments are noted, and, where relevant, will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. The comments regarding disused transport routes are noted and additional text will be inserted in para. 8.3.3 and Appendix B of the Review Report to reflect this consideration.</p> <p><b>Tourism</b> These comments are noted, see response above relating to rights of way. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Planning obligations</b> As set out in the Review Report, the methods for providing infrastructure to support development will be considered as</p>

			part of the Replacement LDP process. This will include consideration of whether the Council should follow the Community Infrastructure Levy process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
10.	Powys Ramblers	NOTE: The comments received from Powys Ramblers are the same as those received from the Powys Local Access Forum, with the exception that the Powys Ramblers have not mentioned horse riders in their response.	See response above to the Powys Local Access Forum.
11.	The Llanigon Community Green Space	<p><b>Housing Growth</b> Recent development in the Small Village of Llanigon representing an increase of 30%. Do not have the road network to take on any more growth and housing developments.</p> <p><b>Wellbeing, community facilities and public open space</b> Need in the village for a safe green space to build up the community to help maintaining health and wellbeing. Also, to protect natural resources, nature and habitats. Wishes for the revised LDP to include Llanigon School site to be designated as Community Green Space, which would be used to provide recreational, sport, allotments and other activities. It is important to protect open spaces and to ensure that the planning departments follow the LDP.</p>	<p><b>Housing Growth</b> The Replacement LDP will reconsider the Housing Growth and Spatial Strategy across Powys LDP area (how much growth we should plan for and where it should go). The Replacement LDP will be informed by results of settlement analysis, which sets out to analyse the role and function of each settlement and consider the constraints to development and the opportunities for sustainable place-making. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Wellbeing, community facilities and public open space</b> Health and well-being, recreational opportunities, environmental protection and green spaces (green infrastructure) are all relevant topics. The DA includes reference to a Candidate Sites/Sites Nominations stage, and we would suggest that you submit your proposals for the Community Green Space on the site at that stage. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
12.	Hughes Architects	<p><b>Housing Allocations</b> Lack of housing delivery suggest that the allocated sites system is not working. The focus on larger allocated sites in an area with low property values and therefore low interest from private developers leads to this lack of development. Suggests a system with greater flexibility</p>	<p><b>Housing Allocations</b> The Growth and Spatial Strategies, including housing allocations, will be re-considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. This will include consideration of housing delivery options, including small sites, as required by PPW. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>

		<p>which allows the development of more smaller sites should be considered. Encouragement of self-build of one off plots should also be encouraged.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b> The phosphates issue has rendered much of the county undevelopable. Private development was very slow to non-existent prior to that issue arising so a working solution must be found as soon as possible.</p>	<p><b>Phosphates</b> The Replacement LDP process will enable the LPA to contribute towards addressing issues that have arisen, including the impact of phosphates on Special Area of Conservation catchments, as set out in the LDP Review Report. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
13.	Caersws CRG (Concerned Residents Group)	<p><b>Flooding</b> If there is any possible doubt of flooding within a planned candidate site, or to increase or create any issues to current third parties, more thorough scrutiny should be made at an earlier stage of the LDP process, allowing for more extreme climate changes, which may become apparent at a later date, even possibly before any planning permission is passed.</p> <p><b>Housing Allocations</b> Querying why so few sites that were allocated on the LDP have been developed, whether due to viability, and have been allocated on the basis that they were the “best of a bad bunch” in that particular village or town.</p>	<p><b>Flooding</b> As set out in the Review Report, the LDP’s policies relating to flooding will be reconsidered to reflect the new TAN 15 and Flood Map for Planning, and informed by a Strategic Flooding Consequences Assessment, which will also be used to assess candidate sites. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Housing Allocations</b> The Review Report recognises that the issue around the delivery of the LDP’s housing growth is due to a variety of factors, including the speed in which allocated sites are coming forward. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
14.	Individual	<p>Finds the Introduction very useful.</p> <p><b>Population projections</b> As the census is part of the baseline for population numbers, etc, advised to wait until it is available. Table 9 shows the results are very poor, which must be rectified.</p> <p><b>Town and Community Councils</b> The position and responsibilities of Town and Community Councils is not mentioned at all. These are the first layer of democratic government, not volunteers but elected representatives of the public.</p>	<p>Support is noted.</p> <p><b>Population projections</b> As set out in the Review Report, the Census will provide a key source of evidence to inform the Replacement LDP and associated SA process. The Replacement LDP process will enable the LPA to respond to changes around population and household projections. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Town and Community Councils</b></p>



			The Delivery Agreement Consultation Draft, which has been consulted upon alongside the Review Report, explains the proposed involvement of consultees, including Town and Community Councils, in the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
15.	Dolafon Trust (Plymouth Bretheren Christian Church)	<p><b>Community facilities and services</b> Fails to include any reference to the provision of public places of worship. The provision of appropriately located (proximity to the congregation) places of worship is essential for a sustainable future for Powys.</p>	<p><b>Community facilities and services</b> The existing policies C1 and DM11 of the adopted Powys LDP make provision for and protect community facilities and services. Places of worship are included in a list of examples of community facilities and services in the adopted Powys LDP (para. 4.12.5). Consideration will be given to providing a comprehensive list of community services and facilities in the Replacement LDP, as explained in the Review Report. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
16.	Hay Town Council	<p><b>Housing</b> Query about whether all new council homes could be supplied with environmentally friendly measures, tree-planting where possible, and additional biodiversity habitat.</p> <p><b>Affordable Housing</b> Note that the target for affordable homes was met in North Powys, but not in South Powys. Request for affordable homes to be prioritised in South Powys during the remainder of the Plan period. Also of the view that the quote of affordable homes built by developers per planning application should be guaranteed once permission has been granted, and that reducing the number of affordable homes, in the context of higher costs than expected, should not be allowable.</p> <p><b>Economic Development</b> Request for consideration to be given to transforming Bronllys Health Park into a general hospital, given the distances from Hay to a general hospital.</p>	<p><b>Housing</b> Affordable housing provided by the Council are required to meet Welsh Government development quality standards for social grant and planning purposes. They are also required to meet the latest building regulations, which include high energy efficiency standards, along with planning policy requirements, e.g. around biodiversity enhancements. These comments have been referred onto the Strategic Housing Authority for their attention. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Affordable Housing</b> Section 8.1 of the Review Report explains that the reason for developments permitted in the Central Powys submarket area not achieving the policy target was due to the sites obtaining planning permission under the previous Unitary Development Plan. Therefore, they do not reflect the implementation of the current LDP policies. The re-negotiation of affordable housing on viability grounds is enabled by national planning</p>

	<p><b>Transport</b> Support for the prioritisation of public transport, however, would like to be more involved in the consultation and decision-making process in order to improve public transport and become more integrated. Regarding LDP Policy 1 public transport to services in nearby towns and facilities would not meet the ambitions around ensuring efficient, effective and integrated system with regard to safety of all users. In favour of the need to decrease use of private cars and increasing walking, cycling and use of public transport. Query whether adequate maintenance of bus shelters will be included in the Replacement LDP. Also, that no development should take place on disused railway lines, as has happened on the former railway land from Hereford to Swansea.</p> <p><b>Retailing and Town Centres</b> Would be in favour in principle, subject to consultation, to a corner shop being part of any new developments in Hay (for example at the top of Gypsy Castle Lanes).</p> <p><b>Community and Indoor Recreation Facilities</b> Regarding inconsistency in implementation of LDP Policy DM11, refers to a case involving the removal of the old community centre in Hay with promised replacement community centre, and inadequacy of a small community room in the new library.</p> <p><b>Natural environment</b> Would it be possible for Powys CC to work more closely with Town and Community Councils to help designate areas to be considered for geodiversity protection?</p> <p><b>Dark Skies</b> Query whether it is possible to promote the Dark Skies sites (eg Brecon Beacons National Park) more effectively,</p>	<p>policy and the LDP policies must conform with this. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Economic Development</b> The comments are noted and will be taken into consideration when the relevant section(s) of the LDP are being reviewed as part of the RLDP work and in conjunction with relevant stakeholders. Please see the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme in the Delivery Agreement which includes a window on the Sites Nomination stage (proposed from autumn 2022). No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Transport</b> The Council notes the comments on public transport improvements. This will be a matter closely considered for the RLDP process as planning policy at all levels (national, regional and local) implements a sustainable transport hierarchy to maximise accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport. The maintenance of bus shelters is not a planning matter. The Review Report explains that disused railways will be identified and the policy approach considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Retailing and Town Centres</b> The Review Report explains that LDP's retail policies will be re-considered as part of the Replacement LDP. Site specific requirements cannot be considered at this review stage. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Community and Indoor Recreation Facilities</b> It is understood that the case mentioned was located outside of the Powys LDP area, within the Brecon Beacons National Park. Issues around the implementation of the Powys LDP</p>
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		<p>as they are real assets with people connection to the natural environment and local environmental benefits.</p> <p><b>Public Open Spaces</b> Query whether it would it be possible to strengthen policies between Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure teams within Powys CC to ensure greater levels of synergy and a more holistic approach.</p> <p><b>Habitats Regulations Assessment</b> Comment that the HRA has no weighting for impact on humans, with the example given of the closure of canoe launching from the Bont Glasbury and impact on its human users, which is considered to far outweigh the benefits to the river habitat. Argue that the HRA should consider the impact of HRAs on humans.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b> We would encourage the Welsh Government to solve this issue immediately as one of the knock-on impacts has been the lack of any affordable homes being built across Powys, to the detriment of local residents.</p>	<p>policy have been identified as part of LDP annual monitoring and will be addressed as part of the Replacement LDP. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Natural environment</b> The LPA is not responsible for designating sites of geodiversity interest (they are designated by UNESCO or nationally). However, the Review Report identifies the need to consider the wording of Policy DM2 in relation to geodiversity and in the context of green infrastructure. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Dark skies</b> LDP Policy DM7 recognises the Brecon Beacons National Park Dark Sky Reserve. The Review Report identifies issues with the implementation of this policy that will be addressed as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Public Open Spaces</b> The Review Report explains that consideration will be given to integration between open spaces and green infrastructure policies as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Habitats Regulations Assessment</b> The HRA process is governed by national regulations aimed at assessing the impact of the LDP on nature conservation importance of Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas, and therefore it does not assess the impact on humans. The Sustainability Appraisal for the Replacement LDP will cover social, economic, cultural, and environmental effects of the LDP in the context of sustainable development. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b></p>
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			The Replacement LDP process will enable the LPA to contribute towards addressing issues that have arisen, including the impact of phosphates on Special Area of Conservation catchments, as set out in the LDP Review Report. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
17.	Clwyd Alyn Housing Ltd	<p><b>Housing need and delivery</b></p> <p>Clwyd Alyn Housing Limited (CAHL) is a key deliverer of Affordable and other socialist need housing within the County. The challenges in delivery housing through Wales and County is not underestimated by CAHL. As a partner of the Council it supports the principle of early LDP review as a means of reviewing how and where housing is to be provided to meet the needs of the County and the aspirations of Welsh Government in delivering sustainable places, housing and meeting the needs of the county's population. No further comments at this stage.</p>	<p><b>Housing need and delivery</b></p> <p>Support is noted. Matters relating to affordable housing need and delivery will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP, as indicated in the Review Report. The LPA will be engaging with Housing Associations as part of the Replacement LDP process.</p>
18.	Bronllys Well Being Park CLT (Community Land Trust) Ltd	<p><b>Bronllys Health Park</b></p> <p>Request for LDP current Policy E5 (Bronllys Health Park) to be retained in its entirety in the Powys RLDP:</p> <p>Policy E5 – Bronllys Health Park: Proposals to develop the site of Bronllys Hospital as a Health &amp; Wellbeing Park will be supported.</p>	<p><b>Bronllys Health Park</b></p> <p>The comments are noted and will be taken into consideration when the relevant section(s) of the LDP are being reviewed as part of the RLDP work and in conjunction with relevant stakeholders. Please see the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme in the Delivery Agreement which includes a window on the Sites Nomination stage (proposed from autumn 2022). No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
19.	Individual	<p><b>Bronllys Health Park</b></p> <p>Request for LDP current Policy E5 (Bronllys Health Park) to be retained in its entirety in the Powys RLDP:</p> <p>Policy E5 – Bronllys Health Park: Proposals to develop the site of Bronllys Hospital as a Health &amp; Wellbeing Park will be supported.</p>	<p><b>Bronllys Health Park</b></p> <p>The comments are noted and will be taken into consideration when the relevant section(s) of the LDP are being reviewed as part of the RLDP work and in conjunction with relevant stakeholders. Please see the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme in the Delivery Agreement which includes a window on the Sites Nomination stage (proposed</p>

			from autumn 2022). No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
20.	Natural Resources Wales	<p><b>Conclusion of the review</b> Note the conclusion that a full revision procedure is considered the most appropriate form of review due to the numerous changes in policy and guidance.</p> <p><b>Contextual changes</b> Welcome confirmation that the RLDP will have regard to the Second State of Natural Resources Report and the Mid Wales Area Statement. Also refer to Welsh Government's 'Essentials Guide – Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and our Well-being'. Encourage the Council to consider how Area Statements can be used to underpin and enhance the RLDP through creating a topic or evidence paper to specifically consider the Section 6 Duty and the Council's declaration of Climate Emergency.</p> <p><b>RLDP's Monitoring Framework</b> Should not be a mere update of the existing framework and should look to build upon the Council's Climate Emergency focus and other national policy and guidance.</p> <p><b>Sustainability Appraisal (SA) monitoring</b> Indicator 19 has not reported on how flood plains have been retained to store water through development thereby reducing flooding in the catchment elsewhere including neighbouring Councils. Welcome that the next AMR will consider NRW's protected sites baseline assessment 2020 and therefore inform the RLDP. Advise other evidence is also considered in the assessment, including Lichen surveys to investigate ammonia impacts – Report No. 298 (May 2019), and other information available, such as the River Wye Management Plan and Air Pollution Information System.</p>	<p><b>Conclusion of the review</b> Comments noted.</p> <p><b>Contextual changes</b> Additional text will be inserted under section 5 of the Review Report to refer to this Essentials Guide. The LPA will also consider the suggestion for a topic or evidence paper relating to the section 6 duty as part of the Replacement LDP process.</p> <p><b>RLDP's Monitoring Framework</b> The Council agrees that the monitoring framework for the RLDP needs to be thoroughly reviewed in order to take into account contextual changes, along with new approaches and information, as noted in section 9 of the Review Report. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Sustainability Appraisal (SA) monitoring</b> The results of the SA monitoring in respect of floodrisk, based on the wording of indicator 19, focuses on monitoring the number of properties at medium or high risk of flooding, rather than on retention of floodplains. The suggestions around other evidence and information are noted. These will be considered in reviewing the SA and its monitoring framework as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b> Additional text to section 5 to clarify that the latest NRW planning advice is no longer 'interim' advice.</p> <p><b>Peat</b> The programme and mapping referred to, relating to peat, will be used as evidence to inform the Replacement LDP and</p>

	<p><b>Phosphates</b> Confirm that NRW’s advice is no longer ‘interim’ advice and will be updated systematically to support the planning process, with next update expected in Spring 2022.</p> <p><b>Peat</b> Refer to the National Peatland Action Programme priorities and available maps of peat within Wales as available evidence bases to help identify areas in need of protection because of their geological or soil type importance.</p> <p><b>Soil degradation</b> Consideration of the use, conservation and prevention of soil degradation through new farming enterprises requiring planning permission to be taken forward to the RLDP.</p> <p><b>Intensive Agricultural Units</b> Advise the RLDP should address the challenges associated with agricultural developments in Powys. Reminder of the need to put in place policies which consider the cumulative impacts of such developments. Encourage to use sufficient and adequate agricultural, land use, land cover and habitat evidence to inform the RLDP so that agricultural developments are in place which do not threaten the ability of nature recovery efforts, such as Mid Wales Growth Deal funding to restore part of the Montgomery Canal SAC.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Assessment (GIA)</b> Stress that GI should not just be restricted to urban context, the rural urban fringe and wedge concepts should be considered in a future GIA. The GIA might provide a mechanism or delivery vehicle for nature-based solutions and biodiversity enhancements to achieve overarching objectives of the RLDP and Powys Well-being Plan.</p>	<p>associated SA, and to inform the assessment of development proposals. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Soil degradation</b> Additional text will be inserted in Section 8.2 of the Review Report, to reflect the need to protect soil from degradation, within the scope of the planning system, as part of the Replacement LDP process.</p> <p><b>Intensive Agricultural Units</b> As set out in the Review Report, the LDP’s agricultural policies will be reconsidered to reflect contextual changes. Additional text to be inserted under section 8.2 of the Review Report to clarify that this will include consideration of including an appropriate policy for intensive agricultural developments within the Replacement LDP.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Assessment (GIA)</b> Advice in respect of the scope of the GIA noted and will be considered in undertaking a GIA as part of the evidence base for the Replacement LDP. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
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## Representations and Council Responses on the Delivery Agreement Consultation Draft – 08.02.22

No.	Representor	Summary of Comments	Council Response
1.	Individual	<p>Improved bus services to New Radnor on a half-hourly schedule to and from the local towns would encourage people to leave their car at home.</p> <p>Evening buses from larger towns (eg Hereford) would provide more choice to travel home without the car from trips to cinema, theatre or getting back from the train station.</p> <p>A shuttle service would probably suit mini-buses.</p>	<p>The Council notes the comments on public transport improvements. This will be a matter closely considered for the RLDP process as planning policy at all levels (national, regional and local) implements a sustainable transport hierarchy to maximise accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.</p>
2.	New Radnor Community Council	<p>Please remember that many small Community Councils do not meet in August and time any consultations accordingly.</p> <p>Please can plenty of time be allowed for the consultation periods to allow Community Councils to review the (often lengthy) documentations thoroughly.</p>	<p>The Council notes the comments. The RLDP Timetable complies with the government recommended 3.5 years preparation schedule and ensures that there is no gap in development plan coverage. The Council appreciates that Town and Community Councils need adequate time to view the documents and comment and has aimed to provide this. The proposed Timetable includes stages strictly governed by regulations which may not be altered. Please note that the two significant public consultation stages, Stages 3 and 4, under the control of the Council, are detailed in the DA and are not scheduled for August. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.</p>
3.	Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn Town Council (Economy and Environment Committee)	<p>In agreement with the delivery timetable and consultation timetable for the RLDP</p>	<p>The Council notes the comments.</p>

4.	Presteigne and Norton Town Council	<p>Consultation periods covering August are problematic for many Town and Community Councils as they often do not meet in August.</p> <p>Can sufficient time be given for each section of consultation - with Community Councils on a monthly meeting cycle it is helpful if an adequate amount of time is allocated for responses.</p>	<p>The Council notes the comments. The RLDP Timetable complies with the government recommended 3.5 years preparation schedule and ensures that there is no gap in development plan coverage. The Council appreciates that Town and Community Councils need adequate time to view the documents and comment and has aimed to provide this. The proposed Timetable includes stages strictly governed by regulations which may not be altered. Please note that the two significant public consultation stages, Stages 3 and 4, under the control of the Council, are detailed in the DA and are not scheduled for August. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.</p>
5.	Adjoining Parish Council	<p>Any applications which have an impact on the local road network in Shropshire must involve cross border consultation. There are a number of Chicken Production Operations that have been given permission bordering this parish and consideration must be given to the additional road use on rural, poorly maintained roads.</p>	<p>The Council notes the comments. The Council will involve local councils in the RLDP process as Specific Consultation Bodies. This will include stakeholder involvement on proposed land allocations when the Plan reaches that stage. As regards individual planning applications, your comments and concerns will be passed on as a reminder to the Development Management section who deal with the publicity and statutory notifications when planning applications are received. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.</p>
6.	Cadw, Historic Environment Branch, Welsh Government	<p>No comments but a reminder that Cadw should be consulted as part of the SEA process and that it is important to consult with Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) who are funded to provide advice during the LDP process, in relation to the archaeological issues.</p>	<p>The Council notes the comments. The DA lists Cadw as both a Specific and Environmental Consultee. CPAT will also be consulted throughout the plan preparation as a General Consultee. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.</p>
7.	United Utilities	<p>Express wish to work in partnership, to pro-actively identify needs and share information between LPA and UU. Provides contacts for developers to access free pre-application advice on waste and water. Highlights the need to protect strategic water infrastructure assets and for early engagement on proposed allocations at RLDP stage to ascertain constraints and</p>	<p>The Council recognises the relevance of the matters raised for the Replacement LDP in terms of infrastructure planning, the site selection process and for site promoters. The Council will continue to consult with United Utilities as part of the Replacement LDP process. The DA confirms that sewerage and water undertakers are Specific Consultation</p>



		implications. Request for continued consultation as the Plan moves forward.	Bodies who will be closely involved throughout the Plan preparation process. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.
8.	Network Rail	Policies relating to the protection and enhancement of railway infrastructure are relevant and development schemes may necessitate developer contributions. Reminding LPA of statutory duty to consult regarding development impacts upon level crossings and developers to fund any required improvements. Request to please consult Network Rail on any future policy, pre-application or planning applications should they be submitted for sites adjoining the railway or within close proximity to the railway as development may impact upon operation of the railway, eg use of the nearby station and/or railway crossings and Network Rail would make specific comments as required.	The comments are noted. Network Rail are being included in the RLDP process as a Specific Consultation Body and will be engaged throughout the process. The comments regarding infrastructure, developer contributions and potential impacts upon railway, railway stations and level crossings are noted and can be explored further during the preparation stages of the RLDP. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.  As regards individual planning applications or pre-application, your comments will also be passed on as a reminder to the Development Management section who deal with the publicity and statutory notifications when planning applications are received.
9.	The Coal Authority	General summary info on the Coal Authority records (mining features and surface coal resources) relating to Powys and LPA responsibilities for minerals planning and safeguarding. However, no specific comments to make in respect of the consultation document.	This information is noted, thank you. The Council will continue to involve the Planning Team at The Coal Authority throughout the RLDP process. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.
10.	Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales	Request for Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales, to be added as an 'other consultee' in Appendix 1 of the Delivery Agreement.  Looking forward to working with the Council going forward in terms of ensuring that the replacement Local Plan includes a robust framework for development which may impact on the Montgomery Canal and ensure there is a robust mechanism to protect the former line of the canal, pending its full restoration.	The comments are noted. Please be advised that the Council is reviewing the list of Consultation Bodies in Appendix 1 of the DA to produce a more detailed section. This will be possible as the new RLDP database develops. These details will be made available in the final Delivery Agreement.  The list will include Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales.

11.	Individual	Request for LDP current Policy E5 (Bronllys Health Park) to be retained in its entirety in the Powys RLDP – see also Review Report Consultation and Feedback. Request to be informed when public / stakeholder open discussion meetings are being undertaken.	The comments are noted and will be taken into consideration when the relevant section(s) of the LDP are being reviewed as part of the RLDP work and in consultation with relevant Stakeholders. Please see the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme in the DA which includes a window on the Sites Nomination stage (proposed from autumn 2022). As a stakeholder receiving LDP mailings and updates you will be advised on the discussion meetings as requested and we particularly note your interest in this topic area. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.
12.	Powys Local Access Forum	Appendix 1 page 32 – the Local Access Forum is a statutory body, we should be specifically mentioned as a stakeholder/consultee.  Specific reference should be made to consulting groups representing the users of local rights of way, e.g. The Ramblers, British Horse Society, etc	The comments are noted. Please be advised that the Council is reviewing the list of Consultation Bodies in Appendix 1 of the DA to produce a more detailed section. This will be possible as the new RLDP database develops. These details will be made available in the final Delivery Agreement.  The list will include the Powys Local Access Forum, and other groups representing the users of local rights of way .
13.	Powys Ramblers	As a nationally recognised voice for walkers who use rights of way can the Powys branch be named as a consultative body for the Council's LDP. We would be happy to be involved from an early stage.	The comments are noted. Please be advised that the Council is reviewing the list of Consultation Bodies in Appendix 1 of the DA to produce a more detailed section. This will be possible as the new RLDP database develops. These details will be made available in the final Delivery Agreement.  The list will include the Powys Ramblers.
14.	Individual	Request for LDP current Policy E5 (Bronllys Health Park) to be retained in its entirety in the Powys RLDP – see also Review Report Consultation and Feedback:  Policy E5 – Bronllys Health Park: Proposals to develop the site of Bronllys Hospital as a Health & Wellbeing Park will be supported.	The comments are noted and will be taken into consideration when the relevant section(s) of the LDP are being reviewed as part of the RLDP work and in conjunction with relevant stakeholders. Please see the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme in the DA which includes a window on the Sites Nomination stage (proposed from autumn 2022). No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.

15.	Caersws CRG (Concerned Residents Group)	<p>Having had the experience in February 2020 of being too late to contest a planning application, we are exceedingly aware of the pitfalls of the LDP process.</p> <p>Public Awareness – concerns raised about the presentation of information and request for more clear, concise format without so many links. Better publicity on the available information.</p> <p>Stages - Can PCC make it clear to local residents and their representative Community Councils exactly what they are signing up for and how this will affect not only themselves but future residents and generations?</p> <p>What provisions are being made for the views of newly elected councillors with potentially better and more up to date local information, to be heard and acted upon?</p> <p>Suggests more thorough scrutiny of candidate sites in the early stages, or provision made at a later stage should these sites appear to become unsuitable for whatever reason plus taking account of other developments approved within the local area.</p> <p>Village plans which are currently being created by local Community Councils should be taken into the decision making. Also more lines of communication should be opened between PCC and local residents via their Community Councils. But again the information given to Community Councils should be clear and concise to enable them to do this.</p>	<p>The comments are noted. Please be advised that this is the very early stage of a Replacement Plan process and the new Plan is not expected to come into force until 2026.</p> <p>The most pertinent stage for your comments appears to be in respect of proposed Land Allocations in the RLDP – you should carefully consider the content of the Preferred Strategy including the Spatial and Growth Strategy and also the following Deposit Stage and look for sites in your area. You should also look at the Candidate Sites Register when available.</p> <p>Town and Community Councils are Specific Consultees and will be involved throughout the process . Para 3.15 has had wording added to help explain this more clearly. . The Council intends to involve TCCs at the Candidate Sites Stage (as it did for the current LDP) and also in Settlement Assessment work looking at the role and function of each Town/Village. County Councillors are encouraged to be heavily involved through stakeholder meetings and workshops and through the political process of LDP Working Group and Cabinet/Full Council meetings.</p> <p>We agree with your comments that local place-making, eg though Village Plans, is an important aspect to inform the content of a Local Development Plan and we acknowledge how important it is to work with a Local Community in building consensus wherever possible.</p>
16.	Dolafon Trust (PBCC)	I support the inclusion of the CIS and wish to be involved as a member of the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church, this is not currently included listed. We would like to be included as part of the consultation.	The comments are noted. Please be advised that the Council is reviewing the list of Consultation Bodies in Appendix 1 of the DA to produce a more detailed section. This will be possible as the new RLDP database develops. The Council is

		<p>I'm surprised that neither the active Powys charity Rapid Relief Team or the PBCC are included as part of the consultation (Hard to reach, etc)</p>	<p>also refining the Hard-to-Reach Groups. These details will be made available in the final Delivery Agreement.</p> <p>The list will include the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church as a General Consultation Body (Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in Powys. Thank you also for identifying the Rapid Relief Team for our records.</p> <p>Please note we also involve PAVO who in turn have a consultation system to reach voluntary organisations.</p>
17.	Individual	<p>The Representor comments that the DDA gives a good overview of problems and time constraints and highlights that Sustainability and Wellbeing of Future Generations should be a first consideration. Any mistaken policies must be rectified at once not left till next review. Supplementary Planning Advice must be reviewed with these in mind.</p> <p>Points out that Town and Community Councils and their umbrella body, One Voice Wales, are noted as important but are not in the list of stakeholders and consultees.</p> <p>Support of the Gunning principles (3.8) which should be adhered to. Questions the failure to mention the part Community and Town councils (3.15) should play.</p> <p>Appendix 1: The list of Stakeholders. Powys is proud of involving hard to get at groups but where are the Community and Town Councils listed? They are the first tier of democratic government, elected not volunteers. They have the right to among the first to be consulted and their umbrella Group One Voice Wales can have an input as well.</p>	<p>Comments noted. Please note that Town and Community Councils in Powys (and adjoining) are noted in the Specific Consultation Bodies section (Appendix 1) and will be involved in Plan preparation. Extra text has now been added to para 3.15 to try to address your concerns about clarity.</p> <p>The section on pg 30 covers the role of Town and Community Councils and the CIS explains how they will be involved throughout as Specific Consultees. The Council intends to involve TCCs at the Candidate Sites Stage (as it did for the current LDP) and also in Settlement Assessment work looking at the role and function of each Town/Village. The Council will aim to involve TCCs as early as possible at consultation stages within the confines of complying with the strict Timetable being agreed by the Welsh Government.</p> <p>As noted by the representor, One Voice Wales is referred to in the DA but not listed individually as a Stakeholder. Please be advised that the Council is reviewing the list of Consultation Bodies in Appendix 1 of the DA to produce a more detailed section. This will be possible as the new RLDP database develops. The Council is also refining the Hard-to-</p>

			Reach Groups. These details will be made available in the final Delivery Agreement.
18.	Clwyd Alyn Housing Ltd	<p>Clwyd Alyn Housing Limited (CAHL) is a key deliverer of Affordable and other socialist need housing within the County. The challenges in delivery housing through Wales and County is not underestimated by CAHL.</p> <p>As a partner of the Council it supports the principle of early LDP review as a means of reviewing how and where housing is to be provided to meet the needs of the County and the aspirations of Welsh Government in delivering sustainable places, housing and meeting the needs of the counties population.</p> <p>CAHL supports the aspiration of a challenging timescale. However it has concerns that the timetable set out is overly optimistic having regard to the requirements to secure evidence bases reflecting matters such as post covid recovery, the recent suspension of TAN 15 and advice on SFCA and the NRW position of Phosphates.</p>	<p>Housing will once again be a key topic for the RLDP and the Council looks forward to working with relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>The comments are noted. Please be advised that the Timetable complies with the government recommended 3.5 years LDP preparation schedule and ensures that there is no gap in development plan coverage. It also contains stages that are strictly governed by Regulations with consultation periods and requirements which may not be altered.</p> <p>The Council recognises there will be a good deal of work in evidence gathering and also acknowledges the fact that there are a number of detailed strategic matters to address which, as yet, have significant unknowns. Nevertheless, the RLDP builds on the current LDP, learning from recommendations in the Annual Monitoring Report(s) and Review Report, which provides a solid starting point. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement.</p>
19.	Natural Resources Wales	<p>Note the proposed timetable for plan preparation which leaves just one month of margin before the expiry of the current LDP. Welcome the inclusion of the Risk Assessment, which highlights possible risks that would cause delays in the process and additional work.</p> <p>NRW can provide support and have advice to offer the Council during the various stages of the RLDP preparation and adoption, and may be able to provide additional engagement in addition to our statutory duties in the plan process.</p> <p>Emphasise commitment to engage with the Council during the RLDP preparation process and work in partnership to help shape and delivery policy designed to protect and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem resilience thereby underpinning</p>	<p>The offer of support from NRW is noted and appreciated. The LPA will continue to closely engage with NRW as the RLDP progresses. No changes are proposed to the Delivery Agreement in this respect.</p>

		cultural, social and economic well-being of Powys into the future.	
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**POWYS**  
**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**  
**2011-2026**

**Review Report**  
**~~Consultation Draft~~**

**~~January~~ February 2022**



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## Executive Summary

This document has been prepared as part of the review of the adopted Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) (2011-2026) ~~and has been drafted to enable public consultation on the findings and conclusions of the LDP's review.~~

The review of the LDP was triggered due to statutory and other reasons, as set out within the conclusion and recommendations of the LDP's Annual Monitoring Report 2021. On this basis, the Council's Cabinet resolved to commence review of the LDP in September 2021.

The purpose of the review process is to ensure that the LDP and its supporting evidence base is kept up to date to provide a sound and effective basis for making planning decisions. The Local Planning Authority's (LPA) review has been informed by the findings of monitoring undertaken since LDP adoption and changes to the national, regional and local planning policy context. It has also been informed by internal Officer engagement and Officer-Member discussion as part of the Council's internal LDP Working Group.

The review ~~will~~ **has** also been ~~en~~ informed by public consultation ~~which took place between 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022, on a Consultation Draft of the Review Report when the Council sought views on the findings and conclusions of the review and on other issues that should be considered in the review.~~ **The Council is seeking views on the findings and conclusions set out in this draft Review Report and on what other issues should be considered in the review.** It is not possible to consider changes that may be made to the LDP in detail at this stage, as this detail will be considered as part of preparing the Replacement LDP.

This ~~draft~~ Review Report presents the findings and conclusions of the LPA's review. It sets out where the LDP is delivering and performing well, as well as identifying areas that are not being implemented or delivered as intended. It also identifies areas of the LDP that need to be updated to reflect changes to national planning policy and guidance, along with other relevant strategies and evidence.

The key findings of the LPA's review are summarised as follows:

- the LDP's Key Issues and Considerations, Vision and Objectives will need to be reconsidered to incorporate well-being objectives, placemaking and National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes.
- the LDP's Growth Strategy will need to be reconsidered in order to address issues with housing delivery and to reflect evidence around the future need of the plan area. The distribution of that growth across the LDP area, through the Spatial Strategy, will, therefore, also need to be reconsidered.
- changes will be needed to the detailed policies and proposals of the LDP to reflect the re-consideration of the strategy and to reflect updated national planning policy and guidance, and relevant evidence.
- the LDP's evidence base will need to be updated in line with the latest requirements of national planning policy and guidance.
- the LDP's Sustainability Appraisal, including Strategic Environmental Assessment, and Habitat Regulations Assessment, together with other impact assessments, will need to be reviewed, with consideration given to an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal.
- the LPA will need to work collaboratively with other LPAs within the Mid Wales region and in support of the Strategic Development Plan process.

This ~~draft~~ Review Report concludes that the LDP will need to be revised through a Full Revision, rather than a Short Form Revision. A Full Revision is required in order to enable the strategic issues identified to be addressed and to respond to significant changes in the planning policy context, including publication of Future Wales: The National Plan 2040, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (11<sup>th</sup> Edition) and the Covid-19 pandemic. This ~~would~~ ~~means~~ that a Replacement LDP ~~would~~ ~~will need to~~ be prepared for the period 2022-2037.

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The current Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) (2011-2026) was adopted by the Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The adopted Powys LDP sets out the Council's policies for the development and use of land in Powys up to 2026 and is applicable to all of Powys except the area within the Brecon Beacons National Park, which has its own Planning Authority.

1.2 National legislation requires LDPs to be reviewed at least every four years from the date of adoption to ensure that LDPs and their supporting evidence base are kept up to date to provide a sound and effective basis for making planning decisions. This statutory requirement means the Powys Local Planning Authority (LPA) must commence review of the Powys LDP, adopted in April 2018, by April 2022.

1.3 The LPA is also required to consider whether to carry out a review of the adopted Powys LDP following publication of Future Wales - the National Plan 2040, in February 2021. This is the highest tier of development plan in Wales. Any lower-tier Strategic Development Plans and Local Development Plans, which are subsequently prepared, are required to be in conformity with Future Wales and must be kept up to date to ensure they and Future Wales work together effectively.

1.4 The decision to review the LDP has also been influenced by the fact that the current Powys LDP is due to expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 (the "end date"), after this date it will cease to be the development plan for the area. Work will need to commence on the Replacement LDP in July 2022 in order to allow time to prepare and adopt a Replacement LDP by the end date of the current LDP.

1.5 Evidence provided within the LDP's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2021 identified that the number of housing completions was lower than anticipated, which meant that the LDP's housing-led strategy was not being delivered as intended. Certain LDP policies and proposals were also not being implemented as intended and required review.

1.6 The above requirements and factors led to the need to trigger review of the adopted Powys LDP. On this basis, and as recommended by AMR 2021, the Council's Cabinet resolved to commence review of the LDP in September 2021.

1.7 This Review Report sets out the findings and conclusions of the LPA's review of the adopted Powys LDP. It sets out where the LDP is delivering and performing well, as well as identifying areas that are not being implemented or delivered as intended. It also identifies areas that need to be updated to reflect changes to national planning policy and guidance, along with other relevant strategies and evidence.

1.8 The following section (**Section 2**) of this report explains the LDP review process and the structure and content of this report.

## 2. The Review Report

### 2.1 The LDP Review process

2.1.1 The LDP's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2021, published in October 2021, alongside background papers with previous monitoring results, is a key part of the evidence that informs the review of the adopted Powys LDP. The LPA's review has also been informed by internal Officer engagement relating to various LDP topic areas and Officer-Member discussion as part of the Council's internal LDP Working Group.

2.1.2 The LPA's review ~~will be~~ **has been** further informed by public consultation **on a Consultation Draft of the Review Report, which took place between 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022, when the Council sought views on the findings and conclusions of the review and on other issues that should be considered in the review.** ~~This Review Report Consultation Draft has been prepared in order to seek views from consultation bodies and the public on the review of the adopted Powys LDP. The Council is seeking views on the findings and conclusions set out in this draft Review Report and on what other issues should be considered in the review.~~ It is not possible to consider changes that may be made to the LDP in detail at this stage, as this detail will be considered as part of preparing the Replacement LDP.

2.1.3 The comments received in response to the public consultation ~~will be~~ **are** summarised in **Appendix D the Review Report**, along with any changes needed **to the Review Report** in response to issues raised. ~~It will also explain how responses have influenced the conclusion on the way forward with the Replacement LDP.~~ The LPA received detailed comments relating to various parts of the Review Report. **Where appropriate, the LPA has made amendments to the Review Report to reflect additional considerations raised through public consultation and for clarification purposes.**

2.1.4 The LPA's review is required to conclude on which revision procedure is to be followed for the LDP, either a Full Revision (Replacement LDP) or a Short Form Revision. ~~Based on the evidence within the Annual Monitoring Report 2021, it is likely that the Powys LDP will need to undergo the Full Revision process for a Replacement LDP rather than a Short Form Revision. However, the conclusion on the procedure to be used to review the LDP will be informed by public consultation.~~

2.1.5 The Review Report ~~will set~~ **s** out the findings and conclusions of the LPA's review of the adopted Powys LDP (2011-2026) **and has been considered by the Council's LDP Working Group.** The Review Report will be presented to the Council's Cabinet for approval, before it is published and submitted to the Welsh Government **(this sentence tbc).** The Review Report ~~will~~ **forms** an important part of the evidence base for the Replacement LDP.

### 2.2 Structure and Content of the Review Report

2.2.1 The Review Report is structured in a way that addresses the requirements of national guidance within the Development Plan Manual Edition 3 (DPM3). The report sets out:

- the information that has informed the review (**sections 3 to 6**)
- detailed consideration of the impact of these findings on the LDP (**sections 7 and 8**).
- the approach to be taken towards revision of the LDP (**sections 9 to 11**)

**Section 3** summarises the key findings of the LDP’s Annual Monitoring Report 2021.

**Section 4** summarises the results of the LDP’s Sustainability Appraisal (SA) monitoring, undertaken as part of the Annual Monitoring Report (2021) (see also **Appendix A**).

**Section 5** summarises the main contextual changes since the LDP was adopted.

**Section 6** summarises the changes identified to the LDP’s evidence base requirements, identifying the need for new and updated evidence, and sets out changes to the evidence around population and household projections.

**Section 7** sets out how these findings impact on the current LDP’s vision, aims and objectives, including implementation of the LDP strategy.

**Section 8** provides a detailed review of each LDP topic area, identifying what needs to change and which parts of the evidence base require updating to support the changes. It also considers the implications for those parts of the LDP not proposed to be amended in terms of coherence and effectiveness of the plan as a whole. This section is accompanied by a summary of the review of each LDP policy in **Appendix B** and a summary of the status of all LDP proposals (allocations and commitments) in **Appendix C**.

**Section 9** sets out the proposed re-consideration of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) / Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) to assess the impacts of the Replacement LDP, with consideration given to undertaking an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal.

**Section 10** explores and explains the opportunities to prepare Joint LDPs with neighbouring LPAs, and to work collaboratively on approaches and evidence, including in preparation for regional Strategic Development Plans (SDP).

**Section 11** sets out conclusions based on the review process ~~undertaken to date by the LPA~~ and explains whether a Full Revision (Replacement LDP) or a Short Form Revision of the LDP is anticipated and the reasons for this. ~~The final conclusions of the LDP review will, however, be informed by public consultation.~~

A list of **Abbreviations** used within the document is provided at the end of the report for reference.

### 3. LDP Annual Monitoring Report Key Findings

#### 3.1 Overview

3.1.1 The Development Plans Manual Edition 3 (March 2020) states that it is essential the conclusions in the Review Report can be strongly justified and evidenced in line with the findings of Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) and other supporting evidence. The most recent AMR (AMR 2021) for the Powys LDP was published in October 2021 and covers the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Two background papers were published alongside AMR 2021, AMR 2020 covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 and a Monitoring Review covering the period from LDP Adoption (17<sup>th</sup> April 2018) to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

3.1.2 AMRs provide an assessment of whether the underlying LDP strategy remains sound, the impact of policies at the local and wider level and whether policies and related targets have been met or what progress is being made towards meeting them. The AMR also provides an opportunity to capture the prevailing economic, social or cultural circumstances and contextual changes since the Plan's adoption which may have a bearing on the meeting of policy objectives and so builds an evidence base over time.

3.1.3 The LDP monitoring framework, on which AMRs are based, includes a total of 62 monitoring indicators, which are set out in Chapter 5 of the LDP or are a requirement of the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3, 2020). The monitoring indicators are used to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan and its policies. Each indicator has a specified target along with a 'trigger' which identifies the point or level at which any deviation will trigger the need for further action to be considered and/or taken.

3.1.4 A summary of the outcomes of the monitoring indicators detailed in AMR 2021 is provided in **Table 1**.

**Table 1. Summary of Actions from the 62 Indicators Monitoring Included within the AMR during the Monitoring Period**

<b>Continue Monitoring</b>	28 - Continue Monitoring 7 - Adopted SPG by the Target date 2 – SPG Adopted just after the end of the monitoring period.
<b>Training Required</b>	3
<b>Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) Required</b>	0
<b>Further Investigation/Research Required</b>	8
<b>Policy Review Required</b>	3
<b>Plan Review</b>	4
<b>Not Applicable to this AMR period or superseded</b>	7 – Includes indicators that need two consecutive years of data before action required. Indicators unable to be monitored and indicators that have been superseded.



3.1.5 In AMR 2021 the majority (35) of indicators demonstrated positive policy implementation. However, there were some indicator targets that were not being achieved (18) and thus trigger points were reached. This shows that there are LDP policies that are not functioning as intended, in these instances the monitoring has recommended actions, including in some cases the review of a policy. **Appendix A** contains a table outlining the reasons for potentially proposing changes to individual local policies on the basis of policy performance.

## 3.2 Strategy / Policy Issues

3.2.1 There were seven monitoring indicators that required strategy / policy issues to be addressed as part of the LDP review process, these can be grouped into the following categories:

### Growth Strategy / Housing Completions

3.2.2 AMR 2021 (monitoring indicator AMR2b) determined that the cumulative number of net additional dwellings delivered (2,101 dwellings), between 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and the start of the Plan period (1<sup>st</sup> April 2011), was below what was anticipated in the monitoring target (2,659 dwellings) giving a shortfall of 558 dwellings at the end of March 2021.

3.2.3 The shortfall in additional dwellings delivered, means that a further 2,399 dwellings need to be completed over the remaining five years of the plan period (1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026) for the dwelling requirement figure to be met. This would require an average completion rate of 480 additional homes a year, which based on past completion rates (monitoring indicator AMR2) is considered to be unrealistic and means the target of 4,500 new homes is unlikely to be met.

3.2.4 The LDP growth strategy is primarily led by housing growth, therefore the poor performance in monitoring indicators (AMR2a, AMR2b) that relate to housing completions demonstrate that the Plan's strategy is not being delivered.

### Allocated Housing Sites

3.2.5 There are 80 sites allocated for housing in the LDP, of which 53 (66%) did not have any form of planning permission (monitoring indicator AMR4) at the end of March 2021.

3.2.6 The cumulative total of the annual completion target of additional dwellings to be delivered on allocated sites, between the date of LDP adoption (17<sup>th</sup> April 2018) and the end of the monitoring period for AMR 2021 (31<sup>st</sup> March 2021) equated to 845 dwellings. The actual number of dwellings delivered on allocated housing sites over this three-year period was only 88 dwellings, meeting only 10% of the target (monitoring indicator AMR5).

3.2.7 It is recognised that LDP allocations need time to accrue traction as they only gain certainty once the Plan is adopted. The LPA acknowledges that it takes time to obtain developer interest, negotiate or complete on a site sale, and then gain planning permission. However, the trajectory included in AMR 2021 monitoring indicator AMR2a, demonstrates that allocated sites are fundamental towards the delivery of additional dwellings to meet the dwelling requirement and implementing the LDP Growth Strategy.

3.2.8 It is worth noting that over the three-year period the number of housing units delivered on windfall sites has been in excess of the windfall target demonstrating that housing proposals are deliverable and viable.

### **Retail – Development within Town Centre Areas**

3.2.9 The monitoring framework includes monitoring indicator AMR36 to test LDP Policy R3 which states that proposals for new development will be permitted where they would not result in less than: 75% of units within a Primary Shopping Frontage and 66% of units within Secondary Shopping Frontage being used for A1 and A3 use class orders, unless they comply with the criteria listed within the policy.

3.2.10 The findings in AMR 2021 found that there are Primary Shopping Frontages that have less than the policy specific target percentage of at least 75% of units being in the A1 and A3 use class orders. The findings mean that part of LDP Policy R3 has potentially become ineffective and should therefore be revised as part of the LDP review.

### **Public Open Space**

3.2.11 Monitoring indicators AMR55 and AMR56 test the implementation of LDP Policy DM3 which serves to protect areas identified as open space in the Open Space Assessment or by typologies listed in the Open Space Assessment and TAN 16 and to secure the provision of new open spaces on residential developments of ten or more dwellings.

3.2.12 With regards to the provision of new public open spaces the findings from AMR 2021 (monitoring indicator AMR55) found that provision is not being sought as required through LDP Policy DM3 and the Planning Obligations SPG. The two previous monitoring periods recommended an action of continue monitoring, however there have consistently been instances where public open space is not being sought which has been amplified in the findings in AMR 2021. This has raised questions about the effectiveness and appropriateness of LDP Policy DM3 which will need to be addressed in detail as part of the review.

3.2.13 Monitoring indicator (AMR 56) looks at the amount (hectares) of open space lost and gained as a result of planning applications granted. During the monitoring period for AMR 2021, two planning applications were granted without consideration of LDP Policy DM3, resulting in a potential loss of open space. These findings continued the trend seen in the Monitoring Review where a total loss of 4.04 hectares of public open space was recorded. AMR 2021 recommends a review of LDP Policy DM3, to take the opportunity through the review of the LDP to make the policy clearer and for it to be easier for public open spaces to be identified.

## **3.3 Further investigation / research**

### **Topics Identified where Further Investigation or Research is Required**

3.3.1 AMR 2021 identified eight topics where further investigation or research is required. The results from this will inform the Replacement LDP and may lead to the reconsideration of further LDP policies, this includes the following topic areas:

- Affordable Housing
- Viability
- Housing Density
- Tourism Developments
- Minerals Safeguarding
- Local Search Areas
- Community and District Heating Networks

### **3.4 Contextual indicators**

3.4.1 Arising from the publication of DPM3, AMR 2021 also began to monitor contextual economic and social indicators that may influence the performance of the LDP or reflect the implementation of the LDP strategy. It should be noted that contextual environmental indicators are monitored separately as part of the SA monitoring.

3.4.2 The initial results of the monitoring of contextual indicators identified:

- levels of unemployment in Powys had begun to rise in 2019-2020.
- the number of homelessness cases in Powys had increased from 527 in 2019-2020 to 621 in 2020-2021.
- house prices in Powys had increased by 12.3% between March 2020 and March 2021, whereas average wages had not increased to the same extent.

3.4.3 These results are likely to reflect wider factors, including the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, however they highlight the need for the LDP to support economic recovery and to address housing needs. These contextual indicators will continue to be monitored in future AMRs, which will help to identify any emerging trends that will need to be taken into account in the Replacement LDP.

## 4. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Monitoring Findings

4.0.1 The LDP's Monitoring Framework includes the monitoring of the significant effects of implementing the LDP, as required under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations. The SEA monitoring framework for the LDP includes 34 indicators, which are used to test the sustainability performance of the Plan. The results of this monitoring are detailed within the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2021 and background papers, and are summarised in **Appendix A** of this Review Report.

4.0.2 The main impacts and trends identified in relation to the SEA monitoring are set out below.

### 4.1 Biodiversity

4.1.1 The results of the monitoring for the SEA biodiversity topic area identified a potential negative impact on designated sites due to the deterioration in the condition of one of the conservation features of the Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains Special Area of Conservation (SAC). This was identified early on within the first few months of the adopted Powys LDP and therefore is unlikely to have been impacted on by the LDP. NRW have recently published the results of the protected sites baseline assessment 2020, which will enable changes in condition to be identified and analysed within the next SEA monitoring period.

### 4.2 Population

4.2.1 The results of the monitoring in respect of the SEA population and demographic profile subtopic area show a continuation in the trend towards an ageing population in Powys. However, the results also show signs of a reversal, to some degree, in the trend for outmigration of younger adults (20 to 34-year-olds), with a net inflow of adults within this age category. This suggests that Powys may be starting to retain or attract more young people of working age. The housing and employment provision made by the LDP may be having some influence over locational decisions. The Replacement LDP will need to respond to the changing housing, employment and community needs of both the young and ageing population.

### 4.3 Soil

4.3.1 The results of this monitoring indicate that the need to protect soils classified as important for carbon storage is not always being considered, as indicated by a case where development had been permitted on a mapped area of thick peat. This has been addressed by reviewing accessibility to mapping and training. The results in respect of contaminated land and verification reports suggest that remediation is being supported as part of new development, in line with the SEA objective.

## 4.4 Strategic Resources and Assets

4.4.1 The results of the monitoring in relation to safeguarded mineral resource sites indicate inconsistencies in the way that LDP Policy DM8 is being used in making planning decisions. This suggests that the SEA objective to protect mineral resources from development that would preclude future extraction is not being met as a result of issues with policy implementation. Further investigation, research or training is proposed, and the policy will be reconsidered as part of the Replacement LDP process.

## 4.5 Cultural Heritage

4.5.1 The results of the monitoring in relation to Welsh language indicate that the percentage of the population of Powys who can speak Welsh had initially continued the upward trend following adoption of the LDP, however thereafter the percentage fell in 2020 and continued to fall in 2021. Whilst this may indicate a negative trend, these figures are based on the Welsh Government's Annual Population Survey estimates and are only intended for interim use until data from the UK National Census 2021 becomes available. The Census data will provide a key source of evidence to inform the Replacement LDP and associated SA process.

## 4.6 Geodiversity

4.6.1 The results of the monitoring indicate that the Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) and Geological Conservation Review (GCR) sites have not been consistently identified or considered in the determination of planning applications. This has led to occasions where the impact of development on these designations has not been assessed, which suggests that the SEA objective to protect RIGS from incompatible development may not have been met. This has been addressed by reviewing the accessibility of the mapped data and officer training.

## 5. Contextual Changes

5.0.1 Since the LDP was adopted in April 2018, the planning policy context at a national, regional and local level has changed. New or updated planning legislation, policy, guidance and strategies have been released, including in other policy areas relevant to planning. This section focuses on identifying the most significant contextual changes that will need to be taken into account in reviewing the LDP. Details of these changes and other relevant contextual changes can be found within the published AMR 2021 and AMR 2020 (background paper).

### 5.1 National Context

#### Planning (Wales) Act 2015

5.1.1 The Act sets out a series of legislative changes to deliver reform of the planning system in Wales to ensure it is fair, resilient and enables development. A key objective of the Act is to strengthen the plan-led approach by introducing a legal basis for the preparation of a National Development Framework (published as Future Wales in February 2021) and regional Strategic Development Plans (SDP). It also confirmed the statutory purpose of the planning system in Wales in stating that any statutory body carrying out a planning function must exercise those functions in accordance with the principles of sustainable development as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The adopted Powys LDP was not required to demonstrate compliance with this duty as it had been submitted for examination prior to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, however the Replacement LDP will be required to demonstrate compliance with this duty.

#### The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (January 2021)

5.1.2 This Act replaces Strategic Planning Panels (SPP) the governance body set out in the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 to prepare a SDP with four mandatory Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) covering each region - South East Wales, South West Wales, Mid Wales and North Wales. Each CJC has a statutory duty to prepare an SDP. The Powys Local Planning Authority (LPA) is included in the Mid Wales Region, meaning the CJC and subsequent SDP will cover Powys, Ceredigion and the area of the Brecon Beacons National Park that sits within the Powys Unitary Authority boundary. CJCs also have functions relating to economic well-being and development of transport policies.

#### Town and Country Planning (Strategic Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2021

5.1.3 The Town and Country Planning (Strategic Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations (SI 2021/360) were made on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and will come into force on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The Regulations set out the procedure for the preparation of SDPs following on from The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (January 2021).

### **Socio-economic Duty (March 2021)**

5.1.4 The Socio-economic Duty within the Equality Act 2010 came into force in Wales on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and is aimed at encouraging better decision making and reducing inequalities resulting from socio-economic disadvantage. The duty requires relevant public bodies when taking strategic decisions, for example associated with strategic policy development and development plans, to have due regard to the need to reduce the inequalities of outcome that result from socio-economic disadvantage. The LPA will integrate the duty into the Impact Assessment process associated with the LDP, within its approach towards engagement and involvement and in its use of local evidence and data.

### **Public Health Wales Act (2017)**

5.1.5 This Act makes changes to the law in Wales to improve health and prevent avoidable health harms. It 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 (HIA) by public bodies. The Act defines a HIA as an assessment of the likely effect, both in the short term and in the long term, of a proposed action or decision on the physical and mental health of the people of Wales or of some of the people of Wales. Regulations are due to be published to specify when a HIA is required to be carried out by public bodies and how it should be undertaken. The LPA will have regard to any regulations and guidance in respect of HIA as part of the Impact Assessment process associated with the Replacement LDP.

### **Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (February 2021)**

5.1.6 Future Wales – the National Plan 2040 is the national development framework, setting the direction for development in Wales to 2040. It replaces the former Wales Spatial Plan (2004, 2008). It is the highest tier of development plan with a strategy for addressing key national priorities through the planning system, including sustaining and developing a vibrant economy, achieving decarbonisation and climate-resilience, developing strong ecosystems and improving the health and well-being of Wales' communities. This framework will be built on by SDPs at a regional level and LDPs at local authority level. SDPs and LDPs are required to be in conformity with Future Wales and must be kept up to date to ensure they and Future Wales work together effectively.

### **Planning Policy Wales, Edition 10 (December 2018) and Edition 11 (February 2021)**

5.1.7 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) has been updated twice since the Powys LDP was adopted. Edition 10 represented a complete re-working of national planning policy to take into account the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, including the seven well-being goals and the five ways of working. It promoted the concept of placemaking within the planning system and set out the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes. The latest edition of PPW, Edition 11, published alongside Future Wales, involved revisions to align it with Future Wales and to take into account the socio-economic duty and the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. It also reflects policy changes to housing land supply (replaced by the LDP's housing trajectory, as presented in AMR 2021), affordable housing-led sites and development quality standards, local energy planning, transport and active travel.



### **Development Plans Manual, Edition 3 (March 2020)**

5.1.8 A new edition of the Development Plans Manual was published in March 2020 (DPM3), updated to take account of significant changes to planning legislation and national policy. The Manual is not national policy; however it provides guidance for practitioners involved in the preparation and implementation of development plans. It is intended to be read alongside PPW and other relevant legislation and guidance, and contains practical guidance on how to prepare, monitor and revise a development plan, underpinned by robust evidence to ensure that plans are effective and deliverable and contribute to placemaking. The Manual clarifies the expectations of Welsh Government with regards to the plan making process and will be used to guide the preparation of the future LDP.

### **Building Better Places: The Planning System Delivering Resilient and Brighter Futures – Placemaking and the Covid-19 Recovery (July 2020)**

5.1.9 This document sets out the planning policy priorities of the Welsh Government in the post Covid-19 recovery phases. The document outlines the need for good, high-quality developments which are guided by placemaking principles. It identifies the following eight key issues which bring individual policy areas together to ensure that action is the most effective:

- Staying local: creating neighbourhoods
- Active travel: exercise and rediscovered transport methods
- Revitalising our town centres
- Digital places - the lockdown lifeline
- Changing working practices: our future need for employment land
- Reawakening Wales' tourism and cultural sectors
- Green infrastructure, health and well-being and ecological resilience
- Improving air quality and soundscapes for better health and well-being

5.1.10 Each issue draws out important points within PPW and includes a commentary on specific aspects of the post potential Covid-19 pandemic situation. The Replacement LDP process will provide the opportunity for the LPA to respond to the priorities and issues identified nationally and to aid recovery at the local level.

### **Planning and the Post COVID-19 Recovery: Letter to Local Authorities (July 2020)**

5.1.11 This letter from the Welsh Minister states that local planning authorities must reflect on the impact of the pandemic on their areas and consider the consequences for LDPs under review or being implemented. LDPs undergoing review, which had not yet been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (now the Planning and Environment Decisions Wales - PEDW) for examination were required to undertake an assessment of the evidence base, strategy and policies in terms of sensitivity to the consequences of the pandemic. Robust conclusions would need to be reached on the need for new evidence and any consequential changes to strategy and policy before plan preparation progressed. The Replacement LDP process will enable the LPA to respond to the impact of the pandemic on all elements of the LDP, and as part of the supporting evidence and assessments.



### **Local Development Plan (LDP) end dates: Letter to Local Authorities (September 2020)**

5.1.12 This letter from the Welsh Minister explains the position regarding the end date of LDPs in response to concerns from a number of LPAs regarding their LDP end dates with the concern that implications for local decision-making. The letter clarifies that the provisions within the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 specifying the period to which a plan has effect did not commence until the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016, and therefore they do not apply to LDPs adopted prior to this date. LDPs adopted prior to this date will remain the LDP for determining planning applications until replaced by a further LDP. Whereas, for LDPs adopted after this date, the LDP will cease to be the LDP on the expiry period specified in the plan. Thus, the Powys LDP will cease to be the adopted Powys LDP at the end of the period specified in the plan, which will be 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

### **Revocation of Technical Advice Note (TAN) 1 Joint Housing Land Availability Studies (March 2020) and Monitoring of Delivery through a Housing Trajectory**

5.1.13 The Welsh Government announced changes to the way in which housing delivery should be monitored. The changes to PPW removed the five-year housing land supply policy and replaced it with a policy statement making it explicit that the housing trajectory, as set out in the adopted Powys LDP, will be the basis for monitoring the delivery of development plan housing requirements as part of LDP Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR). It also involved the revocation of TAN 1: Joint Housing Land Availability Studies (January 2015) in its entirety, as a consequence of the policy change to PPW. The revised approach, based on the LDP trajectory, will ensure that the monitoring of housing delivery, including the response to under-delivery, is an integral part of the process of LDP preparation, monitoring and review.

### **Welsh Government Circular 005/2018: Planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople Sites (June 2018)**

5.1.14 This Circular provides updated guidance on the planning aspects of identifying sustainable sites for Gypsies and Travellers and outlines how planning authorities and Gypsies and Travellers can work together to achieve this aim. The Circular outlines the duty to provide sites, the necessity of involving Gypsies and Travellers proactively in the process and the steps required to assess the need for sites, identify suitable sites, and include policies in development plans.

### **Revocation of Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8 Planning for Renewable Energy (February 2021)**

5.1.15 As a result of the publication of Future Wales, TAN 8 has been revoked, and therefore Strategic Search Areas for onshore wind energy development proposals no longer exist. Instead, Future Wales identifies pre-assessed areas for wind energy where the Welsh Government has already modelled the likely impact on the landscape and has found them to be capable of accommodating development in an acceptable way. Policy 17 of Future Wales sets a presumption in favour of large-scale wind energy development (including repowering) in these areas, subject to detailed criteria contained within Future Wales Policy 18.

### **Net Zero Wales and All Wales Plan 2021-2025 (October 2021)**

5.1.16 Welsh Government has published its second emissions reduction plan for Carbon Budget (2021-2025) setting the foundations to make Wales net zero by 2050. Alongside this, the first All Wales Plan has been published, which demonstrates the commitment from partners in working together to reach Net Zero. As part of the Pledge Campaign launched in 2019, Welsh Government has received 118 pledges for action from businesses, the public sector, communities, schools and other groups and organisations, which are showcased by the All Wales Plan. The All Wales Plan also includes case studies of actions already taken, including local examples in Powys, and recognises the crucial role of children and young people in raising awareness and concerns about climate change.

### **Beyond Recycling (March 2021)**

5.1.17 The Beyond Recycling Strategy lays out the steps to be taken over the next ten years in the Welsh Government's pathway towards achieving a circular economy. The Strategy is structured around six core themes:

1. Driving innovation in materials use
2. Upscaling prevention and re-use
3. Building on our recycling record
4. Investing in infrastructure
5. Enabling community and business action
6. Aligning Government levers

5.1.18 The aim is to keep resources in use for long as possible and to avoid waste. The goals include: one planet resource use, for there to be zero waste by 2050, for there to be net zero emissions from waste, to maximise economic potential and to make resource efficiency part of Welsh culture.

### **Strategic Assessment for the future need for energy from waste capacity in the three economic regions of Wales (March 2021)**

5.1.19 This Strategic Assessment published by the Welsh Government confirms the announcement of a moratorium on any future large scale (10MW or greater installed capacity) energy from waste developments. It also updates and replaces the residual waste arisings estimates and forecast scenarios in the 2012 Collections Infrastructure and Markets Sector Plan, which TAN 21 Waste advises should be used in assessing the level of need for energy from waste facilities and the extent of any capacity gap. The document refers to the key decision-making principles applied by PPW relating to the waste hierarchy, proximity (nearest appropriate installation) and self-sufficiency in terms of developing integrated and adequate network facilities for the management of mixed residual municipal waste.

### **Welsh National Marine Plan (Nov 2019)**

5.1.20 The Welsh National Marine Plan is intended to support the sustainable development of the seas around Wales, covering inshore and offshore areas for the next 20 years. It sets out the Welsh Government's ambitions for the future use of marine natural resources and

how various users of the seas should interact and consider each other's activities and future plans. The Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009) requires public authorities to take relevant authorisation or enforcement decisions in accordance with the Welsh National Marine Plan unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise. Public authorities are also required to have regard to the appropriate marine policy documents in making any decision which relates to the exercise of any function capable of affecting the whole or any part of the UK marine area.

### **Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15: development, flooding and coastal erosion (made available September 2021)**

5.1.21 In September 2021, a new version of TAN 15 was made available by the Welsh Government in advance of the date that it was due to come into effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021. The new TAN, which will also replace TAN 14: Coastal Planning, will be accompanied by a new Flood Map for Planning, which will replace the development advice map. The new TAN introduces important changes to the way flood and coastal erosion risks are considered in the planning process to ensure the planning system recognises the threat of, and takes action to adapt to, the likely effects of climate change on flood risk and coastal erosion. The risks associated with climate change will be built into planning policies and decisions by using the new Flood Map for Planning, which includes flood risk zones showing future risk under a climate change scenario.

5.1.22 In November 2021, the Welsh Minister confirmed that the coming into force of the new TAN 15 and Flood Map for Planning would be suspended until 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 in order to enable LPAs to consider fully the impact of the climate change projections on their respective areas. The Minister also requires every LPA to complete work to review, within the next 12 months, the Strategic Flood Consequences Assessments (SFCA) for their area, either individually or on a regional basis. The Minister has also set other requirements for local authorities, in partnership with other flood risk management authorities, in relation to flood risk management schemes and delivery of the SuDS Approval Body functions. The new TAN 15 and Flood Map for Planning will apply to the Powys Replacement LDP process. The reviewed SFCA will inform the LDP's strategy, policies and proposals.

**5.1.23 The Welsh Government issued two further letters in December 2021 and January 2022 in order to provide an update and further information and clarification on the position. The letter in December set out the package of work to be completed by local authorities before June 2023 and identifies the key implications for planning services, including those relating to SFCAs, development plans and development management. The letter in January sets out how the Welsh Government intends to respond to development management consultations where floodrisk is a material consideration, confirming that the Development Advice Map and Flood Map for Planning will be considered in the consultation process.**

### **Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) – Disposal of Surface Water through SuDs (January 2019)**

~~5.1.23~~ **5.1.24** Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (FWMA) 2010 provides a framework for the approval and adoption of surface water systems serving new developments. The Welsh Government introduced five statutory instruments to implement this requirement. The statutory instruments made it a requirement from the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 for all new developments of more than one dwelling, or where the construction area is 100 square metres or more, to dispose of surface water through a sustainable drainage system (SuDS).

### **Welsh Government Circular 008/2018: Planning requirement in respect of the use of private sewerage in new development, incorporating septic tanks and small sewage treatment plants (July 2018)**

5.1.24 5.1.25 This Circular updated the information and guidance to be used by planning authorities when considering proposals for new development in areas with no public sewerage system, and replaced Welsh Office Circular 10/99. It provides guidance for both planning policy and development management. With regards to LDPs, the Circular states that planning authorities may wish to include appropriate policies in their development plans to reflect a) the contents of the Circular, b) its own knowledge and experience of the circumstances and conditions in various localities within its area; and c) the views of appropriate bodies on the issue of private sewerage and its likely effect on public health, amenity and the environment.

### **Essentials Guide: Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (June 2019)**

5.1.26 The sustainable management of natural resources is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales through taking an ecosystem approach to managing natural resources. This Guide, published by the Welsh Government, focuses on the role of public service delivery, including planners, and provides an introduction and summary to integration of The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, explaining how natural resources and resilient ecosystems underpin our well-being. The Guide refers to the national priorities for the sustainable management of natural resources - delivering nature-based solutions; increasing resource efficiency and renewable energy; and taking a place based approach.

### **The Second State of Natural Resources (SoNaRR) Report (December 2020)**

5.1.25 5.1.27 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 requires LPAs to have regard to the SoNaRR published by NRW, which provides an evidence base for LPAs when revising LDPs. This second report builds on the evidence base in the first SoNaRR in 2016 and illustrates some of the key challenges, priorities and opportunities for the sustainable management of natural resources. It is framed around the twin challenges of the nature and climate change emergencies Wales faces. It also identifies three areas for transformative change – the food, energy and transport systems and sets out a range of opportunities for action to move towards a sustainable future.

### **Securing Biodiversity Improvements (October 2019)**

5.1.26 5.1.28 This Chief Planning Officer letter draws the attention of LPAs to the Section 6 Duty of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the need for planning authorities to 'seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of their functions. It goes on to state that 'planning authorities should be proactive and embed appropriate policies into local development plans to protect against biodiversity loss and secure enhancement'.

### **Intensive Poultry Units (June 2019)**

5.1.27 5.2.29 This Chief Planning Officer letter reminds LPAs of the need to fully consider the effects of intensive agricultural development when determining planning applications and invites LPAs to participate in future work on this area. It advises LPAs, where appropriate, to put in place appropriate policies in LDPs in order to facilitate the sustainable construction of this type of development. It also refers to the updated guidance for the assessment of potentially polluting emissions from intensive poultry units issued by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) for use by LPAs and their respective Environmental Health Departments on any relevant applications.

### **Llwybr Newydd - The Wales Transport Strategy (2021)**

5.1.28 5.1.30 The new transport strategy for Wales sets out the Welsh Government's vision for how the transport system can help deliver priorities for Wales. It sets out the short-term priorities for the next five years and long-term ambitions for the next 20 years, along with nine mini plans explaining how they will be delivered for different transport modes and sectors. The strategy requires governments, local authorities, transport providers (both commercial and third sector) and colleagues in other policy areas to work together to ensure that transport contributes to the current and future well-being of Wales. This national strategy sets the framework for the two tiers of transport plans in Wales – the National Transport Finance Plan and Joint Local Transport Plans. The strategy and policies of the Replacement LDP will need to be consistent with these plans and strategies.

### **Active Travel Act Guidance (2021)**

5.1.29 5.1.30 This guidance, which replaces previous guidance on Active Travel, is split into two parts. Part 1 provides an outline summary of the aims, processes and key considerations associated with the duties of the Active Travel (Wales) Act (2013). Part 2, provides detailed technical advice on how infrastructure should be planned and designed. The vision is for walking and cycling to be the natural mode of choice for short everyday journeys, or as part of a longer journey in combination with other sustainable modes of transport. With the 15-year ambition to be for a comprehensive network of safe, direct, cohesive, comfortable and attractive walking and cycling routes within and connecting to key settlements across Wales. This guidance explains that Active Travel Network Maps should be used to inform the preparation and review of LDPs and SDPs, with reference given to the requirement within PPW for these maps to inform site allocations.

## **5.2 Regional context**

### **Mid Wales Growth Deal**

5.2.1 Work is continuing on delivering a Growth Deal for the Mid Wales region and progress on the deal has been detailed in AMR 2020 and AMR 2021. In October 2021, the Portfolio Business Case (and supporting documents), approved by the Growing Mid Wales Board, were formally submitted to the Welsh Government for consideration and review. This provides a framework for the Growth Deal and has been scoped from the eight broad strategic growth priority areas identified by the 'Vision for Growing Mid Wales' published by the Growing Mid Wales Partnership in May 2020. It identifies three projects in Powys – eco-

training at the Centre for Alternative Technology, Elan Valley Lakes project and restoration of the Montgomery Canal. Other regional projects include improving digital connectivity and identifying areas to provide business/industrial units at regionally important strategic locations. **In January 2022 the Final Deal Agreement of the Mid Wales Growth Deal was signed by the Welsh Government, UK Government, Powys County Council and Ceredigion County Council.** The progress of the Mid Wales Growth Deal and associated work will be taken into account in preparing the Replacement LDP.

### **Mid Wales Area Statement, Natural Resources Wales (March 2020)**

5.2.3 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 requires Local Planning Authorities to have regard to areas statements in the development of LDPs. The Powys LPA area is within the region covered by the Mid Wales Area Statement, which also includes the LPA areas for Ceredigion and the Brecon Beacons National Park. It sets out the following five themes for the Mid Wales area:

- Improving biodiversity – responding to the nature emergency.
- Sustainable land, water and air.
- Reconnecting people and places – improving health, well-being and the economy.
- Forest resources – managing timber resources effectively.
- Climate emergency – adaptation and mitigation.

5.2.4 Area statements are a key piece of evidence for LPAs to consider in preparing their LDPs. They provide evidence of environmental and natural resources issues and should be used as part of the evidence base for the LDP and when fulfilling the LPA's duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity in exercising its planning functions.

### **South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party – Regional Technical Statement Second Review (December 2020)**

5.2.6 Powys County Council, as the Mineral Planning Authority for the County of Powys, excluding that area within the Brecon Beacons National Park endorsed the Regional Technical Statement (Aggregates) Second Review 2020 (RTS2). PPW requires that each Mineral Planning Authority prepares to meet local, regional and UK needs for the supply of minerals. For the purposes of commercial stability, the aggregates industry requires a proven and viable landbank.

5.2.7 RTS2 calculates that Powys has crushed rock reserves of 139.24 million tonnes which equates to a landbank of 39.6 years, which meets and exceeds the identified need for a 25-year landbank as specified by PPW and Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) 1. The data demonstrated a surplus of crushed rock supply so there is no requirement for new allocations in the future. The Powys apportionment for land-won sand and gravel was identified as Nil in RTS2 so again there is currently no future requirement for sand and gravel aggregate allocations.

## **5.3 Local context**



### **Towards 2040, the Powys Well-being Plan (May 2018)**

5.3.1 The first Well-being Plan for Powys was published in May 2018 by the Public Service Board (PSB) for the Powys Local Authority Area, who is responsible for developing a local Well-being Assessment and Well-being Plan for the area. The Well-being Plan provides a long-term vision of well-being in Powys and details the actions that will be taken to address local issues and contribute to the national Well-being goals. It sets out four local well-being objectives:

- People in Powys will experience a stable and thriving economy.
- People in Powys will enjoy a sustainable and productive environment.
- People in Powys will be health, socially motivated and responsible.
- People in Powys will be connected by strong communities and a vibrant culture.

It also sets out 12 initial well-being steps to deliver these local objectives.

5.3.2 The Powys PSB Annual Reports highlight the work that the PSB has done to deliver the objectives in Towards 2040. In June 2021, a ‘Living in Powys’ engagement exercise was launched to inform the next Well-being Plan for Powys. The data gathered from this survey and other data and engagement sources has helped to gain an understanding of people’s well-being needs across the county. In November 2021, a draft Assessment was published for consultation, which identifies 18 areas of focus that are intrinsic to well-being. The Assessment will be used to set the local well-being objectives, and these will provide a framework for the next Well-being Plan.

5.3.3 LPAs have a duty to have regard to the local Well-being Plan during development plan preparation and review, and it will form a key part of the LDP’s evidence base for the Replacement LDP.

### **Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan (April 2018, refreshed April 2021)**

5.3.4 In April 2018, Vision 2025 was launched by Powys County Council as its Corporate Improvement Plan, which sets out a seven-year vision for the County and plans for how the Council would achieve it. Vision 2025 sets out four well-being objectives:

- Well-being Objective 1: We will develop a vibrant economy.
- Well-being Objective 2: We will lead the way in providing effective, integrated health and care in a rural environment.
- Well-being Objective 3: We will strengthen learning and skills.
- Well-being Objective 4: We will support our residents and communities.

5.3.5 Progress made by the Council in terms of meeting its wellbeing objectives is reported on an annual basis. Vision 2025 was refreshed in April 2021 as the Corporate Improvement Plan 2021-2025. The Council’s aspirations and objectives, as set out within this document, will be taken into account in preparing the Replacement LDP.

### **Climate Change Emergency**

5.3.6 In September 2020, Powys County Council declared a climate emergency. This included an ambition to reduce its carbon emissions to net zero, in line with the Welsh public sector target of 2030. The Council has been working to reduce carbon emissions by:

- As a partner on the Powys Public Service Board (PSB), the Council is contributing towards the preparation of a county wide Carbon Positive Strategy.
- Funding work in the community on climate change and supporting the local economy through the Arwain Leader Programme.
- Coordinating the preparation of a Mid Wales Energy Strategy on behalf of the Growing Mid Wales Partnership.
- Improving waste and recycling services.
- Installing EV Charging points in communities.
- Installing solar panels on schools and buildings.
- Constructing energy-efficient homes and schools.
- Providing new infrastructure to encourage cycling and walking and the use of public transport.

### **Water Quality in Riverine Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) (December 2020, January 2021)**

5.3.7 In December 2020, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) issued a letter to Powys, highlighting that designated riverine Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) water bodies within the River Wye SAC were failing to meet phosphorus limits which had been tightened in 2016 by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). This was followed by a further letter on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021 following publication of the condition status report on the other riverine SACs in Wales including the Usk, Dee and Tywi, the catchments of which all impact upon the Powys LDP area. As a consequence, NRW issued Interim Planning Advice in December 2020 which required new development within SAC catchments to achieve phosphate neutrality or betterment.

5.3.8 In May 2021, NRW issued updated advice to planning authorities **(no longer 'interim' advice)** for planning applications affecting phosphorous sensitive river SACs, which includes advice for the review of LDPs. It provides advice in terms of screening proposed LDP policies, including those relating to private sewage treatment systems, and the assessment of allocations proposed to be connected to mains wastewater treatment works. This matter will be a significant consideration in the preparation of the Replacement LDP and associated assessment processes.



## 6. Evidence Base Changes

### 6.1 LDP Evidence Base Requirements

6.1.1 To inform the Replacement LDP, there will be a need to update various elements of the evidence base that informed the current LDP. This will involve updating existing assessments and carrying out new assessments in line with the latest requirements of national planning policy and guidance. This evidence will need to be considered alongside evidence gathered through the LDP’s annual monitoring process and wider contextual evidence, plans, strategies, and circumstances, including those noted in **Section 5**.

6.1.2 **Table 2** and **Table 3** below provide a list of new and updated evidence that will be required, along with a reason explaining why this evidence is needed to support the preparation of the Replacement LDP. This list focuses on evidence required to be undertaken by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) or in partnership with others, for instance the Local Housing Authority. It is not a definitive list, and additional or updated evidence requirements may emerge as the Replacement LDP progresses.

**Table 2. New Evidence Base Requirements**

<b>New Evidence Required</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Settlement Assessment	To provide an assessment of the role, function, services, opportunities, constraints, capacity, aspirations and character of settlements, in order to inform the LDP’s strategy, policies, and proposals.
Employment Land Review (ELR)*	To assess the anticipated employment change and land use together with estimates of land provision for employment, to inform the LDP’s strategy, policies, and proposals.
Local Landscape Character Assessment	To provide an assessment of the character, characteristics, features and sensitivities of local landscapes within the LDP area, to inform the LDP’s strategy, policies, and proposals.
Green Infrastructure Assessment (GIA)	To provide an inventory and map of existing green infrastructure, and ecological assets and networks, to inform the LDP’s strategy, policies, and proposals.
Infrastructure Plan	To provide evidence of how infrastructure of the appropriate capacity, location, funding and timing, will be in place to support the implementation and delivery of the LDP.

\* Evidence relating to employment land at a strategic level will be provided as part of the Mid Wales Regional Employment Study referred to in **Section 10**.

**Table 3. Updated Evidence Base Requirements**

<b>Updated Evidence Required</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA)*	To provide updated evidence of local housing need and demand to inform the LDP's housing strategy and requirements, and affordable housing policies.
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA)*	To provide an updated assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller families in order that the LDP can make provision to meet identified unmet need.
High Level Viability Assessment	To provide an updated assessment of housing development viability to support the LDP's strategy and to inform the LDP's policies, and proposals, including those relating to affordable housing and infrastructure.
Retail Study	To provide an updated assessment of retail need to identify any requirement for additional retail floorspace. Also, to review the retail hierarchy and Town Centre Areas and Primary/Secondary Shopping Frontage approaches, in order to inform the LDP's strategy, policies, and proposals.
Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA)	To provide an updated assessment of the likely effects of the LDP on the use of the Welsh language in the plan area, as part of the LDP's Sustainability Appraisal, and to inform the LDP's strategy, policies, and proposals.
Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment (SFCA) (Stage 1 and Stage 2)	To provide an updated assessment of flood risk by identifying areas of current and future flood risk, in order to inform LDP policies and the site selection process.
Open Space Assessment (OSA)	To provide an updated assessment of existing open space provision, to identify areas of open space to be protected and to provide a framework for the provision of new open spaces, in order to inform LDP policies and proposals.
Renewable Energy Assessment (REA)	To assess the potential for a range of renewable energy technologies below a threshold of 10MW installed capacity, in order to inform LDP policies and proposals.

\*The Local Housing Authority is responsible for undertaking these assessments; however they form an important part of the evidence base for LDPs.

6.1.3 The remainder of this section focuses on the latest Welsh Government population and household projections, released since adoption of the current LDP. PPW explains that these projections, alongside the latest LHMA and Local Well-being Plan, form a fundamental part of the evidence base for development plans.

## 6.2 Population and Household Projections

### Background

6.2.1 The housing requirement of the current LDP was based on the principal projection from the 2011-based Welsh Government household projections which were the latest published at the time. The LPA made an adjustment of a 10% uplift to the requirement to take account of other relevant factors, such as corporate objectives, economic strategy and affordable housing need, as listed in Section 3.3 of the adopted Powys LDP (2011-2016). At the time national advice was to treat the 2011-based household projections with caution due to the period of economic recession on which they were based.

6.2.2 The LPA later considered the lower requirements as published in replacement 2014-based household projections (issued just prior to the Plan's Examination in Public in 2017) however, the LDP housing requirement was not amended for reasons which are explained in Section 3.3 of the adopted Powys LDP (2011-2026).

6.2.3 Over time, there has been a slight change in emphasis on how the household projections should be used. When the LDP was initially being prepared PPW, Edition 7 (2014), stated that the Welsh Government's latest household projections should form the starting point for assessing housing requirements in LDPs, whilst later editions have advised they should be treated as part of the evidence base. The most recently published edition of PPW, Edition 11 (February 2021) confirms they must be treated as a fundamental part of the evidence base, and they therefore remain a key consideration for the Replacement LDP.

### Latest Population Projections

6.2.4 The 2018-based national population projections were issued in June 2020 (with the next release due September 2022), these were broken down to the Local Authority level and issued in August 2020. In 2018 the population of the County of Powys was **132,447**. According to the principal projection Powys was expected to experience a small decrease in the population between 2018 and 2020, but thereafter the population was expected to increase gradually year on year (to year 2043). By the LDP end date in 2026, the Powys population is forecast to be **132,765**.

6.2.5 These latest figures compare to the evidence of the 2011-based projections which stated the County of Powys population to be **133,071** in 2011 (LDP start date), and **136,489** by 2026 (18% of the population, as identified in the projections, is located within the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA) area, so the appropriate adjustment will be required for the Powys LPA area).

6.2.6 The differences between the 2011-based, 2014-based and 2018-based projections are illustrated in **Figure 1**. The black line on the graph shows the annual Mid Year Estimate of the population.

### The Mid Year Population Estimate

6.2.7 Mid Year Estimates (MYE) of the population are published annually. The latest MYE given for June 2020 (as published September 2021) indicated that the population of the County of Powys is **133,030** which represents an increase in population size of 595 (425 of them aged over 65) on the previous year.

6.2.8 This is a recent uplift as previously, the MYEs have shown a continuing decrease each year in the population of the County of Powys from the LDP start date in 2011 (133,071) to a low in 2016 (132,337), back up in 2017 (132,515), followed again by decreases in 2018 and 2019 (down to 132,435) before the recent recovery to **133,030** in 2020. The figures presented here, and the graph presented in Figure 1, relate to the whole of the County of Powys so, in terms of land-use planning, would need to be disaggregated between the two constituent Planning Authorities (the Powys LPA and the BBNPA).

6.2.9 MYE are useful in gauging the accurateness of the latest population and household projections which are not published as regularly. It is noticeable that the MYE for 2020 at **133,030** is above the figure projected in the 2018-based population projections. The MYE figure is 609 above that of the projection (**132,421**). The current MYE would suggest that the latest (2018-based) projections could be under-estimating the future population in Powys (which has a related impact on new household formation). However, for the Replacement LDP, the UK National Census 2021 results will establish new baseline figures going forward and will inform the MYE for 2021 (due to be published in 2022) which will provide a robust and timely starting point.

### Latest Household Projections

6.2.10 In planning for new homes, the LPA must have regard to the latest household projections which are generally released by the Welsh Government (broken down by Local Authority) every three years in conjunction with population projections. The population projections form the basis for generating the household projections.

6.2.11 Looking at the current Plan period (2011-2026) in Powys, under the principal (or central) household projection, the total number of households in Powys will increase from 59,700 in 2018 to 60,900 in 2026. This forecast is for the whole of Powys so will include some households situated in the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA) area of the county. **Table 4** below summarises how the household projections have changed during the LDP plan period.

**Table 4. Summary of the Changes to Household Projections for Powys\***

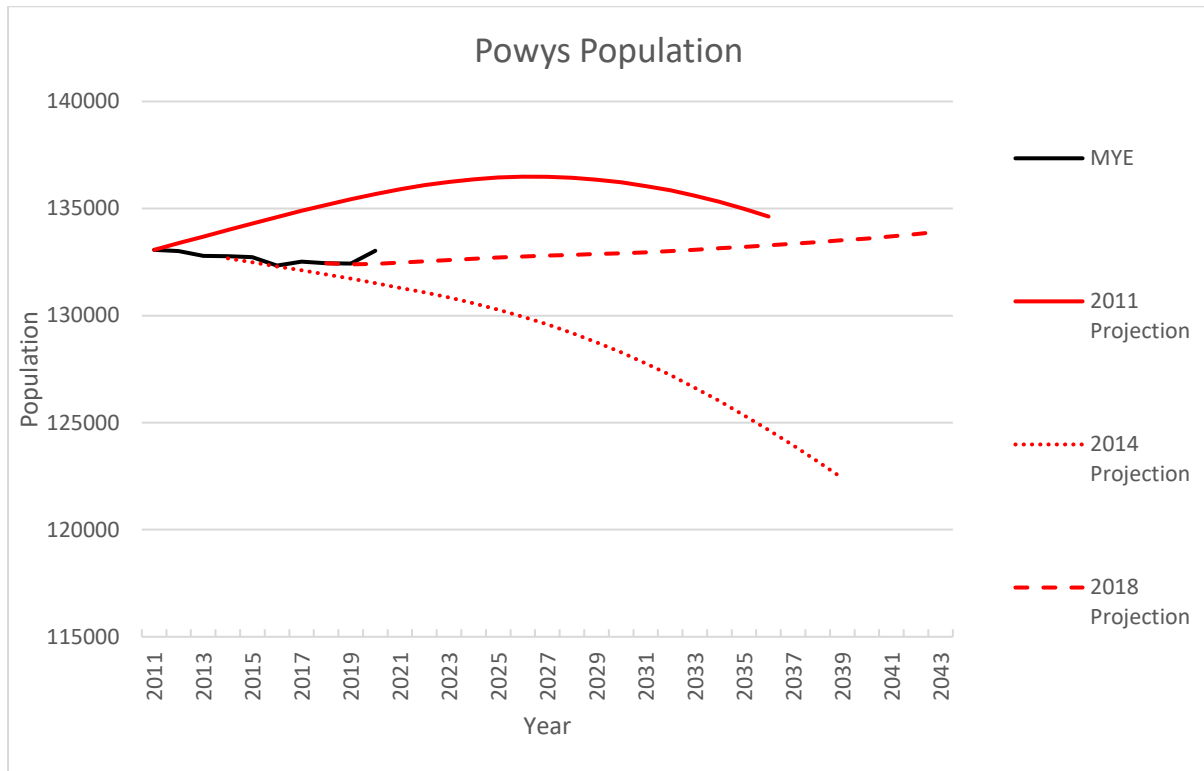
Base-date of Projections	Households at base-date of Projections	Projected Households at 2026 – LDP End Date	Additional Households
<b>2011</b>	58,400	63,000	4,600
<b>2014</b>	59,000	60,000	1,000
<b>2018</b>	59,700	60,900	1,200

*\*Further adjustments necessary to proportion homes between Powys LDP and BBNPA LDP.*

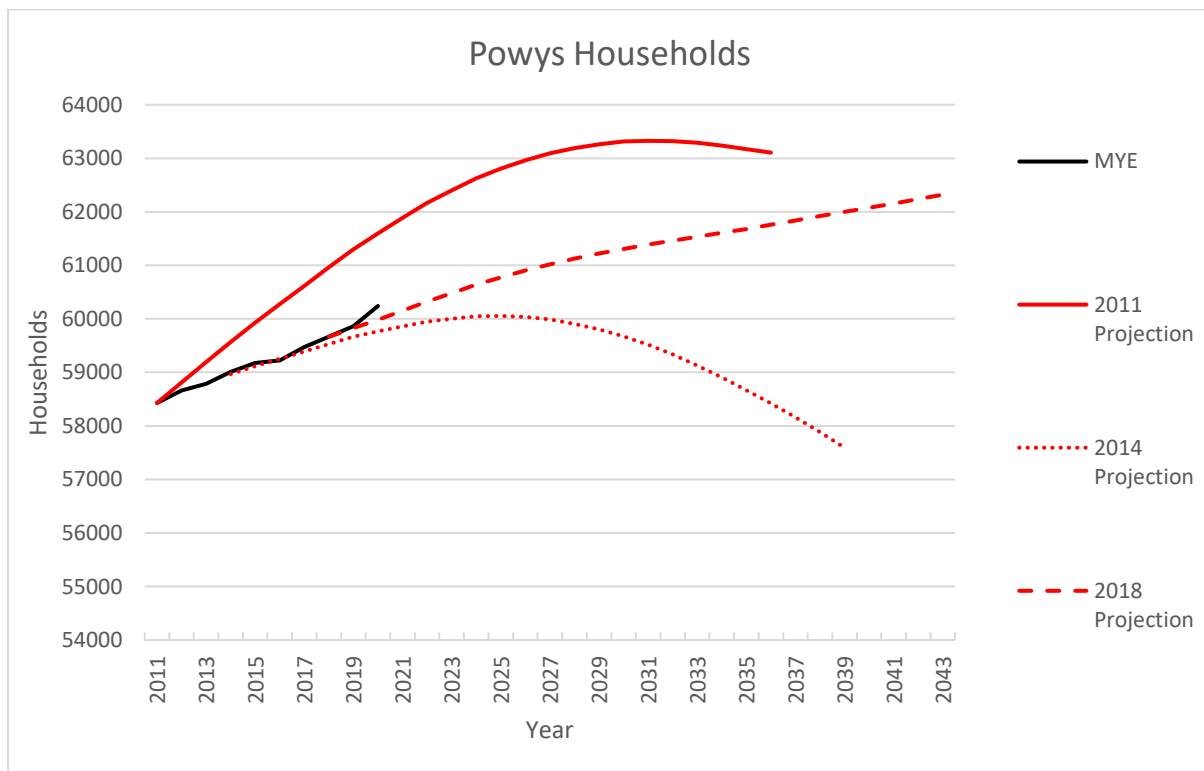
6.2.12 It can be seen the latest Welsh Government household projections indicate a much lower increase in household numbers than the 2011-based projections which informed the adopted Powys LDP. This indicates a fundamental need to reconsider the housing requirement as part of the preparation of a Replacement LDP.

6.2.13 The differences between the 2011-based, 2014-based and 2018-based household projections, based on the principal projections, are illustrated in **Figure 2**.

**Figure 1. Comparison of Welsh Government’s 2011, 2014 and 2018 Based Population Projections and Mid Year Estimates for the County of Powys**



**Figure 2. Comparison of Welsh Government’s 2011, 2014 and 2018 Based Household Projections (Principal Projection) and Mid Year Estimates for the County of Powys**



## Variant Population and Household Projections

6.2.14 The principal or central 2018-based projection is accompanied by five published variants. There are high and low population variants and three others based on alternative migration assumptions. These include a zero-migration variant, a 10-year average migration variant and a 15-year average migration variant. The variants help to capture the impact of migration and how the consideration of shorter versus longer term trends can lead to different scenarios in population (and therefore household) growth.

6.2.15 The availability of this dataset means that household growth under the principal household projection can be considered against alternative scenarios, the LPA will be considering and engaging with stakeholders on which variant(s) may be appropriate to use when revising the Growth Strategy for the Replacement LDP. The differences are summarised in **Table 5** below to show how the use of different variants impact on the number of households projected at the end of the adopted Powys LDP period (2026).

**Table 5. Local Authority Household Projections as Published 2020/2021 (2018 based) - The Six Alternatives\***

Year	Principal	Lower variant	Higher variant	Ten year average migration variant	Fifteen year average migration variant	Zero migration variant
<b>2018 Base Date of Latest Projections</b>	59,664	59,664	59,664	59,664	59,664	59,664
<b>2026 The end date of the current LDP</b>	60,906	60,516	61,224	60,872	61,988	58,584

\* Further adjustments necessary to proportion homes between Powys LDP and BBNPA LDP.

## The 2021 Census

6.2.16 The 2021 UK National Census results will be used to re-establish a new baseline for the Mid-Year Population and Household Estimates, correcting errors that have arisen over the previous 10 years. The new 2021 baseline population will be used in future projections and give a more accurate starting point.

## Summary of Current Position

6.2.17 At the time of writing, the 2018-based population and household projections are the latest published evidence and will inform early work on the Replacement LDP. However, results from the 2021 UK National Census (conducted March 2021) will provide essential primary evidence going forward with statistical releases expected in 2022 and 2023. In preparing the Replacement LDP the Council will be mindful of the need to be flexible to consider and, if necessary, adapt to these results as they become available. In reconsidering the Growth Strategy and housing requirement in the Replacement LDP,

population and household projections will be an important consideration, together with a number of other factors such as updated evidence within the Local Housing Market Assessment, past build rates and national, regional and local plans and strategies (this is discussed further in section 7.2).

## 7. LDP Issues, Vision, Objectives and Strategy

### 7.1 Key Issues and Considerations, Vision and Objectives.

#### Key Issues and Considerations

7.1.1 The LDP identified 48 Key Issues and Considerations facing the Plan area over the Plan Period, 2011-2026. Each issue is listed within the Plan and grouped under the following headings: Economic, Environmental, Population and Housing, Infrastructure and Resource considerations. The Key Issues and Considerations arose from stakeholder engagement, evidence gathering and the alignment of the LDP with other plans and strategies.

7.1.2 The Key Issues and Considerations were used to develop the Vision and Objectives, which set out the broad intentions of what the LDP seeks to achieve and for managing development up to 2026.

#### Vision

7.1.3 To address the Key issues and Considerations identified, the following LDP Vision was prepared with stakeholder involvement and in alignment with other plans and strategies for the area:

##### Our Vision of Powys 2026

Powys is a county of considerable variety extending from the South Wales Valleys to the Berwyn Mountains in the north, and from the Cambrian Mountains in the west to the English border in the east.

As the ‘green heart of Wales’, Powys will be a place of vibrant and resilient communities providing sustainable development and economic opportunities set in a healthy, safe environment, whilst celebrating, protecting, enhancing and sustainably managing its natural resources, native wildlife and habitats, heritage, outstanding landscapes and distinctive characteristics.

Powys’ towns and larger villages will be vibrant and accessible service centres. They will be the focus for integrating housing, economic and service development to meet their own needs and those of their surrounding communities.

Powys’ rural areas will be a working countryside of sustainable communities supported by a thriving and diverse rural economy of small businesses.

#### Objectives

7.1.4 The LDP includes 16 objectives cross referenced to the relevant Key Issues and Considerations and divided into the following Themes:

- Theme 1 – Planning for Growth in Sustainable Places,
- Theme 2 – Supporting the Powys Economy,
- Theme 3 – Supporting Infrastructure and Services,
- Theme 4 – Guardianship of Natural, Built and Historic Assets,
- Theme 5 – Supporting Healthy Communities.



## **Reconsideration of Key Issues and Considerations, Vision and Objectives**

7.1.5 Since the preparation of the LDP there have been some fundamental changes to national legislation and guidance. This includes the introduction of The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 which sets out the framework for Welsh Government to formulate well-being objectives, which do not only influence national policy, but also direct local authorities. The LDP Key Issues and Considerations, The Vision and the Objectives all need to be reconsidered with an emphasis on the provisions of the Act and the well-being objectives, including consideration of the Council's Local Well-being Plan.

7.1.6 The Development Plans Manual Edition 3 (March 2020) advises that the objectives within the LDP must be linked to the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes. PPW, Edition 11 (February 2021) also states that “every development plan must take forward the national sustainable placemaking outcomes and use them to develop an overarching set of outcomes”. Placemaking seeks to deliver “a holistic approach to the planning and design of development and spaces, focused on positive outcomes. It draws upon an area's potential to create high quality development and public spaces that promote people's prosperity, health, happiness, and wellbeing in the widest sense”. Placemaking and the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes must be incorporated into the revision of the LDP Vision and the Objectives.

7.1.7 Powys County Council (PCC) adopted a new Corporate Plan - Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan 2021-2025 in April 2018 (refreshed in 2021). The new Corporate Improvement Plan, which is reviewed annually, sets out a seven-year vision for the county and its plans on how to achieve it. The LDP Key Issues and Considerations, and the LDP Vision and the Objectives, should be reconsidered to ensure alliance with current corporate priorities.

7.1.8 Stakeholder involvement and evidence gathering will determine the relevance of the Key Issues or whether changes or additions are required. This will include considering the Key Issues which have been addressed as well as those where issues remain an ongoing concern, together with newly identified issues such as those arising from the Covid-19 Pandemic.

## 7.2 The LDP Strategy

### The LDP Strategy

7.2.1 The over-arching Strategy sets out to achieve the Vision and Objectives of the Plan it is described in the LDP as:

“The LDP Strategy disperses new growth proportionately around the Plan area to meet housing, retail and employment needs, concentrating development into towns and large villages and ensuring that development in less sustainable areas is closely controlled. The Strategy supports strong communities and a diverse and working countryside and responds to the needs of the local area in terms of the provision of affordable housing and meeting specialist needs. Development is directed to locations within a sustainable settlement hierarchy and all development management decisions are made against a framework where the principles of sustainable development and guardianship of the natural, built and historic environment are fully embedded.”

7.2.2 The two main components of the LDP Strategy are the ‘Growth Strategy’ and the ‘Spatial Strategy’.

### Growth Strategy

7.2.3 The evidence relating to needs within the Plan area resulted in the LDP Strategy being primarily led by housing growth. The identified Dwelling Requirement Figure was for 4,500 additional new homes to be completed between 2011 and 2026. This included an Affordable Housing Target of 952 new affordable homes to be delivered during the period. Strategic policies SP1 – Housing Growth and SP3 – Affordable Housing Target provide the policy framework for delivering the ‘Growth Strategy’.

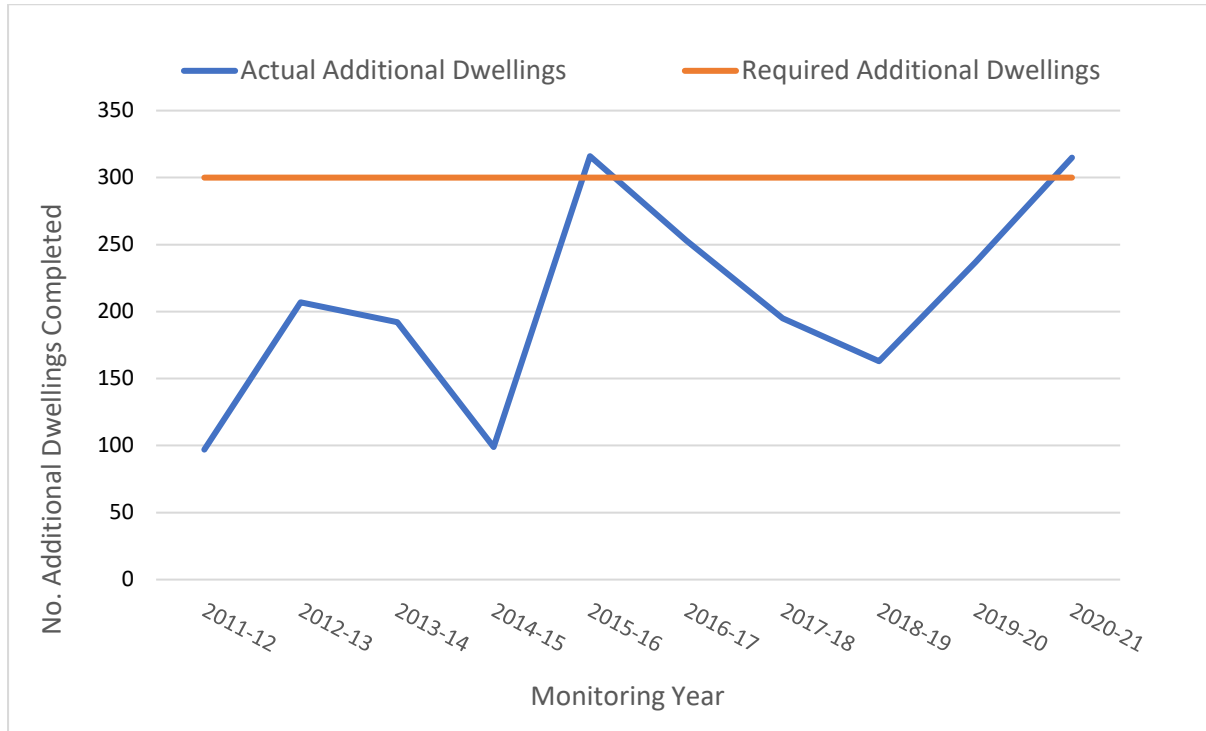
7.2.4 In order to meet the Dwelling Requirement Figure, an average of 300 additional homes would be required to be completed each year, across the 15-year plan period. **Figure 3** shows that in the ten years of the plan period that have passed, the completion rate of 300 additional homes was only achieved twice, further information regarding this is available in AMR 2021. The relatively low rate of completions has resulted in widening of the gap between annual completions and the annual average housing requirement, taken cumulatively, as shown in **Figure 4**. The cumulative average annual number of dwellings completed by the end of March 2021 equated to 2,101 new homes, this means a further 2,399 dwellings need to be completed over the remaining five years of the plan period (April 2021 to March 2026) if the dwelling requirement figure is to be reached. This would require an average completion rate of 480 additional homes a year, which based on past completion rates and the number of development sites progressing through the planning system is considered to be unrealistic and means the target of 4,500 new homes is unlikely to be met.

7.2.5 The failure to deliver the levels of housing growth set out in the plan is due to a variety of factors, one of which is the speed in which allocated sites are coming forward. On the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, 53 (66%) of the 80 housing sites allocated in the LDP did not have any form of planning permission. It was anticipated that by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, 845 dwellings would have been completed on allocated sites, but only 88 dwellings have been delivered.

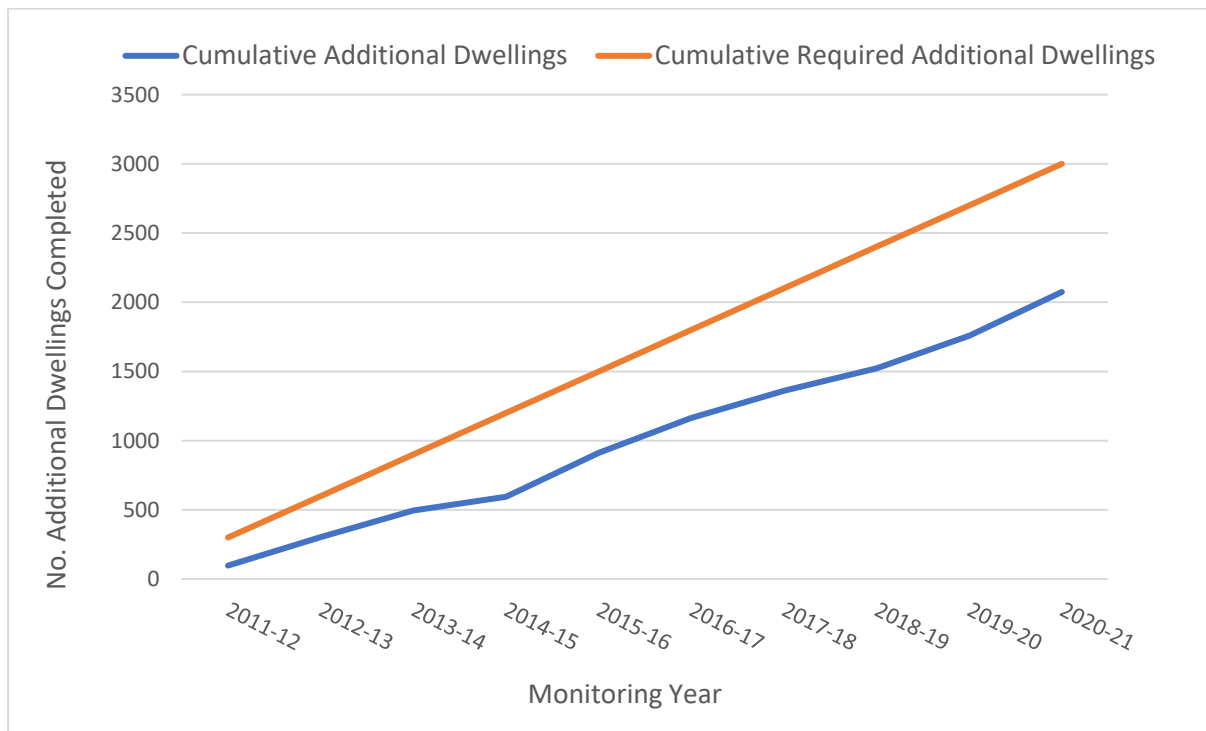
7.2.6 Due to the disparity between the number of dwellings being completed against the dwelling requirement, the current Growth Strategy and the housing allocations contained within the adopted Powys LDP cannot be carried forward and will need to be reconsidered

during the review. The Growth Strategy will need to reflect the future need of the Plan area, taking into consideration the most up-to-date population and household projections, together with evidence of need from sources such as the Local Housing Market Assessment, past build rates and national, regional and local plans and strategies.

**Figure 3. Number of Actual Additional Homes Completed Against Annual Average Requirement**



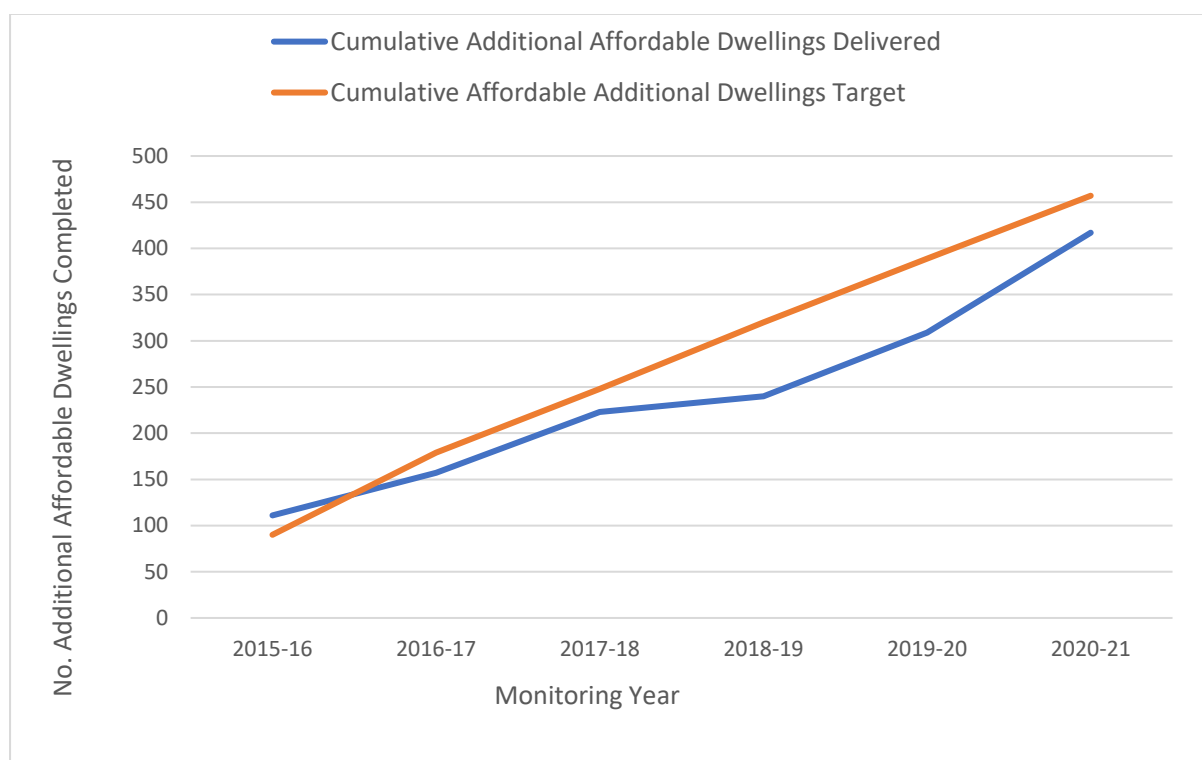
**Figure 4. Number of Cumulative Additional Homes Completed Against the Cumulative Annual Average Requirement**



7.2.7 With regards to the Affordable Housing Target of 952 new affordable homes to be delivered during the Plan period, 603 affordable dwellings were completed between 2011 and 2021. This means that a further 349 new affordable homes, equating to an average of 70 dwellings a year need to be delivered over the remaining five years of the LDP. Based on past build rates and the number of schemes coming forward this is considered to be achievable. **Figure 5** demonstrates how the difference between the cumulative affordable additional dwellings target and the number of cumulative additional affordable dwellings being completed is reducing.

7.2.8 Although it is anticipated that the LDP Affordable Housing Target will be met, this element of the Growth Strategy will be reviewed alongside the Dwelling Requirement Figure. This will include assessing the levels of need and mechanisms for the delivery of affordable housing, to determine a revised Affordable Housing Target for the Replacement LDP.

**Figure 5. Number of Cumulative Additional Affordable Homes Completed Against the Cumulative Affordable Additional Dwellings Target**



## Spatial Strategy

7.2.9 The Spatial Strategy aims to guide and distribute development to sustainable locations whilst protecting important strategic resources and assets. A key element of the LDP's Spatial Strategy is the definition of a sustainable settlement hierarchy which consists of:

- Towns
- Large Villages
- Small Villages
- Rural Settlements
- Open Countryside including the undeveloped coast.

7.2.10 Strategic policies SP5 – Settlement Hierarchy and SP6 – Distribution of Growth across the Settlement Hierarchy set out the sustainable settlement hierarchy and the level and distribution of growth for the different tiers. The Spatial Strategy directs growth to the Towns and Large Villages, whilst development in the lower tiers is carefully controlled ensuring a balance is struck between sustaining rural communities, meeting needs locally and protecting the Plan area's natural assets.

7.2.11 **Table 6** shows the percentage of housing growth planned for each of the tiers in the settlement hierarchy, against the percentage of dwellings permitted since the LDP was adopted in April 2018 and delivered since the housing provision base date of April 2015 (the date the housing components of the LDP were calculated).

7.2.12 The results show that the distribution of dwellings permitted across the settlement hierarchy since the LDP was adopted align with the Spatial Strategy. The distribution of dwellings completed since 2015 does not quite align with the Strategy, this is to be expected as many of the proposals received planning permission under the former Unitary Development Plan which had a different spatial strategy. It is expected that over the next few years the cumulative percentage of additional dwellings completed since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 will start to align more closely with the percentages of planned growth set out in Spatial Policy SP6.

**Table 6. Spatial Distribution of Housing Growth Permitted and Delivered**

<b>Settlement Hierarchy</b>	<b>Cumulative Percentage of Dwellings Permitted since LDP Adopted</b>	<b>Cumulative Percentage Additional Dwellings Completed since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015</b>	<b>Percentage Growth set out in LDP Spatial Policy SP6</b>
<b>Town</b>	59%	45%	>50%
<b>Large Village</b>	28%	23%	>25%
<b>Small Village</b>	4%	9%	<10%
<b>Open Countryside / Rural Settlement</b>	10%	23%	<15%

7.2.13 **Table 7** shows the percentage of employment land growth planned for each of the tiers in the settlement hierarchy, against the percentage of employment land permitted since the LDP was adopted. The distribution of schemes for employment use is not quite as planned but does broadly align with the Spatial Strategy in that 69% of employment land is within the top two tiers of the hierarchy against the 70% planned growth.

7.2.14 The number of schemes permitted for employment uses are relatively low compared to housing. This means that a single application can skew the data which has been the case. Planning permission was granted for a major application on an allocated employment site located in a Large Village. This resulted in the percentage of employment land permitted in the Large Village tier being greater than the planned growth of 20%. It is expected that as more of the employment allocations in Towns come forward that the percentage of what has been permitted will align more closely to the percentages of planned growth set out in Spatial Policy SP6.

**Table 7. Spatial Distribution of Employment Growth Permitted**

<b>Settlement Hierarchy</b>	<b>Cumulative Percentage of Employment Land Permitted since LDP Adopted</b>	<b>Percentage Growth set out in LDP Spatial Policy SP6</b>
<b>Town</b>	41%	>50%
<b>Large Village</b>	28%	<20%
<b>Small Village / Rural Settlement / Open Countryside</b>	31%	<30%

7.2.15 The LDP is now nearly two thirds of the way through the Plan period. **Table 6** and **Table 7** above indicate that the spatial delivery of housing and employment generally aligns with the spatial distribution of growth identified in the adopted Powys LDP. Therefore, with regard to the Spatial Strategy it would appear that LDP Strategic policies SP5 and SP6 are functioning effectively.

7.2.16 However, it is recognised that the reconsideration of the Growth Strategy will mean that reconsideration will also need to be given as to how growth is distributed. For example, a lower dwelling requirement figure could mean that it is not feasible to apportion allocated sites to all the settlements in the top two tiers of the settlement hierarchy as is now the case.

7.2.17 The Spatial Strategy also needs to be reviewed in light of the publication of Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (February 2021). Future Wales has its own Spatial Strategy to which the Replacement LDP's Spatial Strategy will need to align. Additionally, Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11) requires LDPs to include an integrated planning and transport strategy which will have to inform the spatial strategy and overarching strategy of the Replacement LDP. The review of the Spatial Strategy will include stakeholder involvement and evidence gathering (including a revised settlement assessment and a review of the allocated sites). It will take into consideration the spatial strategy in Future Wales, National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes and corporate priorities, together with issues such as recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic and constraints such as phosphate levels in Special Area of Conservation (SAC) riverine catchments.

## 8. LDP Topic Area Review

8.0.1 The policies in the adopted Powys LDP have been reviewed having regard to the following:

- The findings from AMR 2021, AMR 2020 and the Monitoring Review.
- Significant contextual changes that have taken place since the LDP was adopted, this includes changes to national policy and legislation.
- Consultation with relevant internal stakeholders and Development Management Officers.

8.0.2 **Appendix B** provides a short summary of the review for each of the policies listed within the LDP. Each summary gives an overview of whether the policy is functioning effectively, whether it needs to be reconsidered due to contextual changes or whether it needs to be revised or amended in some cases to improve clarity. The policy assessment undertaken to date is not considered to be definitive and further consideration will be given to the need to revise the Plan's policies during the preparation of the Replacement LDP.

8.0.3 The topic areas that are considered likely to require amendments to LDP Policy based on the policy review assessment are discussed in more detail below.

### 8.1 Housing

#### Housing Growth and Residential Allocations

(Policies SP1, H1, H2)

8.1.1 As detailed in Section 7.2 above, the Growth Strategy, which forms the basis for Strategic Policy SP1, was based on the identified Dwelling Requirement Figure of 4,500 additional new homes to be completed between 2011 and 2026. The number of additional new homes completed by the end of March 2021, as captured through monitoring, has resulted in a shortfall that cannot realistically be addressed before the end of the Plan period (2026).

8.1.2 Due to the disparity between the number of dwellings being completed against the Dwelling Requirement Figure, the current Growth Strategy and Strategic Policy SP1 cannot be carried forward into the Replacement LDP and will need to be reconsidered. The revised Dwelling Requirement Figure will need to reflect the future need of the Plan area, taking into consideration the most up-to-date population and household projections, together with evidence of need from sources such as the Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA), as well as past build rates. The reconsideration of the Growth Strategy will mean that reconsideration will also be given as to how growth is distributed (the Spatial Strategy – Strategic policies SP5 and SP6 and Policy H1). A revised Spatial Strategy in the Replacement LDP, will need to align with the Spatial Strategy set out in Future Wales (February 2021) and the placemaking principles set out in PPW (Edition 11).

8.1.3 The LDP's residential allocations, identified in LDP Policy H2, will require amendment as part of the revision process. Undelivered Housing Allocations (HA) will need to be reconsidered, which is likely to result in many existing allocations not being taken forward into the Replacement LDP. It will also be necessary to allocate new deliverable and viable sites to meet the revised Dwelling Requirement Figure over the new Plan period (2022-



2037). The status of each Housing Allocation (HA) and Housing Commitment (HC) identified by the current LDP is summarised in **Appendix C**.

### **Affordable Housing**

(Policies SP3, H5, H6)

8.1.4 The LDP sets out a Policy framework for the delivery of Affordable Housing through Strategic Policy SP3, and Topic Based Policies H5 and H6. The policy framework sets out targets and thresholds for requiring private residential developments to contribute to affordable housing and allows small scale affordable housing developments on exception sites, outside of the development boundaries of Towns and Large Villages and in Small Villages and Rural Settlements.

8.1.5 The LDP sets an Affordable Housing Target of 952 new affordable homes to be delivered during the Plan period (2011-2026). In total 603 affordable dwellings have been completed between 2011 and 2021, meaning a further 349 new affordable homes need to be delivered over the remaining five years of the LDP. Based on past build rates and the number of schemes coming forward this is considered to be achievable.

8.1.6 The number of affordable dwellings delivered has been heavily influenced by the number of affordable dwellings being delivered through the Local Housing Association's (Registered Social Landlords, RSL), and the Council's housing building programmes. In terms of affordable housing delivered on market developments, the results of the Annual Monitoring Reports found that, on average, the policy target for affordable housing contributions, set out in LDP Policy H5, is being met or exceeded in the Severn Valley and North Powys sub-market areas. The average contribution secured in the Central sub-market area was below the policy target due to sites securing initial planning permission under the previous Unitary Development Plan.

8.1.7 As part of the review the Affordable Housing target and policy framework will need to be reconsidered to reflect a revised Growth Strategy and Dwelling Requirement Figure that covers the Replacement Plan period (2022 – 2037). This will result in a revision of the Affordable Housing Target – Strategic Policy SP3. The affordable housing policy framework in the Replacement LDP will also need to take into consideration updated evidence including the most recent Local Housing Market Assessment, viability evidence, evidence of affordability of the housing stock and local need, together with stakeholder engagement (Registered Social Landlords and the Strategic Housing Authority) this may lead to changes to LDP policies H5 and H6.

8.1.8 Changes to national planning policy / guidance will also need to be taken into consideration. Of particular importance is Policy 7 in Future Wales (February 2021) which requires planning authorities to identify sites for affordable housing led developments. Future Wales also gives an estimate that of the additional homes needed in the Mid Wales Region, 61% should be affordable homes.

### **Specific Housing Policies**

(Policies H3, H4, H7, H8, H9)

8.1.9 The housing policy framework includes policies relating to housing density (H4), householder development (H7), the renovation of abandoned dwellings (H8) and replacement dwellings (H9). These policies will all be reconsidered against the placemaking



principles and any other contextual changes that have occurred since the LDP was adopted in April 2018.

8.1.10 LDP Policy H4 - Housing Density will also give regard to recommended densities set out in national planning policy/guidance, particularly for housing development in the Regional Growth Areas, where Policy 2 of Future Wales will apply. Further research will be undertaken to inform the approach towards housing density across settlement tiers and development types.

8.1.11 LDP Policy H9 – Replacement Dwellings, as part of this review, issues have been identified with the interpretation of this policy, particularly around identifying and assessing buildings of local vernacular character. Further policy clarification may be needed to reflect archaeological assessment requirements.

## **Gypsy and Traveller Sites and Caravans**

(Policies H10, H11)

8.1.12 The policy framework provided through LDP Policy H10 – Gypsy and Traveller Sites and Caravans and LDP Policy H11 – Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision, ensures there is adequate pitch provision to accommodate the needs of the community over the Plan period. The policy framework includes the allocation of two sites and a criteria policy to assess applications for new sites.

8.1.13 LDP Policy H11 - Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision, made provision for seven gypsy and traveller pitches to be delivered within the Plan period (2011-2026). The seven pitches were identified in the 2008 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA) (updated 2014 and 2016), with the need split across two sites, one in Machynlleth and one in Welshpool. The Welshpool site included provision for two pitches which were completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Whilst the Machynlleth site included provision for five pitches, these were completed on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The status of both sites is summarised in **Appendix C**.

8.1.14 LDP Policy H10 is expected to continue to be supportive and flexible towards the provision of sites where required. The wording will be reviewed to ensure it remains up to date and relevant to current policy requirements and arising needs.

8.1.15 LDP Policy H11 will be revised to reflect a replacement GTAA which is to be published in accordance with Welsh Government review periods. The revised GTAA will identify need up to 2037, where provision is required, it will result in new sites being included within the Replacement LDP.

## **8.2 Economic Development**

8.2.1 The LDP sets out a Policy framework for the Economic Development of the Plan area, which focuses on the traditional B1, B2 and B8 use classes. The policy framework includes both allocated and safeguarded sites, together with a suite of strategic, development management and topic-based policies.

## **Employment Allocations**

(Policies SP2, E1, E3)

8.2.2 The LDP was informed by the Powys Economic Needs Assessment Study (2011) (updated 2015) which estimated a need of 30-42 hectares of land to be available for economic growth during the Plan period (2011 – 2026). The Powys Economic Needs Assessment Study also recommended that a flexibility allowance equivalent to five years supply should be taken into consideration. In total therefore, the Study recommended a requirement for 40-56 hectares of employment land to be made available within the LDP. This resulted in 45 hectares of allocated employment sites being included within the adopted Powys LDP, Strategic Policy SP2, Topic Based Policies E1 and E3.

8.2.3 To meet the minimum employment requirement of 30 hectares, an average take up rate of two hectares per annum would be expected. The results from AMR 2021 show that since the LDP was adopted (17<sup>th</sup> April 2018) to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 a total of 6.11 hectares of employment land was permitted on the allocated employment sites. Whilst the 6.11 hectares appears to demonstrate that the LDP is delivering, detailed analysis shows that the 6.11 hectares is made up of a relatively small number (six) of large planning applications.

8.2.4 As part of the review process the evidence relating to economic development will be updated, this will include the undertaking of an Employment Land Review (ELR), whilst a Mid-Wales regional strategic employment site study is already underway. This evidence together with alignment of the Replacement LDP with other Plans and Strategies and the revised Growth and Spatial Strategy will determine the employment requirement for the Replacement Plan period.

8.2.5 As part of the revision process any undelivered employment allocations will need to be considered, this may result in existing allocations not being taken forward into the Replacement LDP. It may also be necessary to allocate new deliverable and viable sites to meet the revised Employment Requirement over the Replacement LDP Plan period (2022-2037). The status of each Employment Allocation (EA), Employment Commitment (EC) and Mixed Use Allocation (MUA) identified by the current LDP is summarised in **Appendix C**.

## **Safeguarded Employment Sites**

(Policies DM16, E4)

8.2.6 The policy framework for economic development includes the safeguarding of existing employment sites. These sites are identified spatially on the proposals map and serve to protect existing employment areas, restricting new developments to employment uses.

8.2.7 AMR 2021, AMR 2020 and the Monitoring Review found that the policies relating to employment safeguarding are being used appropriately. The Review will consider whether the list of safeguarded sites in the LDP, is up-to-date and relevant and if the policies are compliant with national policy and updated evidence. Consideration will also be given to the relationship between LDP policies DM16 and E4 and how these policies relate to the rest of the economic development policy framework (e.g. with regards to ancillary uses).

## **Employment Proposals on Non-Allocated Employment Sites**

(Policy E2)

8.2.8 AMR 2021 demonstrates that the majority of planning applications (14 out of 18 in 2020-2021) permitted for employment uses are on non-allocated sites. This includes the conversion / change of use of buildings, extension, redevelopments, and new builds.

8.2.9 The AMRs and the Monitoring Review found that not all applications permitted complied with LDP Policy E2, in some cases compliance was with LDP Policy E7 or with National Planning policies TAN 6 or TAN 23 instead. Consideration needs to be given, during the review, to how LDP Policy E2 relates to the rest of the economic development policy framework including national policy to ensure consistency and clarity.

### Specific Economic Development Policies

(Policies E5, E6, and E7)

8.2.10 The economic development policy framework includes policies relating to Farm Diversification (E6) and Home Working (E7). These policies will all be reconsidered against Future Wales, placemaking principles and any other contextual changes that have occurred since the LDP was adopted in April 2018. Consideration will also be given to improve the clarity of the wording of these policies, particularly with regards to diversification within agriculture alongside diversification away from agriculture in LDP Policy E6. **The LPA will consider, where appropriate, putting in place an appropriate policy in the Replacement LDP relating to intensive agricultural development, as advised by the Welsh Government in the letter to Chief Planning Officers in June 2019. The need to prevent soil degradation from new farming enterprises requiring planning permission will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP process.**

8.2.11 LDP Policy E5 – Bronllys Health Park will also be reconsidered to determine if such a policy is still appropriate for the Replacement LDP or whether an alternative approach is necessary.

8.2.13 Future Wales (February 2021) states that “Local Development Plans should identify the role of the foundational economy, consider how the land-use planning system can support it and develop appropriate policies. Areas of the foundational economy which the planning system can support include regeneration initiatives, health and social care, social housing, tourism and steps to encourage greater community benefits from new development.” It is therefore anticipated that the Replacement LDP will include economic development policies relating to the foundational economy.

8.2.14 A further contextual change that will need to be considered when reviewing the economic development policies is the Mid Wales Growth Deal particularly for those projects with land use implications.

## 8.3 Transport

(Policies T1, T2, T3, DM13 criterion 10)

8.3.1 LDP Policy T1 – Travel, Traffic and Transport Infrastructure, seeks to enable transport and traffic infrastructure improvements to ensure an efficient, effective and integrated system whilst having regard to the safety of all users. This policy is supported by LDP Policy DM13 criterion 10, which requires development to be designed and located to minimise the impacts on the transport network. Both policies have been effective, however it

is anticipated that the policies will be reconsidered to reflect the emphasis in PPW and Future Wales (February 2021) regarding sustainable travel and the transport hierarchy. PPW states that “an important consideration will be minimising the need to travel, reducing reliance on the private car and increasing walking, cycling and use of public transport”, this needs to be reflected in the Replacement LDP.

8.3.2 LDP Policy T2 – Safeguarding of Disused Transport Infrastructure, this LDP policy was not used in the periods of monitoring undertaken (17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021). PPW (Edition 11) paragraph 5.3.8 states “Disused railways and disused or unused rail sidings should, in collaboration with Transport for Wales and Network Rail, be safeguarded from development which could adversely affect them being brought back to rail use in the future. Any planning application or proposed development plan policy in the vicinity of, or directly affecting a former railway line should consider the impact on their potential use for rail in the future. As an interim measure, it may be appropriate to use disused rail alignments as open space corridors, for example for walking and cycling”.

8.3.3 Research will be undertaken to identify the disused railways and disused or unused rail sidings and other transport infrastructure, in the Plan area, as part of the review process. This research will enable an understanding of the policy approach to be taken going forward and may lead to the identification of Green Infrastructure opportunities.

8.3.4 LDP Policy T3 – Newtown By-pass, this policy was included within the LDP to ensure the proposed route of the Newtown Bypass was safeguarded and protected. Now that the Newtown Bypass is fully operational the policy is no longer required and will not be included in the Replacement LDP.

8.3.5 PPW (Edition 11) requires LDPs to include an integrated planning and transport strategy. This will need to set out how the LPA will:

- integrate and co-ordinate sustainable transport and land use planning;
- facilitate and promote accessibility for all;
- reduce the need to travel;
- reduce dependency on private vehicles;
- prioritise and support walking, cycling and use of public transport
- support the uptake of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles;
- reduce transport related airborne pollution; and
- facilitate the provision of transport infrastructure and necessary sustainable transport improvements and development.

8.3.6 It is therefore anticipated that the Replacement LDP will include a strategic policy relating to integrated planning and transport and that the policy framework will be amended to reflect the growing emphasis on sustainable travel.

## 8.4 Planning for Retailing and Town Centres

(Policies R1, R2, R3, R4)

8.4.1 The retailing and town centres policy framework includes policies relating to new retail developments, development within town centres, and neighbourhood and village shops and services, together with the allocation of a retail site.

8.4.2 As part of the LDP review process the evidence base with regards to retail will be updated, this will include an update to the Retail Study. It is anticipated that LDP Policy R1, which defines the retail hierarchy for the Plan area, will be amended in the Replacement LDP to reflect the findings of the updated Retail Study and the revised Spatial Strategy.

8.4.3 LDP Policy R2 identifies the Former Kaye Foundry site in Presteigne as the single retail allocation for the LDP. The site has not progressed as intended, as detailed in AMR 2021. The status of this Retail Allocation LDP is summarised in **Appendix C**. The location and need for any retail allocations will be reviewed through the updated Retail Study which will inform the Replacement LDP.

8.4.4 LDP Policy R3 concerns development within town centre areas. AMR 2021 identified issues with this Policy with regards to some of the Primary Shopping Frontages having less than the policy specific target percentage of at least 75% of units being in the A1 and A3 use class orders. This applied to four of the ten towns that have Primary Shopping Frontages with another two towns having a current mix of uses which are very close to the minimum threshold. The review process will take the opportunity to revise this policy and the Primary and Secondary Shopping Frontages.

8.4.5 Consideration will be given with regards to how LDP Policy R3 relates to the Spatial Strategy, the rest of the retailing and town centres policy framework, and national guidance. Particular attention will also be given to town centre Covid -19 recovery programmes and the impact of online shopping and out of town retail parks upon the high street.

8.4.6 LDP Policy R4 relates to the provision of new neighbourhood and village shops and services. This policy will be reconsidered to ensure it continues to be supportive of new services, up to date and relevant to sustainable place-making in line with the revised Growth and Spatial Strategy. Links to LDP policies C1 (Community Facilities and Indoor Recreation Facilities) and DM11 (Protection of Community Facilities and Services) will also be reconsidered to ensure a cohesive approach to supporting sustainable communities.

## 8.5 Planning for Tourism

(Policies TD1, TD2, TD3)

8.5.1 The planning for tourism policy framework includes policies for new tourism developments, the alternative uses of existing tourism developments and a site-specific policy for the Montgomery Canal.

8.5.2 LDP Policy TD1 - Tourism Development is an enabling policy. Between the monitoring reports: AMR 2021, AMR 2020 and the Monitoring Review, it was found that 205 planning applications had been granted that resulted in new units of tourism accommodation, since the adoption of the LDP. This equated to 798 separate units, which included holiday lets, static caravans, glamping pods, shepherds' huts, tree houses and other similar forms of holiday accommodation.

8.5.3 It is recognised that the growth in the tourism sector will have brought economic benefits to the Plan area. However, reconsideration will be given to the wording of this Policy (TD1) and the Landscape Policy (DM4) to ensure the growth in the tourism sector does not result in any adverse cumulative environmental impacts.

8.5.4 LDP Policy TD2 - Alternative Uses of Existing Tourism Development. This policy is functioning effectively; however, it would benefit from the definition of a rural area being clarified in line with the revised Spatial Strategy.

8.5.6 LDP Policy TD3 – This policy relates to the Montgomery Canal with a particular focus on its restoration and its designation as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) as part of the National Site Network. This policy will be reviewed to take into consideration funding being secured through the Mid-Wales Growth Deal and the UK’s Levelling Up Fund. Further consideration also will be given in the Replacement LDP, as to whether a policy relating to the Montgomery Canal should sit in the tourism policy framework or whether an area policy would work better. This would reflect the fact that the Montgomery Canal sits across several topic areas including tourism, biodiversity, Green Infrastructure, Active Travel and economic development and would align the policy to the principles of placemaking within the context of the SAC designation.

8.5.7 Consideration will also be given to how to address other important tourism and heritage features as part of the Replacement LDP process, such as the industrial heritage associated with the Swansea Canal in the Ystradgynlais and Abercraf areas highlighted by the Swansea Canal Society.

## 8.6 Waste

(Policies DM15, W1, W2)

8.6.1 The waste policy framework includes policies related to dealing with waste in new developments (DM15), the location of waste development (W1) and waste management proposals (W2).

8.6.2 The policy framework aligns with national policy due to the policies being drafted after the publication of the Welsh Government Strategy “Towards Zero Waste - the Waste strategy for Wales” (2010) and takes into consideration the ‘waste hierarchy’. In March 2021, the Welsh Government published “Beyond Recycling – A strategy to make the circular economy in Wales a reality” followed by the “Strategic Assessment for the future need for energy from waste capacity in the three economic regions of Wales”. The waste policies will be reconsidered to reflect the growing emphasis on minimising waste and the circular economy, PPW (Edition 11), local and regional priorities and strategies and any updated evidence.

8.6.3 It has been noted that LDP Policy DM15, which concerns the management of waste within developments, has not been implemented as widely as intended, discussions will take place with Development Management in the review of this policy to address the matter.

## 8.7 Sustainable Energy

(Policies RE1, DM13 criteria 13 and 14)

8.7.1 LDP Policy RE1 – Renewable Energy, provides the basis for the renewable energy element of the Sustainable Energy policy framework, alongside LDP Policy DM13 criterion 13 which requires development proposals to demonstrate the sustainable and efficient use



of resources within their design. LDP Policy DM13, criterion 14 requires investigations to be undertaken into the feasibility of district heating networks wherever a development proposals heat demand density exceeds 3MW/km<sup>2</sup>.

8.7.2 LDP Policy RE1 includes the criteria to which planning applications for renewable energy proposals are assessed and the identification of twenty Local Search Areas (LSAs) for medium to larger scale solar photovoltaic proposals. The AMRs and the Monitoring Review, for the period from LDP Adoption to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, found that no applications for solar photovoltaic proposals were permitted in any of the LSAs during the period.

8.7.3 LDP Policy RE1 also includes the renewable energy electricity and thermal contributions that the Plan area is potentially able to achieve, towards meeting national energy targets from a range of renewable energy sources. The AMRs and the Monitoring Review, for the period from LDP Adoption to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, found that the applications permitted for renewable energy schemes equated to:

- Electricity; 36.7311MW
- Thermal; 20.069MW

8.7.4 This meant that the contribution in the LDP with regards to additional thermal installed capacity has been met and that the LDP is on target to meet the additional installed capacity contribution with regards to electricity generation.

8.7.5 The evidence base informing the development of the LDP policies included a Renewable Energy Assessment (REA) (updated 2017) and the provision of a Landscape Sensitivity Study. The policy framework, evidence base and documents for this topic will need to be reconsidered and revisited in the light of changes to national policy and consenting regimes and changes in renewable energy technologies.

8.7.6 All proposals for onshore generating projects between 10MW and 350MW capacity are now dealt with by Welsh Ministers with Local Authorities determining only those proposals below an installed capacity of 10MW.

8.7.7 Future Wales (February 2021) sets out a policy framework for the determination of renewable energy proposals, this includes the designation of Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy'. In the 'Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy' there is a presumption in favour of large-scale onshore wind energy development and the associated landscape change, subject to the criteria in policy 18 of Future Wales. Three (areas 3,4 and 5) of the ten Pre-Assessed Areas sit within the Powys LDP area with a further Pre-Assessed Area (area 9) intersecting the border to the Southwest of the Plan area.

8.7.8 Policies 17 and 18 of Future Wales are strategic, spatial and detailed criteria-based policies which need to be considered together in the determination of planning applications, along with detailed advice on assessing benefits and impacts in PPW. Outside of Pre-Assessed Areas a positive policy framework exists, subject to Policy 18. TAN 8 which informed the Powys LDP was revoked following the publication of Future Wales (February 2021).

8.7.9 Policy 16 of Future Wales sets out the Policy Framework for District Heat Networks which includes the identification of Priority Areas. The inclusion of the policy at the national level means that the LDP Policy DM 13 criterion 14 is unlikely to be included within the Replacement LDP.

8.7.10 The Sustainable Energy policy framework in the Replacement LDP will need to be reflective of the changes mentioned above. Consideration will be given to including policies that relate to:

- reducing energy demand,
- promoting the use of energy efficiency,
- providing criteria for the determination of small-scale renewable energy developments (PPW 5.9.15),
- locational policies for Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Development below 10 MW (PPW 5.9.14).

8.7.11 Consideration will also be given as to whether to include a development plan policy requiring applications for major development to be accompanied by an Energy Report (as per PPW Edition 11, paragraph 5.8.4).



## 8.8 Minerals

(Policies DM8, DM9, M1, M2, M3, M4, M5)

8.8.1 The policy framework for minerals provides for the protection of Existing Mineral Sites (M1), the permitting of New Mineral Sites (M2), Borrow Pits (M4), a criteria-based policy for Minerals Proposals (M4) and a policy for the Restoration and Aftercare (M5) of mineral sites. The LDP also includes a Development Management policy for Mineral Safeguarding (DM8) which relates to the Nationally and Regionally Important primary aggregate mineral resources identified on the Aggregates Safeguarding Map for Wales (November 2012). The LDP also includes a Development Management Policy DM9 (Existing Mineral Workings) which seeks to protect existing workings.

8.8.2 The evidence base informing the development of these policies includes the Minerals Topic Paper. Guidance for mineral extraction and related development in Wales is set out in the updated PPW and supplemented by Minerals Technical Advice Notes (MTAN).

8.8.3 Under the provisions of MTAN1, Wales is divided into two Regional Aggregates Working Party (RAWP) areas (north and south). Powys is represented on the South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party (SWRAWP), which is charged with preparing a Regional Technical Statement (RTS) setting out how aggregates demand will be met in the region for a 15-year period. The RTS assesses the demand and supply of aggregates within the region and considers the environmental capacity of each Mineral Planning Authority (MPA) to make a contribution to meeting the regional demand.

8.8.4 The SWRAWP published an updated RTS (2<sup>nd</sup> Review) in 2020, which has been endorsed and adopted by the Council. The implications of the statement will need to be fully considered as part of the LDP review. The Replacement LDP will need to continue to show evidence that the Authority has the necessary landbank of aggregate reserves to meet the identified need. Evidence set out in the Annual Monitoring Reports and the Monitoring Review, for the period from LDP Adoption to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, indicate that the Plan area has more than an adequate landbank of hard rock aggregates to meet identified need, and there has been no sand and gravel apportionment for the Powys Minerals Planning Authority area. Therefore, it is unlikely that any new allocations will be required.

8.8.5 PPW (Edition 11) requires that development plans assess with regard to local, regional and national considerations, the significance of all types of mineral working in their area including the need, distribution and production of each type of mineral and of the reserves for which planning permission has been granted. It is essential to have a comprehensive and up-to-date set of information to facilitate future sustainable planning for mineral extraction. This will be considered as part of the evidence for the Replacement LDP.

8.8.6 Following the declaration of a 'climate emergency' and the need to decarbonise the economy, Welsh Government policy is no longer supportive of the working of coal for energy generation. PPW (Edition 11) states that “proposals for opencast, deep-mine development or colliery spoil disposal should not be permitted” unless in wholly exceptional circumstances. There is also no longer a requirement for LDP policies to safeguard coal resources or to indicate where coal operations would not be acceptable. Therefore, LDP Policy DM8 and the proposals maps will be amended to remove reference to surface coal.

8.8.7 LDP Policy DM8 – Mineral Safeguarding AMR 2021, AMR 2020 and the Monitoring Review all found issues with the implementation of this policy. This may result in the Policy being amended to improve clarity in the Replacement LDP.

## 8.9 Community and Indoor Recreation Facilities

(Policies DM11, C1)

8.9.1 The policy framework in relation to community and indoor recreation facilities consists of two policies LDP Policy DM11 – Protection of Existing Community Facilities and Services and LDP Policy C1 – Community Facilities and Indoor Recreation Facilities, for new facilities.

8.9.2 LDP Policy DM11 seeks to protect community facilities and services unless an alternative use can be justified in accordance with the policy. AMR 2021 found that the planning applications determined, between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, that involved a loss of community facilities and services were carefully considered against the criteria set out in LDP Policy DM11, alongside any other relevant national and local planning policies. However, it also found inconsistency in the way that the policy was applied, particularly where re-development of a site was involved and considered that the policy was not being implemented entirely as intended. AMR 2021 recommended officer training to address the issue, however consideration will also be given to the clarity of the wording of the Policy.

8.9.3 LDP Policy C1 - is considered to be working effectively, however consideration will be given to its relationship with Policy DM11.

8.9.4 Consideration will also be given in the Replacement LDP to providing a comprehensive list of community services.

## 8.10 Military Operations

(Policies MD1, SP7 criterion 5)

8.10.1 The Sennybridge Training Area, which is located with the Powys LDP area, is a site of strategic military importance for the UK. The LDP provides for its safeguarding and operational effectiveness through LDP Policy SP7, criterion 5. LDP Policy MD1 supports development proposals submitted by the Ministry of Defence where they sustain an operational use of an existing facility.

8.10.2 It was found that between the period from LDP Adoption to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, LDP Policy MD1 had not been used. Consideration will be given as to whether Policy MD1 should be included in the Replacement LDP in its current form and if any changes are required.

## 8.11 Environmental Protection

### The Natural Environment

(Policies SP7, DM2)

8.11.1 LDP Policy SP7 includes the safeguarding of sites designated at the international and national level, whilst LDP Policy DM2 provides for the protection, positive management and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity interests.

8.11.2 Both policies SP7 and DM2 will need to be updated to reflect the changes arising from the UK's withdrawal from the European Union ("Brexit") whereby 'European Sites' are now the 'National Site Network'. Biodiversity and Geodiversity policy within Future Wales (February 2021) and PPW (Edition 11) includes for the strengthening of the role and importance of biodiversity considerations within the planning system, following on from the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 which introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (the Section 6 duty) for public authorities requiring them to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of all their functions. The emphasis on placemaking within PPW is also likely to be relevant in respect of complying with this duty.

8.11.3 Both Future Wales and PPW require development plans to undertake a Green Infrastructure Assessment and to include policies for its safeguarding and to identify opportunities where existing and potential green infrastructure could be maximised. The Replacement LDP will need to consider how to incorporate Green Infrastructure policies which not only relate to the biodiversity and geodiversity topic areas but open space, flooding, landscape and placemaking as well.

8.11.4 AMR 2021 raised concerns that the policy in relation to the protection of local geodiversity assets is not being implemented as intended. In the first instance Officer training has been recommended but consideration will be given as to whether the policy would benefit from amended wording to improve clarity.

## **Historic Environment**

(Policies SP7, DM13 criterion 2 and 3)

8.11.5 The safeguarding of historic environment designations is included within Strategic policy SP7, whilst Policy DM13 – Design and Resources requires development proposals to contribute towards the preservation of local distinctiveness and sense of place within their design. LDP Policy DM13 also requires development proposal to take into consideration Conservation Areas and their setting.

8.11.6 No issues were identified in AMR 2021, AMR 2020 or the Monitoring Review in relation the historic environment elements of policies SP7 and DM13. However, the policies will be reconsidered to reflect any changes to national planning policy and guidance, particularly in respect of sustainability and placemaking principles.

8.11.7 Concerns have been raised that the historic environment is not being adequately considered in the implementation of LDP Policy H9 (Replacement Dwellings), consideration will be given to addressing these concerns in the Replacement LDP.

## **Pollution and Flooding**

(Policies DM5, DM6, DM7, DM10, DM14)

8.11.8 The policy framework relating to pollution and flooding includes Development Management policies relating to Development and Flood Risk (DM5), Flood Prevention Measures and Land Drainage (DM6), Dark Skies and External Lighting (DM7) Contaminated Land (DM10) and Air Quality (DM14).

8.11.9 The two LDP policies that relate to flood risk and land drainage (DM5 and DM6) will be reconsidered to reflect the new TAN 15 and Flood Map for Planning (due to come into

force June 2023) and the implementation of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (Schedule 3), which came into effect in Wales on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Schedule 3 requires new developments to include SuDS features that comply with set national standards for developments of more than one dwelling or with a construction area of over 100 metres squared.

8.11.10 The Dark Skies and External Lighting Policy has been widely used in the consideration of planning applications. However, it has been noted that it is primarily used in relation to minimising impacts on biodiversity, rather than in relation to the full scope of the policy, which includes criteria relating to light pollution, visibility of the night sky, amenity of local residents and safety of highway users, including pedestrians. Consideration will be given on how this can be addressed in the Replacement LDP.

8.11.11 Consultation with internal stakeholders and Development Management found that the Contaminated Land and Air Quality Development Management policies are functionally effectively. However, it was requested that an additional paragraph relating to human health is included in the reasoned justification to the Air Quality policy. **In reviewing and carrying forward Policy DM10, the Coal Authority requests consideration of the potential risks posed by past coal mining activity.**

## Open Space

(Policy DM3)

8.11.12 The LDP includes one policy (DM3) in relation to public open space. The policy requires the protection of existing public open spaces and includes a requirement for the provision of new open spaces on planning applications for new housing proposals for ten dwellings or more. Public open spaces are identified in the Open Space Assessment (OSA) (updated 2018). The Assessment also identifies deficiencies, so when open space needs to be provided as part of a development proposal it provides the type of most community benefit. The OSA will be updated as part of the LDP review.

8.11.13 AMR 2021, AMR 2020 and the Monitoring Review all found issues with the implementation of this policy, both for the securing of new open spaces on sites of ten or more dwellings and with the protection of existing open spaces. This policy will be reviewed with Development Management Officers input to improve its clarity in the Replacement LDP. Consideration will also be given to displaying public open spaces safeguarded through LDP policy on the proposals map.

8.11.14 The Replacement LDP will need to consider how LDP policies that relate to the protection and securing of new public open spaces integrate with Green Infrastructure policies which not only relate to the open space topic area, but biodiversity and geodiversity, flooding, landscape and placemaking as well.

## Landscape

(Policies SP7, DM4)

8.11.15 LDP Policy SP7 includes the safeguarding of the valued characteristics and qualities of the landscape throughout Powys, whilst LDP Policy DM4 provides a comprehensive policy which all proposals in the Open Countryside should be assessed

against. The main evidence base supporting the landscape policies is LANDMAP - an all-Wales landscape resource.

8.11.16 The annual monitoring framework is restricted to looking at where major developments require a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA). With regards to this, AMR 2021, AMR 2020 and the Monitoring Review did not note any fundamental issues. However, it has been observed that the consideration of development proposals against LANDMAP tends to be undertaken by Planning Officers determining applications rather than agents/applicants using LANDMAP to inform the siting and design of their proposals.

8.11.7 To improve the effectiveness of the policy and to inform the Replacement LDP, the LPA is undertaking a Local Landscape Character Assessment (LLCA). The intention is that the LLCA will provide the basis to the revision of the landscape policy framework. Further consideration will also be given in terms of the cumulative impact of the growth of the tourism sector, referred to above, when reviewing the landscape policies.

## 8.12 Planning Obligations

(Policy DM1)

8.12.1 LDP Policy DM1 – Planning Obligations, seeks to ensure that new development is accompanied by an appropriate level of infrastructure, facilities, services and related works where they are necessary to make the development acceptable. Contributions are secured through the use of planning obligations, as set out in Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, or through the use of planning conditions. Planning obligations seek contributions from developers to enhance the quality of a development, provide community benefits and infrastructure, and mitigate any negative impacts that may arise as a consequence of the development.

8.12.2 LDP Policy DM1 is considered to be working effectively and contributions are being received (subject to viability considerations) to mitigate the impacts of new development and help provide necessary infrastructure such as recreation and open space, community and educational facilities. Consideration will need to be given to the most effective method of providing infrastructure to support development in the Replacement LDP, carry out appropriate infrastructure planning accordingly and take into consideration up-to-date viability evidence.

## 8.13 Welsh Language

(Policy DM12)

8.13.1 LDP Policy DM12 – Development in Welsh Speaking Strongholds seeks to ensure that developments in the designated Welsh Speaking Strongholds mitigate any negative impacts of the development on the Welsh language. Development proposals on large windfall sites are required to take measures to protect, promote and enhance the Welsh Language and Culture (through the use of Language Action Plans) when adverse impacts have been identified by a Welsh Language Impact Assessment.

8.13.2 An update to the LDP's Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) will be undertaken as a component of the LDP's Sustainability Appraisal as part of the LDP review. LDP Policy DM12 will be reconsidered to reflect the findings of the updated evidence.

## 8.14 Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

8.14.1 A number of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) documents to support key LDP policy areas (referred to above) have been approved by the Council since the adoption of the LDP. These are:

- Affordable Housing
- Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- Renewable Energy
- Landscape
- Planning Obligations
- Conservation Areas
- Residential Design
- Archaeology
- Historic Environment
- Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn Place Plan

8.14.2 A review of the adopted SPG will be undertaken as part of the Replacement LDP process. The LPA will also identify the need for new SPG to support the policies of the Replacement LDP.

## 8.15 Proposals Map and Constraints Map

8.15.1 The form and content of the LDP Proposals Map will require changes as part of the LDP review to reflect any changes to the plan. Going forward it is anticipated the LDP will also include a web-based interactive Constraints Map.



## 9. Re-consideration of the SA, SEA and HRA

### 9.1 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) including Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

9.1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that the process of drawing up and developing an LDP is informed throughout by an iterative process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA). The SA also incorporates Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) required under European Directive 2001/42/EC. This is intended to ensure that policies in the LDP all promote 'sustainable development' through integrating economic, environmental, social and cultural objectives into the development of all aspects of the LDP.

9.1.2 The findings of the SA monitoring are summarised annually in the AMR to give an assessment of the impacts of the implementation of the LDP policies, and a summary of the main findings is set out in **Section 4** above.

9.1.3 The SA process, including SEA, will be integrated into the Replacement LDP preparation process and will follow the main stages as set out in DPM3, beginning with the scoping stage, which will produce a Scoping Report that will be subject to statutory consultation. This work will involve review of the current SA/SEA framework, including monitoring framework to take into account all broader contextual changes in terms of national policy and guidance, changes and updates to baseline information and other new approaches and information.

9.1.4 Consideration will also need to be given to using integrated assessment approach. This would integrate statutory and key elements, such as the Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015) requirements, Equalities Act, Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and the Environment Act (Section 6) (where relevant) into a single Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA).

### 9.2 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

9.2.1 The adopted Powys LDP was subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to assess whether its implementation would have any impacts on any European sites of nature conservation importance (i.e. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA). This involved an extensive screening process relating to all LDP policies and proposals and a detailed assessment of likely impacts.

9.2.2 Further to the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, SACs and SPAs in the UK no longer form part of the European Union's Natura 2000 ecological network. A National Site Network has been created in the UK, which includes SACs and SPAs. Ramsar sites (designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance) do not form part of the National Site Network and are not subject to the Habitats Regulations, however they are treated within the planning system in the same way as SACs and SPAs.

9.2.3 The Replacement LDP will again need to be subject to HRA, and this will require the HRA screening process and methodology to be reviewed and revisited and applied to

developing LDP proposals in an iterative process to ensure that the relevant legislation and regulations are complied with and any issues are fully addressed.



## 10. Opportunities for Collaborative Working

10.0.1 The Well-being and Future Generations Act (2015) requires public bodies to have regard to the five ways of working, which includes consideration of collaboration. In line with national planning guidance within Development Plans Manual (Edition 3) (DPM3), LPAs should consider all opportunities for joint working and collaboration on both plan preparation and the evidence base, or through joint working arrangements. This guidance goes on to explain that this will be particularly relevant for LDPs on similar preparation timescales and with strong geographical/functional linkages.

10.0.2 National guidance within DPM3 requires LPAs to explore and explain the opportunities to prepare Joint LDPs/Joint LDP Lites with neighbouring LPAs and increase cross-boundary working. This section looks at the opportunities for jointly preparing the Replacement LDP with other LPAs, other forms of collaborating working, and future working in terms of preparing the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the Mid Wales region followed by LDP Lites.

### 10.1 Joint LDPs

10.1.1 The Powys LDP area shares its administrative boundary with eight other Welsh Local Planning Authorities (LPA). **Table 8** summarises the current LDP position for each of the adjoining LPAs.

10.1.2 This information demonstrates that most of the adjacent LPAs are at different stages in the LDP process. Wrexham LPA's LDP is nearing adoption, whereas Snowdonia National Park Authority adopted its revised LDP in 2019. Neither are expected to be at the review stage for some time. In the case of Carmarthenshire LPA and Denbighshire LPA, both had reached deposit stage of their Replacement LDPs, however progress has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

10.1.3 Neath Port Talbot LPA have already reviewed their LDP in 2020 and are now at the Delivery Agreement stage for the Replacement LDP. Gwynedd LPA's LDP (undertaken jointly with Anglesey) was adopted in July 2017 and is understood to be at the review stage of the LDP. Whilst these plans may be operating at a similar timescale to the Powys LDP, the geographical and functional linkages with these LPAs are limited to localised areas in the south-west (Ystradgynlais area) and north-west (north of Machynlleth) extremities of the Powys LDP area, with most of the north-west boundary of the plan area bordering the Snowdonia National Park. Therefore, it is not considered appropriate to progress with a Joint LDP at the plan level with these LPAs. The LPA will, however, consider working jointly with these LPAs on any cross-border issues or appropriate evidence in these areas.

10.1.4 Within the Mid Wales region, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA) and Ceredigion LPA had both reached the preferred strategy stage of their Replacement LDP process. However, in light of changing circumstances, including the Covid-19 pandemic and impact of phosphates in SAC catchments, BBNPA has temporarily paused the Replacement LDP process and Ceredigion has suspended the timetable for its Replacement LDP.

10.1.5 It should be noted that the legislation relating to the end date of LDPs does not apply to either of the BBNPA or Ceredigion LPA plans, whereas the legislation does apply to the Powys LDP. Therefore, according to the current position set out by Welsh Government, the

Powys LDP will cease to be the development plan for the plan area on 31 March 2026. This reinforces the need to progress with a Replacement LDP for the Powys LPA area in order to ensure that an adopted plan is in place before the current LDP expires.

10.1.6 Given the uncertainty around the Replacement LDPs for BBNPA and Ceredigion LPA, and taking into account the Powys LDP's end date, it is not considered appropriate to prepare a joint LDP with these LPAs. However, the LPA will consider other ways to collaborate with these LPAs, as part of the Replacement LDP process and in preparing an SDP for the Mid Wales region, as explained in section 10.3 below.

## 10.2 Collaborative working

10.2.1 The LPA recognises the benefits of collaboration and joint working in terms of addressing cross-boundary issues and developing evidence on a consistent basis. The LPA has, over recent years, collaborated with other authorities as part of the Mid and South-West Wales Strategic Planning Group on certain evidence, including the following:

### Regional Housing Market Assessment

10.2.2 LPAs and Local Housing Authorities within the Mid and South-West Wales region collaborated on updating their Local Housing Market Assessments (LHMA) with the aim of ensuring a consistent methodological approach to assess housing needs across the region. Opinion Research Services were commissioned to undertake the assessment, which was completed in October 2020, and has produced reports at a regional and local level. The results within the report for Powys are based on the 2014-based household projections. However, Welsh Government have since released updated (2018-based) population and household projections, and is also developing a new methodology, model and guidance for LHMA's, which will be expected to be used by LPAs to inform their LDPs.

### Regional Viability Study

10.2.3 A Financial Viability Project was jointly commissioned by the Mid and South-West Wales region and undertaken by Andrew Burrows of Burrows Hutchinson Ltd. This commission has produced a High Level Viability Model (HLVM) to enable viability testing of proposed LDP policies and affordable housing targets, and as evidence to support delivery of the LDP. It has also been used by the LPA to monitor changes to viability since the LDP was adopted, as part of the Annual Monitoring Report. A Development Viability Model (DVM) has also been produced, which is intended to be used at the Replacement LDP's candidate site stage and is also being used in connection with viability challenges at the planning application stage.

### Regional Employment Study

10.2.4 As part of the Mid Wales Growth Deal, a regional Employment Sites and Premises study has been commissioned from a consortium of BE Group, Hatch and Per Consulting. This three-part study assesses need and opportunities across the Mid Wales Region (Powys, Ceredigion and BBNPA), identifies strategic sites and considers interventions to

support inward investment, to grow existing enterprises and ensure there is an appropriate portfolio of commercial premises to meet employment needs, as well as identify strategic interventions to overcome issues of negative viability,

10.2.5. This joint study will provide an evidence base for the regional economy, and further work will be undertaken to enable evidence to be developed to support the local economy and employment needs.

### Future working

10.2.6 Powys LPA sits within the region of Mid Wales, as identified within Future Wales, which also includes Ceredigion LPA and the part of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority area lying within the Powys Unitary Authority area. Both of these authorities were also members of the Mid and South-West Wales region. Future Wales expects the planning authorities within the Mid Wales region to work together to plan for regional issues and in preparation of a Strategic Development Plan. The LPA is already supporting and contributing towards regional planning within the Mid Wales Strategic Planning Group. It is anticipated that there be further opportunities to undertake certain evidence on a joint basis and ensure consistency in approach to aid with future policy development at a regional level. Further work may be undertaken jointly with other LPAs and/or regionally on issues such as phosphates and potential mitigation.

## 10.3 Strategic Development Plan

10.3.1 The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 strengthens the plan-led approach in Wales by introducing a legal basis for the preparation of a National Development Framework (referred to now as Future Wales) and Strategic Development Plans (SDP). The SDP regulations published in March 2021 will come into force in February 2022 and set out the procedure for preparing SDPs. The regulations also established Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) for each region, who will be responsible for preparing an SDP for the region. SDPs, once adopted, are intended to be followed by either LDP Lites or Joint LDP Lites prepared by LPAs.

10.3.2 Future Wales requires SDPs within each of the four regions identified by Future Wales, which includes the Mid Wales region. Future Wales expects local authorities and national parks to formally work together as this is the best way for regions to meet the strategic challenges and opportunities they face and provide a strong framework for LDPs.

10.3.3 Future Wales sets out the following specific policies for the Mid Wales region, with strategic spatial elements illustrated in **Figure 6**:

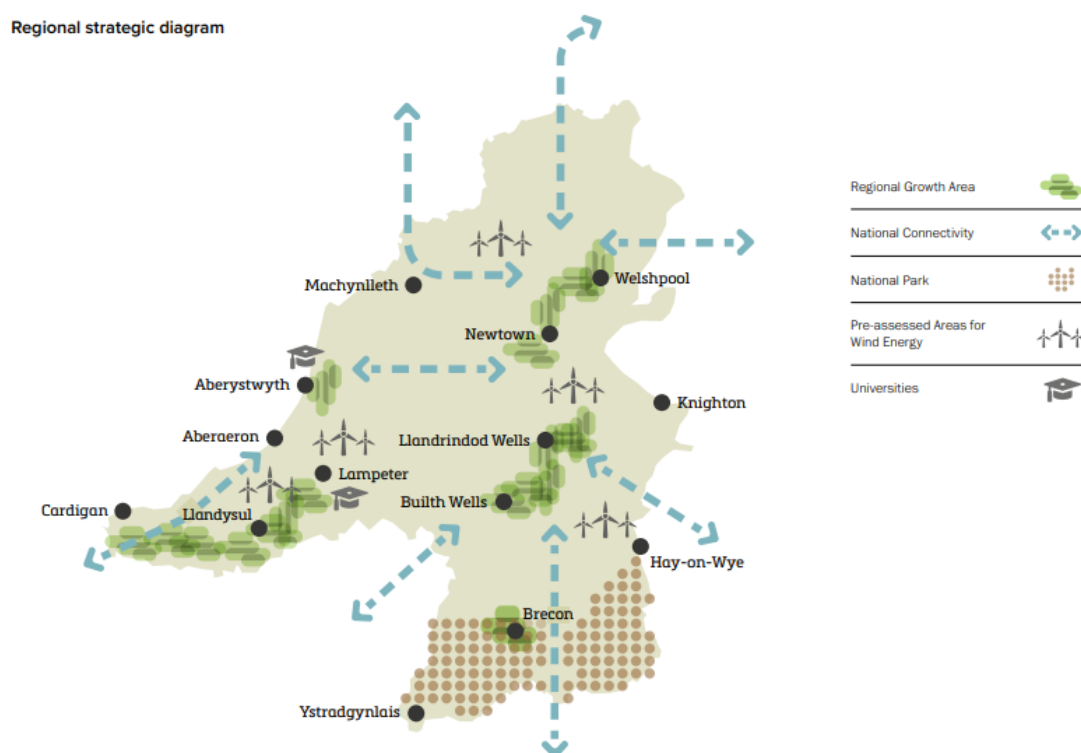
- **Policy 25** identifies the Teifi Valley, Brecon and the Border, The Heart of Wales, Bro Hafren and Aberystwyth as Regional Growth Areas where sustainable growth and development is supported to meet the regional housing, employment and social needs of Mid Wales.
- **Policy 26** supports the growth and development of existing and new economic opportunities across the region based on traditional rural enterprises and modern, innovative and emerging technologies and sectors.

- **Policy 27** supports improved transport links within the region and with other regions and England, planning for growth and regeneration to maximise opportunities arising from better regional connectivity.

10.3.2 The LPA recognises the importance of developing an SDP for regional planning purposes. However, the SDP is not considered to offer a realistic alternative to the replacement of the current Powys LDP, as the SDP may not be adopted for some time and the current Powys LDP will expire in March 2026. The LPA intends to continue with the process of preparing a Replacement LDP in order to avoid the risk of a policy vacuum after the adopted Powys LDP expires, which would undermine the principle of a plan-led system and local decision-making.

10.3.3 During the process of preparing a Replacement LDP, the LPA will closely consider the implications of the emerging SDP for the Powys LDP, whilst also looking at how the LDP's evidence can be used to inform the SDP. The scope for preparing a joint LDP Lite will be determined in collaboration with the other LPAs in the Mid Wales region following adoption of the SDP for Mid Wales.

**Figure 6. Strategic Diagram for the Mid Wales Region (Future Wales)**



Source: Future Wales (February 2021) Welsh Government

**Table 8. LDP position of adjoining LPAs**

Local Planning Authority	LDP adoption date	Plan period	Date and conclusion of Review Report	LDP2 Plan Period	Progress with LDP2
Brecon Beacons National Park	2013	2007-2022	2018 Full Revision	2018-2033	Consultation on Preferred Strategy July to August 2019. Intended to revisit the Preferred Strategy and revise the Delivery Agreement, however preparation of the Replacement LDP was paused in 2021 due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and impact of phosphates on SAC catchments.
Neath Port Talbot	2016	2011-2026	2020 Full Revision	2020-2035	Consultation on Draft Delivery Agreement and Draft ISA Scoping Report ended in September 2021.
Carmarthenshire	2014	2006-2021	2018 Full Revision	2018-2033	Deposit Plan consultation closed October 2020. Revised Delivery Agreement agreed by Welsh Government in November 2020.
Ceredigion	2013	2007-2022	2017 Full Revision	2018-2033	Consultation on Preferred Strategy June to September 2019. Replacement LDP process paused in 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact of phosphates on SAC catchments, in order to allow essential evidence and data to be gathered and mitigation options to be devised.
Snowdonia National Park	2011	2007-2022	2016 Short Form Revision	2016-2031	Revised LDP adopted February 2019.
Gwynedd (joint LDP with Anglesey)	2017	2011-2025	Consultation Draft Review Report 2021	N/A	N/A
Denbighshire	2013	2006-2021	2017 Full Revision	2018-2033	Replacement LDP was due to reach deposit stage, however delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Revised timetable to be set out in an amended Delivery Agreement and consulted upon.
Wrexham	At Examination (not yet adopted)	2013-2028	N/A	N/A	N/A

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## 11. Conclusions

11.1 The LPA's Review Report should conclude on the type of procedure to be followed for revising the LDP. Based on the LPA's review of the LDP, it is considered concluded that the Full Revision procedure would be is the most appropriate form of revision for the adopted Powys LDP, which would. This means that a Replacement LDP would will need to be prepared for the period 2022-2037. This will ensure that effective local decision making in planning can continue after the adopted LDP's "end-date" of 31 March 2026. Public consultation on been supported by public consultation.

11.2 The evidence within Annual Monitoring Report (2021) has identified fundamental issues with the delivery of the LDP's housing-led strategy that would need to be addressed within a Replacement LDP. The current Growth Strategy of the adopted Powys LDP will need to be reconsidered to reflect the future needs of the Plan area. The distribution of that growth across the LDP area, through the Spatial Strategy, will, therefore, also need to be reconsidered. Changes will also be needed to the detailed policies and proposals of the LDP to reflect the re-consideration of the strategy and to reflect updated national policy and guidance and relevant evidence.

11.3 Significant changes have occurred in the planning policy context since the LDP was adopted in 2018, particularly at a national level with the publication of Future Wales and updated editions of Planning Policy Wales (PPW). The LDP will need to be revised to reflect:

- the emphasis within these documents on the principles of placemaking and sustainable development, including the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes.
- the emphasis within these documents on the well-being goals and applying the five ways of working, established by the Well-being of Future Generations Act, in order to demonstrate that the LPA has carried out its sustainable development duty.

11.4 The LPA must also meet other duties and responsibilities, including those relating to the environment and climate change. The policy approach at a local level also needs to be reconsidered in order to respond to the issues raised by the Covid-19 pandemic, the impact of phosphates on SAC catchments, and changing national and local priorities and strategies.

11.5 By updating existing evidence and undertaking new evidence, in line with national planning policy guidance, this will ensure an up to date and robust evidence base to inform the strategy, policies and proposals of the Replacement LDP. Evidence already available around changes to population and household projections, along with other factors detailed within this Review Report, highlight a fundamental need to reconsider the housing requirement and Growth Strategy of the LDP, taking into account also the forthcoming data that will become available from Census 2021.

11.6 The findings and conclusions of the LDP's review have been informed by public consultation. Appendix D summarises the comments received, along with the Council's responses. The comments received generally supported the need for a Full Revision of the adopted Powys LDP.

11.6 11.7 To conclude, it is considered that a Full Revision is required in order that the strategic issues identified with the implementation of the adopted Powys LDP can be addressed. The significance of the changes to the context within which the LDP operates

also justifies the need for the Plan to be revised as a whole in order to respond to these changes. The use of the Short Form Revision procedure would not be appropriate or justified in these circumstances. The Full Revision of the LDP, through the preparation of a Replacement LDP, will ensure that the Powys LDP area has an up-to-date Plan beyond 2026, which reflects the plan-led approach in Wales.



## APPENDIX A Summary table of SA Monitoring Findings

Table 9. SA Monitoring Findings – Biodiversity

Indicator no.	SEA Monitoring Indicator	Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)	Overall trend/impact on SEA objective
1	Increase/decrease in the number of European designated sites in favourable condition	In 2018, only 11, or 6%, of the 180 Conservation features found in the 47 European Sites in or close to Powys, had been reassessed by NRW, with a net deterioration in their overall status due to just one feature having been found to have deteriorated, and this in the first months of the LDP.	Negative impact upon SEA Objective 1 to protect designated sites at initial stages of the adopted Powys LDP. Updated data not available at time of annual monitoring - NRW baseline assessment data 2020 will be captured in next AMR.
2	Changes in the status of the habitats and species identified in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)	The LBAP review, which will result in a Nature Recovery Action Plan for Powys, is still underway so it has not been possible to determine what changes have occurred in their status during the first three years of the LDP.	Updated data not available.
3	Number of developments permitted which incorporate enhancements to European/nationally designated sites, and species and habitats identified in the Powys LBAP or Section 42 List	In October 2019, the Welsh Government issued a letter to LPAs explaining the position in terms of securing biodiversity enhancements as part of planning applications. Biodiversity enhancements are expected to be secured in connection with all developments, including those developments affecting National Site Network, species and habitats.	No longer requires monitoring due to change in national approach towards enhancement.

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**Table 10. SA Monitoring Findings – Population and Human Health**

<b>Indicator no.</b>	<b>SEA Monitoring Indicator</b>	<b>Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)</b>	<b>Overall trend/impact on SEA objective</b>
<b>4</b>	Change in average life expectancy	The most recent data for this indicator was published in 2016 so it has not been possible to evidence any changes in life expectancy over the first three years of the LDP.	Updated data not available.
<b>5</b>	Ratio of working age population to children and retired people	Based on the mid-year population estimates released by the Welsh Government annually, since 2018 the percentage of the population of Powys who are of non-working age has increased by 0.5%, and in 2020 stood at 43.5%, with 56.5% of population of working age. This means there are more non-working people in the county than there were in 2018. Within the non-working population, the number of children has fallen over this time by 129, but the number of retired people has risen by 1,026.	Continuation of trend relevant to SEA Objective 3 to enhance provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes, such as the ageing population.
<b>6</b>	Percentage of population aged 75 and over	Based on the mid-year population estimates released by the Welsh Government annually, this has risen by 911 to 17,077 since 2018, which in terms of the percentage of the population equates to an increase of 0.63%. In 2020, this age group represented 12.83% of the overall population of Powys, which represents an increase in percentage terms of 0.63% since 2018.	Continuation of trend relevant to SEA objective 3 as above as above.
<b>7</b>	Migration trends of younger adults (aged 20-34)	Whilst there are some more complex trends within the mid-year estimates data, regarding different age groups and gender breakdowns, overall there has been a net inflow of people within this age group of 162 people over the three years.	Potential reversal of trend relevant to SEA Objective 3 particularly in terms of the need to retain the young working age population.
<b>8</b>	The number of police recorded road	The figures for those who were slightly injured, seriously injured and for deaths had remained fairly constant. The number of deaths had increased from 9 in 2019 to 14 in	Longer term monitoring needed to identify any trends post-covid and impacts in

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	accidents involving personal injury	2020, compared to the ten-year average of 12. The pandemic then saw a dramatic reduction in all of the figures, presumably due to the drastic reductions in road use during the lockdowns.	relation to SEA objective 5 to promote improvement in community safety.
9	Number of police recorded crimes	These figures, taken over the three years reveal an increase of 846 crimes. In 2020, a reduction of 53 crimes from the previous 2019 years figures occurred. Prior to the pandemic there had been a long-term increase in numbers of recorded crimes.	Longer term monitoring needed to identify any trends post-covid and impacts in relation to SEA objective 5 to promote improvement in community safety.
10	Percentage of people participating in sporting activities three or more times a week	Figures from the National Survey for Wales have not been updated in the three years of monitoring so no trend can be identified.	Updated data not available.
11	Number of planning applications referred to the Health and Safety Executive	Over the three year period since adoption a total of 7 planning applications were referred to the Health & Safety Executive who raised no concerns.	Positive impact in relation to SEA objective 6 to prevent or minimise risk to human health.

**Table 11. SA Monitoring Findings – Soil**

Indicator no.	SEA Monitoring Indicator	Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)	Overall trend/impact on SEA objective
12	Amount (ha) of development permitted on thick peat areas (mapped by the British Geological Survey)	One development permitted situated over a mapped area of thick peat (involving 0.16 ha) was permitted and where the impact on the area of thick peat had not been considered. Other developments over thick peat deposits had been permitted prior to the LDP or since any deposits had been removed by historic applications.	Negative impact in relation to SEA objective 7 to protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage.
13	Amount (ha) of development permitted on greenfield land outside development boundaries	The percentage of land subjected to planning permission, that is on greenfield land and outside of development boundaries amounted to 70% in 2019, 67% in 2020 and 50% in 2021. These results are reflective of the rural nature of Powys and the development types proposed in these areas, including tourism. The	Longer term monitoring required to establish whether the trend towards more of a balance between the development and use of greenfield land and

		developments permitted accord with national guidance and the LDP's strategy and policies.	previously developed land continues.
14	Number of developments where a Verification Report has been approved by the LPA demonstrating the remediation of contaminated land	In the three years monitored to date a total of 35 applications have been submitted and approved, where a verification report was required by condition, which indicates that remediation is being supported as part of new development. Some inconsistency noted in respect of 3 of the applications in terms of the level of evidence or detail submitted/considered.	General positive impact in relation to SEA objective 8 to prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development, however some inconsistency noted.

**Table 12. SA Monitoring Findings – Water**

Indicator no.	SEA Monitoring Indicator	Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)	Overall trend/impact on SEA objective
15	River Basin Management Plan Area for Western Wales  River Basin Management Plan and Severn River Basin Management Plan  % of surface waters are at 'good' status  % of groundwater bodies at 'good' status	These water types have only been assessed once (in 2019) during the three years of this monitoring period, when 45.2% of surface waters and 41.17% of groundwaters were assessed as being 'good'. This suggests that water quality is being maintained in line with SEA objective 9, however this objective also includes improvement to water quality. No updated data available to establish any trend or change.	Longer term monitoring to required to analyse any changes or trends.
16	Number of planning permissions that incorporate sustainable drainage systems (SuDS)	Since January 2019, the SuDS Approving Body (SAB) approval process has come into force, which places mandatory standards in terms of sustainable drainage for all developments of more than one dwelling or bigger than 100m <sup>2</sup> , hence this indicator is no longer relevant.	No longer requires monitoring due to separate process created requiring development to meet sustainable drainage standards.

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**Table 13. SA Monitoring Findings – Air**

Indicator no.	SEA Monitoring Indicator	Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)	Overall trend/impact on SEA objective
17	Levels of average NO <sub>2</sub> , PM <sub>2.5</sub> and PM <sub>10</sub> concentrations (recorded as Air Quality Exposure Indicators) across Powys	These figures reveal a stable trend for NO <sub>2</sub> which remains at concentrations of 4 µg/M <sup>3</sup> , whereas airborne particulates of both sizes have increased slightly over the three monitoring years. The most recent figures available in AMR 2021 monitoring period are based on 2019, and therefore longer term monitoring is required to capture changes since LDP adoption.	Longer term monitoring required to analyse any changes or trends.
18	Specific levels of NO <sub>2</sub> against National Air Quality Strategy Objectives across Powys	This looks at levels of NO <sub>2</sub> specifically, using non-automatic monitoring sites in Newtown, the site of the now revoked Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). These sites all show clear reductions in the levels recorded in the most recent year for which figures are available, 2019, when compared to previous years, which demonstrates the role that the Newtown bypass has played in improving air quality at this site.	Positive impact in relation to SEA objective 10 to protect and improve air quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown AQMA.

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**Table 14. SA Monitoring Findings – Climatic Factors**

Indicator no.	SEA Monitoring Indicator	Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)	Overall trend/impact on SEA objective
19	Number of properties (homes and businesses) at medium or high risk of flooding from rivers and the sea	Monitors the numbers of homes and businesses at medium to high risk of flooding in the county. There are 4,294 properties now at risk of flooding, which represents an increase of 30 since the adoption of the LDP. However, this does not necessarily mean that there is a negative impact as it captures some areas	No clear impact on the SEA objective 11 to reduce flood risk.

		within zone C1 where flood defences are present. No issues have been identified with the implementation of the corresponding LDP Policy DM5 as part of AMR 2021.	
<b>20</b>	Emissions of greenhouse gases	The results for Powys are positive across almost all sectors each year, including Domestic, Transport and Land Use and Land Use Changes and Forestry, with an overall reduction, across all sectors taken together, of 1.19% between 2018 and 2019. This continues the long-term trend seen before the LDP was adopted.	Continuation of trend relevant to SEA Objective 12 in relation to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**Table 15. SA Monitoring Findings – Strategic Resources and Assets**

<b>Indicator no.</b>	<b>SEA Monitoring Indicator</b>	<b>Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)</b>	<b>Overall trend/impact on SEA objective</b>
<b>21</b>	Number of existing mineral sites	The number of potentially active mineral sites in the county remains at 15, with no change in this number since before LDP Adoption.	Neutral impact on SEA objective 13 in terms of protecting mineral resources.
<b>22</b>	Number of developments permitted for permanent development on safeguarded mineral resource sites.	This indicator has revealed inconsistencies in the way Policy DM8 is being applied in each year of monitoring, highlighting the need for further training, research and re-consideration of the policy.	Negative impact on SEA objective 13 to protect mineral resources from development that would preclude extraction.
<b>23</b>	Number of planning applications for development that would affect strategic transport infrastructure	This indicator involved monitoring the performance of policy T3 in relation to the safeguarding and protection of the route of the Newtown Bypass. This indicator is no longer relevant as the bypass was completed and opened in 2019.	No longer requires monitoring due to completion of the Newtown bypass.

	referred onto the Welsh Government		
24	Number of developments permitted on or affecting the Sennybridge (Ministry of Defence) Training Area	This indicator monitors the safeguarding of the Sennybridge Training Area through the use of Policy SP7. During the life of the LDP to date there have been no planning applications within the Training Area with which to test the performance of the Policy so there is no conclusion to be drawn from the indicator.	Neutral impact on SEA objective 14 to protect specific infrastructure from incompatible development.

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**Table 16. SA Monitoring Findings – Cultural Heritage**

Indicator no.	SEA Monitoring Indicator	Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)	Overall trend/impact on SEA objective
25	Net gain or loss of historic environment designations – Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Conservation Areas, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens and Registered Historic Landscapes	Since the adoption of the LDP there has been a net increase of four Listed Buildings and two Scheduled Monuments. The number of new listings/schedulings has therefore exceeded the number of de-listings/de-schedulings. There has been no change in the numbers of Conservation Areas (55), Registered Historic Parks and Gardens (37), or Registered Historic Landscapes (10).	Positive impact on SEA objective 16 to understand, value, protect and enhance Powys' historic environment.
26	Percentage of scheduled monuments in Wales that are in	Of the Scheduled Monuments assessed by Cadw as part of their Monuments at Risk Survey, 69% were assessed as being in a stable or improving condition.	Updated data not available.

	stable or improving condition.	No updated information has not been received from Cadw and therefore it is not possible to identify any changes or trends since the LDP was adopted.	
<b>27</b>	Percentage of listed buildings that are neither 'vulnerable' nor 'at risk'	According to Cadw's register of Buildings at Risk (2015) 82% of listed buildings in the Powys LDP area were neither vulnerable or at risk. No further survey work has been undertaken by Cadw, as inspections have been limited by covid restrictions, and therefore it is not possible to identify any changes or trends since the LDP was adopted.	Updated data not available.
<b>28</b>	Number, percentage and distribution of Welsh Speakers	This indicator uses data from the most recent Census. As a result, it will be 2022 before the data from the most recent Census is published, to enable any update of the baseline data (from the 2011 Census), and therefore it is not possible to identify any changes or trends since the LDP was adopted.	Updated data not available.
<b>29</b>	Changes in the Welsh language skills of the population	This indicator monitors changes in the Welsh language skills of the population using data from the most recent Census. As a result, it will be 2022 before the data from the most recent Census is published, to enable any update of the baseline data (from the 2011 Census) and therefore it is not possible to identify any changes or trends since the LDP was adopted.	Updated data not available.
<b>30</b>	Percentage of the population aged 3 and over who say they can speak Welsh	The data from the Annual Population Survey shows that the percentage of the population of Powys who can speak Welsh had initially continued the upward trend following adoption of the LDP, with the percentage increasing from 28.9% in 2018 to 29.9% in 2019, however thereafter the percentage has fallen to 27.3% in 2020 and subsequently to 24% in 2021.	Potential negative trend, however going forward Census 2021 data will help to confirm any emerging trends.

**Table 17. SA Monitoring Findings – Landscape**

Indicator no.	SEA Monitoring Indicator	Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)	Overall trend/impact on SEA objective
31	Area (ha) / proportion of development permitted that falls outside of development boundaries and is within LANDMAP aspect areas classified as outstanding / high quality	This indicator has some issues regarding its usefulness due to the very high percentage of the county (97%) that is classified as either outstanding or high quality. This means that almost any development outside a development boundary will fall into such an area. Notwithstanding this, there has been no clear trend emerging from the data since adoption, with 241Ha in the first year, 164Ha in the second and 507Ha in the most recent. Furthermore, the monitoring of LDP Policy DM4, which refers to LANDMAP, has not identified any particular issues.	No apparent trend. Re-consider efficacy of this indicator.
32	Proportion of outstanding / high quality aspect areas identified in LANDMAP	There has been no reassessment by NRW of the aspect areas since LDP adoption and since then the assessment interval has changed from annually to every five years.	Updated data not available.

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**Table 18. SA Monitoring Findings – Geodiversity**

Indicator no.	SEA Monitoring Indicator	Summary of findings since LDP adoption (April 2018)	Overall trend/impact on SEA objective
33	Number of Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) and Geological	Results over the three years since adoption show some variation in the numbers of RIGS which is due to the difficulty in accessing authoritative data consistently. It is understood that the latest figure for RIGS is the most authoritative. The data for GCRs shows more continuity. Overall, therefore it is difficult to identify or	No apparent trend, however improvements to data will enable more accurate monitoring in future.



	Conservation Review (GCR) sites	draw any conclusions about trends, however the latest data will at least represent a baseline going forward.	
<b>34</b>	Number of developments permitted on or affecting RIGS or GCR sites	Monitors the performance of LDP Policy DM2 with respect to the protection afforded to the RIGS and GCRs in the LDP area. In each of the three years that monitoring has taken place there have been issues concerning how these particular designations are being taken into consideration in determining applications. Improvements to mapping will help to rectify these issues, along with training.	Negative impact on SEA objective 18 to protect RIGS from incompatible development.

## APPENDIX B Summary tables of the LDP Policy Review

**Table 19. Strategic Policies**

Policy Reference	Title	Overview
SP1	Housing Growth	Revise policy to reflect reconsideration of spatial and growth strategy.
SP2	Employment Growth	Revise policy to reflect reconsideration of spatial and growth strategy and to reflect emerging Mid Wales regional strategic employment site evidence.
SP3	Affordable Housing Target	Revise policy to reflect reconsideration of the strategy and updated evidence of housing need within national and regional estimates and the Local Housing Market Assessment, alongside updated viability evidence. New policy approach of identifying affordable housing-led sites to be considered.
SP4	Retail Growth	Revise policy to reflect updated evidence and to reconsider the appropriateness of the retail allocation under Policy R2 (which appears at risk of non-delivery).
SP5	Settlement Hierarchy	Revise policy to reflect reconsideration of spatial and growth strategy.
SP6	Distribution of Growth across the Settlement Hierarchy	Revise policy to reflect reconsideration of spatial and growth strategy.
SP7	Safeguarding of Strategic Resources and Assets	This policy is functioning effectively. It will be reviewed to ensure it remains up to date and that the listed strategic resources and assets remain relevant.

**Table 20. Development Management Policies**

Policy Reference	Title	Overview
DM1	Planning Obligations	This policy is functioning effectively.
DM2	Natural Environment	Reconsider policy to reflect change from European Sites to National Site Network, changes to the national legislative and policy objectives, and in the context of Green Infrastructure Assessment.
DM3	Public Open Space	Reconsider policy with Development Management input to provide clarity, together with Green Infrastructure requirements.
DM4	Landscape	Revise the policy in order to reflect evidence within the Local Landscape Character Assessment and national planning policy/guidance.
DM5	Development and Flood Risk	Reconsider policy in light of new TAN 15 and Flood Map for Planning.
DM6	Flood Prevention Measures and Land Drainage	Reconsider policy in light of new TAN 15 and Flood Map for Planning, along with SuDS requirements.

<b>DM7</b>	Dark Skies and External Lighting	This policy is being used mainly in support of planning conditions relating to external lighting schemes to avoid impact on nocturnal wildlife, rather than to assess the impact on light pollution and visibility of the night sky. Reconsider policy in light of national planning policy/guidance and related evidence.
<b>DM8</b>	Minerals Safeguarding	This policy supports requirements in national planning policy/guidance but is not being used consistently. Further officer training and constraints mapping will assist, together with revised wording
<b>DM9</b>	Existing Mineral Workings	This policy is functioning effectively, however additional wording to be added to reflect updated national policies and guidance.
<b>DM10</b>	Contaminated and Unstable Land	This policy is functioning effectively.
<b>DM11</b>	Protection of Existing Community Facilities and Services	Reconsider policy to clarify its application, and its relationship with other related policies (e.g. policies R3 and C1).
<b>DM12</b>	Development in Welsh Speaking Strongholds	Reconsider policy in light of updated evidence alongside the Welsh Language Impact Assessment to be undertaken as part of the LDP's Sustainability Appraisal.
<b>DM13</b>	Design and Resources	Reconsider policy and elements within it in light of national planning policy/guidance, particularly in respect of sustainability and placemaking principles.
<b>DM14</b>	Air Quality Management	This policy is functioning effectively, however additional wording to be added.
<b>DM15</b>	Waste Within Developments	This policy is not being applied as widely as intended. This will be addressed through discussion with Development Management.
<b>DM16</b>	Protection of Existing Employment Sites	This policy is functioning effectively, however the wording will be reviewed to ensure clarity and consistency with the suite of Employment Policies. See also Policy E4.

**Table 21. Topic Based Policies**

<b>Policy Reference</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Overview</b>
<b>E1</b>	Employment Proposals on Allocated Employment Sites	This policy is functioning effectively. It will need to be re-assessed in the light of any revisions to the Growth and Spatial Strategy. The wording will be reviewed to ensure clarity and consistency with the suite of Employment Policies.
<b>E2</b>	Employment Proposals on Non-allocated Employment Sites	This policy is functioning effectively. It will need to be re-assessed in the light of any revisions to the Growth and Spatial Strategy. The wording will be reviewed to ensure clarity and consistency with the suite of Employment Policies.
<b>E3</b>	Employment Proposals on Allocated Mixed	This policy is functioning effectively. It will need to be re-assessed in the light of any revisions to the Growth and Spatial Strategy. The wording will be reviewed to

	Use Employment Sites	ensure clarity and consistency with the suite of Employment Policies.
<b>E4</b>	Safeguarded Employment Sites	This policy is functioning effectively. It will be subject to updating to ensure the list of safeguarded sites is current and correct and that the policy remains compliant with national policy and updated evidence. See also Policy DM16.
<b>E5</b>	Bronllys Health Park	Reconsideration of policy required in light of issues identified in its application, as well as the need to review its relevance going forward.
<b>E6</b>	Farm Diversification	Reconsideration of policy to consider diversification within agriculture alongside diversification away from agriculture, alongside any changes in national policy.
<b>E7</b>	Home Working	The policy is expected to continue to be supportive and flexible to home working, the wording will be reviewed and updated as necessary including with reference to the change in working practices post-Covid-19.
<b>T1</b>	Travel, Traffic and Transport Infrastructure	Reconsider policy following emphasis in PPW and Future Wales on sustainable travel.
<b>T2</b>	Safeguarding of Disused Transport Infrastructure	Policy not used. Research should be undertaken to identify the disused railways and disused or unused rail sidings and other transport infrastructure, in the Plan area, as part of the review process. This research will enable an understanding of the policy approach to be taken going forward and may lead to the identification of Green Infrastructure opportunities.
<b>T3</b>	Newtown By-pass	Policy no longer required. The Newtown Bypass has been constructed and is operational.
<b>H1</b>	Housing Development Proposals	Revise policy to reflect reconsideration of spatial and growth strategy.
<b>H2</b>	Housing Sites	Revise policy to reflect reconsideration of spatial and growth strategy.
<b>H3</b>	Housing Delivery	This policy is functioning effectively; however it will be reconsidered to reflect any changes in approach towards housing delivery and addressing housing need.
<b>H4</b>	Housing Density	Reconsider policy in light of national planning policy/guidance and further research to inform the approach towards housing density across settlement tiers and development types.
<b>H5</b>	Affordable Housing Contributions	Reconsider policy, including site specific targets, in light of updated evidence of housing need and viability, along with national planning policy/guidance.
<b>H6</b>	Affordable Housing Exception Sites	Reconsider policy in light of national planning policy/guidance. Revisions to the strategy, RSL/SHA programmes, and evidence of affordability and local need, will need to be reflected in the approach towards exception sites.
<b>H7</b>	Householder Development	Policy is generally considered to be working effectively, particularly in respect of ancillary

		development. Additional wording may be required to reflect further considerations.
<b>H8</b>	Renovation of Abandoned Dwellings	This policy is being used effectively alongside TAN 24 guidance to ensure sympathetic renovation of abandoned dwellings and archaeological assessment or building recording.
<b>H9</b>	Replacement Dwellings	Issues identified with the interpretation of this policy, particularly around identifying and assessing buildings of local vernacular character. Further policy clarification may be needed to reflect archaeological assessment requirements.
<b>H10</b>	Gypsy and Traveller Sites and Caravans	The policy is expected to continue to be supportive and flexible to the provision of sites where required. The wording will be reviewed to ensure it remains up to date and relevant to current policy requirements and arising needs.
<b>H11</b>	Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision	Current policy will become outdated as needs are met. A new policy will be necessary to reflect updated evidence.
<b>R1</b>	New Retail Development	Review Policy in line with findings from updated Retail Study.
<b>R2</b>	Retail Allocations	Review Policy following findings from the Annual Monitoring Reports.
<b>R3</b>	Development Within Town Centres	Review Policy to clarify its application, and its relationship with other related policies, also in light of Covid -19 recovery and the impact upon the high street. The Retail hierarchy and shopping frontages will be reviewed in alignment with the revised spatial strategy and updated evidence.
<b>R4</b>	Neighbourhood and Village Shops and Services	Reconsider policy so that it continues to be supportive, up to date and relevant to sustainable place-making in line with the reconsideration of the growth and spatial strategy. Links to Policies C1 and DM11 should be further explored to ensure a cohesive approach to supporting sustainable communities.
<b>TD1</b>	Tourism Development	Review Policy following findings from the Annual Monitoring Reports. Revision to wording also required to provide clarity.
<b>TD2</b>	Alternative Uses of existing Tourism Development	This policy is functioning effectively, however consider if the definition of a rural area needs to be clarified.
<b>TD3</b>	Montgomery Canal and Associated Development	Reconsider policy given the role of the Montgomery Canal across several LDP topic areas and within the context of the SAC designation, Green Infrastructure and placemaking.
<b>W1</b>	Location of Waste Development	This policy is functioning effectively.
<b>W2</b>	Waste Management Proposals	This policy is functioning effectively.
<b>RE1</b>	Renewable Energy	Reconsider policy in light of the publication of Future Wales and changes to the consenting regime.

<b>M1</b>	Existing Mineral Sites	This policy is functioning effectively, wording to be assessed and updated as appropriate to reflect any new evidence.
<b>M2</b>	New Mineral Sites	This policy is functioning effectively, wording to be assessed and updated as appropriate to reflect any new evidence.
<b>M3</b>	Borrow Pits	There have been no applications with which to test this policy to date. The policy sign posts to national policy so should not require updating.
<b>M4</b>	Minerals Proposals	This policy is being used effectively, wording to be assessed and updated as appropriate to reflect any new evidence or changes in national policy and to reflect changes to other related policies in the LDP (e.g., landscape and biodiversity).
<b>M5</b>	Restoration and Aftercare	This policy is functioning effectively, wording to be assessed and updated as appropriate to reflect any new evidence or changes in national policy.
<b>C1</b>	Community Facilities and Indoor Recreational Facilities	This policy is functioning effectively, however its relationship with Policy DM11 may need clarification.
<b>MD1</b>	Development proposals by the MOD	Policy not used. Consider whether the policy should be included in the Replacement LDP in its current format and if any changes are required.

## APPENDIX C Summary tables on status of LDP Proposals

**Table 22. Policy H2 - a) Status at 1 April 2021 of Housing Allocations (HA) and Mixed-Use Allocations (MUA)**

Settlement	Site Ref	Site Location	No of Units	Status
Builth Wells & Llanellwedd	P08 HA2	Land west of Primary school	59	Allocated No Permission
Builth Wells & Llanellwedd	P08 HA3	Land adj. To Tai Ar Y Bryn, Hospital Rd.	43	Planning Permission Not Started
Knighton	P24 HA1	Adj 'Shirley', Ludlow Road	24	Planning Permission Not Started
Knighton	P24 HA3	Presteigne Road	70	Allocated No Permission
Llandrindod Wells	P28 HA1	Land adj. Crabtree Green	50	Planning Permission Not Started
Llandrindod Wells	P28 HA2	Tremont Park extension	122	Allocated No Permission
Llandrindod Wells	P28 HA3	Ithon Road, Llandrindod Wells	122	Commenced
Llandrindod Wells	P28 HA4	Land at Ridgebourne Drive	100	Allocated No Permission
Llanfair Caereinion	P30 HA1	Land at Tanyfron	40	Allocated No Permission
Llanfair Caereinion	P30 HA2	OS 6906, Land North of Watergate Street	20	Planning Permission Not Started
Llanfyllin	P32 HA1	Land opposite Maesydre	14	Allocated No Permission
Llanfyllin	P32 HA2	Maesydre Field	55	Allocated No Permission
Llanfyllin	P32 HA2	Field 7674, South of Maesydre	90	Allocated No Permission
Llanidloes	P35 HA1	Land at Penyborfa	27	Allocated No Permission
Llanidloes	P35 HA2	Chapel Farm, Gorn Road	46	Allocated No Permission
Machynlleth	P42 HA1	OS1546, Aberystwyth Road	29	Planning Permission Not Started
Machynlleth	P42 HA2	Land adjacent HA1, Aberystwyth Rd	14	Allocated No Permission
Machynlleth	P42 HA3	Mid Wales Storage Depot	14	Allocated No Permission
Montgomery	P45 HA1	Land at Verlon, Forden Road	54	Allocated No Permission
Newtown	P48 HA2	Hendidley	15	Commenced
Newtown	P48 HA3	South of Heol Treowen Extension,	70	Allocated No Permission



Newtown	P48 HA4	South of Heol Treowen / Great Brimmon	136	Allocated No Permission
Presteigne	P51 HA2	Joe Deakins Road Site	35	Allocated No Permission
Rhayader	P52 HA1	Tir Gaia	70	Commenced
Rhayader	P52 HA2	Land off East Street	16	Allocated No Permission
Welshpool	P57 HA1	Land off Gallowstree Bank	30	Complete
Welshpool	P57 HA2	Land at Greenfields, Caeglas	11	Complete
Welshpool	P57 HA3	Land at Red Bank	149	Allocated No Permission
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HA1	Land off Brecon Road	59	Planning Permission Not Started
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HA3	Penrhos CP School, Brecon Rd	41	Planning Permission Not Started
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HA5	Glanrhyd Farm	8	Allocated No Permission
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HA9	Penrhos Farm	76	Allocated No Permission
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HA10	Brynygroes	136	Planning Permission Not Started
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HA11	Penrhos School Extension	122	Allocated No Permission
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HA12	Cynlais Playing Fields	10	Planning Permission Not Started
Abercrave	P01 HA1	Land to East of Maescyribarth	14	Allocated No Permission
Abermule	P02 HA1	Land adjoining Abermule House	10	Superseded
Abermule	P02 HA2	Land adj The Meadows and land adjacent Parkside	30	Allocated No Permission
Arddleen	P03 HA1	Land west of Trederwen House	17	Planning Permission Not Started
Berriew	P04 HA1	Land to the east of the village adjacent canal	12	Allocated No Permission
Boughrood & Llyswen	P06 HA1	Land at Llyswen, adj to Llys Meillion	30	Allocated No Permission
Boughrood & Llyswen	P06 HA2	Land adjoining Beeches Park , Boughrood	15	Planning Permission Not Started
Bronllys	P07 HA1	Land adj Bronllys CP School, Neuadd Terrace	38	Planning Permission Not Started
Bronllys	P07 HA2	Land at Bronllys to the west of Hen Ysgubor	10	Planning Permission Not Started
Bronllys	P07 HA3	Land to rear of Greenfields	6	Commenced
Caersws	P09 HA1	Land north of Carno Road	43	Planning Permission Not Started



Carno	P10 HA1	Land off Ffordd Dol-Llin	14	Allocated No Permission
Carno	P10 HA2	Land north of Gerddi Cledan	27	Allocated No Permission
Churchstoke	P12 HA1	Land west of Fir House	36	Planning Permission Not Started
Clyro	P13 HA1	Land South east of Clyro (B)	14	Allocated No Permission
Crew Green	P15 HA1	Land Opposite The Firs (between Malt House Farm & Bryn Mawr)	23	Allocated No Permission
Crossgates	P16 HA1	Land South of Studio Cottage	19	Allocated No Permission
Forden/ Kingswood	P17 HA1	Land off Heritage Green	15	Complete
Forden/ Kingswood	P17 HA2	Land between Heatherwood & Kingswood Lane	10	Allocated No Permission
Four Crosses	P18 HA1	Land at Oldfield (including land rear of School)	32	Allocated No Permission
Glasbury	P19 HA1	Treble Hill Stables, Glasbury	5	Allocated No Permission
Guilsfield	P20 HA1	Land adj. Celyn Lane	20	Allocated No Permission
Guilsfield	P20 HA2	Land to East of Groes-lwyd	22	Planning Permission Not Started
Hay on Wye	P21 MUA1	Land at Gypsy Castle Lane	49	Allocated No Permission
Howey	P22 HA1	Land at Crossways Court	38	Allocated No Permission
Howey	P22 HA2	Land adjacent Goylands Estate	12	Allocated No Permission
Knucklas	P25 HA1	Land at Castle Green	17	Planning Permission Not Started
Llanbrynmair	P26 HA1	Land west of Bryncoch,	19	Allocated No Permission
Llandinam	P27 HA1	Land opposite Old Barn Close, Llandinam	8	Allocated No Permission
Llandrinio	P29 HA1	Gwernybatto Land off Orchard Croft	30	Allocated No Permission
Llanfechain	P31 HA1	Land north of Church	25	Allocated No Permission
Llangurig	P33 HA1	Land adj. Maesllan	19	Allocated No Permission
Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant	P36 HA1	Land at Maes yr Esgob	19	Allocated No Permission
Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain	P37 HA1	Land at Spoonley Farm	22	Allocated No Permission
Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain	P37 HA2	Land adj. Maes y cain	13	Allocated No Permission
Llanymynech	P40 HA1	Land adj Parc Llwyfen	11	Allocated No Permission

Llanymynech	P40 HA2	Land off Carreghofa Lane	20	Allocated No Permission
Llanyre	P41 HA1	Land at Llanyre Farm	19	Allocated No Permission
Meifod	P43 HA1	Pentre works and adjacent land	45	Allocated No Permission
Middletown	P44 HA1	Land West of Golfa Close	19	Planning Permission Not Started
Penybontfawr	P49 HA1	Land east of Ysgol Pennant	11	Allocated No Permission
Pontrobert	P50 HA1	Land at Y Fferm, Pontrobert	6	Allocated No Permission
Presteigne	P51 MUA1	Former Kaye Foundry Site	60	Allocated No Permission
Three Cocks	P53 MUA1	Land between/adjacent Gwernyfed Avenue	32	Planning Permission Not Started
Tregynon	P55 HA1	Rear of Bethany Chapel	24	Allocated No Permission
Trewern	P56 HA1	Land east of Trewern School	27	Allocated No Permission

**Table 23. Policy H2 b) - Status at 1 April 2021 of Housing Commitments (HC)**

Settlement	Site Ref	Site Location	No of Units	Status
Builth Wells & Llanelwedd	P08 HC1	The Old Skin Warehouse Site, Brecon Rd	7	Complete
Builth Wells & Llanelwedd	P08 HC2	Hay Road Garage	11	Commenced
Builth Wells & Llanelwedd	P08 HC3	Builth Wells Cottage Hospital	17	Complete
Knighton	P24 HC1	Former clothing factory, West Street.	21	Planning Permission Not Started
Knighton	P24 HC2	Site of former Motorway mouldings factory	18	Permission Lapsed
Llandrindod Wells	P28 HC1	Land at Gate Farm	10	Permission Lapsed
Llandrindod Wells	P28 HC2	Highland Moors	16	Complete
Llandrindod Wells	P28 HC3	Site adj. Autopalace	22	Commenced
Llanfyllin	P32 HC1	Adjacent 38 Maes Y Dderwen	14	Complete
Llanidloes	P35 HC1	Lower Green, Victoria Avenue	31	Commenced
Llanidloes	P35 HC2	Land at Hafren Furnishers	23	Permission Lapsed
Llanidloes	P35 HC3	Land adjacent Dolhafren Cemetery	31	Complete
Llanwrtyd Wells	P39 HC1	The Vicarage Field, Beulah Road	7	Commenced

Llanwrtyd Wells	P39 HC2	OS 2664 Caemawr, off Ffos Road	47	Commenced
Llanwrtyd Wells	P39 HC3	OS 1451 Meadow View, Station Road	19	Commenced
Montgomery	P45 HC1	Land at New Road	13	Complete
Newtown	P48 HC1	Heol Pengwern	50	Complete
Newtown	P48 HC2	Bryn Lane	65	Commenced
Newtown	P48 HC3	Ffordd Croesawdy	29	Complete
Newtown	P48 HC4	Land at Severn Hts, (Brimmon Close)	23	Commenced
Newtown	P48 HC5	Rock Farm	103	Commenced
Newtown	P48 HC6	Rear of Pentecostal Church	27	Complete
Newtown	P48 HC8	Former Magistrates Court and TA building, Back Lane	23	Complete
Newtown	P48 HC9	Severnside Yard, Commercial Street	48	Complete
Newtown	P48 HC10	1 Wesley Place	6	Complete
Presteigne	P51 HC1	Knighton Road Site	11	Complete
Rhayader	P52 HC1	Nant Rhyd-Hir	18	Complete
Rhayader	P52 HC2	Old Builders Supply Depot	10	Complete
Welshpool	P57 HC1	Burgess Lands, Red Bank	73	Commenced
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HC1	Land R/O Jeffrey's Arms, Brecon Road	18	Commenced
Ystradgynlais Area	P58 HC2	Gurnos School, Lower Cwmtwrch	45	Complete
Bettws Cedewain	P05 HC1	Bryn Bechan	10	Commenced
Boughrood & Llyswen	P06 HC1	The Depot Boughrood	12	Complete
Boughrood & Llyswen	P06 HC2	Beeches Park, Boughrood	5	Complete
Bronllys	P07 HC1	Land adjacent to Bronllys Court	34	Complete
Caersws	P09 HC1	Part of Buck Hotel, Main Street	5	Commenced
Castle Caereinion	P11 HC1	Land at Swallows Meadow	31	Commenced
Churchstoke	P12 HC1	Land at Maes Neuadd (rear of Village Hall)	16	Commenced
Churchstoke	P12 HC2	Land at the Garage	6	Superseded
Churchstoke	P12 HC3	Land at the Hatchery	12	Complete
Churchstoke	P12 HC4	Land adjacent The View	11	Commenced
Clyro	P13 HC1	Land Southeast of Clyro (A)	21	Commenced
Crossgates	P16 HC1	Oaktree Meadows	15	Commenced
Guilsfield	P20 HC1	Sarn Meadows	46	Commenced
Kerry	P23 HC1	Dolforgan View	62	Commenced
Knucklas	P25 HC1	Old Station Works	6	Permission Lapsed
Llanbrynmair	P26 HC1	Bryncoch	5	Planning Permission Not Started

Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain	P37 HC1	Land off Ffordd Spooney	12	Complete
Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain	P37 HC2	Bronhyddon	5	Complete
Llansilin	P38 HC1	Land Opposite the Wynnstay Inn	23	Commenced
Llanymynech	P40 HC1	PT OS 3978, Off Ashfield Terrace	13	Complete
Llanyre	P41 HC1	Land between Moorlands and Llyr	12	Planning Permission Not Started
New Radnor	P46 HC1	Water Street Farm	14	Planning Permission Not Started
Newbridge on Wye	P47 HC1	The Orchard	5	Complete
Newbridge on Wye	P47 HC2	Land at Tyler's Field	26	Complete
Trefeglwys	P54 HC1	Land to West of Llwyncelyn (Phase 2)	17	Complete

**Table 23. Policy H11 - Status at 1 April 2021 of Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations**

Reference	Site Name	No. of pitches	Status
<b>P42 HC1</b>	Land adjacent to the Cemetery, Newtown Road, Machynlleth	5	5 pitches completed.
<b>P57 HC2</b>	Land at Leighton Arches, Welshpool	2	2 pitches completed.

**Table 24. Policy E1 and E3 - Status at November 2021 of Employment Allocations and Commitments and Mixed Use Allocations**

Reference	Site Name	Size of Employment Development Area (ha)	Status
<b>P02 EA1</b>	Abermule Business Park, Abermule	2.6	Commenced (2.6 ha)
<b>P08 EA1</b>	Wyeside Enterprise Park, Builth Wells	0.7	No planning permission
<b>P08 EC1</b>	Wyeside Enterprise Park, Builth Wells	0.5	Previous planning permission
<b>P12 EA1</b>	Churchstoke	1.28	Planning permission implemented (0.66 ha) No planning permission (0.62ha)
<b>P18 EA1</b>	Four Crosses	0.5	Commenced (0.17 ha)

			No planning permission 0.24ha)
<b>P28 EA1</b>	Heart of Wales Business Park, Llandrindod Wells	3.9	No planning permission
<b>P35 EA1</b>	Parc Busnes Derwen Fawr, Llanidloes	1.2	No planning permission.
<b>P35 EA2</b>	Parc Hafren, Llanidloes	1.2	Complete (0.8ha) No planning permission (0.4ha)
<b>P35 EC1</b>	Parc Hafren, Llanidloes	0.5	Complete (0.5ha)
<b>P42 EA1</b>	Treowain Enterprise Park, Machynlleth	1.7	No planning permission
<b>P48 EA1</b>	Llanidloes Road, Newtown	2	No planning permission
<b>P51 EA1</b>	Broadaxe Business Park, Presteigne	2.4	Complete (1.5ha) Commenced (0.08ha) No planning permission (0.7ha)
<b>P52 EA1</b>	Brynberth Enterprise Park, Rhayader	3.7	No planning permission
<b>P57 EC1</b>	Buttington Cross Enterprise Park, Welshpool	1.5	Complete
<b>P58 EA1</b>	Woodlands Business Park, Ystradgynlais	2.31	No planning permission
<b>P59 EA1</b>	Buttington Quarry, Trewern	6	Commenced 0.43ha DNS application pending on part of site
<b>P60 EC1</b>	Offa's Dyke Business Park, Welshpool	7.3	Planning permission (1.76ha) Complete (5.14ha)
<b>P21 MUA1</b>	Gypsy Castle Lane, Hay-on-Wye	2.4	No planning permission
<b>P53 MUA1</b>	Land adj. Gwernyfed Avenue, Three Cocks	3.4	Planning permission (commercial development)

**Table 25. Policy R2 - Status at 1 April 2021 of Retail Allocation**

Reference	Site Name	Size of Retail Development Area (ha)	Status
<b>P51 MUA1</b>	Former Kaye Foundry, Presteigne	0.4 (to provide 1000 sq. m net retail floorspace)	No planning permission

## ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym	Meaning
AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BBNPA	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
CJC	Corporate Joint Committee
DPM3	Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)
EA	Employment Allocation
EC	Employment Commitment
ELR	Employment Land Review
GCR	Geological Conservation Review site
GIA	Green Infrastructure Assessment
GTAA	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment
HA	Housing Allocation
HC	Housing Commitment
HIA	Health Impact Assessment
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
ISA	Integrated Sustainability Appraisal
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan
LDP	Local Development Plan
LHMA	Local Housing Market Assessment
LLCA	Local Landscape Character Assessment
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LSA	Local Search Area
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
MTAN	Minerals Technical Advice Note
MUA	Mixed Use Allocation
OSA	Open Space Assessment
PCC	Powys County Council
PEDW	Planning and Environment Decisions Wales
PPW	Planning Policy Wales
PSB	Public Service Board
RAWP	Regional Aggregates Working Party
REA	Renewable Energy Assessment
RIGS	Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites
RSL	Registered Social Landlord
RTS	Regional Technical Statement
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAB	SuDS Approving Body
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SDP	Strategic Development Plan
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SFCA	Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment
SHA	Strategic Housing Authority
SoNaRR	State of Natural Resources Report
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
SuDS	Sustainable drainage systems
SWRAWP	South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party
TAN	Technical Advice Note
WLIA	Welsh Language Impact Assessment

## APPENDIX D Summary of Representations and Council Responses

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No.	Representor	Summary of Comments	Council Responses
1.	Swansea Canal Society	<p><b>Tourism and historic environment</b>                      Supportive of the further safeguarding of the historic and cultural heritage of Powys and benefits to tourism. Refers to restoration work on the Swansea Canal and the numerous industrial archaeological monuments surviving in the southern Powys region around the Ystradgynlais and Abercraf areas, with reference to various publications, lists and indexes. Considers the industrial monuments listed in the response to be worthy of inclusion in the lists of structures to be protected and promoted to support the heritage and cultural aspects and also the tourism potential of the County of Powys.</p>	<p><b>Tourism and historic environment</b>                      The Council notes the detailed response provided in respect of the history of the Swansea canal and the recorded surviving structures, together with the tourism benefits. Additional text is to be inserted under section 8.5 of the Review Report regarding the consideration of important tourism and heritage features as part of the Replacement LDP.</p>
2.	Coal Authority	<p><b>Coal mining features, resources and potential risks</b>                      Refers to Coal Authority records indicating coal mining features (mining features and surface coal resources) within the Powys County Council area at surface and shallow depth, and also surface coal resource present within the area, referring to planning advice in this respect.                      Also refers to the conclusion of the review in respect of retaining Policy DM10 Contaminated and Unstable Land, with no objections raised subject to the policy including consideration of the potential risks posed by past coal mining activity.</p>	<p><b>Coal mining features, resources and potential risks</b>                      The Council notes the comments received. As set out in the Review Report, there is no longer a requirement for LDP policies to safeguard coal resources, as explained in Planning Policy Wales (para. 5.10.17). However, additional text will be provided under section 8.11 of the Review Report in order to reflect considerations relating to coal mining features and resources in the review of LDP policy DM10.</p>
3.	CPRW Montgomeryshire	<p><b>Housing</b>                      Allocations and the settlement tier system need to be reviewed so that smaller settlements are not subject to the same large proposals as towns. Issues around the</p>	<p><b>Housing</b>                      As set out in the Review Report, the LDP's spatial strategy, including the settlement tiers and allocations, will be reviewed as part of the Replacement LDP process, informed by a</p>

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	<p>impact on infrastructure, resources, and communities, employment opportunities, travel and carbon footprint. The character of the site, settlement and area needs to be considered.</p> <p><b>Carbon retention</b> Need to protect important peat and dark soils from inappropriate industrial scale development.</p> <p><b>Pre-assessed Areas</b> List of factors not taken into account, a full assessment and consultation is needed to refine Pre-assessed Areas at a local level, along with a benefit analysis taking into account disbenefits, potential damage and decreasing wind.</p> <p><b>Intensive Agricultural Unit</b> Support the need for a policy with rigorous guidance, must take into account proximity of unrelated dwellings and highways impacts of manure disposal.</p> <p><b>Active Travel</b> Measures need to encourage walking and cycling between communities and should not be limited by population size, with little or no public transport in smaller communities.</p> <p><b>Landscape</b> This needs to be carried out and rigorously applied in planning, along with protection for best and most versatile agricultural land, and the importance of Powys landscape as a resource needs to be an overriding consideration throughout.</p> <p><b>Planning obligations</b> Needs to include funds to maintain community resources in perpetuity, perhaps managed by Town and Community Councils who should be consulted early in the process to ensure the right planning gain is achieved for the community.</p>	<p>Settlement Assessment. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Carbon retention</b> As set out in the Review Report, LDP policy DM13, which includes criteria relating to thick peat, is to be re-considered as part of the Replacement LDP. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Pre-assessed Areas</b> These comments relate to national planning policy within Future Wales and PPW, which includes detailed policies and criteria for assessing wind energy proposals within these areas. PPW states that LPAs should not seek to amend the pre-assessed areas within their boundaries as they form part of the development plan. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Intensive Agricultural Unit</b> As set out in the Review Report, the LDP’s agricultural policies will be reconsidered to reflect contextual changes. Additional text to be inserted under section 8.2 of the Review Report to clarify that this will include consideration of including an appropriate policy for intensive agricultural developments within the Replacement LDP.</p> <p><b>Active Travel</b> The Council notes the comments on active travel, which will be an important consideration for the Replacement LDP, and included as part of the Settlement Assessment. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Landscape</b> The Local Landscape Character Assessment will inform the strategy, policies and proposals of the LDP, and is also intended to provide Supplementary Planning Guidance to inform development proposals and planning decisions. Planning Policy Wales contains national policy on best and</p>
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			<p>most versatile agricultural land, which will be considered in the site selection process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Planning obligations</b> As set out in the Review Report, the methods for providing infrastructure to support development will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. The Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Guidance will also be reviewed, which will include consideration around how obligations are managed. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
4.	Cadw, Historic Environment Branch, Welsh Government	<p><b>Consultation with Cadw and CPAT</b> No comments but a reminder that Cadw should be consulted as part of the SEA process and that it is important to consult with Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) who are funded to provide advice during the LDP process, in relation to the archaeological issues.</p>	<p><b>Consultation with Cadw and CPAT</b> The Council notes the reminder with regards to consultation with Cadw as part of the SEA process associated with the Replacement LDP. The Council has already engaged with CPAT in reviewing the LDP and will continue to do so as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
5.	United Utilities	<p><b>Water infrastructure</b> Express wish to work in partnership, to pro-actively identify needs and share information between LPA and UU. Provides contacts for developers to access free pre-application advice on waste and water. Highlights the need to protect strategic water infrastructure assets and for early engagement on proposed allocations at RLDP stage to ascertain constraints and implications. Request for continued consultation as the Plan moves forward.</p>	<p><b>Water infrastructure</b> The Council recognises the relevance of the matters raised for the Replacement LDP in terms of infrastructure planning, the site selection process and for site promoters, and as part of the Settlement Assessment to identify opportunities and constraints. The Council will continue to consult with United Utilities as part of the Replacement LDP process and for relevant planning applications. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
6.	Network Rail	<p><b>Rail infrastructure</b> Policies relating to the protection and enhancement of railway infrastructure are relevant and development schemes may necessitate developer contributions. Reminding LPA of statutory duty to consult regarding development impacts upon level crossings and developers</p>	<p><b>Rail infrastructure</b> The Council recognises the relevance of the matters raised for the Replacement LDP in terms of infrastructure planning, development schemes close to railways and the potential impact of new development on the operation of the railway and level crossing use. The Council will continue to consult</p>

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		to fund any required improvements. Request to please consult Network Rail on any future policy, pre-application or planning applications should they be submitted for sites adjoining the railway or within close proximity to the railway as development may impact upon operation of the railway, e.g. use of the nearby station and/or railway crossings and Network Rail would make specific comments as required.	with Network Rail as part of the Replacement LDP process and for relevant planning applications. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
7.	Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales	<b>Montgomery Canal</b> Comments related LDP Policy TD3. The Trust looks forward to working with the Council on how best to ensure that the important multifunctional nature and status of the Canal, as well as supporting the restoration of the Canal and ensuring that future development does not prejudice the restoration, and to align regional priorities. Preference for a standalone policy relating to the Montgomery Canal to cover the breadth of topic areas involved, including the suggestion that it may sit under a Transport or Environmental Protection chapter within the LDP. Offer to work with the Council to draft suggested wording for a Montgomery Canal related policy.	<b>Montgomery Canal</b> The Council notes the comments received in relation to the Montgomery Canal. As set out within the Review Report, the current LDP policy TD3 will be reconsidered to reflect the role of the Canal across several LDP topic areas and in terms of where the policy should sit within the LDP. The Council will continue to consult with the Canal & River Trust in Wales as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
8.	Mineral Products Association Wales	Support proposed Full Revision of the plan. <b>Minerals Safeguarding</b> Concerns raised by the Annual Monitoring Report regarding inconsistencies in the implementation of LDP Policy DM8. This is a major cause for concern to the minerals industry. The Council will need to clarify how this will be addressed. <b>Regional Technical Statement</b> Disagreement with certain statements made within the Review Report regarding the future requirements for sand and gravel aggregate allocations. Highlighting the need for changes in mineral reserves to be reflected in the	Support noted. Technical advice has been obtained regionally in order to respond to these comments, which highlights some errors within the MPA Wales response. <b>Minerals Safeguarding</b> The concern is noted. As explained in the Review Report, further officer training and constraints mapping will assist, together with revised policy wording to improve clarity as part of the Replacement LDP. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect. <b>Regional Technical Statement</b> The Council have taken advice on the comments submitted and disagree with the points made regarding calculations on

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	<p>Council’s evidence base. The landbank will fall below that required during the mid-term period of the Replacement LDP. Highlights the need for Statements of Subregional Collaboration (SSRC) as indicated in the Regional Technical Statement. The need for allocations should be considered in the Replacement LDP and the Plan will need to refer to the requirement for a minimum 10 year landbank of crushed rock throughout the plan period and for the RTS to be reviewed at 5 year intervals. Reference to PPW, commenting that mineral reserves in Powys are undoubtedly of national importance and we welcome the council’s consideration of the wider context of the reserves.</p> <p><b>New Evidence Base Requirements Infrastructure Plan</b> New infrastructure proposals should be supported by a complementary resource assessment and supply chain audits, which identify the quantities and sources of raw materials required to deliver the infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Replacement dwellings policy</b> Support policies which seek to maintain local vernacular, however, seek a positive approach to the supply of local building stone which help to maintain the character of an area.</p> <p><b>Supplementary Planning Guidance</b> Suggest appropriate guidance on Minerals Safeguarding should be brought forward at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p><b>Collaborative working</b> Request reference to the Statements of Sub-Regional Collaboration (SSRCs) detailed in the RTS 2<sup>nd</sup> Review, given Powys is recognised as an important supplier of mineral products on a local, regional and national scale.</p>	<p>the land bank and also on the content regarding land won sand and gravel. Para 5.2.7 of the Review Report specifies what the RTS2 sets out as the reserves and landbank. The SWRAWP Annual Report for 2019 (the latest one) shows that the landbank had increased to more than 50 years. With regards to the need for SSRC, Powys is a Sub-region in its own right and therefore only needs to agree with itself and does not cover the requirements of other LPAs. The comments on land won sand and gravel are incorrect as there is no requirement for Powys.</p> <p><b>New Evidence Base Requirements Infrastructure Plan</b> The scope of the Infrastructure Plan will be determined as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Replacement dwellings policy</b> LDP Policy H9 will be revised to address issues identified around the implementation of the policy, as set out in the Review Report. The details of the policy and scope to address the supply of local building stone will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Supplementary Planning Guidance</b> In addition to reviewing adopted SPG, the LPA will also identify the need for new SPG to support the implementation of RLDP policies. The need for SPG to support the minerals safeguarding policy will be considered. Additional text to be inserted under section 8.14 clarifying this.</p> <p><b>Collaborative working</b> The RTS is mentioned in several places in the Review Report, and, as explained above, the SSRC process is not relevant to Powys. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
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<p>9.</p>	<p><b>Powys Local Access Forum</b></p>	<p>Welcome proposal to prepare a new LDP.</p> <p><b>Public rights of way</b> The loss of access to public rights of way through lack of maintenance, blockages and illegal development is not referenced and should be highlighted. Request the protection given to, and provision made for, public open space to be extended to consider rights of way. The current condition of the rights of way in Powys is adversely affecting the attractiveness of the area to tourists.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Assessment</b> Request for a specific assessment of the condition of rights of way in Powys that includes how much of it is accessible and easy to use.</p> <p><b>Transport issues</b> Request for horse riders to be included alongside walking and cycling, including those with mobility issues and the extent to which the current infrastructure makes appropriate provision for them. It will also be important to consider the extent to which highways no longer publicly maintained and Other Routes with Public Access (ORPAs) could be used to improve the transport infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Planning obligations</b> Request for an assessment to be made on the extent to which to Council is maximising such obligations when planning applications are close to, or on, development sites, and query about introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy to replace planning obligations.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p> <p><b>Public rights of way</b> The results of LDP’s Annual Monitoring Report, summarised in the Review Report, do not capture the loss of access to public rights of way. LDP Policy SP7, together with LDP Policy DM13 which includes a criterion relating public rights of way, is to be reconsidered as part of the Replacement LDP, including how effective these policies have been implemented. Some of the matters raised are addressed by Highways Operations, rather than Planning, and may be part of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan. The Replacement LDP will need to consider public rights of way in the context of Green Infrastructure. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Assessment</b> Public rights of way will be considered, however the scope of this may not extend to assessment of the condition. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Transport issues</b> These comments are noted, and, where relevant, will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. The comments regarding disused transport routes are noted and additional text will be inserted in para. 8.3.3 and Appendix B of the Review Report to reflect this consideration.</p> <p><b>Tourism</b> These comments are noted, see response above relating to rights of way. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Planning obligations</b> As set out in the Review Report, the methods for providing infrastructure to support development will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. This will include consideration of whether the Council should follow the</p>
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			Community Infrastructure Levy process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
10.	Powys Ramblers	NOTE: The comments received from Powys Ramblers are the same as those received from the Powys Local Access Forum, with the exception that the Powys Ramblers have not mentioned horse riders in their response.	See response above to the Powys Local Access Forum.
11.	The Llanigon Community Green Space	<p><b>Housing Growth</b> Recent development in the Small Village of Llanigon representing an increase of 30%. Do not have the road network to take on any more growth and housing developments.</p> <p><b>Wellbeing, community facilities and public open space</b> Need in the village for a safe green space to build up the community to help maintaining health and wellbeing. Also, to protect natural resources, nature and habitats. Wishes for the revised LDP to include Llanigon School site to be designated as Community Green Space, which would be used to provide recreational, sport, allotments and other activities. It is important to protect open spaces and to ensure that the planning departments follow the LDP.</p>	<p><b>Housing Growth</b> The Replacement LDP will reconsider the Housing Growth and Spatial Strategy across Powys LDP area (how much growth we should plan for and where it should go). The Replacement LDP will be informed by results of settlement analysis, which sets out to analyse the role and function of each settlement and consider the constraints to development and the opportunities for sustainable place-making. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Wellbeing, community facilities and public open space</b> Health and well-being, recreational opportunities, environmental protection and green spaces (green infrastructure) are all relevant topics. The DA includes reference to a Candidate Sites/Sites Nominations stage, and we would suggest that you submit your proposals for the Community Green Space on the site at that stage. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
12.	Hughes Architects	<p><b>Housing Allocations</b> Lack of housing delivery suggest that the allocated sites system is not working. The focus on larger allocated sites in an area with low property values and therefore low interest from private developers leads to this lack of development. Suggests a system with greater flexibility which allows the development of more smaller sites</p>	<p><b>Housing Allocations</b> The Growth and Spatial Strategies, including housing allocations, will be re-considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. This will include consideration of housing delivery options, including small sites, as required by PPW. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>

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		<p>should be considered. Encouragement of self-build of one off plots should also be encouraged.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b> The phosphates issue has rendered much of the county undevelopable. Private development was very slow to non-existent prior to that issue arising so a working solution must be found as soon as possible.</p>	<p><b>Phosphates</b> The Replacement LDP process will enable the LPA to contribute towards addressing issues that have arisen, including the impact of phosphates on Special Area of Conservation catchments, as set out in the LDP Review Report. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
13.	Caersws CRG (Concerned Residents Group)	<p><b>Flooding</b> If there is any possible doubt of flooding within a planned candidate site, or to increase or create any issues to current third parties, more thorough scrutiny should be made at an earlier stage of the LDP process, allowing for more extreme climate changes, which may become apparent at a later date, even possibly before any planning permission is passed.</p> <p><b>Housing Allocations</b> Querying why so few sites that were allocated on the LDP have been developed, whether due to viability, and have been allocated on the basis that they were the “best of a bad bunch” in that particular village or town.</p>	<p><b>Flooding</b> As set out in the Review Report, the LDP’s policies relating to flooding will be reconsidered to reflect the new TAN 15 and Flood Map for Planning, and informed by a Strategic Flooding Consequences Assessment, which will also be used to assess candidate sites. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Housing Allocations</b> The Review Report recognises that the issue around the delivery of the LDP’s housing growth is due to a variety of factors, including the speed in which allocated sites are coming forward. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
14.	Individual	<p>Finds the Introduction very useful.</p> <p><b>Population projections</b> As the census is part of the baseline for population numbers, etc, advised to wait until it is available. Table 9 shows the results are very poor, which must be rectified.</p> <p><b>Town and Community Councils</b> The position and responsibilities of Town and Community Councils is not mentioned at all. These are the first layer of democratic government, not volunteers but elected representatives of the public.</p>	<p>Support is noted.</p> <p><b>Population projections</b> As set out in the Review Report, the Census will provide a key source of evidence to inform the Replacement LDP and associated SA process. The Replacement LDP process will enable the LPA to respond to changes around population and household projections. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Town and Community Councils</b> The Delivery Agreement Consultation Draft, which has been consulted upon alongside the Review Report, explains the proposed involvement of consultees, including Town and</p>

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			Community Councils, in the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
15.	Dolafon Trust (Plymouth Brethren Christian Church)	<b>Community facilities and services</b> Fails to include any reference to the provision of public places of worship. The provision of appropriately located (proximity to the congregation) places of worship is essential for a sustainable future for Powys.	<b>Community facilities and services</b> The existing policies C1 and DM11 of the adopted Powys LDP make provision for and protect community facilities and services. Places of worship are included in a list of examples of community facilities and services in the adopted Powys LDP (para. 4.12.5). Consideration will be given to providing a comprehensive list of community services and facilities in the Replacement LDP, as explained in the Review Report. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
16.	Hay Town Council	<b>Housing</b> Query about whether all new council homes could be supplied with environmentally friendly measures, tree-planting where possible, and additional biodiversity habitat. <b>Affordable Housing</b> Note that the target for affordable homes was met in North Powys, but not in South Powys. Request for affordable homes to be prioritised in South Powys during the remainder of the Plan period. Also of the view that the quote of affordable homes built by developers per planning application should be guaranteed once permission has been granted, and that reducing the number of affordable homes, in the context of higher costs than expected, should not be allowable. <b>Economic Development</b> Request for consideration to be given to transforming Bronllys Health Park into a general hospital, given the distances from Hay to a general hospital. <b>Transport</b> Support for the prioritisation of public transport, however, would like to be more involved in the consultation and	<b>Housing</b> Affordable housing provided by the Council are required to meet Welsh Government development quality standards for social grant and planning purposes. They are also required to meet the latest building regulations, which include high energy efficiency standards, along with planning policy requirements, e.g. around biodiversity enhancements. These comments have been referred onto the Strategic Housing Authority for their attention. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect. <b>Affordable Housing</b> Section 8.1 of the Review Report explains that the reason for developments permitted in the Central Powys submarket area not achieving the policy target was due to the sites obtaining planning permission under the previous Unitary Development Plan. Therefore, they do not reflect the implementation of the current LDP policies. The re-negotiation of affordable housing on viability grounds is enabled by national planning policy and the LDP policies must conform with this. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.

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	<p>decision-making process in order to improve public transport and become more integrated. Regarding LDP Policy 1 public transport to services in nearby towns and facilities would not meet the ambitions around ensuring efficient, effective and integrated system with regard to safety of all users. In favour of the need to decrease use of private cars and increasing walking, cycling and use of public transport. Query whether adequate maintenance of bus shelters will be included in the Replacement LDP. Also, that no development should take place on disused railway lines, as has happened on the former railway land from Hereford to Swansea.</p> <p><b>Retailing and Town Centres</b> Would be in favour in principle, subject to consultation, to a corner shop being part of any new developments in Hay (for example at the top of Gypsy Castle Lanes).</p> <p><b>Community and Indoor Recreation Facilities</b> Regarding inconsistency in implementation of LDP Policy DM11, refers to a case involving the removal of the old community centre in Hay with promised replacement community centre, and inadequacy of a small community room in the new library.</p> <p><b>Natural environment</b> Would it be possible for Powys CC to work more closely with Town and Community Councils to help designate areas to be considered for geodiversity protection?</p> <p><b>Dark Skies</b> Query whether it is possible to promote the Dark Skies sites (eg Brecon Beacons National Park) more effectively, as they are real assets with people connection to the natural environment and local environmental benefits.</p>	<p><b>Economic Development</b> The comments are noted and will be taken into consideration when the relevant section(s) of the LDP are being reviewed as part of the RLDP work and in conjunction with relevant stakeholders. Please see the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme in the Delivery Agreement which includes a window on the Sites Nomination stage (proposed from autumn 2022). No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Transport</b> The Council notes the comments on public transport improvements. This will be a matter closely considered for the RLDP process as planning policy at all levels (national, regional and local) implements a sustainable transport hierarchy to maximise accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport. The maintenance of bus shelters is not a planning matter. The Review Report explains that disused railways will be identified and the policy approach considered as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Retailing and Town Centres</b> The Review Report explains that LDP’s retail policies will be re-considered as part of the Replacement LDP. Site specific requirements cannot be considered at this review stage. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Community and Indoor Recreation Facilities</b> It is understood that the case mentioned was located outside of the Powys LDP area, within the Brecon Beacons National Park. Issues around the implementation of the Powys LDP policy have been identified as part of LDP annual monitoring and will be addressed as part of the Replacement LDP. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
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	<p><b>Public Open Spaces</b>                  Query whether it would be possible to strengthen policies between Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure teams within Powys CC to ensure greater levels of synergy and a more holistic approach.</p> <p><b>Habitats Regulations Assessment</b>                  Comment that the HRA has no weighting for impact on humans, with the example given of the closure of canoe launching from the Bont Glasbury and impact on its human users, which is considered to far outweigh the benefits to the river habitat. Argue that the HRA should consider the impact of HRAs on humans.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b>                  We would encourage the Welsh Government to solve this issue immediately as one of the knock-on impacts has been the lack of any affordable homes being built across Powys, to the detriment of local residents.</p>	<p><b>Natural environment</b>                  The LPA is not responsible for designating sites of geodiversity interest (they are designated by UNESCO or nationally). However, the Review Report identifies the need to consider the wording of Policy DM2 in relation to geodiversity and in the context of green infrastructure. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Dark skies</b>                  LDP Policy DM7 recognises the Brecon Beacons National Park Dark Sky Reserve. The Review Report identifies issues with the implementation of this policy that will be addressed as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Public Open Spaces</b>                  The Review Report explains that consideration will be given to integration between open spaces and green infrastructure policies as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Habitats Regulations Assessment</b>                  The HRA process is governed by national regulations aimed at assessing the impact of the LDP on nature conservation importance of Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas, and therefore it does not assess the impact on humans. The Sustainability Appraisal for the Replacement LDP will cover social, economic, cultural, and environmental effects of the LDP in the context of sustainable development. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b>                  The Replacement LDP process will enable the LPA to contribute towards addressing issues that have arisen, including the impact of phosphates on Special Area of Conservation catchments, as set out in the LDP Review</p>
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			Report. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.
17.	Clwyd Alyn Housing Ltd	<p><b>Housing need and delivery</b> Clwyd Alyn Housing Limited (CAHL) is a key deliverer of Affordable and other socialist need housing within the County. The challenges in delivery housing through Wales and County is not underestimated by CAHL. As a partner of the Council it supports the principle of early LDP review as a means of reviewing how and where housing is to be provided to meet the needs of the County and the aspirations of Welsh Government in delivering sustainable places, housing and meeting the needs of the county's population. No further comments at this stage.</p>	<p><b>Housing need and delivery</b> Support is noted. Matters relating to affordable housing need and delivery will be considered as part of the Replacement LDP, as indicated in the Review Report. The LPA will be engaging with Housing Associations as part of the Replacement LDP process.</p>
18.	Bronllys Well Being Park CLT (Community Land Trust) Ltd	<p><b>Bronllys Health Park</b> Request for LDP current Policy E5 (Bronllys Health Park) to be retained in its entirety in the Powys RLDP:</p> <p>Policy E5 – Bronllys Health Park: Proposals to develop the site of Bronllys Hospital as a Health &amp; Wellbeing Park will be supported.</p>	<p><b>Bronllys Health Park</b> The comments are noted and will be taken into consideration when the relevant section(s) of the LDP are being reviewed as part of the RLDP work and in conjunction with relevant stakeholders. Please see the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme in the Delivery Agreement which includes a window on the Sites Nomination stage (proposed from autumn 2022). No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
19.	Individual	<p><b>Bronllys Health Park</b> Request for LDP current Policy E5 (Bronllys Health Park) to be retained in its entirety in the Powys RLDP:</p> <p>Policy E5 – Bronllys Health Park: Proposals to develop the site of Bronllys Hospital as a Health &amp; Wellbeing Park will be supported.</p>	<p><b>Bronllys Health Park</b> The comments are noted and will be taken into consideration when the relevant section(s) of the LDP are being reviewed as part of the RLDP work and in conjunction with relevant stakeholders. Please see the Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme in the Delivery Agreement which includes a window on the Sites Nomination stage (proposed from autumn 2022). No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
20.	Natural Resources Wales	<b>Conclusion of the review</b>	<b>Conclusion of the review</b> Comments noted.

	<p>Note the conclusion that a full revision procedure is considered the most appropriate form of review due to the numerous changes in policy and guidance.</p> <p><b>Contextual changes</b> Welcome confirmation that the RLDP will have regard to the Second State of Natural Resources Report and the Mid Wales Area Statement. Also refer to Welsh Government’s ‘Essentials Guide – Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and our Well-being’. Encourage the Council to consider how Area Statements can be used to underpin and enhance the RLDP through creating a topic or evidence paper to specifically consider the Section 6 Duty and the Council’s declaration of Climate Emergency.</p> <p><b>RLDP’s Monitoring Framework</b> Should not be a mere update of the existing framework and should look to build upon the Council’s Climate Emergency focus and other national policy and guidance.</p> <p><b>Sustainability Appraisal (SA) monitoring</b> Indicator 19 has not reported on how flood plains have been retained to store water through development thereby reducing flooding in the catchment elsewhere including neighbouring Councils. Welcome that the next AMR will consider NRW’s protected sites baseline assessment 2020 and therefore inform the RLDP. Advise other evidence is also considered in the assessment, including Lichen surveys to investigate ammonia impacts – Report No. 298 (May 2019), and other information available, such as the River Wye Management Plan and Air Pollution Information System.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b> Confirm that NRW’s advice is no longer ‘interim’ advice and will be updated systematically to support the planning process, with next update expected in Spring 2022.</p>	<p><b>Contextual changes</b> Additional text will be inserted under section 5 of the Review Report to refer to this Essentials Guide. The LPA will also consider the suggestion for a topic or evidence paper relating to the section 6 duty as part of the Replacement LDP process.</p> <p><b>RLDP’s Monitoring Framework</b> The Council agrees that the monitoring framework for the RLDP needs to be thoroughly reviewed in order to take into account contextual changes, along with new approaches and information, as noted in section 9 of the Review Report. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Sustainability Appraisal (SA) monitoring</b> The results of the SA monitoring in respect of floodrisk, based on the wording of indicator 19, focuses on monitoring the number of properties at medium or high risk of flooding, rather than on retention of floodplains. The suggestions around other evidence and information are noted. These will be considered in reviewing the SA and its monitoring framework as part of the Replacement LDP process. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Phosphates</b> Additional text to section 5 to clarify that the latest NRW planning advice is no longer ‘interim’ advice.</p> <p><b>Peat</b> The programme and mapping referred to, relating to peat, will be used as evidence to inform the Replacement LDP and associated SA, and to inform the assessment of development proposals. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p> <p><b>Soil degradation</b> Additional text will be inserted in Section 8.2 of the Review Report, to reflect the need to protect soil from degradation,</p>
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	<p><b>Peat</b> Refer to the National Peatland Action Programme priorities and available maps of peat within Wales as available evidence bases to help identify areas in need of protection because of their geological or soil type importance.</p> <p><b>Soil degradation</b> Consideration of the use, conservation and prevention of soil degradation through new farming enterprises requiring planning permission to be taken forward to the RLDP.</p> <p><b>Intensive Agricultural Units</b> Advise the RLDP should address the challenges associated with agricultural developments in Powys. Reminder of the need to put in place policies which consider the cumulative impacts of such developments. Encourage to use sufficient and adequate agricultural, land use, land cover and habitat evidence to inform the RLDP so that agricultural developments are in place which do not threaten the ability of nature recovery efforts, such as Mid Wales Growth Deal funding to restore part of the Montgomery Canal SAC.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Assessment (GIA)</b> Stress that GI should not just be restricted to urban context, the rural urban fringe and wedge concepts should be considered in a future GIA. The GIA might provide a mechanism or delivery vehicle for nature-based solutions and biodiversity enhancements to achieve overarching objectives of the RLDP and Powys Well-being Plan.</p>	<p>within the scope of the planning system, as part of the Replacement LDP process.</p> <p><b>Intensive Agricultural Units</b> As set out in the Review Report, the LDP’s agricultural policies will be reconsidered to reflect contextual changes. Additional text to be inserted under section 8.2 of the Review Report to clarify that this will include consideration of including an appropriate policy for intensive agricultural developments within the Replacement LDP.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure Assessment (GIA)</b> Advice in respect of the scope of the GIA noted and will be considered in undertaking a GIA as part of the evidence base for the Replacement LDP. No changes are proposed to the Review Report in this respect.</p>
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# **POWYS REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2037**

## **Delivery Agreement ~~Consultation Draft~~**



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## Part 1: Introduction

1.1 This Delivery Agreement (DA) has been produced by Powys County Council for the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) which is intended to be operative by April 2026 when the current Local Development Plan (LDP) ends (on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026). In common with the LDP, the RLDP will cover the whole of Powys excluding the area in the Brecon Beacons National Park where the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA) hold jurisdiction as the Local Planning Authority.

1.2 The two main parts of the DA are:

- 1) a Timetable of the key stages of Plan preparation; and
- 2) a Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) which details how and when the community will be able to get involved in the Plan preparation process.

1.3 The DA also sets out how and when the Council will assess and appraise the Plan throughout its production and looks at how the Council intends to review existing Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and prepare new SPG for the RLDP.

1.4 The preparation of the RLDP must integrate with a number of over-arching themes and assessment processes, including National planning policy and Well-being Plans, as shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 1. LDP Process, Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)**



## Current Position and the Review of the Powys LDP (2011-2026)

1.5 The current statutory development plan for the Council is the adopted Powys LDP (2011-2026). It will remain in force whilst the RLDP is being prepared. The adopted LDP is undergoing review and a Review Report (RR) is now being consulted upon alongside this Consultation Draft DA. Due to a number of factors, the RR is recommending that the current LDP was reviewed in 2022 and the review established that the LDP should now be subject to a full revision. A full revision as opposed to a simpler short form procedure (in situations where revisions are not of sufficient significance) means a replacement plan is required.

1.6 Although it is a new LDP, the replacement plan builds on the work of the current LDP and where, for example, issues, objectives, underlying evidence, policies or proposals, remain relevant and up to date they may, upon thorough re-assessment, be carried forward into the RLDP.

## Involvement and Approval Procedures for the Draft DA

1.7 Prior to the public consultation, the Council have involved a number of the Specific Consultation Bodies (See CIS and Appendix 1) as defined by the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 as amended by The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (“the LDP Regulations”), (See CIS and Appendix 1). These include all Town and Community Councils in and adjoining the Powys Local Planning Authority (LPA) area (including those in the BBNPA area of Powys). Involvement has also been sought from the adjoining LPAs.

1.8 An early draft was sent to Powys County Council Officers for comments, including colleagues in Development Management, Highways, Environmental Health, Legal, Communications and Corporate Well-Being. The draft has been provided to the Welsh Government and to the Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) (formerly the Planning Inspectorate).

1.9 At their meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021, the Local Development Plan Working Group approved the Draft DA for public consultation purposes.

1.10 All the Consultation Bodies, together with the wider community, have had the opportunity to comment at the Public Consultation stage (Stage 1 in the Timetable).

1.11 The Council undertook Public Consultation between 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022. The results of the consultation are included in Appendix X (to be inserted in final doc). The revised DA was considered by both the Council’s LDP Working Group and Cabinet in February 2022 and then approved by resolution of the Full Council in a meeting held March 2022 (this sentence tbc)

## Agreeing the DA

1.11 Once the draft DA has been consulted upon and the Council has considered any comments received and made changes to the Timetable and CIS where necessary, the final DA must be approved by resolution of Powys County Council and submitted to and agreed by the Welsh Government to enable the formal start of the RLDP process.

1.12 Conformity with the approved DA is one of the tests of Soundness that the Inspector will assess at the Examination stage.



## The Tests of Soundness

1.13 The Powys LPA cannot submit the RLDP to Welsh Government for examination unless it considers the plan is ready for examination. This means that ‘unsound’ plans should not be submitted for examination. The Powys LPA will need to demonstrate that the plan meets the three tests of soundness set out in the Development Plans Manual:

- Test 1: Does the plan fit? (Is it clear that the LDP is consistent with other plans? This includes consistency with the Delivery Agreement.)
- Test 2: Is the plan appropriate? (Is the plan appropriate for the area in the light of the evidence?)
- Test 3: Will the plan deliver? (Is it likely to be effective?)

## Plan Assessment/Appraisal

1.14 For the RLDP the Council must give consideration to establishing the baseline Sustainability Appraisal (SA) for the new plan (SA includes the requirements of Strategic Environment Assessment/SEA) and reconsider the validity of the adopted SA framework. This means the SA framework for the current LDP will be updated for the RLDP.

1.15 The required stages in the SEA process which must be incorporated are:

- setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding the scope
- developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects
- preparing the environmental report
- consulting on the draft plan or programme and the environmental report
- monitoring the significant effects of implementing the plan or programme on the environment

1.16 National guidance now indicates that an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) may be appropriate which includes consideration of the Well-being of Future Generations Act, Health Impacts, Welsh Language and Equalities Impacts (including the Socio-economic Duty of the Equalities Act 2010). The Scoping Report for SA/ISA will be consulted upon at Stage 2 (see Timetable).

1.17 When the SA/ISA Assessment Framework has been scoped out and established it will be used in the appraisal of proposed RLDP policies and proposals. Reports will be issued to accompany the main RLDP stages and document the iterative assessment and plan preparation process that has been undertaken up to that point. The SA/ISA will also form an integral part of Candidate Site Assessment.

1.18 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) will remain separate. HRA informs preparation of the RLDP’s strategy, policies and land allocations by identifying their potential to impact on nationally designated environmental habitats i.e., Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites. Where a land-use plan would have the potential to significantly affect a site, a detailed Appropriate Assessment is required to assess the impacts and to consider the suitability of options and mitigation measures.

## Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

1.19 The RLDP will contain sufficient policies to provide the basis for determining planning applications. However, SPG has an important supporting role in providing more detailed or site-specific guidance on the way in which RLDP policies will be applied. While SPG does not form part of a Development Plan it should be derived from and be consistent with the relevant LDP. The SPG should also be clearly cross referenced to the policies and proposals it supplements. The Council follows an agreed protocol when preparing SPG and for the current LDP, has adopted SPG for the following topics:

Affordable Housing; Biodiversity and Geodiversity; Renewable Energy; Landscape; Planning Obligations; Conservation Areas; Residential Design; Archaeology; Historic Environment; Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn Place Plan.

1.20 The need to review existing SPG and prepare new SPG will be considered as part of the RLDP preparation process. The Pre-Deposit stage (Stages 2 and 3) will be a key time at which any new SPG needed will be identified. Relevant stakeholders will be consulted during the production of SPG in accordance with an agreed Protocol.

1.21 Where SPG will assist the understanding of the RLDP it will be prepared and consulted on as an intrinsic part of the process of engagement within the DA framework. For each SPG a report of consultation and engagement will be produced and made available with the approved guidance.

## Part 2: The Timetable

2.1 The summarised timetable below shows the main stages of RLDP preparation and the key dates. The timetable is detailed more fully in Appendix 2.

**Table 1. The Powys RLDP Summary Timetable**

**a) Definitive Stages – Definitive periods when consultations will happen**

Stage No.	Stage Name	Stage is Completed between:	Key Consultation Periods
1	Delivery Agreement	November 2021 to June 2022	Public consultation on the Draft DA: January to February 2022  Approval by Committee Processes: March 2022  Submit to Welsh Government: 1st June 2022
2	Pre-Deposit Participation	July 2022 to December 2023 (Stage 2 and 3 combined)	Replacement Plan Preparation Commences: 1st July 2022  Public Call for Candidate Sites: held for at least six weeks from Autumn 2022
3	Pre-Deposit Consultation	July 2022 to December 2023 (Stage 2 and 3 combined)	Public consultation on the Pre-Deposit Plan (the Preferred Strategy): May to June 2023
			From the consultation to the end of December 2023 the Council will be preparing the Deposit Plan.
4	The Deposit Plan	January 2024 to December 2024	Public consultation on the Deposit Plan: February to March 2024
			From the consultation to the end of December 2024 the Council will be preparing for the Submission of the Plan to Welsh Government.

**Table 1 (continued): The Powys RLDP Summary Timetable**

**b) Indicative Stages – these time periods are indicative only and are confirmed later in the process**

Stage No.	Stage Name	Stage is Completed between:	Key Consultation Periods
5	Submission	Target Date: January 2025	Not applicable
6	Examination	11-month process from Submission	Post-deposit changes will be consulted upon in accordance with the Inspector's Programme
7	Inspector's Report	December 2025	Not applicable
8	Adoption	February 2026 (Adoption within 8 weeks of receiving Report)	Not applicable
9	Monitoring and Review	Ongoing post- adoption	Annual Monitoring Reports due October each year and the Plan Review no later than 4 years from adoption date

This is a summary timetable, the full timetable in Appendix 2 includes all the timetabling of the associated Sustainability Appraisal (SA) or Integrated Sustainability Assessment (ISA) Report - incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment – and the timetabling of future Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR).

### The Pre-Deposit Stages and Frontloading

2.2 Powys County Council is committed to ensuring a high quality of stakeholder and community involvement in plan-making. The Community Involvement Scheme set out in Part 3 explains the opportunities for early and continued community involvement which should help in addressing contentious issues, assist in resolving conflicts and allow parties to identify common ground and meet shared goals.

2.3 Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11, 2021) and guidance in the Development Plans Manual (March 2020) is clear that the Council in preparing a RLDP must include significant “front-loading”. This means obtaining detailed evidence upfront and early in the plan making process to inform the delivery of the preferred strategy and subsequent plan stages.

Frontloading will provide a preferred strategy of sufficient detail to allow a meaningful consultation stage (Stage 3) which will then influence the content of the Deposit Plan.

**To achieve this task, it means several important issues will need to be evidenced, considered and provisionally decided upon upfront and in advance of the Pre-deposit/Preferred Strategy consultation in Stage 3 - due in May/June 2023.**

2.4 For the RLDP, the preferred strategy is expected to identify:

- the key places and scale of change;
- sites key to the delivery of the plan;
- infrastructure requirements; and
- demonstrate implementation and delivery.

2.5 It is therefore even more vital than in previous Plans that stakeholders engage with the Council early in the Plan making process and engage during the early part of Stage 2 (i.e. July 2022 to April 2023) in evidence work and stakeholder engagement exercises and in the candidate sites process with an appropriate depth of evidence to influence the content of the preferred strategy . **The Council considers this to be especially relevant either to those proposing new development sites or arguing for existing undeveloped sites to be retained in the RLDP.** Any barriers to development will need to be explored upfront if sites are to have a realistic prospect of being included in the adopted RLDP. Key sites and growth areas will need to be identified by the Council for inclusion at the preferred strategy stage whilst other potential sites will continue to be evaluated over the course of Stage 3/Stage 4. The test for an allocation in the Plan remains – Sites must be evidenced as being suitable, available and deliverable within the Plan period.

2.6 At Stage 3, the Council will produce evidence papers/publish relevant studies to support the preferred strategy and explain and justify the approach taken. It is important that the plan and evidence is informed by the views of stakeholders. At these early stages, as well as later in the Plan making process, the Council welcomes participation from all those with an interest in shaping the future for the sustainable development of Powys. The Community Involvement Scheme provides a consistent framework allowing us to reach the right participants.

### Factors Considered within the Timetable

2.7 The Timetable is fundamentally driven by the need to have a Replacement Local Development Plan in place by April 2026 to ensure that there is no policy vacuum when the current LDP expires. Nevertheless, it must be realistic and in drawing up the Timetable the Council have followed the advice of the Development Plans Manual and have accounted for:

- Member Decision Making
- Timings between Statutory Stages
- Staff Resources and Budgets
- the Procedural Guidance issued by PEDW.

### Staff Resources and Budgets

2.8 The Council's Planning Policy team will lead in the production and management of the RLDP process, including the preparation of any consultation documents.

2.9 The Council's Communications and Engagement Officer/Communications Team will be asked to assist at the participation and consultation stages and the expertise of various Council officers will be sought as relevant at preparation stages (e.g. from highways, environmental protection, legal, ecology, sustainable drainage, business analytics and research etc).

2.10 Table 2 shows the Planning Policy officer time which will be dedicated to the production of the LDP.

**Table 2. Planning Policy Staffing and the RLDP**

<b>Title of Officer</b>	<b>Number of Staff</b>	<b>% of Time Allocated To LDP Work</b>
Professional Lead – Planning	1	20
Principal Officer - Planning Policy	1	100
Senior Officer – Planning Policy	2.4	100
Planner	1	100

2.11 The Council will commission expert consultants to work on a variety of topic matters and evidence gathering tasks during the RLDP’s preparation and additional funding is subject to approval by Powys County Council as part of its annual budget setting.

2.12 It will also be necessary to call upon staff resources from other internal departments to assist in undertaking various evidence base updates/assessments. This is likely to include officer support from: Housing, Development Management, Highways/Infrastructure, Education, Democratic Services and Legal Services.

2.13 The DA has been prepared on the basis of a Powys RLDP only. Work is, however, on-going on a regional basis and collaboration with Ceredigion County Council and the BBNPA as neighbouring authorities will continue to be fundamental to the preparation of the RLDP, particularly with regard to a joint evidence base, where appropriate.

## **Risk Management**

2.14 Having considered the resource input to the RLDP process, the Council considers that the proposed timetable is both realistic and achievable. Notwithstanding this, the Council has identified certain risk areas that could result in some departure from the proposed timetable (see Appendix 3). The Council will continue to monitor the timetable during the preparation process and any significant deviation will be reported and managed in consultation with the Welsh Government and relevant stakeholders.

## Part 3: The Community Involvement Scheme

3.1 One of the key outcomes for the LDP system is for the Plan to:

**Be based on and underpinned by early, effective and meaningful community involvement in order to understand and consider a wide range of views, with the aim of building a broad consensus on the spatial strategy, policies and proposals. (Development Plans Manual, Edition 3).**

3.2 To set the framework for this, this part of the DA details the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) explaining who, how and when stakeholders and the community can become involved in the production of the RLDP. The Council is committed to complying with the CIS which is also a test of Soundness (see para 1.13).

3.3 The CIS sets out the detail of the Council's RLDP involvement scheme arranged for each stage of the Timetable explaining who will be involved, how they will be involved, when they will be involved, how views will be taken into account and how feedback will be given. The CIS is an opportunity to work Collaboratively and Involve People, two of the ways of working which are identified in the Well-Being of Future Generations Act which applies to public bodies.

3.4 **The following Community Involvement Scheme sets out what the Council intends to do as minimum in the preparation of the Powys Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP). Where time and resources allow, the Council will endeavour to provide additional opportunities for engagement.**

- Community Involvement at Stage 1 Delivery Agreement (DA), Regulations 5-10 (A Definitive Stage):

WHY? Summary of key steps	WHEN? Broad Timescale	WHO? Who will be involved	HOW? Methods of Engagement	HEARING BACK Reporting mechanisms	SA / SEA / ISA
<p><b>The DA is a project management tool which will result in an agreed timetable and community involvement scheme for the RLDP (2022-20237).</b></p> <p><b>The DA is drafted with the input of targeted stakeholders and then issued for Public Consultation.</b></p> <p><b>Submission of Final DA to Welsh Government following Council approval.</b></p> <p><b>DA Agreed by Welsh Government – meaning the formal start of the RLDP in line with Timetable.</b></p>	<p>Drafting: November to December 2021</p> <p>At least three weeks (non-statutory) Public Consultation January to February 2022</p> <p>Council to approve the DA in March 2022</p> <p>DA to be submitted to Welsh Government (WG)</p> <p>WG to respond within four weeks</p> <p>RLDP preparation to formally commence July 2022</p>	<p>Drafting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Targeted stakeholders</li> <li>PCC internal departments</li> <li>Councillors</li> <li>LDP Working Group</li> </ul> <p>Public Consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All stakeholders</li> </ul> <p>Planning and Environment Decision Wales are kept informed</p> <p>County Councillors</p> <p>Welsh Government</p>	<p>Drafting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emailing</li> <li>Report/presentation to LDP Working Group</li> </ul> <p>Public Consultation: advertised via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emailing</li> <li>Website</li> <li>Press and social media</li> </ul> <p>The Consultation Documents and Representation forms will be made available via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website</li> <li>At the 12 Libraries</li> </ul> <p>The Final DA will be made available on the website and at County Hall, Llandrindod Wells.</p>	<p>Council meeting Agendas and Minutes will record the political process.</p> <p>Any comments will be considered, the DA amended if required and comments/changes recorded in the Final DA.</p>	<p>Internal work on updating/re-evaluating the SA/SEA framework and baseline used for LDP (2011-26)</p> <p>The Council will consider adopting a holistic single Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) covering sustainability, environmental, health, well-being, equalities, and Welsh language</p>

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- Community Involvement at Stage 2 Pre-Deposit Participation, Regulation 14 (A Definitive Stage)

WHY? Summary of key steps	WHEN? Broad Timescale	WHO? Who will be involved	HOW? Methods of Engagement	HEARING BACK Reporting mechanisms	SA / SEA / ISA
<p><b>To understand the context and issues to be addressed in the RLDP and to generate a vision and objectives.</b></p> <p><b>Review and update existing evidence base.</b></p> <p><b>Call for Candidate Sites.</b></p> <p><b>Engage with consultees to develop consensus on vision, issues and objectives.</b></p> <p><b>Obtain Council approval on Draft Preferred Strategy to go out to public consultation.</b></p> <p><b>Prepare a statutory consultation on the SA/ SEA Baseline Scoping Report.</b></p>	<p>From July 2022</p> <p>The Call for Sites will be open for at least six weeks from Autumn 2022</p> <p>This stage will include a five-week statutory consultation on the SA/ SEA Baseline Scoping Report</p>	<p>Targeted stakeholder engagement to generate alternative strategies and options for the RLDP</p> <p>Call for Candidate Sites will be a public stage for all stakeholders</p> <p>Environmental Consultation Bodies consulted on the SA/SEA (ISA) Baseline Scoping</p> <p>LDP Working Group</p> <p>Council to approve document for public consultation</p>	<p>Targeted stakeholder engagement via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emailing</li> <li>Virtual Events</li> <li>Potentially one to one meetings</li> </ul> <p>The Call for Candidate Sites will be publicised using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website</li> <li>Emailing</li> <li>Press/social media</li> </ul> <p>The Council will publish Guidance to Applicants and a Candidate Sites Assessment Methodology to explain the anticipated site analysis and selection process.</p>	<p>Background Evidence Papers will be published on the website as they become available</p> <p>The Council will produce a Register of Candidate Sites</p> <p>Council meeting Agendas and Minutes will record the political process</p>	<p>Statutory consultation on the Scoping Report</p> <p>Scoping means to set the context, establish the baseline and decide on the SA scope and objectives</p> <p>Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) will remain separate from other assessment</p>

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- Community Involvement at Stage 3 Pre-Deposit Public Consultation, Regulation 15 of the RLDP (A Definitive Stage)

WHY? Summary of key steps	WHEN? Broad Timescale	WHO? Who will be involved	HOW? Methods of Engagement	HEARING BACK Reporting mechanisms	SA / SEA / ISA
<p><b>To consult widely providing opportunity for comment on:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The LPA's preferred strategy, options and proposals together with alternatives.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Publication of the candidate sites register.</b></p> <p><b>Publication of supporting documents (evidence).</b></p>	<p>To be completed by December 2023</p> <p>Six-week Statutory Public Consultation on the Preferred Strategy May to June 2023</p>	<p>Public consultation with all stakeholders</p>	<p>Public Consultation: advertised via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emailing</li> <li>Website</li> <li>Press and social media</li> </ul> <p>The Consultation Documents and Representation forms will be made available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>on the website</li> <li>at County Hall, Llandrindod Wells and at the 12 Libraries</li> </ul> <p>The Consultation will provide the means of entering Representations electronically on an interactive web-based system</p> <p>The Council will provide notice and statement of pre-deposit matters at this stage in compliance with the Regulations</p>	<p>Representations and Council responses to them will be reported to the LDP Working Group.</p> <p>Representations and Council responses, together with any changes to the Pre-Deposit Plan arising from the representations, will be made publicly available as part of the Consultation Report (Stage 4)</p> <p>Council meeting Agendas and Minutes will record the political process</p>	<p>The Council will follow best practice and consult on SA/SEA (ISA) of proposals and alternatives alongside Preferred Strategy</p>

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			During the Consultation period the Council will organise and publicise Virtual Events for consultation purposes		
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Following the Pre-Deposit Public Consultation closing, the Council has allocated a six-month period to end of 2023 in which to prepare the Deposit Plan (see Timetable).

- Community Involvement at Stage 4 Deposit of Proposals, Regulation 17 (A Definitive Stage)

WHY? Summary of key steps	WHEN? Broad Timescale	WHO? Who will be involved	HOW? Methods of Engagement	HEARING BACK Reporting mechanisms	SA / SEA / ISA
<b>Obtain Council approval on Draft Deposit Plan to go out to public consultation.</b>  <b>To consult widely providing opportunity to comment on:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Deposit LDP</li> <li>The SEA/SA (ISA) report</li> </ul> <b>Publication of supporting</b>	To be completed by December 2024  Six-week Statutory Public Consultation on the Deposit Plan (to include consultation on the Environmental Report). February to March 2024	Council to approve document for public consultation  Public consultation with all stakeholders	Public Consultation: advertised via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emailing</li> <li>Website</li> <li>Press and social media</li> </ul> The Consultation documents and Representation forms will be made available <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>on the website</li> <li>at County Hall, Llandrindod Wells and at the 12 Libraries</li> </ul> The Consultation will provide the means of entering Representations electronically	Council meeting Agendas and Minutes will record the political process  The Council will record all duly made representations and make a copy of them available for inspection at County Hall, Llandrindod Wells  The website will give details on the representations received.  Updating of Candidate Sites Register to include	SA / SEA (ISA) documents consulted on alongside the Deposit LDP for the same period

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<p><b>documents (evidence).</b></p> <p><b>The Initial Consultation Report is published.</b></p>			<p>on an interactive web-based system.</p> <p>The Council will provide notice and statement of the Deposit matters at this stage in compliance with the Regulations.</p> <p>Council will consider the need for consultation events</p>	<p>New/Alternative site representations</p> <p>Representations and Council responses will be added to the Consultation Report (the updated report is made available at the Stage 5)</p>	
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Following the Deposit Plan Public Consultation closing, the Council has allocated a nine-month period to end of 2024 (very early 2025) in which to prepare the Submission (see Timetable). This will include ongoing reporting to the LDP Working Group.

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- Community Involvement at Stage 5 Submission of LDP, associated and other required documents to the Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decisions Wales for Independent Examination, Regulation 22 (An Indicative Stage)

WHY? Summary of key steps	WHEN? Broad Timescale	WHO? Who will be involved	HOW? Methods of Engagement	HEARING BACK Reporting mechanisms	SA / SEA / ISA
<p><b>The Council submits its LDP to Welsh Government and to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) for Independent Examination.</b></p> <p><b>The documents to be submitted include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deposit Plan</li> <li>• SA/SEA (ISA), HRA</li> <li>• Community Involvement scheme / DA</li> <li>• Consultation report</li> <li>• Review Report</li> <li>• Candidate sites register</li> <li>• Copy of the duly made representations received at deposit</li> <li>• Supporting documents / evidence base</li> </ul> <p><b>All stakeholders to be notified that the LDP has been submitted.</b></p>	January 2025	All stakeholders (including representors) to be notified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website</li> <li>• Emailing</li> </ul> <p>Copies will be sent to the Welsh Government and PEDW for Independent Examination as prescribed by the Regulations</p> <p>The Council will publish a statement on its website that the LDP has been submitted for examination and will make available for inspection during normal office hours at County Hall, Llandrindod Wells</p> <p>The RLDP and all the submission documents will be published online.</p>	<p>The Council will publish correspondence from the Inspector.</p> <p>The Programme Officer will set up an Examination Website</p>	The SA / SEA (ISA) report is submitted showing how the appraisal processes have informed the Plan's content.

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- Community Involvement at Stage 6 Examination, Regulation 23 (An Indicative Stage)

WHY? Summary of key steps	WHEN? Broad Timescale	WHO? Who will be involved	HOW? Methods of Engagement	HEARING BACK Reporting mechanisms	SA / SEA / ISA
<p><b>Notification of Independent Examination.</b></p> <p><b>To advise where and when the first Hearing will take place and who has been appointed to carry out the Examination (i.e., the name of the Inspector).</b></p> <p><b>Publish details of Hearing Sessions and notify all interested parties specifying dates and location.</b></p> <p><b>Seek common ground with objectors to focus hearing sessions.</b></p> <p><b>Prepare Matters Arising Changes (MACs) as appropriate.</b></p> <p><b>Consult on Matters Arising Changes.</b></p>	<p>Notification received at least six weeks before the start of the first Hearing of the Independent Examination</p> <p>Estimated Hearings Commencement March to April 2025</p>	<p>All interested parties (including representors) as relevant to specific hearing sessions</p> <p>Matters Arising Changes: All stakeholders</p>	<p>Public Examination as managed by the Inspector and the Programme Officer</p> <p>Examination is open to any member of the public to attend</p> <p>Examination Library is made available for inspection at venue (venue tbc)</p> <p>Round table discussions/ hearings/ formal hearings as prescribed by the Inspector and published via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Examination website</li> </ul> <p>All Hearing Agendas, Statements and Actions to be published on website.</p> <p>Any Matters Arising Changes will undergo Public Consultation: advertised via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emailing</li> <li>Website</li> <li>Press and social media</li> </ul>	<p>The Council's Programme Officer will manage the Examination website which will inform all parties of the Examination's progress</p> <p>The Council will consult with stakeholders and the public on any proposed post-deposit changes (Matters Arising Changes) in accordance with instructions from the Inspector</p>	<p>SA/SEA (ISA) related duly made representations can appear at examination</p> <p>Any changes made post-deposit (Matters Arising Changes) during examination, or those required by the Inspector) will be subject to assessment and made available for consultation</p>

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			<p>The Consultation Documents and Representation forms be made available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• on the website</li><li>• at County Hall, Llandrindod Wells and at the 12 Libraries</li></ul>	<p>Decisions follow later in the Inspector's Report</p>	
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- Community Involvement at Stage 7 Publication of the Inspector’s Report, Regulation 24 (An Indicative Stage)

WHY? Summary of key steps	WHEN? Broad Timescale	WHO? Who will be involved	HOW? Methods of Engagement	HEARING BACK Reporting mechanisms	SA / SEA / ISA
<p><b>Council receives Inspectors Report detailing the outcome of the Independent Examination.</b></p> <p><b>Inspector’s Report is published following receipt (within prescribed 8-week period).</b></p> <p><b>Where the Inspector recommends changes to the RLDP, these changes are binding on the Council and the RLDP must be updated to take account of the recommendations.</b></p> <p><b>Inform interested parties of receipt and publication of Inspector’s Report.</b></p>	<p>Receipt of Report expected by December 2025</p> <p>This must be published by the Council on or before LDP adoption</p>	<p>All stakeholders (including representatives) to be notified.</p>	<p>Publish Inspector’s Report on the website and make report available for inspection at County Hall, Llandrindod Wells.</p>	<p>The Inspectors report will include the recommendations of the Inspector and the reasons for them.</p>	

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- Community Involvement at Stage 8 Adoption, Regulation 25 (An Indicative Stage)

WHY? Summary of key steps	WHEN? Broad Timescale	WHO? Who will be involved	HOW? Methods of Engagement	HEARING BACK Reporting mechanisms	SA / SEA / ISA
<p><b>To follow procedures to formally adopt the RLDP (2022-2037) and to widely publicise its adoption.</b></p>	<p>To adopt within 8 weeks of the receipt of the Inspector’s Report</p> <p>The Council aims to adopt the RLDP in February 2026 as the new Plan is required by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 latest to ensure that it replaces the expiring LDP (2011-2026) without a policy gap</p> <p>The Post Adoption Statement (under the SEA Directive) is required within 3 months of adoption</p>	<p>Council will make the decision on adopting the Plan</p> <p>All stakeholders to be notified</p>	<p>Publicised via the following channels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emailing</li> <li>• Website</li> <li>• Press and social media</li> </ul> <p>The adopted Plan will be made available as soon as practicable for inspection at County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, together with an adoption statement, and the sustainability appraisal report.</p>	<p>Council meeting Agendas and Minutes will record the political process</p> <p>The completed RLDP will be published on the website</p>	<p>Following Adoption, publish complete appraisals and assessments and proposals for monitoring the plan against their objectives.</p> <p>Information made available to Consultation Bodies and to the public</p>

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## Where to See Documents

3.5 Whilst LDP documents will always be made available on the Council's website, the Council will, in accordance with the LDP Regulations, make all relevant documents available for public inspection at its principal office:

Powys County Hall  
Spa Road East  
Llandrindod Wells  
Powys  
LD1 5LG

Documents will be available during normal office hours.

In addition, during the consultation phases the Council will place a copy of the consultation documents at local libraries for public inspection. The 12 public library venues proposed for this purpose are: Brecon, Builth Wells, Llandrindod Wells, Llanfyllin, Llanidloes, Llanwrtyd Wells, Machynlleth, Newtown, Presteigne, Rhayader, Welshpool and Ystradgynlais.

## Joining the Mailing List

3.6 If you wish your name to be on the database/ mailing list managed by Planning Policy for RLDP purposes, please email: [ldp@powys.gov.uk](mailto:ldp@powys.gov.uk).

3.7 The nature of the CIS helps to ensure that the ten national principles for public engagement (Table 3) are woven into the Development Plan process.

**Table 3. Public Engagement Principles for Wales**

No.	National Principle
1.	Engagement is effectively designed to make a difference
2.	Encourage and enable everyone affected to be involved, if they so choose
3.	Engagement is planned and delivered in a timely and appropriate way
4.	Work with relevant partner organisations
5.	The information provided will be jargon free, appropriate and understandable
6.	Make it easier for people to take part
7.	Enable people to take part effectively
8.	Engagement is given the right resources and support to be effective
9.	People are told the impact of their contribution
10.	Learn and share lessons to improve the process of engagement

3.8 The Council’s Corporate Consultation and Engagement Framework (2018) seeks to ensure that the Council works to best practice and recognises that, as a minimum, the Gunning principles, (paraphrased below), are adhered to:

1. Don’t consult if you have already made up your mind.
2. Give consultees sufficient information in order for them to give your proposals ‘intelligent consideration’.
3. Allow enough time for the exercise.
4. Ensure that ‘conscientious consideration’ is given to the consultation responses.

3.9 In developing the DA and during subsequent Plan participation stages the Planning Policy team will be guided by advice from the Council’s Communications and Engagement Officer.

### Working Towards a More Sustainable Wales – The National Well-Being Goals and Ways of Working

3.10 In line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 (WBFGA) the Council will implement the ‘Five Ways of Working’. This ensures that the Council is working in a manner which meets the Sustainable Development principle. The Five Ways of Working are:

- **Long term** - Taking account of how what we do now may affect communities and services in the future.
- **Prevention** - Acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse.
- **Integration** - Considering how the well-being objectives contribute to each of the well-being goals, affect other objectives, or those of other public bodies.
- **Collaboration** - Working with others to meet the well-being objectives.
- **Involvement** - Involving people in achieving the well-being goals and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of local communities.

3.11 The CIS is drawn up to reflect how the Council will be drawing up the RLDP working through Collaboration and Involvement.

3.12 Through the WBFGA the Council is contributing to the national well-being objective of sustainable development and working, alongside other public bodies in Wales, to a common purpose to achieve the seven national well-being goals of a Wales which is Prosperous, Resilient, Healthier, More Equal, has Cohesive Communities, a Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language and is Globally Responsible. The Council's Development Plan work across Powys will need to demonstrate how it contributes to the seven goals.

### The Local Well-Being Plan

3.13 Sustainable development is about improving the way that we can achieve our economic, social, environmental, and cultural wellbeing with each of the four aspects being as important as the other. To achieve improved well-being in Powys, the Council shares four objectives with its partners in the Powys Public Service Board as set out in the Powys Well-being Plan ("Towards 2040"):

- People in Powys will experience a stable and thriving economy.
- People in Powys will enjoy a sustainable and productive environment.
- People in Powys will be healthy, socially motivated and responsible.
- People in Powys will be connected by strong communities and a vibrant culture.

3.14 The Council's Development Plan work will be co-ordinated to contribute to these four key local objectives which have been identified as being central to promoting well-being in Powys.

### Who Will Be Involved?

3.15 The LDP Regulations set out a number of certain categories of consultee and determines when these bodies groups must be involved. It is usual practice for the Council to engage wider than the minimum requirements. The categories include Specific, General and Government departments and the Council have added Other Consultation Bodies (see para 3.18 onwards) as detailed in Appendix 1. In the CIS tables above please note the Council has grouped these altogether where we commit to engaging "all stakeholders". These include, at the local level, Town and Community Councils as Specific Consultees together with adjoining Local Planning Authorities.

### The LDP Database

3.16 The Council will manage a LDP database for informing and consultation/ mailing purposes with all the consultation bodies, other individuals and organisations and local companies. The Council expects to contact most mailing recipients by email communication as has become the usual practice.

3.17 The Council will manage the LDP database in conformity with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). For the RLDP, existing contacts (from the current LDP 2011-2026 database) will be required to give their consent in writing if they wish to be added to the RLDP database. ~~3.18 para-cut, text moved~~. If you wish for your details to be added to the RLDP database, please email [ldp@powys.gov.uk](mailto:ldp@powys.gov.uk).

## The Consultation Bodies

3.18 The LDP Regulations groups consultees into the categories of Specific Consultation Bodies, General Consultation Bodies and Government Departments.

3.19 Specific and General Consultation Bodies (as defined in the LDP Regulations) are required to be involved at various Plan stages. Government Departments must also be consulted where aspects of the Plan, appear to affect their interests. Powys County Council has identified these groups and listed them in Appendix 1.

3.20 The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) / ISA process obliges consultation with environmental consultation bodies. These are also listed in Appendix 1.

3.21 The Council may also involve at its discretion “such other persons as appear to the Authority to have an interest in matters relating to development in the area”. These have been identified and grouped generically as ‘Other Consultation Bodies’ and are listed in Appendix 1. These non-statutory consultees comprise a number of other individuals, agencies and organisations that the Council consider hold a relevant interest in the Powys LDP area, many of whom have been actively involved or interested in previous development plan work, and who have been invited to get involved or who have requested to be involved in the LDP. Although not listed, the mailing database holds a large number of other names (eg local firms, landowners, individuals) who wish to be included in LDP preparation.

3.22 Anyone wishing to ensure they are included in RLDP consultation may request inclusion in the mailing list and database by contacting [ldp@powys.gov.uk](mailto:ldp@powys.gov.uk) or registering via the website (to be launched in April 2022).

## Using Existing Networks and Groups

3.23 The Council will be able to use existing LPA groups (e.g. LDP Housing Stakeholder group, Planning and Agent Forum) to communicate to people how to become involved in the Plan process and also keep other relevant groups across the Council updated and informed, such as the Powys Public Service Board who meet for the purpose of the Local Well-being Plan and stakeholders involved in Area Statement work (a higher tier plan led by Natural Resources Wales).

## LDP Stakeholders

3.24 Stakeholders are those whose interests are directly affected by the LDP. Anyone with an interest in the future place-making and sustainable development of Powys may therefore be considered a stakeholder. Stakeholder involvement often takes place through representative bodies.

3.25 Stakeholders are all those included in the consultation bodies section above. These names are managed through the LDP consultation database/ mailing list (in compliance with GDPR).

3.26 It is recognised that at times in the development plan process it is more effective to engage a targeted range of stakeholders. To keep participation meaningful and manageable, stakeholder engagement events will be targeted to the most relevant bodies/representors dependant on the topic concerned. This approach has worked successfully for the current LDP and has been used, for example, in the preparation of SPG.

## What We Expect of our Stakeholders

3.27 In order to ensure any comments and representations on the RLDP are considered, they must be submitted within the prescribed timescales. The Delivery Agreement sets out the timetable of relevant stages and provides a guideline of when we will seek your involvement. This will ensure that individual views are considered and taken into account throughout the preparation process.

3.28 Stakeholders should raise legitimate issues that can be addressed by the RLDP and the planning system.

3.29 It may be necessary for bodies to vary their meeting cycles to enable timely responses. Please note that at statutory stages the Council do not have the flexibility to change the period of consultation from that prescribed in the Regulations/detailed in the CIS.

3.30 Consultation bodies should highlight any gaps in the evidence base or information provided and seek to fill the gaps in consultation with the Council to enable robust decision making.

3.31 Sites for consideration for inclusion in the replacement Plan should be brought to the attention of the Council at the Candidate Sites submission stage. Sites should be well-evidenced to demonstrate they can be delivered within the Plan period (2022-2037, effective from 2026) with supporting documentation in line with the guidance which will be issued in the Candidate Sites Assessment Methodology/Candidate Sites Application Pack.

3.32 Please notify the Planning Policy Section ([ldp@powys.gov.uk](mailto:ldp@powys.gov.uk)) should your contact details change during the RLDP preparation period in order for us to keep you fully informed of progress. With regard to Candidate Sites it is noted that land ownership changes may also occur during the process (as may the appointed Land Agent or Planning Consultant) and it is imperative that these are communicated to the Council in order to ensure progress is not delayed.

## What Stakeholders Can Expect of The Council

3.33 The Council wishes to ensure that the replacement plan process includes meaningful, open and constructive community involvement from the outset and it will do all it can to adhere to the published DA and make sure all information is published and available on time.

3.34 The Council will use a range of methods to publicise the progress of the RLDP to ensure that stakeholders and the community are regularly updated. Stakeholders will be notified when feedback is available and, in cases where individual responses are not being forwarded direct, the reporting mechanism to view feedback.

3.35 The Council plans to introduce a new interactive web-based consultation system from April 2022 which will be available for the RLDP engagement stages.

3.36 The Council will do all it can to comply with the commitments set out in this DA but in the event of further disruption due to the Covid 19 pandemic or other factors outside our control, there may be a need to be flexible and adapt to the circumstances at the time.

## Our Approach to Building Consensus

3.37 The Council will seek to build consensus through the various engagement and consultation methods set out within the CIS. Consensus building can only be achieved if the community and other interested parties are kept fully informed and effectively engaged throughout the preparation of the replacement LDP, which will be of particular importance in the early stages of plan preparation.

3.38 Nevertheless, it is recognised that there will be occasions where consensus cannot be achieved and a difference in opinion between certain parties occurs. A clear audit trail of decisions will be maintained in order to ensure that there is transparency in the decision making process, and, to provide assurances to those that disagree that the decisions have been made in an informed and balanced way. However, decisions made will not be revisited via subsequent consultation opportunities, so participants are requested to focus their input on the matter being considered at that stage.

## Hard to Reach (Seldom Heard) and those with Protected Characteristics

3.39 The DA for the current LDP (2011-2026), explained how the Council identified a number of harder to reach (or seldom heard) groups in Powys and how these communities would be reached through umbrella organisations and services to try to engage members of the community who would not usually participate in development plan preparation, including those groups traditionally under-represented.

3.40 For the replacement plan the Council will continue to use the established contact bodies, such as the existing Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO) network. The Childrens and Young Persons Partnership (CYPP), any specialist officers in Powys County Council (e.g. Housing officers for Syrian Refugees, liaison officer for Gypsy and Traveller Community, those dealing with Older Persons Accommodation etc).

~~3.41 The list will continue to be used for RLDP mailings and is repeated below for consultation purposes.~~

### ~~Youth:~~

~~PAVO  
Powys Youth Forum (YOF)  
YMCA (Clubs in Rhayader, Brecon & Llandrindod)  
Local area youth forums  
Schools and Colleges  
Powys Youth Services  
Young Farmers Clubs~~

### ~~Older Persons:~~

~~Age Concern  
50+ Forums  
PAVO  
Powys County Council – Assisted Living/Sheltered Housing  
Womens Institutes (Brecknock, Radnor & Mont)  
Merced Y Wawr~~

**Voluntary Sector:**

PAVO  
Welsh Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA)

**Gypsies, Travellers and Roma:**

Powys County Council – Housing  
Traveller Times  
Planning Aid Wales  
Save the Children

**Farmers & Rural Communities:**

National Farmers Union (NFU)  
Farmers Union of Wales (FUW)  
Country Land & Business Association (CLA)

**Black / Ethnic Minorities (BME):**

Black Voluntary Sector Network Wales (BVSNW)  
Black Ethnic Network,  
Wales Tai Pawb

**Gurkha Community:**

The Gurkha Welfare Trust

**Migrant workers (from eastern Europe):**

Welsh Government Inclusion Unit  
PAVO  
Siawn's Teg

**Disabled:**

Disability Powys  
Local Access Forums / Groups  
PAVO  
RNIB  
Radnor Association for the Blind

**Homeless:**

Powys County Council Homeless Services  
Women's Aid (Brecon and Radnor)  
Montgomery Family Crisis Centre

**Re-settled Families/Communities:**

e.g. Syrian Refugees through Powys County Council Housing

**Welsh Speakers:**



Powys County Council – Welsh Language section  
Welsh Language Forums

### Religious Groups:

CYTUN (Churches together in Wales)  
Catholic Church in England and Wales  
Representative Body of the Church in Wales  
Evangelical Alliance Wales  
The Sikh Cultural Society of Great Britain  
The Buddhist Council for Wales  
The Hindu Cultural Association of Wales  
The Muslim Council of Wales  
The Board of Deputies of British Jews  
Quakers (Religious Society of Friends)

### Sexual orientation:

Friends of Lesbian and Gays Powys [FLAG Powys]  
Freedom – LGBTQ Youth Group – Powys

3.41 The Planning Policy team will seek to work with the Community and Engagement Officer at consultation stages to research who the seldom-heard audiences are and to target those applicable by communicating through organisations such as PAVO, Town and Community Councils and Powys People’s First self-advocacy groups. Relevant groups may also have been identified within the definition of General Consultation Bodies (see Appendix 1). The seldom-heard groups in Powys include:

- Gypsy and Traveller community
- Elderly (Over 80s)
- Unpaid Carers
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Gurkha community
- Disability groups, e.g Learning Disability Forum, Physical Disability and Sensory Loss Forum
- Eastern European community

Groups with Protected Characteristics will be involved in line with the Council’s emerging corporate Public Participation Strategy (target publication date: Summer 2022). The strategy will cover the Council’s work in creating awareness, generating interest, engaging and interacting, and the different levels of involvement, the protected characteristics covered by the Equality Act 2010 and seldom-heard voices, reporting back to participants and the Council’s measures of success.

3.42 As can be seen from the hard to reach list, the Council will continue to use the valuable PAVO network in Powys to engage the third sector. On their website, PAVO explain:

“PAVO is the County Voluntary Council for Powys supporting the third sector in Powys (third sector is a term for the range of organisations including voluntary and community organisations, registered charities and associations, self-help groups and community groups, social enterprises, mutuals and co-operatives.)”

3.43 The Council is aware that different hard to reach groups will have different barriers to accessing and engaging in the LDP process. The advent of the digital age has increased accessibility to documents and offered great scope for people to comment on-line. Equally, the Council is aware that digital communication will not suit all parties. Engagement should be adapted, for example posters and easy-to-read versions of documents may be suitable for school children, older people or those living in remote locations may not have ready access to the internet.

### **Children and Young People**

3.44 The Council's Consultation and Engagement Framework (2018) acknowledges that in recent years, government at all levels has recognised that we need to seek the views of children and young people when planning services which affect them. It cautions that care needs to be taken when engaging with this section of the community. Appropriate methods and levels of consultation must be used so as to avoid ineffective consultation and/or subjecting young people to consultation fatigue.

3.45 Most secondary schools, and the majority of primary schools, in Powys have their own School Council and there is also an all-county Youth Forum, which is accessed to establish the views of children and young people. The Powys Safeguarding group is also accessed in this way. The local Young Farmers' Clubs also have youth forums which Powys County Council is able to access. The Planning Policy Team will involve the Communications and Engagement Officer in reaching these groups which are contactable through the Children and Young Persons Partnership.

## **Roles in the Process**

### **Role of Town and Community Councils**

3.46 The Town and Community Councils of Powys have an important role to play in the preparation of the RLDP. Town and Community Councils in areas in or adjoining the Powys Local Planning Authority fall within the category of the Specific Consultation Bodies.

3.47 Place-making has become increasingly prominent as a central theme of development plan preparation and the Council recognises that local community involvement, is ideally structured through the Town and Community Council network and is an essential component of successful place making.

3.48 The Council will continue to involve One Voice Wales (a principal organisation who represent and support many Town and Community Councils). Consideration will also be given to using Planning Aid Wales to help facilitate community engagement.

### **Role of County Councillors and Council Officers**

3.49 The respective roles and responsibilities of professional officers and elected County Councillors (Members) within the Plan preparation process are distinct. Professional Officers (such as planners, highway engineers, etc) are employed by the Council to provide impartial research, analysis and technical advice to Councillors on all relevant development plan issues within their area of expertise. Professional Officers provide a robust foundation for decision making but will not, unless specifically given delegated powers, take decisions on

behalf of the Council. County Councillors, as democratically elected representatives, are charged with taking decisions on behalf of the electorate to whom they are accountable.

3.50 The Council will continue to use a Local Development Plan Working Group comprising relevant Council Officers and elected County Councillors to oversee all aspects of the replacement plan process, from the initial consultation draft of this Delivery Agreement right up to the Plan's adoption and review. However, formal decisions will need to be taken by the Council's Cabinet and by Powys County Council at key stages.

3.51 Involvement with all County Councillors will be held at important stages of the process including: discussion on the vision, aims and objectives for the plan; to consider the preferred strategy; and to discuss site and settlement specific issues. Councillors will also have an important role to play in acting as local "champions", engaging the community and facilitating the Plan preparation process. County Councillor involvement will be guided by the advice of the Standards Committee and the Members Code of Conduct so as not to prejudice the Councillors in their decision-making role.

3.52 It is useful to note that the Planning, Taxi Licensing and Rights of Way Committee is not involved in the decision making on LDP matters.

### Consideration of Joint Working

3.53 The Delivery Agreement (DA) should clearly articulate from the outset how an LPA can demonstrate maximising collaborative working (test of Soundness).

3.54 Working collaboratively involves consideration of working at the regional level. The Planning system across Wales is becoming a three-tier development plan system incorporating national, regional (strategic) and local level development plans. Since February 2021 Wales has had a national development plan called Future Wales: The National Plan 2040. It influences all levels of the planning system in Wales and will help to shape Strategic and Local Development Plans prepared by Councils and National Park Authorities. The framework provided by Future Wales sets the direction for development in Wales for 20 years with a strategy for addressing key national priorities through the planning system, including sustaining and developing a vibrant economy, achieving decarbonisation and climate-resilience, developing strong ecosystems and improving the health and well-being of our communities.

3.55 Powys is part of the Mid Wales Region. At the present time, a Delivery Agreement for the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) (A regional development plan) for Mid Wales is not expected until at least 2023. This means that at the local level the Council's work on the RLDP is on a different trajectory to that of the emerging SDP for Mid Wales. Work on the RLDP must continue to avoid the risk of a policy vacuum when the current LDP ends. However, the Council recognises there may be useful opportunities to explore and undertake joint working especially with regard to evidence gathering that will serve both Strategic and Local level development plans.

3.56 LDPs must be in conformity with the higher tier development plans above them. This is one of the tests of Soundness which will be tested at Examination.

3.57 During the period of the current LDP, the Council have successfully undertaken joint work on evidence including that relating to Gypsy and Traveller Needs, Local Housing Market Assessment and Regional Employment Sites. The Review Report goes into further detail on how the opportunities for joint working have been explored.

## Welsh Language and Bilingual Engagement

3.58 The RLDP will be prepared bilingually in line with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards. Bilingual engagement will be carried out in the following ways:

- We welcome correspondence in both Welsh and English. Where correspondence is received in Welsh and a reply is necessary, this will be sent in Welsh;
- All consultation letters, comments forms, public notices (including site notices) and newsletters will be bilingual;
- Any pages on the Local Development Plan website and social media posts published on twitter will be bilingual;
- The RLDP once adopted will be available in both Welsh and English Format.

## Appendix 1. List of Consultation Bodies and Other Consultees

### Specific Consultation Bodies (including UK Government Departments)

- Welsh Government
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
- Secretary of State for Wales
- Cadw
- Communication Providers
- Local Health Board – Powys Teaching Health Board
- Electricity and Gas Undertakers
- Sewerage and Water undertakers
- Network Rail
- Home Office
- Ministry of Defence

Relevant authorities (meaning Local Planning Authority, Town or Community Council) “any part of whose area is in or adjoins the area” of the Powys LPA

LPA's adjoining the Powys LPA area:

- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Carmarthenshire
- Ceredigion
- Denbighshire
- Gwynedd.
- Herefordshire (England)
- Neath Port Talbot
- Shropshire (England)
- Snowdonia National Park
- Wrexham

LPA's adjoining the County of Powys:

- Blaenau Gwent
- Caerphilly
- Merthyr Tydfil
- Monmouthshire
- Rhondda Cynon Taf

- Town and Community Councils including those adjoining the LPA area.

### UK Government Departments

- i. Department for Transport
- ii. Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
- iii. Home Office
- iv. Ministry of Defence

### General Consultation Bodies

These are defined in the LDP regulations as:

- I. Voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of Powys.

- II. Bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in Powys.
- III. Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in Powys.
- IV. Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in Powys.
- V. Bodies which represent the interest of persons carrying on Business in Powys
- VI. Bodies which represent the interest of Welsh Culture in Powys.

**The Council have identified the following groups in this category (please note the list is non-exhaustive):**

Adult Learning Wales  
Ancient Monuments Society  
Accessibility Powys  
Age Cymru Powys  
Assemblies of God  
Associating Evangelical Churches in Wales  
Baptist Union of Wales  
Brecknock Access Group  
Brecon and District Mind  
British Retail Consortium  
Buddhist Council for Wales  
Calan Domestic Violence Services  
Catholic Church of England and Wales  
Central Wales Economic Forum  
Chambers Wales South East, South West and Mid  
Church of England  
Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust  
Coed Cymru  
Community Action Machynlleth & District  
Community churches  
Country Land and Business Association  
Confederation of British Industry Wales  
Congregational Federation  
Council for British Archaeology  
Credu – connecting carers  
Cytûn Churches Together in Wales  
Dementia Matters in Powys  
Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee  
Disability Powys  
Disability Wales  
Evangelical Alliance Wales  
Farmers' Union of Wales  
Federation for Master Builders Cymru  
Federation of Small Businesses  
Federation of Women's Institutes in Wales, Montgomery, Radnor and Brecknock  
Federation of Young Farmers Clubs in Wales, Montgomery, Radnor and Brecknock  
Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches  
Free Church Council for Wales  
Gardens Trust  
Georgian Group  
Gypsy and Travellers Wales  
Gypsy Council  
Hindu Cultural Association  
Home Builders Federation

Inter-Faith Council for Wales  
Methodist Church in Wales  
Mencap Cymru  
Menter a Busnes  
Menter Iaith Maldwyn  
Merched y Wawr  
Mid and North Powys Mind  
Mid Wales Manufacturing Group  
Mid Wales Tourism Cymru  
Mudiad Meithrin  
Muslim Council of Wales  
Open Newtown  
Pagan Federation Mid and West Wales  
Plymouth Brethren Christian Church  
Ponhafren Association  
Powys Association for Voluntary Organisations  
Powys Citizens Advice  
Powys People First  
Presbyterian Church of Wales  
Rapid Relief Team  
Relief in Need  
Representative Body of the Church in Wales  
Royal Commission on Ancient & Historical Monuments of Wales  
Salvation Army  
Sense Cymru  
Seventh-day Adventist Church in Wales  
Siawns Teg  
Sikh Council for Wales  
Society of Friends  
Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings  
Tai Pawb  
Theatres Trust  
Twentieth Century Society  
Union of Welsh Independents  
United Reformed Church  
Urdd Gobaith Cymru  
Victorian Society  
Visit Wales  
Wales Council for Voluntary Action  
Wales Tourism Alliance  
Welsh Construction Federation Alliance  
Welsh Historic Gardens Trust  
Ystradgynlais Mind

#### Environmental ~~Consultees~~ Consultation Bodies (SEA Regulations)

- Natural Resources Wales
- Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments
- Natural England
- Environment Agency England
- English Heritage
- Other Government Departments (as considered relevant)

## Other Consultees Consultation Bodies

The Council have identified the following groups in this category (please note the list is non-exhaustive):

Airport Operators  
Barcud Housing Association  
Brecon Beacons Park Society  
British Aggregates Association  
British Geological Survey  
British Horse Society  
Bus Service Operators  
Byways and Bridleways Trust  
Caersws Concerned Residents Group  
Calan Domestic Violence Services  
Calon Cymru Network  
Cambrian Mountains Society  
Campaign for Real Ale  
Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW) Montgomery branch  
Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW) Brecknock and Radnorshire branch  
Campaign Protection of Rural England (CPRE) Shropshire  
Campaign Protection of Rural England (CPRE) Herefordshire  
Canal & River Trust  
Carbon Trust Wales  
Central Wales Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) Group  
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology  
Children's Commissioner for Wales  
Civic Trust Cymru  
Civic Societies  
Civil Aviation Authority  
Clwyd Alyn Housing Association  
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB  
Coal Authority  
Coed Cadw, Woodland Trust in Wales  
Community Housing Cymru Group  
Community Land Advisory Service Cymru  
Community Land Trusts  
Crown Estate Office  
Cymdeithas Eryri / Snowdonia Society  
Cymdeithas yr Iaith / Welsh Language Society  
Design Commission for Wales  
Development Bank of Wales  
Centre for Alternative Technology  
Dolafon Trust  
Dyfi Housing Cooperative  
Dyfed Powys Police  
Eco Dyfi Valley Partnership  
Elan Valley Trust  
English Heritage  
Energy Savings Trust Wales  
Equality and Human Rights Commission in Wales  
Fields in Trust Wales  
First Choice Housing Association  
Friends of the Earth Cymru



Future Generations Commissioner for Wales  
General Aviation Awareness Council  
Glandŵr Cymru Canal & River Trust in Wales,  
Growing Mid Wales Partnership  
Grwp Cynefin Housing Association  
Health and Safety Executive  
Heulwen Trust  
Inland Waterways Association  
Linc Cymru Housing Association  
Llanigon Community Green Space  
Logistics UK (formerly Freight Transport Association)  
Melin Homes  
Members of Parliament for Montgomeryshire, Brecon and Radnorshire  
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service  
Mid Wales Transport Consortium TraCC  
Mineral Products Association  
Montgomery Canal Partnership  
Montgomery Community Care Project  
Montgomery Waterway Restoration Trust  
Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust  
National Trust  
NATS air traffic control services  
Newydd Housing Association  
Offa's Dyke Association  
One Voice Wales  
Open Newtown  
Open Spaces Society  
Office for Nuclear Regulation  
Older Persons Commissioner for Wales  
Planning Aid Wales  
POBL Housing Association  
Post Office Property Holdings  
Powys Local Access Forum  
Powys Nature Partnership  
Powys Ramblers  
Princes Regeneration Trust  
Public Health Wales  
Quarry Products Association Wales  
Radnorshire Society  
Radnorshire Wildlife Trust  
Ramblers Cymru  
Rail Freight Group  
Rhayader 2000  
River Wye Preservation Trust  
Robert Owen Community Banking  
RSPB Cymru  
Professional Bodies  
Senedd Members for Montgomeryshire, Brecon and Radnorshire, and the Mid Wales region  
Shelter Cymru (added)  
Shrewsbury – Aberystwyth Rail Passengers Association (SARPA)  
Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership  
Shropshire Union Canal Society  
South East Wales Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) Group  
Sustrans Cymru  
Swansea Canal Society

Sports Wales  
Transport for Wales  
Traveller Law Reform Coalition  
Wales Cooperative Centre  
Wales Environment Link  
Wales & West Housing Association  
Welsh Ambulance Services  
Welsh Environmental Services Association  
Welsh Kite Trust  
Welsh Language Commissioner  
Welsh Local Government Association  
Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales  
Wye and Usk Foundation

- Agricultural / Rural Support Groups
- Arts, Museums, Theatres and Music Groups
- Built Environment/Historical and Amenity Groups
- Business Interest Groups
- Charities (may fall into the General list)
- Community Groups
- Community Regeneration Groups
- Education, Learning & Training Representatives
- Emergency Services
- Energy Groups
- Environment Groups
- Fire and Rescue Services and Police
- Firms and Local Businesses
- Health Care Representatives
- Home Builders Federation Limited
- Housing Provision (Housing Associations & Developers)
- Housing Organisations including representative bodies, Registered Social Landlords/Housing Associations, Cooperative Housing Groups, Community Land Trusts etc
- Landowners and Other Individuals
- Minerals Groups
- Members of Parliament /Members of Senedd
- Planning Consultants
- Political Groups
- Powys County Council Internal Consultees
- Public Service Board
- Professional Bodies / Quangos
- Sport and Recreation Groups
- Tourism Groups
- Transport Infrastructure & Provision Representatives
- Waste Groups
- Wildlife and Conservation Groups
- Youth Groups
- Schools/Academic Groups including Early Years and Higher Education
- Welsh Language Groups
- Mental Health Support Groups

- Young Children/Nursery/Playgroup and Older Youth Groups  
Landscape/Natural Environment Protection Groups
- Community Land Trusts

## Appendix 2. The Detailed Timetable

The timetable for the RLDP contains definitive stages (1-4) over which the Council has a degree of control, and indicative stages (5-8) which are dependent upon external factors. Stage 9 refers to the follow up stages of Monitoring and Review. This timetable is critical to ensure that a replacement plan has been examined, found sound and is operative immediately on or before expiration of the current LDP at the end of March 2026 . This will avoid a policy vacuum.

The timetable includes key dates for the preparation and publication of the associated Sustainability Appraisal Report (this is anticipated to be undertaken on an Integrated Appraisal basis).

Presuming a RLDP is adopted in February 2026, the first Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the replacement plan will be due on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2027. In the interim the Annual Monitoring of the current adopted LDP will continue with the results being used to help shape the emerging content of the RLDP.

## THE POWYS RLDP TIMETABLE

The Regulations refer to: The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 as amended by The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015

### Definitive Stages

**Table 4. Stages 1-3, Delivery Agreement, Evidence Gathering and Stakeholder Involvement, Pre-Deposit Participation and Consultation.**

Stage	Details	Purpose	Dates	Resulting Documents
1	<b>The Delivery Agreement</b> (Regulations 5-10)	To agree an appropriate Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme for RLDP preparation. Sustainability Appraisal (SA/ISA) – Consider tasks	November 2021 to March 2022 to include:  At least 3 weeks non-statutory Public Consultation January-February 2022  Council approval process March 2022  Submit to Welsh Government 1 June 2022	An Approved Delivery Agreement
2	<b>Evidence Gathering and Stakeholder Involvement</b>	To gather information and evidence to understand the context for and issues to be addressed in the RLDP.  To make a Call for Candidate Sites and prepare a Candidate Sites Register.  To generate a vision and objectives for the Replacement Local Development Plan	Plan preparation formal commencement: 1 July 2022  Stage 2 and 3 are conducted between July 2022 and December 2023 and include:  At least 6 weeks Call for Sites from Autumn 2022	Background Evidence Papers  Minutes/Notes/Action Points from Stakeholder Engagement Exercises  Candidate Sites Assessment Methodology and Candidate Sites Application Pack

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Stage	Details	Purpose	Dates	Resulting Documents
		SA/ISA: Scoping stage: Set the context, establish the baseline and decide on the SA/SEA scope and objectives	A 5-week Statutory consultation with Environmental Bodies on the Integrated (includes SA/SEA) Baseline Scoping Report	The SA/ISA Scoping Report
<b>Within Stage 2</b>	<b>Pre-Deposit Participation</b> (Regulation 14)	To develop and assess strategic options, test alternatives and agree a preferred strategy for the RLDP, drawing on all the evidence gathered in Stage 2	Ongoing: July 2022 to April 2023	Internally a Draft Preferred Strategy will be prepared (initially for Council approval processes)
<b>3</b>	<b>Pre-Deposit Consultation</b> (Regulations 15 and 16)  <b>Consult on the Initial SA Report</b>	To consult widely on the preferred strategy, strategic options and their associated assessments.  SA/ISA: Appraisal of alternatives stage: Develop and refine reasonable alternatives and assess effects, Prepare the Initial SA Report	6-week Statutory Public Consultation May-June 2023	Preferred Strategy setting out the vision, objectives, preferred strategy and key policies.  The Candidate Sites Register  Supporting documents  Publish SA/ISA of proposals and alternatives in the Initial SA Report

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 5-10,14, 15 and 16 (2004) and Regulation 2 (5,10) and 16a (2015).

During Stage 3, following the consultation, the Council has allocated six months to the end of 2023 in which to prepare the Deposit Version of the Plan. Duly made representations at the Pre-Deposit stage will be carefully considered with details of the consultation arrangements, the issues raised and how they have been addressed summarised and recorded in an Initial Consultation Report (Regulation 16A). The SA/ISA Framework will be used to assess and mitigate the effects of the Deposit plan with the results of the assessment(s) recorded as part of the SA Report (the “Environmental Report”). The SA report will record the results of assessing any revised or new options resulting from public consultation or other changes plus representations from Stage 3 (the statutory environmental consultation bodies will be notified and given the opportunity to comment).

**Table 5. Stage 4, Deposit RLDP**

Stage	Details	Purpose	Dates	Resulting Documents
4	<p><b>Publish and Consult on Deposit LDP and supporting documents, make available for inspection.</b> (Regulation 17)</p> <p><b>Consult on SA Report</b></p>	<p>To allow for formal representations to be made on the Council’s proposals.</p> <p>SA/ISA: Assessment of the Deposit Plan and preparation of SA Report</p>	<p>This stage is conducted between January 2024 and December 2024 and includes:</p> <p>6-week Statutory Public Consultation February - March 2024</p>	<p>Deposit Plan and supporting documents</p> <p>Initial Consultation Report</p> <p>The Updated Candidate Sites Register will include new and alternative sites</p> <p>Publish SA/ISA of proposals in The SA Report</p>

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 17, 18 and 19 (2004).

Following Stage 4 consultation, the Council has allocated nine months to the end of 2024 to:

- record and analyse the deposit representations (Regulations 18) and to make them available for inspection (Regulation 19),
- draft Council responses and consider changes (Focused Changes are to be the exception),
- continue with the preparation of updates/additional evidence,
- finalise the consultation report including ongoing results of SA/ISA
- and to prepare all submission documents.

**Indicative Stages**

**Table 6. Stages 5-9, Submission, Examination, Inspectors Report, Adoption and Annual Monitoring Report**

Stage	Details	Purpose	Dates	Resulting Documents
5	<p><b>Submission of LDP to Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate* for Independent Examination</b> (Regulation 22)</p> <p><b>Make available relevant documentation</b></p> <p><b>Council will follow published guidance on preparation/procedures for submission and examination).</b></p>	<p>Provision of RLDP, the Council’s opinion on representations made in stage 4 and other supporting documents (including updated Consultation Report) to the Welsh Government prior to formal examination.</p>	January 2025	Publicise the submission and make documentation available
6	<p><b>Independent Examination conducted by PEDW</b> (Regulation 23)</p>	<p>To provide an impartial planning view on the soundness of the LDP</p> <p>At the Examination Stage SA/ISA continues to ensure any changes made to the deposit plan (Focussed Changes, Matters Arising Changes during examination, or those required by the Inspector) are sustainable.</p>	<p>PEDW indicate that the Examination process takes place within 11 months of submission</p>	<p>During the Examination Stage any Proposed Post Deposit Changes (Matters Arising Changes) will be made available for consultation (including the SA/ISA assessment associated with them).</p>
7	<p><b>Inspector’s Report</b> (Regulation 24)</p>	<p>Receipt of the Inspector’s findings from the Independent Examination.</p>	December 2025	<p>The Council will be provided with and will publish the Inspector’s Report on or before Plan adoption</p>
8	<p><b>Adoption</b> (Regulation 25)</p>	<p>To make operative the LDP as the statutory Development Plan for the Local Planning Authority’s area</p>	<p>Within 8 weeks of receiving Report (Stage 7) February 2026</p>	<p>The Replacement Local Development Plan (2022-2037)</p>

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Stage	Details	Purpose	Dates	Resulting Documents
		(LDP and Adoption Statement sent to Welsh Government).		An Adoption Statement
		LDP made available for inspection, adoption statement is produced and published		The SA/ISA Report The Consultation Report
		SA/ISA: Finalise SA Report and /Environmental Statement		Within 6 weeks of adoption: A Post Adoption Statement on the SA framework
<b>9</b>	<b>Annual Monitoring and Review</b> (Regulation 37 and 41(1))	Production of an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) Inclusive of Monitoring under Regulation 17 of the SEA Regulations of 'significant environmental effects' and submit to Welsh Government.  Commence Development Plan review at least every 4 years	Submission of first AMR based on the monitoring framework in the RLDP: On/before 31 October, in year following adoption	AMR for the RLDP due in 2027 (provided adopted RLDP covers the first full financial year 1 April to 31 March) and annually thereafter.  1 <sup>st</sup> Statutory Review within 4 years of adoption date, by April 2030.

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 22, 23, 24, 25 37, (2004) and Regulation 2 (17, 19) 41 (1) (2015)

## Appendix 3. Risk Assessment

While every effort will be made to avoid deviations from the proposed timetable, the Council has identified a number of risks which are set out below, together with the Council's approach to managing them.

**Table 7. Risks to the RLDP Preparation Process**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Potential Impact</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>
<p><b>Timetable proves too ambitious due to greater than anticipated workload or delayed evidence/evidence emerging at times unsynchronised to the DA.</b></p> <p><b>Timing of Critical Evidence (outside scope of LPA) may not accord to DA Timetable - E.g. Census 2021 results, River Quality (SAC) Evidence</b></p>	Programme Slippage	Medium-High	<p>Consider additional resources.</p> <p>Plan Evidence Needs and Undertake/ Commission Evidence Gathering well in Advance</p> <p>Prepare the Plan to be adaptable and responsive/flexible to change where possible</p>
<b>Additional requirements arising from new legislation or guidance, or new evidence, other Plans and Strategies and assessment processes</b>	Additional work required, potential uncertainty and programme slippage	Medium-High	Monitor emerging legislation / guidance and respond early to changes where this is possible
<b>COVID 19 pandemic disruptions</b>	Continued uncertainty – implications on compliance with the CIS, impact on staffing/staff availability for both internal and external stakeholders	High	<p>Adapt CIS engagement exercises</p> <p>Work with Deposit venues to ensure as much accessibility as possible within limitations set by Covid rules</p>
<b>Commissioning Delays or Dealing with Incomplete evidence – e.g., addressing significant unknowns such as site related infrastructure costs</b>	Programme Slippage	Medium	<p>Project Management and careful selection of consultants</p> <p>Work with Developers to reach solutions/improve depth of evidence</p>

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Potential Impact</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>
			Draw up and agree Statements of Common Ground to facilitate process
<b>Sufficiency of Resources (Financial &amp; Staff), e.g. To deal with Workload at Peak Periods, Costs and Availability of Expert Consultants, risk of Staff changes/recruitment delays</b>	Programme Slippage	Medium	Budget planning in advance  Ensure LDP maintains highest priority Allocate sufficient funds in the RLDP budget in addition to a contingency budget to address unforeseen costs
<b>IT Projects Overrun (e.g. Consultation Database, Constraints Mapping)</b>	Programme Slippage, Increased Workload	Low	Project Management
<b>Delays caused by Welsh translation and/or the printing process</b>	Programme Slippage	Low	Consider additional resources  Work closely with relevant departments
<b>County Council Elections and political powershift – May 2022</b>	Programme Slippage	Low	Realistic timetable  Involvement of all political groups
<b>Consultation Bodies unable to comment as quickly as expected</b>	Insufficient Information to Inform the Plan	Medium	Close liaison to ensure early warning of any problems
<b>Consultation Bodies fail to comment</b>	Programme Slippage		Ensure views of consultation bodies are sought and considered early in process and follow up engagement thereafter  Foster good relationships and make connections
<b>Lack of consensus throughout the organisation and/ or lack of support from officers/other departments in production of the evidence base</b>	Programme slippage	Low/Medium	Ensure close liaison with, and early involvement of key Members and Officers

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Potential Impact</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>
<b>Involvement in preparation of Strategic Development Plan (SDP)</b>	Programme slippage. Resource implications, extent of input to the SDP currently unknown.	Low-Medium	Ensure sufficient resources are available and corporate support of SDP process and timetable from outset aligned to RLDP preparation.
<b>Early Review of RLDP or RLDP halted before adoption due to requirement to align with a Strategic Development Plan</b>	Programme slippage	Low	Ensure involvement in progress of regional work. Continued liaison with Welsh Government.
<b>Direction from Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary to prepare a Joint Plan.</b>	Work on individual RLDP would be abortive.	Low	Ensure close liaison with Welsh Government. Continue to involve Mid Wales partner LPAs in joint/collaborative working initiatives
<b>PEDW unable to meet timescale for examination and reporting</b>	Examination and/or report is delayed  Key milestones in programme are not met		Early liaison with PEDW Establish Service Level to ensure agreed timetable is met
<b>Programme Slippage results in a Failure to adopt LDP by 1 April 2026</b>	Powys LPA is left without the decision-making framework of an adopted LDP	Low	Adherence to the DA, allow for only minimum slippage (3 months)  Project Management and forward planning  Ensure LDP maintains highest priority at corporate level

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.****CABINET  
22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Rachel Powell  
Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People

**REPORT TITLE:** Response to the staffing and other pressures in the  
Children's Social Services

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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**1. Purpose**

To inform Cabinet of the staffing crisis and other pressures across the workforce in Children's Services, the potential associated risks and impact, and to seek support for the recommended short- and longer-term solutions.

**2. Background**

A combination of factors has led to Children's Services being placed under considerable and sustained pressures, resulting in the risk of it being unable to meet its statutory responsibilities and regulatory requirements. There is an increasing likelihood that risk management for children will be compromised as social workers and practitioners become overwhelmed with the responsibility of having to manage their workload across all levels of need and demand.

Powys Children's Services is facing severe recruitment challenges in the Assessment, Care and Support, Court and Through Care social work teams. The shortage of adults and children's social workers is acknowledged as a UK-wide issue. The social worker vacancy rate in these teams is currently 54%.

Some nearby Local Authorities are responding to the crisis by increasing the payments to social workers. An example, as reported in the [press](#), is Swansea Children's Services who have announced that they are introducing an additional £6,000 payment incentive to social workers in hard to recruit frontline teams. In response, Pembrokeshire has introduced a £5,000 payment. There is a real risk that we will lose permanent social workers and will have to replace them with temporary agency workers at a current average additional cost of £23,500 per social worker per annum.

If Powys Children's Services were to follow suit and increase the existing market supplement, it would create a pressure of £123,194.47 (21/22) and £257,000.00 (22/23).

Whilst there have been well-documented challenges, it is evident that the global pandemic has impacted further on the ability to maintain a stable workforce who have case responsibility for the most high-risk and complex children in the service.

Staffing has been at a critical point in key service areas, since the summer and despite consistent attempts to recruit, including reenergised corporate support for a recruitment campaign, success has been limited.

One of the consequences of the high vacancy rates in these teams is that we remain over-reliant on agency staff. Managers at all levels are spending a great deal of time managing the day-to-day prioritisation of work, matching limited social work resource to the most critical work.

The Grow our Own Social Workers programme is helping to mitigate this situation. However, the large contingent of newly qualified social workers brings its own challenges. When we embarked upon the programme, we were not anticipating social work students and newly qualified social workers working in the conditions we are all now enduring. Some newly qualified social workers that we have recruited externally, having undertaken their training in universities, have never undertaken a face-to-face visit as part of their training due to COVID restrictions. In addition, they are not receiving the day-to-day support and learning gained through working shoulder to shoulder with experienced colleagues.

Complex high-risk situations are increasing and with fewer staff and solutions, they are carrying through into the night and the weekend. Senior Managers are having little respite from their work. Senior Managers also cover an out of hours duty rota which is increasingly busy. This is taking its toll on the resilience of the Children's Services Leadership team.

The Integrated Disability Service are experiencing increasing pressures with children with complex needs. The pandemic has taken a particular toll on children with disabilities and their families. The disruption to the support available for these children in particular has had a big impact. The Service has responded to this by increasing the visits to children at home and significantly increasing the provision of short breaks. At the same time there is sickness impacting management capacity. The small teams are struggling to manage these high-risk situations and additional management capacity is required for a short period of time.

A further risk is generated by the continued, well-documented deficits of WCCIS, which became even worse during recent system failures following a national upgrade in October and a current system failure.

The workforce is tired and worn-out, having worked under these taxing conditions for some time whilst managing their own experiences of caring responsibilities, illness, bereavement and loss. We need to ensure that we are able to support and sustain our people so that they can continue to undertake the vital work of the service.

### 3. Advice

#### 3.1 Key Principles

The following four principles have been applied to this plan:

- a. This is an interim and short to longer-term plan.
- b. The approaches to supporting children, young people and families are alternatives to the usual practice in Powys to enable a safe and effective service to be provided.
- c. The reduced resources in the teams will be deployed proportionately across cases depending on need, using a variety of methods for contact and support, and applying the standard RAG rating response to manage risk.
- d. This is to reduce and mitigate risk rather than attempting to maintain the same level of service with the same approach.

A range of solutions are being recommended over the immediate, short and medium term to alleviate the pressures in social work teams, offer incentives to retain and attract social work staff and provide assurances that statutory duties and regulatory requirements can be met.

#### 3.2 Solutions

- a. Alleviating the pressures in social work teams
  - i. People have been redeployed within the Service to respond to priorities.
  - ii. The Service is using all grants available to add additional SW and other capacity to Front Door, Assessment Teams, Early Help and administration to respond to increased demand and to cover absence.
  - iii. A temporary Care and Wellbeing team has been created, staffed and managed entirely by agency workers. The care and support and court teams have been focusing on the more complex cases (those in court, for example) which has meant they have not had the time

needed to progress and move on other cases. The temporary Care and Wellbeing team has been commissioned to accept case management responsibility for many of the children in need of care and support cases from the Care and Support teams. They will review and progress these and it is expected that this will lead to a high number of cases either being stepped down to early help or being closed. This team will also take assessments directly from Front Door where it is assessed that the work is unlikely to progress to child protection or court.

- iv. Wellbeing workers, whilst not qualified Social Workers, are able to undertake several key tasks within the case managing teams enabling social workers to prioritise the work they are required to complete as qualified workers. Work that can be undertaken by wellbeing workers includes:
- Liaising with agencies to gather information for assessments
  - Direct work with children and young people – visits to children open on a child in need of care and support basis
  - Visits to children and young people who are on the child protection register or looked after. This is in addition to routine statutory visits which qualified social workers must undertake, where additional visits are required
  - Facilitating and supporting contact (including transport where required) between children and family members
  - Covering duty calls
  - Undertaking direct work with parents/wider family to develop their confidence/parenting skills
  - Undertaking crisis visits to avoid escalation
  - Preparing chronologies, genograms, life story books
  - Writing case notes for joint visits undertaken with social workers including assessment sessions
  - General support to families, for example signposting, liaising with housing, domestic abuse services, etc.
  - Attending appointments with families where support is needed
  - Attending child in need of care and support meetings as required
- v. A prioritisation framework has been introduced and is included below for your information. The measures include:
- Statutory visits for looked after children being undertaken on a rotational basis between the allocated social worker and the independent reviewing officer, fostering social worker or the youth justice worker (if a qualified social worker). This will be agreed on a case-by-case basis depending on the child/young person's circumstances.
  - As a last resort, a blend of virtual visits will be introduced for amber and green RAG cases in the Assessment, Care and Support, Integrated Disability and Through Care social work teams.



- vi. In order to enable the service to continue in the face of the workforce crisis it is proposed that Wellbeing Workers be recruited and assigned specific tasks to support the social work teams. This would significantly alleviate the pressure on social workers and strengthen their capacity to undertake meaningful work with children and families to avoid the escalation of need. This will ensure social workers are afforded the time to prioritise the high risk and complex work open to the service and ensure children are safe and their outcomes achieved. It will also enable us to provide a consistent secondary allocated worker for some children with the greatest care and support needs. This will help mitigate the impact of the churn of temporary social workers and the inconsistency during those periods where large numbers of staff are absent or isolating.

This additional capacity will also enable the Service to end the temporary Care and Wellbeing team safely.

A further benefit of recruiting wellbeing workers is that these frequently become the social workers of the future.

Whilst there has been difficulty recruiting into social work posts (permanent and agency), historically we have been successful with recruiting to the non-social work posts in the service.

This is the most cost effective option and we will be looking to invest in and develop these staff to become our permanent social workers.

b. Incentives to attract and retain social work staff

There are a number of options:

- i. Move all newly qualified social workers across Children's Services to the top of the grade 10 salary range.
- ii. Enable colleagues to work a 9-day fortnight to support the health and wellbeing of the workforce.

d. Medium to longer term solutions

It is acknowledged that the recommendations and solutions above, to provide immediate support, are short term in nature.

- i. Strengthen the implementation of the Children's Services Grow Our Own Social Worker project.

- ii. Undertake an analysis to understand the longer-term impact on the Service, of the sustained increase in demand in Children's Services
- iii. Work with other Local Authorities in our Region is underway to look at how we can harmonise our social work offer so that we promote stability in the workforce together.
- iv. AWHOCS representatives are exploring with ADSS Cymru, Social Care Wales and Welsh Government the development of a number of All Wales initiatives such as a social work recruitment campaign, and a memorandum of understanding with recruitment agencies to agree standards of behaviour and control and cap the hourly rate paid for agency social work staff.

### Risks

Risk description	Actions to mitigate
IF staff absence and vacancy rates do not reduce THEN it is likely the mental and emotional well-being across the wider CS workforce will deteriorate further due to higher caseloads. This will lead to higher staff sickness and shortages which will prevent the service from being delivered safely and effectively.	Move newly qualified social workers to top of grade 10 Support staff to return to office-based working Active promotion by managers of wellbeing support and timely referrals to occupational health
IF staffing levels cannot be maintained THEN as a service the likelihood is that statutory duties and requirements will not be fulfilled	Recruit additional wellbeing workers Re-assign work from social workers to wellbeing workers Strengthen the Grow our Own Project to bring long term stability to the Workforce

### 4. Resource Implications

Each component of the solutions being considered, to attract and retain staff, has been costed and is shown in the table below. No additional funding is being requested; this is all within existing budget.

Solution	Costs (includes on-costs)	
All newly qualified social workers moved to top of grade 10	£5,000 (21/22) £10,000 (22/23)	Factored into budget as budget already set at top of grade
Enable colleagues to work a 9-day fortnight to support the health and wellbeing of the workforce.	No cost	

Creating 22 Wellbeing Worker posts (2 per critical team)	£836,000	Managed through existing service resources.
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The posts will be recruited to as the funding is identified by releasing agency staff.

The solutions above will be managed within existing service resources. These Wellbeing Workers will be recruited as the budget is released or grant funding is identified. This work will begin as soon as possible. If Wellbeing Workers are recruited this year, it will not result in additional in year budget pressure.

The role of social worker is a statutory role, enabling the local authority to carry out statutory duties. The risk register sets out the risks to PCC and Powys citizens if the authority is unable to carry out these statutory duties. It is vital that we respond to ensure that we can continue to perform these functions even in the face of this staffing crisis and other pressures.

The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes the content of the report and that the actions will be delivered within existing service budgets.

## **5. Legal implications**

- 5.1 Legal: the recommendations can be accepted from a legal point of view
- 5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services ( Monitoring Officer ) has commented as follows: “ I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report”.

## **6. Data Protection**

- 6.1 This proposal does not involve the processing of personal data, other than such processing as is already undertaken.

## **7. Comment from local member(s)**

This effects children, young people and families right across the county.

## **8. Impact Assessment**

- 8.1 Actions, if agreed, will only improve the situation and there are no anticipated negative impacts.

## **9. Recommendation**

The recommendation for Cabinet is:

9.1 To acknowledge the current staffing crisis in the Children's Social Services workforce, the other pressures including increased demand, and the impact this is having on the Council's ability to consistently deliver a safe and effective service.

9.2 To note and support the responses to this crisis that have already been implemented.

9.3 To support the proposed solutions to mitigate the impact of this crisis

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Head of Service: Jan Coles

Corporate Director: Alison Bulman

## **Appendix 1**

Priority Framework

## **Appendix 2**

Service Priority Task List

**Prioritisation Framework for Managing Children’s Cases: Rationale and Operational Application**

<b>RAG Rating</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Examples</b>
<b>RED</b>	Children / placements / carers that are rated as RED will be visited with full observance of statutory requirements, face to face and by a qualified social worker.	Placements that are unstable or where notice has been given. New placements or change of placement Children where there are ongoing safeguarding concerns. Child Exploitation Placement With Parents Reg 26 situations Children on the child protection register Pre-birth assessments and planning PLO Children where the outcome of a S47 is to go to conference.
<b>AMBER</b>	Children / placements / carers that are rated as AMBER may be visited and supported by a combination of qualified social worker and non-social work qualified staff, and a hybrid approach to visiting combining face to face and remote visiting. In the event that issues present that suggest instability, welfare or safeguarding issues emerge, then visits/contact must be considered as RED and revert to full social work contact and face to face visits.	Children that have stepped down from being RED rated and continue to require some social work intervention in order to support continued de-escalation of risk and progression of plans and family goals. Children whose needs/risks have escalated from GREEN rating and who require direct social work oversight and intervention.
<b>GREEN</b>	Children / placements / carers that are stable, presenting no unusual or welfare-related issues, or safeguarding issues, and	Long term and settled placements where children are stable, carers are not reporting any pressures or problems,

	<p>where carers and children are happy with interim remote approach to visiting and supervision. Visits can all be carried out remotely, and/or by non-qualified and/or non-LA-based social workers (where available). Where any issues begin to emerge or are observed, and in the interests of trying to prevent further escalation of need, a move to AMBER is required to introduce social work support and intervention.</p>	<p>and where there are no identified risks to the child.</p>
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RAG rating of each case to be undertaken as part of social work supervision (whether formal or informal) and recorded on the child's record *at the time of the decision by the manager*.

Any change to RAG rating does not need to wait until formal supervision, especially in the case of the escalation of issues that might warrant enhanced social work intervention.

Rationale for moving from face to face to remote visits for cases deemed to be GREEN or in some cases AMBER, is to reduce time commitment on social workers related to travel to and from, and to provide greater flexibility around monitoring etc.

Children's Leadership Team will record and report explicitly when the prioritisation framework has been invoked and when its use ceases.

Team Managers need to be clear in the recording of decisions and case discussions when the RAG rating has been applied, what the RAG rating for each child is and the rationale for that category.

**CS PRIORITY TASK LIST:**

1 -priority  
2- priority  
3 - amber

4 - green  
5 - blue - low priority

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Svc Area	Activity	Priority	If reduction in staff then	Continuity measures
EDT	Emergency Duty Team out of hours cover for Adults and Children's Services.	1	Group 5 tasks will cease. Group 3 tasks will cease. Prioritisation Framework will be applied to Group 1 and 2 tasks.	The service will identify other staff to cover the EDT Rota. Consideration will be given to scale back the rota (e.g. one member of staff to cover the County) Use Adult Services AMHPs and CS SWs to cover. CS SWs, I&P and Placement Officers will be on call to support an effective out of hours response.
	Safeguarding	1		
	S47 Medicals	1		
	Children in need of accommodation	1		
	MHA Assessments - community and hospitals	1		
	Vulnerable Adults	1		
	Phone calls - missing children	1		

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	phone calls - WCCIS info requests	1		
	Phone calls - advice and support	1		
	Phone calls - police	1		
	Alerts from Daytime	1		
	Rota	1		
	Children in Custody requiring appropriate adult	3		
	Supervisions	3		alternative supervisor provided, light touch supervision
	EDTMs & OMT	5		
	External meetings - ESSA	5		
	External meetings - Crisis	5		
	External meetings - AMHP	5		
	External meetings - Teams	5		
	Skype Meetings	5		
<b>Early Help</b>	<b>Early Help Service provides support and work with families to mitigate the need for Statutory Intervention</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Group 5 activity will cease Group 3 activity will cease</b>	<b>The prioritisation framework will be applied. Staff released from EH will be redeployed to priority tasks across the service.</b>



	Answering calls for queries	2	Apply the prioritisation framework.	Triage all work and undertake as much work as possible with families via telephone or video call. Face to face visits will be business critical work only in line with the, risk assessment, decision making tree and prioritisation framework. Agencies and families will be advised that all contacts should come through the Front Door to enable triage.
	Stepping up cases for S47	1		
	free school meals & impact	3		
	Domestic Abuse	3		
	parents with mental health conditions	3		
	parents with substance use	3		
	Contact for children and parents @ NIFC	3		
	Stepping up cases for Wellbeing Assessment	2		
	groups - children, YP and parents	3		
	home visits to parents and children	3		
	school setting visits to children observations	5		
	Training events	5		
	family information service Online	3		
	holiday groups and youth club	3		

	TAF meetings	2		
	CIW visit	5		
	community based hub - dropins and no contact details taken (private and LA)	5		
	office is shared with health visitors + A4C + commissioning	5		
	Audits	5		
	Complaints	5		
	performance monitoring	5		
	HR Investigations			
	Community Events	5		
<b>Front Door</b>	<b>First point of contact for all children's services referrals and enquiries.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Group 5 Tasks will cease.</b>	<b>This service can be undertaken remotely. Staff will be re-deployed to this service area from Early Help. Decision maker to be maintained within front door. Daily Senior Management Meetings have commenced to ensure oversight of where staff are available and correctly deployed. Action taken to ensure a very wide range of staff have remote access to the Front Door phones and email address.</b>
	Answer phones	1		can be done remotely
	Read all email referrals and contacts	1		can be done remotely - all managers to have access to mail box, predict upturn on referrals
	Decisions on referrals - TM & PSW	1		can be done remotely - predict upturn on referrals

	Assign to team	1		can be done remotely
	MARAC / MACC	1		can be done remotely
	Making phonecalls - agency checks & families	1		can be done remotely
	Supervision - management oversight	1		can be done remotely
	WCCIS - putting referrals on, updating info, connecting people	1		Bolster the workforce with staff from EH
	Attending sit reps as required	1		
	Checks - CAFCASS / Employment	5		
	Audits	5		
	Complains	5		
	HR Investigations	5		
	Performance Monitoring	5		
	Attending meetings - OMT, Team meetings, SofS Training	5		
<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Assessment of new referrals /contacts received</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Prioritisation framework applied. Group 5 tasks will cease Group 4 tasks will cease. Group 3 tasks will cease. All resources prioritised so that group 1 and 2 work will be able to continue.</b>	<b>Regular meetings around continuity planning with Police, health and education. Re-deploy staff from non-critical activities/teams into assessment team.</b>
	Management direction (supervision case discussions)	1		wherever possible we continue to comply but we need to use prioritisation framework.

	S47 enquiries	1		
	S47 see child/ YP alone	1		
	Strategy Meetings	1		Via Teams
	Direct Work with Children (S47)	1		risk assess
	CP Medicals	1		
	Joint working with Police (S47)	1		risk assess
	Schools Visits with Police (S47)	1		risk assess
	Placements (children being placed) - emergency	1		
	Viability Assessments to enable children to remain within their family/ network	1		Video training is available to enable staff who have not undertaken this work before to be better equipped.
	Court	1		
	Pre/Birth Assessments	1		
	Well being assessment	1		Risk Assess case by case - prioritisation framework
	Child Protection Conference	2		Undertaken virtually
	Direct Work with Children	3		Risk Assess case by case
	Interviews	3		Risk Assess case by case
	Family network meetings	1		
	Hospital visits to babies/children	3		Risk Assess case by case
	C&S Meetings	3		Risk Assess case by case
	Core Groups	1		Risk Assess case by case

	Homelessness Assessments	5		Risk Assess case by case - prioritisation framework
	Audits	5		
	HR Investigations	5		
	Performance Monitoring	5		
	Complaints	5		
<b>Care &amp; Support</b>	<b>Working long term with children assessed as eligible for Care and Support and Protection</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Prioritisation framework applied. Group 5 tasks will cease Group 4 tasks will cease. Group 3 tasks will cease. All resources prioritised so that group 1 and 2 work will be able to continue.</b>	<b>Staff from non-critical service areas will be re-deployed to Care &amp; Support. Demand and resources will be reviewed continually. (CLT daily). IDS co-ordinators within other teams will be utilised. Potential for corporate centre to provide 'admin' within teams will be required. All contacts risk assessed and remote working where possible.</b>
	Section Court - application - statements to court	1		direction from courts - video links may be available. These need to be prioritised.
	Court - planned hearings	1		direction from courts - video links may be available. These will occur virtually. Staff support needs to be assessed for each hearing.
	Child protection visits	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Child protection medicals	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Response to urgent s47s	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Child protection conferences	1		These meetings need to occur virtually

	Management support - supervisions	1		Virtually. Reduced frequency - for group 1 and 2 work only
	Strategy meetings	1		Virtually
	Strategy discussions	1		Virtually
	CLA Visits	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Care and Support Plans and home visits	2		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Care and Support Meetings	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Core Groups	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Care & Support visits - dependent on risks to individuals	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Adoption permanence planning	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	IDS TAF MEETINGS	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Care and support with short breaks	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Cla visits regulated placements	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Triage	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Disability assessment	4		
	Resource panel	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Complaints	4		
	OMT	3		
	HR Investigations	5		
	Performance Monitoring	5		
	Team Meetings	3		

<b>Corporate Parenting</b>	<b>Working long term with children in the care of the local authority.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Prioritisation framework applied. Group 5 and 4 tasks will cease All resources prioritised so that group 1 and 2 work will be able to continue.</b>	<b>Staff from non-critical service areas will be re-deployed to Coporate Parenting Demand and resources will be reviewed continually. (CLT daily). Re-deploy staff from non-critical activities/teams into Through Care teams. All contacts risk assessed and remote working where possible.</b>
	Stat Visits - newly placed children and all children looked after	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Stat visits - kinship carers	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Supervision visits	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Serious allegations	1		
	Allegations - only where removal is needed	1		
	Kinship care: 16 wks	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Generic assessments	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Foster Carers	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Communications and support to care leavers	1		
	Communcations and support to foster carers	1		

	Short Breaks for foster carers	3		Continue to offer short breaks where necessary, Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Recruitment - Online	3		online recruitment continues and assessment and approval process
	Audits	5		
	Complaints	5		
	Performance Monitoring	5		
	HR Investigations	5		
	Recruitment events - Physical	5		
Need to move	Glyn Mawr	1		Use flexibly to support placements whilst awaiting registration. Once operational Glyn Mawr will follow the same continuity measures as Bannau.
	Recruitment - Online and physical events			Online recruitment continues for both Glyn Mawr and Bannau. Additional advertising in the form of banners and flyers have already been put in place. Physical recruitment events are being planned for the new year if this is permissible with changing Covid restrictions. Currently using a lot of agency staff to cover the vacant positions.



Need to move	Bannau	1		<p>Not providing Short Breaks. Manage internally on day to day basis at twice daily briefings. Care Home Covid 19 Testing in place - twice weekly PCR tests for all staff and LFT's completed daily before commencing shift. Full Supply of PPE kept on site and regularly replenished. All guidance and risk assessments are reviewed and amended in line with changes in WG guidance. Regular communication with staff as guidance changes. Visitors to the home are limited and risk assessed prior to visit. All visitors must show evidence of a negative LFT before being permitted entry to the home. Home contact visits with family continue as normal unless there is a positive case within the household. In these circumstances visits are suspended to prevent risk of Covid spreading within the home. Visits are reinstated as soon as is safe to do so following the isolation period. All agency staff supporting with cover are required to complete a LFT prior to each shift. These tests are recorded using the Bannau UON along with our permanent staff to ensure we have a full and accurate record of all staff working at the home. If a child is feeling unwell a PCR test is arranged due to the changing symptoms associated with new variants of the virus.</p>
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Safeguarding & QA	Safeguarding and Quality Assurance of Service	1	Group 5 activities will cease. Conference and Stat Reviews can take place remotely. Will need to utilise staff from other areas in the service to ensure children are seen. No Stat reviews will be undertaken. The service will not be able to comply with statutory regulations	Additional experienced agency IRO would be sought. Staff from corporate colleagues could be re-deployed to Safeguarding to assist with administration. ICPC could be undertake via skype. Management oversight/key decision making to be maintained.
	CP Conferences	1		These meetings need to occur virtually
	CE Manager - Initial Strat (immediate concerns)	1		These meetings need to occur virtually
	Professional Strats	1	Actions from Prof Stat meetings may be limited dependent on professional colleagues able to attend.	These meetings need to occur virtually
	Training	3	Ranges from 1 - 4 Majority of training is awarded via tender and should be delivered even with reduced attendance	These are being coordinated as part of continuity planning to ensure staff are better equipped to undertake tasks they wouldn't usually do.
	CLA Reviews	1	Monitoring inbetween reviews required.	These meetings need to occur virtually. Apply the prioritisation framework.
	Participation groups	3		These meetings need to occur virtually

	Audits	2	must be completed for specific cases	
	HR Investigations	3		
	Performance Monitoring	1		
	Complaints	3		
	RSB work	2	Varies in importance. Chairing roles must continue. SG lead roles must continue.	
	Practice guidance	3	anges from 1-5 dependent upon urgency of required guidance	These meetings need to occur virtually
<b>Youth Justice Service</b>	<b>Youth Justice Service</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Consideration of prevention staff to be re-deployed to critical business Prevention work will cease. Staff will be re-deployed to undertake business critical work</b>	<b>Business as usual in line with Covid Guidance</b>
	Assessment - statutory service	1		
	Assessment - prevention service	3	Case by case in discussion with case holder and TM	Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.

	Stat Visits	1		Where possible it will be telephone contacts - any serious issues will be escalated to the YJS or Senior Managers for guidance. Reduced capacity to undertake this work however it could be achieved through video calling and virtual contacts. We do not see why we could not maintain virtual contact with our YP and families utilising team manager and senior staff.
	Police/Appropriate Adult - offender	1		This should be covered by the service even with minimal staff. Staff will be allocated this work. Through the use of webinar ensure staff from I&P are able to support with this task
	Court Duty	1		This should be covered by the service even with minimal staff. Staff will be allocated this work.
	High Risk	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree. Children of concern list introduced to ensure monitoring of this category
	Bureau Panels	1		Virtual meetings Ensure partners aware of depletion of staff in order to be able to provide cover, within YJS manage these in house with the staff available.
	Referral Order Panels	1		Virtual meetings Virtually until community facilities open with staff being reallocated tasks within YJS if the designated worker for this role is not available.

	Prevention work 1:1	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree. Telephone sessions with YP and families
	Prevention work - groups / parenting	3		Ensure partner agencies are aware of staffing and this could then be taken by them in line iwth venue/TEAMS RA of schools etc.
	Attendance at MA meetings	2		Meetings held virtually any non attendance need to be followed up by report to the chair.
	Prison Visits	2	Currently we do not have any YPs in custody	If this changes, these will need to be prioritised. Staff will need to be allocated to this work in line with current practice guidance from the prison re COVID 19
	Audits	5		
	Complaints	5		
	Performance Monitoring	5		
	HR Investigations	5		
<b>Intervention and Prevention</b>	<b>Non statutory service</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Business as usual in line with Covid guidance Staff will be re-deployed to critical business</b>	<b>Business as usual in line with Covid Guidance</b>
	Keeping families together	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Placement support	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Weekend and evening rota	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.

	Family Time	1		<p>Welsh Government Guidance in place. Direct contact is being decided on a case by case basis with priority for babies and toddlers. Other children are being risk assessed on a priority basis. 10 day self isolation clarity where staff are wearing PPE and cant socially distance within family time contacts and child/parent tests positive. Requirement of additional symptom checks/LFT tests on children prior to family time such as temperature checks clarity required. Themometers have been issued to support family time. Alternative buildings need to be identified, clarity required. NIFC has been offered as a location for family time. Exploring use of Day Centres.</p> <p>Promote and support virtual contact where possible, foster carers and residential staff to support this. Redeploy staff from across the Council.</p> <p>Staff, foster carers and family members to undertake regular LF testing if willing.</p> <p>Make use of outdoor space where possible. support from I&amp;P and other staff within child care teams. Consider other staff who are available to sit in offices compelling paper work, for example, to be the second worker.</p>
	Supporting priority work across the service	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Supporting Care & support assessments	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.

	Ensuring that children are seen alone	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Welfare visits to children and families	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Supporting care & support plans	3		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Family network meetings	1		Provide more direct support in setting up and chairing and or miniuting FNM with direction from the teams leading the case support development of the plan
	Crisis intervention	1		Apply the prioritisation framework, risk assessment and decision making tree.
	Audits	5		
	Complaints	5		
	Performance Monitoring	5		
	HR Investigations	5		
IFST	<b>Non statutory service</b>	3	<b>Team to remain in situ to support families staying together and support crisis intervention through IFST type interventions. The visits they complete can be written up as child seen if applicable to ease pressure of stat visits. Social Workers within team re-deployed to undertake critical business</b>	<b>Business as usual in line with Covid guidance</b>

Whole service	Student Support	2	required support will not be available - causing severe impact on GOOSW plans	cover P/E's required if L/T sickness occurs
Commissioning	Non statutory service	1	Business as usual in line with Covid guidance Staff will be re-deployed to critical business	Business as usual in line with Covid guidance
	Start Well Partnership	3	Some workstreams have been stood down. Start Well Board continues to meet and some priority work continues.	
	Emotional Health and Wellbeing Support	1		
	Contract Monitoring Visits	5	Not currently being undertaken, Looking to introduce virtual contract monitoring 1st Feb 2021	
	Project Work	3	Continuing as per project plan	
	Childcare and childcare support	1	Critical to support key workers, operating in line WG guidance	
	Commissioning placements	1		
	Flying Start	3		



## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

## Cabinet

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Rosemarie Harris, Leader**REPORT TITLE:** Covid Recovery Funding Progress Update

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**REPORT FOR:** Information / Discussion

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**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To update Cabinet on progress with the implementation of the Council's Covid Recovery Fund and related financial support given to business via the Covid support grants.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 As part of budget setting for 2021-22, Cabinet announced the creation of a specific reserve fund to help support council and community services recover from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The fund will be used over two financial years to deliver a programme designed to deliver county-wide support and complement existing and planned Welsh Government recovery activities. The allocation of **£1.8million** to set up the fund was approved by Council at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Initial proposals for the Covid recovery programme were considered by Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021. The programme has two key themes: i. Community and ii. Economy & Environment.

- 2.2 On 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 Cabinet approved, following scrutiny recommendations of 10<sup>th</sup> June, year 1 funding for the following themes:

Theme 1 Community – Year 1 (2021/22) £400k  
Covid Community Recovery Grant £300k  
Public Convenience Support £100k

Theme 2 Economy and Environment – Year 1 (2021/22) £600k  
Business Recovery Support £120k  
Highways Recovery Fund £340k  
Financial Recovery Support £40k  
Council Services and Project Specific Support £100k

- 2.3 Welsh Government have announced various funding rounds since March 2020 designed to support businesses through the various Covid

restrictions on business trading. The administration of this funding in Powys has been supported by the Council's Income & Awards Team.

### **3. Theme 1 Community – Year 1 (2021/22)**

#### **3.1 Covid Community Recovery Grant Fund**

Following an open application process, 94 project proposals were received totalling £750k.

To date 54 projects have been supported and awarded grants totalling £498,990 (appendix 1). Projects not meeting the criteria are being supported by Regeneration Officers to identify other possible funding streams for support.

- 3.2 All projects were approved through the Thriving and Sustainable Environment Board, chaired by the lead for Economy and includes cabinet members representing regeneration, property and highways. All meetings were recorded, noting any abstentions and decisions made.

Two key decisions to be noted includes the reduction of funding for property projects to 50% due to high demand of support requested in this area and an overall increase of funding awarded, noting that supporting communities as soon as possible to implement recovery investment would be more beneficial than waiting as recovery investment had already been put aside.

#### **3.3 Public Convenience Support**

- 3.4 Under the COVID Recovery Fund the Council made available funding of £100k to support the ongoing provision of toilets formerly operated by the Council and now operated by other organisations. A flat rate payment of £1,886 has been made for each of the 49 qualifying toilets (appendix 2). The funding has been paid to 5 Community Interest companies and 30 Town & Community Councils.

### **4. Theme 2 Economy and Environment – Year 1 (2021/22)**

#### **4.1 Business Recovery Support – 3 Officers grade 7 - £120k**

- 4.2 Business Recovery Support Officer have been recruited to support covid recovery work across Powys. Work undertaken to date has focused on providing advice on financial support for businesses and community organisations, and projects and initiatives to support economic recovery.

#### **4.2 Highways Recovery Fund**

- 4.4 The following work areas have been supported through the funding of £340k allocated for levelling up highways works.

5. £140k spend on hire of 'Archway Jetpatcher' in Area 1 north Powys. Work done to reduce the backlog of cat 2 defects in Area 1.
  6. £28k allocated to Resurfacing on three small sites in Area 1 North, B4393, B4395 and B4580
  7. £86k allocated to South area Sites, identified for completion in March 2022.
  8. £86k allocated to Mid area Sites also identified for completion in March 2022.
- 4.5 South and Mid sites will be complete now the capital programme is completed, and extra resource is available.
- 4.6 Financial Recovery Support
- 4.7 The funding of £40k has been used to recruit an additional Money Advice Officer, this officer has been added to the Income & Awards Team who support financially vulnerable customers in Powys. They provide personal budgeting support, income maximisation and checking benefit entitlement. The team also provide financial support to cancer sufferers through our partnership working with Macmillan (and are part of the ICJ programme).
- 4.8 Council Services and Project Specific Support
- 4.9 A sum of £100k was allocated to support frontline services recover from the impact of the pandemic by providing additional funding to support small scale, recovery specific initiatives and activities which focus on strengthening organisational resilience that will provide for progressive and sustainable service delivery.
- 4.10 Following an open call for applications, 8 projects were approved totalling £85,145 (appendix 3).
- 4.11 Valleys Task Force Grant Covid Recovery for Small Town Centres
- 4.12 Grant support for Ystradgynlais town centre for capital purchases to help with adaptation to premises during covid such as support social distancing and enhancing outside facilities. 10 town Centre businesses were supported total of £35,760 awarded (Appendix 4).
- 4.13 Transforming Towns Adaptation Grant
- 4.14 Welsh Government funding made available to the Council to support adaptation schemes within town centres in Powys. Town Councils were invited to apply for the funding and 12 towns were supported with a total of £144,055 secured (Appendix 5).

## 5.0 Covid Business Restrictions Grants

5.1 The table below gives a summary of grant scheme rounds and amounts of applications and those that were successful.

Grant Scheme	Applied	Awarded	Value
Business Grants March 2020	5031	4559	<b>£52,380,337</b>
Freelancer Grant Round 1	172	147	<b>£367,500</b>
Child Care Grant	14	9	<b>£24,778</b>
Start Up Grant	191	76	<b>£190,000</b>
Freelancer Grant Round 2	172	147	<b>£367,500</b>
Retail Relief Scheme 2020	1100	1100	<b>£10,000,000</b>
Firebreak Grant NNDR Business	3475	2705	<b>£7,223,500</b>
Discretionary Firebreak Grant	479	236	<b>£354,000</b>
Business Grants Dec 2020 to Aug 2021 (3 rounds)	2901	2426	<b>£24,015,500</b>
Discretionary Grants Dec 2020 to March 2021	467	245	<b>£490,000</b>
Retail Relief Scheme 2021	1400	1400	<b>£11,500,000</b>
Freelancer Grant Round 3	106	64	<b>£160,000</b>

5.2 To date, the Council has supported 14 covid support grant and relief schemes to business with a value of 15,508 applications and successfully awarding to 13114 businesses – a 85% success rate.

5.3 A total of **£85,573,115** in Covid grants and **£21,500,000** in relief schemes from business rates has been awarded to Powys business since March 2020.

5.4 We will be receiving scheme details of the 3<sup>rd</sup> relief scheme for business for the year 2022/23 soon. This will see approximately 1400 business receive relief of approx. **£5.7m**.

5.5 Welsh Government have recently announced 2 new rounds of business grants to support business impacted by the December 2021 restrictions. Budget of £7.8m has been received for a Business Rates Scheme and a

Discretionary Business Scheme. We are expected to receive up to 4000 applications for help.

5.6 These schemes have only become available to businesses to apply from 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and will be closed to new applications from 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

5.7 The scheme information and guidance can be found on this Powys Council webpage. <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/11072/Emergency-Business-Fund-Business-Rates-Grant>

## **6 Resource Implications**

6.1 The allocation of **£1.8million** to set up the fund was approved by Council at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

6.2 Funding against the following themes has been allocated for year 1:

Theme 1 Community – Year 1 (2021/22)

Covid Community Recovery Grant £498,990

Public Convenience Support £92,414

Theme 2 Economy and Environment – Year 1 (2021/22)

Business Recovery Support £120k

Highways Recovery Fund £340k

Financial Recovery Support £40k

Council Services and Project Specific Support £85,145

6.3 The total allocated for year 1 is £1,176,549 leaving a year 2 balance for Covid Recovery of £623,451

6.4 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Office) notes the content of the report.

## **7. Legal implications**

7.1 Legal: the recommendations can be accepted from a legal point of view

7.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: “ I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report”.

## **8. Comment from local member(s)**

8.1 N/A

## **9.0 Information/Decision**

9.1 Report to be noted as information.

9.2 A further report will be brought back to cabinet to consider the allocation of year 2 funds as set out in section 6.3. This report will consider feedback from scrutiny on 28<sup>th</sup> February, the research on 'Community Wellbeing in Powys post Pandemic' and any budget setting commitments made.

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Corporate Director:	Nigel Brinn, Executive Director of Economy & Environment

## APPENDIX 1

### Covid Community Recovery Fund – Projects Supported

Project Name	Project Summary	Project Value
<b><u>Riverside Venue</u></b>	A community flagship venue that supports communities to connect to and benefit from green spaces; for food, for exercise for quiet recreation etc	£20,000.00
<b><u>Maldwyn Dragons return</u></b>	Maldwyn Dragons, as many community clubs, have been directly impacted by COVID-19 to vastly improve numbers of members to pre-covid levels, and further enhance the provision. The project aim is to enhance capabilities with more equipment that can be utilised throughout the community and allow more members of the community to become active and signpost them towards active membership with the club.	£4,000.00
<b><u>Hay Community Transport Recovery</u></b>	To adapt office accommodation to provide Covid safe booking and enable enhanced re-opening and broaden community participation. Recruit and Support Volunteers. To recruit and support volunteers to provide additional capacity to support member demand and support the service recovery. Since covid several drivers have not returned as volunteers and re-establish the service there are around 8 volunteer driver vacancies.	£9,510.00
<b><u>YFC Building a recovery</u></b>	To support reboot YFC members, to encourage new membership, through promotional events and media	£12,000.00
<b><u>Marquee Hire</u></b>	To purchase marquee to help stage show and sheep dog trials in a Covid safe way. The intention is to also hire out in order to bring income in to sustain future show and Sheep Dog Trials	£2,222.40
<b><u>Arts Connection - Cyswllt Celf</u></b>	Arts programme moving premises To purchase equipment for a outdoor workshop delivery and are looking to buy foldable tables and benches and an event shelter	£796.00
<b><u>Adult Outreach Support (Domestic Abuse)</u></b>	Adult Outreach team supports clients who have experienced domestic abuse, on a 1-1 basis, across sparsely populated North Powys. Due to the increasing demand during Covid they wish to recruit an additional support worker to this team and seek funding for the initial 6 months of employment.	£10,000.00
<b><u>Community cycle coaching</u></b>	To increase the number of British Cycling coaches that to offer more coaching sessions to young riders in our community. oversubscribed and are turning young riders away. To recruit from the pool of parents that currently bringing their children to coaching. To train up our level 1 coaches to level 2 coaches for more experienced riders	£2,756.00

<b><u>Building Back Stronger</u></b>	Support for a short-term post to come and help increase volunteers following covid. The role will undertake a review current status with staff to identify opportunities for seeking extra help. The post then recruits and induct volunteers before passing them on to existing staff for future involvement and support.	£10,000.00
<b><u>Community Kitchen</u></b>	Brecon Volunteer Bureau would like to expand on the usage of the Vaults to support a community Kitchen, where people can come together in a safe environment. To create one new part-time position of coordinator to oversee the running of the kitchen and associated training for those involved. To enable the development of skills, not just those related to food independence but also communication, interpersonal, numeracy, literacy etc. These would also open further volunteering and employment possibilities clients.	£4,200.00
<b><u>Young Minds</u></b>	Continue and develop school-based youth work this is particularly important now, with all the stresses covid-19 has placed on young people and their schooling) offering 1:1 support, drop-in space, peer support groups and courses - delivered in 3 schools. •Work with school staff and parents to increase knowledge/understanding of mental health. To increase the offer in terms of geographical area. To increase the staffing to enable them to meet the developmental and client needs for their youth service. Previously supported by PAVO and Moondance Foundation. Funding finishing end of Sept.	£20,000.00
<b><u>Volunteer Co-ordination</u></b>	Dedicated Volunteer Coordinator to recruit several volunteers to support them developing and actioning our Fundraising Strategy to supplement our other aspects of funding. to develop and implement a more robust Fundraising Strategy. Covid highlighted the need to develop a new way of working, not only face to face but virtually as well.	£10,000.00
<b><u>Community Arts for Health</u></b>	The charity is looking for funding to create a new role for a post-holder who will plan, develop, and fundraise in respect of the following: The re-introduction and extension of existing projects which have been adversely affected by covid across Powys. Consolidation of several innovative projects which have been developed during Covid, e.g., art boxes and for care homes, and online art classes for those with long term covid and taking art activities into public areas.	£14,990.40
<b><u>Cynefin Cynog</u></b>	To provide a Covid-friendly, centralised play area and community, outdoor facility. Covid restrictions and beyond. Covid-friendly systems, ie. a one-way system, hand sanitising stations, signage etc • Additional benches to provide socially distanced seating allowing residents to socialise safely.	£9,674.00



<b><u>Refreshment and backstage sheds for outdoor theatre</u></b>	Funding to design and build two small sheds. The first, for the purposes of serving refreshments to their community audience and participants at live events, and the other to provide a backstage storage space for costumes and props during performances	4,000.00
<b><u>Ysbryd Glyndwr</u></b>	Canolfan Owain Glyndwr contains two a major building, known as the Grade 1 parliament, house the site of the first Welsh parliament (hosted by Owain Glyndwr in 1404) and the 'institute'. The Centre at the heart of a lottery application to renew a part vast of the old institute. There is a further need to refurbish the interior a parliament house by creating an innovative exhibition by using the latest technology. Lottery Funding has now been confirmed.	6,660.00
<b><u>IBS Bonfire &amp; Fireworks Display</u></b>	Yearly Bonfire event. Will also involve local school project and recognise work by the Community and Armed Forces through the pandemic	£6,000.00
<b><u>Rebuilding Montgomery Girlguiding</u></b>	The impact of Covid on Girlguiding in Montgomery and area meant that Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units were closed. The project will support the recovery of this important part of the community. They wish to purchase 'starter kits' with Covid to promote and increase membership which has decreased during covid.	£2,000.00
<b><u>Victorian Festival</u></b>	Request to support the entertainment and insurance element of the event following the pandemic.	£5,000.00
<b><u>Forties Weekend</u></b>	To support the core running of the event and marketing. Requesting grant for 2022 event.	£10,000.00
<b><u>Brecon Advocacy Service</u></b>	BCA aims through independent advocacy, to empower people with a learning disability to live their lives as valued, responsible and enriched citizens. Since March 2020 our Powys People First self-advocacy project has kept in touch with members via phone and social media, posted newsletters, weekly Zoom meetings, they have delivered parcels within Covid guidelines, they would like to continue the project. Powys wide Project.	9,382.00
<b><u>Rhayader Museum</u></b>	Following W.G. funding they are seeking extra funding for: • a Volunteer Coordinator • an Exhibitions Installation Manager to keep the display build on track and give informed decisions on the correct materials to use in the Museum. • a Marketing Officer with graphic design skills to produce designs for interpretation panels and successfully promote the new attraction • a laptop and graphics software to give them the ability to work on larger scale graphics, marketing, and educational materials.	10,269.69
<b><u>Llanyre Community Council</u></b>	To regenerate the play area within Llanyre. To purchase and install a number of pieces of new equipment to enhance the lives of children and families within the community but also for visitors and all essential tourism trade, which has suffered due to Covid.	9,499.00
<b><u>Bike to the Future</u></b>	The project taking in donated cycles which might otherwise have gone for scrap and putting them back into low-cost use, looking for funding to enable Bike to the Future to pay for ancillary costs such as ground matting, stakes, and a cargo bike for carbon free transportation. It will donate £5 for each cycle sold into a tree	3,540.00

	planting fund, then our participants can plant a tree.	
<b>Managed by the NPTC Group of Colleges</b>	To form part of a multi-agency bid to purchase Digital Screening Equipment. Enable Hafren to present "live" and "encore" performances from national and international companies, such as National Theatre Live, Royal Shakespeare Company, British Museum, V&A, NY Met Opera etc	20,000.00
<b>Montgomery Area Scout Council</b>	Gwersyll y Bryniau, is available for our Scout Groups to use and also for any youth organisations that wish to visit the area. This request for funding is towards an outdoor shelter, education and hammock space at Gwersyll y Bryniau which will enable Scouts and other young people of all ages to make greater use of the site regardless of the weather	20,000.00
<b>The Abertridwr Playpark Fundraising Committee</b>	Grant to go towards the cost of replacing the play park equipment. But the ways in which this will benefit the community is far more complex.	10,000.00
<b>Machynlleth Community Childrens Project Ltd Country wide app?</b>	To introduce and develop a day-to-day app to inform parents of their child's development on a regular basis following Covid. It will provide opportunities for parents to catch-up and share their experience. The introduction of the app will give them greater opportunity to share information. Member of staff will be given 1/2 day a week for 6 months to set up, train, and monitor the success of the project. Unfortunately, as they are not based on the school site, they are unable to access schools' system.	£3,900.80
<b>Cwmdu Village Hall</b>	Looking forward a larger kitchen would benefit organisations especially where catering is required as a fund raiser. Social distancing, stringent sanitisation is part of the project.	10,000.00
<b>South Powys Youth Music</b>	To deliver first access instrumental sessions for whole classes in 8 Powys schools - 7 primary schools plus Penmaes SEN school. As Powys has no county music service or similar, South Powys Youth Music provides vital opportunities for young people to discover and develop their musical skills. Schools in Brecon, Hay-on-Wye, Builth and Talgarth	5,620.00
<b>Ystradgynlais Community Welfare Ground Association</b>	Requesting monies towards purchase of lease of the Sports Ground in Ystradgynlais. £40k raised by Association  Deadline for lease monies: £25,000 for 2021 instalment £45,000 for 2022 instalment £35,000 for 2023 instalment	£20,000.00

<b>Trewern Community Council</b>	Trewern playground has a large unused grass area which is available for more play equipment. The majority of which was installed prior 1999. Since then, new development has taken place with an increase for play equipment. Outdoor play is vital for young people's wellbeing, particularly due to the impact of the pandemic. Free school meals have increased from 12%-15%, which reflect the hardship in the area, especially following the pandemic.	£9,450.00
<b>Ystradfellte church hall</b>	The grant is to achieve the following: 1. Re-engagement of existing clubs by providing them with a subsidy to provide free-services to the local community. 2. Provide PPE and sanitizing stations within the hall. 3. Updated and revamped website to attract new members and a booking system for the general public. 4. The creation of a new club 'the after-hours school club' to provide an opportunity for school aged children to socialize and mix in with other children after lockdown. 5. Community engagement and welfare by YFC providing breakfast clubs and a church led evening meal. 6. To be able to offer online services such as concerts, readings and plays through a web-based camera for those not wanting to visit the hall	£2,412.00
<b>Walled Garden Development</b>	This funding would enable to put in a kitchen in the existing breeze block shed and build an open barn structure at the bottom of the garden with outdoor heaters to enable to continue outside safely. This will also enable us to open the new Squirrels section for 4 - 6-year-olds	£4,097.18
<b>Judge's Lodging</b>	To create a Museum Assistant post, to support the Development Manager in the daily operation and growth of The Judge's Lodging, both during its open and closed seasons. This post will assist the Development Manager with marketing work, including social media, maintenance of databases and e-correspondence. To migrate to predominantly digital marketing. This member of staff will support the Volunteers identified that one of these placement is showing a particular desire to learn more about our work and is proving extremely capable. Following the initial 12 months hopefully continue their role with us into paid employment, supporting and training a young person from the community. In addition, we would like to update our website, which launched in 2020, with the inclusion of a donation facility, something that would encourage individual donations, not just on a general basis, but by utilising specific fundraising campaigns and online events.	£9,609.00
<b>Wyeside Arts Centre</b>	As a registered charity, under the criterion 'to purchase of equipment to enhance facilities and services' for 'Arts & Cultural Organisations' they are seeking funding to support the mental health and general wellbeing of our audience as we emerge from the Covid pandemic. Specifically, for funds to provide new quality audio equipment for live music and other live performances both for and by the community across Mid Wales.	£10,000.00

<b>Dolwen Field Development Committee</b>	They are looking for funding to develop a “walking for wellbeing” facility offering a low-level wheelchair friendly walk along a flat terrain, operating on a model of social prescription where health professionals are able to refer patients to support within their community in order to improve their health and wellbeing. In the wake of the pandemic many people are still reluctant to gather in crowded spaces. This project will provide a space where people are socially distanced but can exercise in the knowledge that they are safe. They would provide hand sanitisers along the route and could, if necessary, have a one-way system around the perimeter of the field.	£10,000.00
<b>The Game Change Project CIC</b>	Funding to improve and adapt our venue so that they can support more people to increase confidence and life skills in a practical, well ventilated and disabled friendly outdoor setting. The project will help respond to the increased anxiety, social isolation, lack of confidence and other mental health challenges that people have suffered because of Covid-19. People remain reluctant to take part in social activities which is exasperating social isolation in rural areas.	8,407.00
<b>Caersws Village Club</b>	The Village Club has over several years been slowly undergoing refurbishment. In summer of 2020 they completed the much-needed refurbishment of our toilets, we also have several flat roof areas and most recently we have completed the full replacement of the function room roof. All of this refurbishment has to date been funded by the Village Club revenues and donations from groups and private individuals.	5,000.00
<b>Churchstoke Bowling Club</b>	The project is to extend the clubhouse to provide a kitchen facility, freeing up space in the clubhouse to host members and visitors to the club in a post covid environment. Though the clubhouse is a temporary structure it is of a quality that has stood the test of time and the extension is to be built to the same standards. At present there are makeshift kitchen facilities within the clubhouse taking up valuable space and not really fit for purpose.	5,548.00
<b>COBRA RFC:</b>	To improve access for all to our club house we wish to install a lift. The function bar area is on the first floor. They feel that by installing a lift into the club house, this will enable us to host events that will appeal to all ages and members of the community. They are flanked by the bowling green, tennis courts and our playing fields, so we anticipate that they would benefit from the improvements.	7,730.00
<b>Clatter Community Centre</b>	To replace three large 113-year-old windows in the community centre, formerly the village school, to ensure the continued use for the benefit of the local community.	£3,172.00
<b>*Talgarth and District Sports and Community Assn.</b>	The area has been cleaned and repaired by volunteers but needs refreshment to encourage and enthuse both children and their parents/grandparents to engage in active play and to commune.	8,000.00

<p><b>Aberhafesp Community Centre Association</b></p>	<p>Funding to provide a fit for use PA system and loop, also a wifi connection so that community council can meet new Welsh office guidelines to provide hybrid meetings. Also, YFC and WI and other groups can access remote meetings or take part in learning situations. Hall has very high ceilings and acoustics are poor but with Loop will benefit those with hearing difficulties and those without. Hopefully encourage more groups to use centre and increase revenue and encourage accessibility and inclusivity.</p>	<p>£3,942.00</p>
<p><b>Dolau Recreation Assn.</b></p>	<p>They are looking to create an outdoor space by the village hall. It was recognised during the lockdowns that there is nothing available in Dolau for people to enjoy the outdoors. They would like to have a small play area and picnic benches so families in the area are able to walk to the facility/ meet friends outdoors. The past year has made everyone realise that outdoors is safer by having this space available not only can families continue to meet if there are any restrictions put in place again to avoid meeting indoors.</p>	<p>£5,000.00</p>
<p><b>Tregynon Community Council</b></p>	<p>Need to adapt the land to facilitate and develop outdoor space. To provide composite and sustainable picnic tables and benches. To encourage residents and families to play and picnic in a safe outdoor environment. To promote wellbeing, exercise in an outdoor space as we recover from Covid.</p>	<p>£2,176.00</p>
<p><b>Llangynidr village hall</b></p>	<p>The Community recovery fund will enable the village hall to regenerate the playground facilities providing play opportunities for all ages and abilities. They have had numerous meetings about getting the playground regenerated with safer working equipment. have sent out a survey to find out what the community want in terms of playground equipment. The re design of the playground will include a one-way system, social distancing, and hand sanitising stations.</p>	<p>£10,000.00</p>
<p><b>Abermule Bowling Club</b></p>	<p>Bowling Leagues is planning to have open sessions on the green for people in community, and visitors (nearby caravan park) also discussing having schools sessions on Friday afternoons. The project will not only re-establish regular bowling for members/ex members, getting them back to healthy outdoor activity, where risk of Covid is more easily managed.</p>	<p>£1,824.50</p>
<p><b>Montgomery Community Regeneration Association</b></p>	<p>Montgomeryshire Community Regeneration Association owns and manages Plas Dolerw which is conference and local community facility in Newtown. The lift in the building was installed in 2000. The lift is serviced every six months but due to the type of the lift, replacement parts are no longer produced and available. The lift stopped working just before Covid19 and unfortunately needs to be replaced. The lift enables disabled users and the elderly access to the first floor where different voluntary organisations occupy offices.</p>	<p>£8,491.00</p>

<p><b>Mid Border Arts</b></p>	<p>Marketing materials to promote Mid Border Arts, request for lift in the Assembly Rooms. And Lift for disabled access . The Assembly Rooms are spread over 2 floors. All main events take place upstairs and access to this room for the elderly, infirm or very young is via the lift. Performers and theatre companies also use it to move their equipment up to the performance space. The loss of the lift is a huge blow for our most vulnerable visitors who are less physically able and struggling with the effects of shielding and isolation. Having a working lift is crucial to our post Covid recovery. Relaunching their programme to the local community and beyond is also key to their recovery.</p>	<p>9,863.00</p>
<p><b>Welshpool Light Railway</b></p>	<p>Works to display building to restore it to full use after Covid and accommodate the move of Cloverland’s Model Museum from Montgomery to Llanfair, in order to increase its public access. Cloverland’s Model Car Museum, currently housed in Montgomery Institute and open for extremely restricted hours and adapt part of WLR Museum space for their displays. This will substantially increase the footfall to both museums. To visitors, the attraction will appear as a single collection, although Cloverland’s will retain ownership of their artifacts.</p>	<p>7,328.00</p>
<p><b>Enhancing Community Facilities</b></p>	<p>This project is for a design and feasibility study to identify the best use of the building and the works needed to achieve this. Facilities at the Hall are insufficient for the demand from both the community and visitors - in excess of 50,000 visitors per year to this end of the village and this has increased significantly since COVID. Craig y Ddinas is an outdoor activity hot spot with gorge walking and climbing being very popular activities. There are no public facing facilities in this area, so the communities and environment have been impacted by inappropriate toileting, changing, litter and parking issues. The community benefit very little from these visitors as there is minimum opportunity to spend and they believe that there is a huge opportunity missed here.</p>	<p>5000.00</p>
<p><b>Support following Covid</b></p>	<p>Depleted funds and membership following Covid. They are requesting materials to make masks, torches a to buy also the girls individual torches, rucksacks and picnic blankets, reflective jackets, so we can start meeting face to face outdoors to eliminate the risk of covid further. Also help towards hall rental</p>	<p>800.00</p>
<p><b>Llangorse Community Centre upgrade</b></p>	<p>Replacement of broken kitchen doors, worktops, and crockery. Maintaining good standards of hygiene and safety will improve the facilities provided, reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission, and ensure people who attend the Community Centre can do so safely.</p>	<p>1708.50</p>

## APPENDIX 2

### Covid Community Recovery Fund For Public Conveniences – Projects Supported

COVID recovery Grant funding for public conveniences 2021/2022				
	Organisation		Number of Facilities Operated	Payment authorised to date
<b>Community Interest Group</b>				
1	<b>Henderson Hall Trust Fund Community Centre LD3 7JE</b>		1	£1,886
		Henderson Hall		
2	<b>Llangorse Common Community Toilets</b>		1	£1,886
		Common		
3	<b>Llanidloes Community Services Committee</b>		1	£1,886
		Gro Car Park, Chapel Street		
4	<b>Love Glasbury</b>		1	£1,886
		Glas-Y-Bont		
5	<b>Ystradgynlais Amenity And Convenience Association</b>		1	£1,886
		The Cross, Station Road		
<b>Community/Town Council</b>				
1	<b>Berriew Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Adjacent to The Lion		
2	<b>Brecon Town Council</b>		2	£3,772
		Lion Yard		
		Upper Meadow		
3	<b>Builth Wells Town Council</b>		2	£3,772
		Strand Street		
		The Groe		
4	<b>Crickhowell Town Council</b>		1	£1,886
		CRIC Crickhowell		
5	<b>Hay Town Council</b>		2	£3,772
		Nr Clock Broad Street		
		Oxford Road Car Park		
6	<b>Kerry Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Common Road, Kerry		
7	<b>Knighton Town Council</b>		3	£5,658
		Bowling Green Lane Car Park		
		Knighton Cemetery		

		Norton Arms Car Park		
8	<b>Llandrindod Wells Town Council</b>		2	£3,772
		Lakeside		
		Station Crescent		
9	<b>Llanfihangel Community Council</b>		3	£5,658
		Car Park, Pontllogel		
		Mill Lane		
		School Lane		
10	<b>Llanfrynach Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Llanfrynach		
11	<b>Llanfyllin Town Council</b>		1	£1,886
		High Street		
12	<b>Llangammarch Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Llangammarch		
13	<b>Llangattock Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Llangattock		
14	<b>Llangynidr Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Crawnnon Road		
15	<b>Llangynog Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Berwyn Street		
16	<b>Llanidloes Town Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Nr Town Hall		
17	<b>Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Park Street		
18	<b>Llansantffraid Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Treflan		
19	<b>Llansilin Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Llansilin		
20	<b>Llanwddyn Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Lake Vyrnwy Road		
21	<b>Llanwrtyd Wells Town Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Riverside		
22	<b>Llanyre Community Council</b>		2	£3,772
		Llanyre		
		Newbridge on Wye		
23	<b>Machynlleth Town Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Heol Maengwyn		
24	<b>Meifod Community Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Vicarage lane		
25	<b>Montgomery Town Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Broad Street		
26	<b>Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn Town Council</b>		2	£3,772
		Back Lane Car Park		
		The Gravel, Shortbridge Street		



27	<b>Presteigne and Norton Town Council</b>		2	£3,772
		Hereford Street Car Park		
		Wilson Terrace		
28	<b>Rhayader Town Council</b>		3	£5,658
		Cemetery		
		Dark Lane Car Park		
		The Groe, Cwmdeuddwr		
29	<b>Talgarth Town Council</b>		1	£1,886
		Town Hall, The Square		
30	<b>Welshpool Town Council</b>		2	£3,772
		Berriew Street Car Park		
		Church Street CarPark		
	<b>Total grant payments authorised to date</b>			£92,414

**The Councils/Organisations listed below receive annual support from Welsh Government for facilities located close to Trunk Roads**

1	Caersws Community Council
2	Carno Community Council
3	Llanbrynmair Community Council
4	Llanfair Caereinion Town Council
5	Erwood Pit Stop Trust

## APPENDIX 3

### Council Services and Project Specific Support

Service area	Project summary	Amount Requested	Funding Awarded
Social Services Commissioning	Engage a specialist training provider to run up to 13 workshop sessions with care management, Commissioning and third sector staff to develop an approach for community brokerage of non-commissioned services for older adults and adults with disabilities. This will go hand in hand with a Dragon's Den proposal to pilot this approach with separate funding until 31/3/2022.	£7,800	7,800
Housing Solutions - Homelessness	<p>Training and Development: Funding for homelessness legislation and good practice training and development for colleagues from Housing Services and other relevant Council services.</p> <p>Quality of Service: Funding for a Project Assessment Review (PAR) by the Welsh Government's Integrated Assurance service, of the Council's homelessness services.</p>	£13,000	13,000
Leisure Services Freedom Leisure - Powys	To upskill 14 employees with a Swim Teacher Level 2 qualification delivered by Swim Wales.	£13,300	13,300
Customer Services (Corporate Proposal)	<p>Covid 19 has re-enforced the need for the organisation to have an accessible website to enable our services to be delivered for all our customers including those that communicate through BSL.</p> <p>The proposal is for the My Powys Account Log in page on the council's website to be translated to BSL.</p>	£225	225
School Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional capacity within the Education Welfare Service through the employment of two full time equivalent Educational Welfare Officers (EWOs) to cover North and South Powys. Their role will be to liaise and support families and schools for the successful re-integration of pupils back into school so that they engage fully with their learning.</li> </ul>	£87,358	40,620

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An additional Education Support Officer (ESO) to support the accurate administration and recording associated with the increased case load referrals from schools.</li> <li>• An additional Family Liaison / Caseworker to support casework and referrals related to statutory ALN processes which have significantly increased since the Covid pandemic. This post would cover pupils in mainstream schools. This post would also cover the increased workload anticipated as a result of the new ALN act.</li> </ul>		
<p>Regeneration &amp; Economic Development - 5yr maintenance</p>	<p>SMART Town Initiative</p> <p>Town Centre Wi-Fi – the installation of a town centre wi-fi system in an initial town in Powys. A town centre wi-fi system provides free to access public wi-fi, a marketing platform for businesses and events to utilise and in addition anonymised footfall data including number of visitors, duration of visit and frequency of visits. Powys County Council received 9 Meraki MR86 town centre wi-fi routers in July 2021. These routers came with a 10 year license to access the footfall dashboard and we have also managed to obtain funding for their installation via the Business Revenue Fund. We are looking to obtain funding to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Device maintenance for 10 years. This will cover the cost of maintaining the wi-fi system for 10 years meaning that any damage or faults will be covered. Maintenance is essential as there will be no cost for maintaining the network over the next 10 years.</li> </ul> <p>LoRaWAN – the installation of two LoRaWAN gateways in the town to compliment the town centre wi-fi system. LoRaWAN directly relates to the ‘internet of things’ and enables the use of smart sensors by both businesses, people living in the area and the local council. Having LoRaWAN gateways covering the town will enable the purchase and use of sensors such as footfall sensors for businesses or car parking sensors that could enable the direction of traffic to available spaces. As an example, a LoRaWAN enabled footfall sensor would allow a business to do a more detailed analysis of the footfall data utilising the footfall data from the town centre wi-fi in parallel. A business would be able to analyse how many people entered the shop on a daily basis, conversion of the footfall into sales and busy times of day to staff the business.</p>	<p>£18,200</p>	<p>10,200</p>

85,145
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## APPENDIX 4

### Valleys Taskforce Adaptation Grant – Projects Supported

Organisation ref	Total payment amount	Project
VTF001	2864.180	4 Barriers 1 5 x 4 awning
VTF002	7307.950	2 x 5.5m awnings tables & chairs
VTF003	1500.000	6 x heaters
VTF004	2520.000	1 5.5m awning
VTF005	2544.000	4.8m awning
VTF006	2544.000	4.6m awning
VTF007	2000.000	3 gazebos
VTF008	2520.000	5.6m awning
VTF009	836.730	sinks, hair dryer, repaint, toilet seats and plumbing
VTF010	11033.730	2 x 5m awnings, 2 heaters, 4 heaters, 8 seats, decking
	35670.590	

Award £46,572.00 (inc VAT)

**APPENDIX 5**  
**Transforming Towns – Town Centre Adaptation Grant – Projects**  
**Supported**

*Assessment Approval*

County	Project Approval Code	Town	Proposal	Indicative Project Cost	Local Panel (date)	Approved (grant, and date) PCC
Powys	TCPIFA-100	Llanfyllin	Increase outdoor hospitality areas within the town - Benches, awnings, planters	£16,660	28/10/2020	£13,328
Powys	TCPIFA-104	Brecon	Cover umbrellas, café barriers and gas heater	£19,369	10/12/2020	£15,000
Powys	TCPIFA-105	Llandrindod Wells	Awnings and parklet,	£17,640	10/12/2020	£14,112
Powys	TCPIFA-107	Crickhowell	11 bike racks, hand cleansing units and 2 picnic tables	£9,870	10/12/2020	£10,000
Powys	TCPIFA-108	Hay-on-Wye	Wall & Floor heaters, café barriers, parasols & Canopys, tables & Chairs and sanitising stations	£40,860	10/12/2020	£15,000
Powys	TCPIFA-109	Talgarth	Bollards, Tables, Gazebos and a shade garden area with new hard surface wooden gazebo structure seating and cycle racks	£10,746	10/12/2020	£10,000
Powys	TCPIFA-110	Rhayader	Installation of a Freestanding interactive information kiosk and on street Covid-19 related signage	£15,567	10/12/2020	£12,454
Powys	TCPIFA-112	Machynlleth	Support 2 businesses with covid restriction equipment and provide outside electric point, gazebo, table and chairs for a community space for outside events	£11,708	07/01/2021	£12,454

Powys	TCPIFA-113	Welshpool	Support 2 businesses with covid restriction equipment for outside dining and support to community spaces with screens etc.	£12,429	07/01/2021	£10,000
Powys	TCPFIA-114	Presteigne		£11,181	07/01/2021	£8,945
Powys	TCPIFA-115	Llanidloes	Support for 2 businesses to allow for covid restricted dining including outdoor covers, tables and chairs	£5,953	07/01/2021	£4,762
Powys	TCPIFA-117	Newtown	Outdoor covered space, tables and chairs for outside dining and heaters and gazebos for a hospitality business in town	£22,000	07/01/2021	£15,000
				£235,493		£144,055

## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

## CABINET EXECUTIVE

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Aled Davies  
Portfolio Holder for Finance

**SUBJECT:** Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief Scheme in  
Wales 2022-23

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 To adopt a Business Rates Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief scheme for financial year 2022-23 that meets the requirements to maximise funding available, to support Powys businesses to recover from the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic by granting rate relief which is compliant with Welsh Government guidance.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 Due to the ongoing challenges faced by businesses and the impact on the economy the Welsh Government have introduced several fiscal measures to support businesses and ratepayers. The current Retail, Leisure & Hospitality Rates Relief scheme for 2021-22, has been extended with a further temporary Business Rates Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief scheme for the financial year 2022-23 offering relief of **50%** on Business Rates bills with the total available relief being subject to a cap in the total amount each business can claim across Wales of **£110,000**.
- 2.2 The Welsh Government have announced that this rates relief scheme will be available for the financial year 2022-23 to support businesses within the retail, leisure, and hospitality sector in Wales. Properties that will benefit from this relief will be occupied properties such as shops, pubs, restaurants, gyms, performance venues, hotels, and guest houses. Powys is to receive funding of up to **£3.04m**.
- 2.3 The funding will be provided by way of a Welsh Government Grant, and it is estimated that **1,200** Powys businesses may be entitled to the 50% rates relief, estimated at total value of £3.04m off their Business Rates bills. Due to the £110,000 cap that has been introduced this year the relief will need to be applied for via an on-line application form.
- 2.4 All businesses will be required to make a declaration that the amount of relief they are seeking across Wales does not exceed the £110,000 cap.

### 3. Proposal

- 3.1 The Welsh Government will provide relief of 50% to eligible businesses occupying premises in the financial year 2022-23. Relief is available from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The proposal as to how the scheme is to be operated is detailed below in 3.2-3.16.
- 3.2 The total amount of Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief granted to each property is 50% of the remaining bill, after Small Business Rates Relief, Mandatory reliefs and other discretionary reliefs have been applied, excluding those where wider discretionary reliefs have been granted under the Localism Act 2011. The relief will be applied against the net bill after other reliefs have been applied. And having regard to the total relief cap of £110,000.
- 3.3 The eligibility for this relief and the relief itself will be assessed and calculated on a daily basis. The following formula will be used to determine the amount of relief to be granted to a property in the financial year:
- Amount of relief to be granted =  $V/2$ , where
- $V$  is the daily charge for the hereditament for the chargeable day after the application of any mandatory relief and any other discretionary reliefs, excluding those where local authorities have used their discretionary relief powers introduced by the Localism Act 2011 which are not funded by section 31 grants.
- 3.4 This should be calculated ignoring any prior-year adjustments in liabilities which fall to be liable on the day.
- 3.5 Businesses who occupy more than one property will be entitled to Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief for each of their eligible properties within the cap of £110,000 per business across Wales. Retail, leisure and hospitality properties which are excluded from Small Business Rates Relief due to the multiple occupation rule are eligible for this relief Scheme.
- 3.6 As this is a temporary scheme, Welsh Government will provide the relief by reimbursing local authorities that use their discretionary relief powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988. The Welsh Government will reimburse local authorities for the relief that is provided in line with this guidance via a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 and 58A of the Government of Wales Act 2006.
- 3.7 The Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief scheme qualifying criteria being:
- The property is **occupied** for retail, leisure, and hospitality purposes between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, and
  - The property is being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public, or



- The property is being used for the provision of services to visiting members of the public (as contained within the guidance) or
- Properties that are being used for the sale of food and/or drink to visiting members of the public, or
- Properties that are being used for the provision of sport, leisure and facilities to visiting members of the public (including for the viewing of such activities) and for the assembly of visiting members of the public, or
- Properties that are being used for the assembly of visiting members of the public, or
- Properties, where the non-domestic part is being used for the provision of living accommodation as a business.

3.8 To qualify for the relief, the property must be wholly or mainly used for the qualifying purposes. In a similar way to other reliefs, this is a test on use rather than occupation. Therefore, properties which are occupied but not wholly or mainly used for the qualifying purpose will not qualify for the relief. For the avoidance of doubt, properties which closed temporarily due to the government's advice on Covid-19 should be treated as occupied for the purposes of this relief.

3.9 There are certain types of properties that, in compliance with the Welsh Government guidance, the Council will exclude the ratepayer from Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Relief, these are as follows:

- The property is not occupied for any period between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.
- The property is not reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public (even if there is ancillary use of the property which is retail)
- Properties that are owned, rented or managed by a local authority.

In addition, and in compliance with the Welsh Government guidance, the Council will deem that the types of uses below (or those similar in use) are not considered to be retail, leisure or hospitality use for the purpose of this relief, and as such they would not be eligible for the relief. Excluded uses are:

- Financial services (e.g. banks, building societies, cash points / ATMs, bureau de change, payday lenders, betting shops, pawn brokers)
- Medical services (e.g. vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors)
- Professional services (e.g. solicitors, accountants, insurance agents / financial advisers, tutors)
- Post office sorting office
- Day nurseries
- Kennels and catteries
- Casino & gambling clubs
- Show homes and marketing suites
- Employment agencies

3.10 The Council will be reimbursed in full by Welsh Government for any relief that is awarded, in other words if correctly applied there will be no direct cost to the Council.

- 3.11 Empty properties becoming occupied after 1 April 2022 will qualify for this relief, on a pro-rata basis.
- 3.12 If there is a change in occupier part way through the financial year, after relief has already been provided to the property, the new occupier will qualify for the relief on a pro-rata basis based on the remaining days of occupation using the formula in paragraph 3.3 above.
- 3.13 The discount will be applied on a day-to-day basis using the formula set out above. A new property created as a result of a split or merger during the financial year, or where there is a change of use, should be considered afresh for the discount on that day.
- 3.14 Having regard to the ongoing challenges Powys businesses continue to face following the coronavirus pandemic, it is essential that the 50% relief available to businesses is promoted via all available channels and it is proposed that:

Applications (upon receipt of a valid application form for Retail Leisure and Hospitality rates relief 2022-23) the decision to award relief be made by the Portfolio Holder for Finance in consultation with the Head of Finance (sct 151 officer), provided all terms of the scheme are met.

- 3.15 Following the end of the transition period for the United Kingdom leaving the European Union on 31 December 2020, EU State Aid regulations only apply in limited circumstances. As the relief is not funded by EU residual funds, EU State Aid regulations no longer apply for this scheme. As of 1 January 2021, the UK Subsidy Regime came into force. The scheme is considered by the Welsh Government to be outside the scope of any international trade agreements as measures are focused locally within Wales
- 3.16 Guidance notes regarding the scheme are shown in **Appendix 1** to this report.

#### **4 Resource Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications to the Council as Welsh Government will reimburse in full for any relief that is awarded, in other words if correctly applied there will be no direct cost to the Council.
- 4.2 Having an online form will minimise the workforce implications to the Council and minimise administration work in awarding the relief upon a completed application form.
- 4.3 The Deputy Head of Finance (Deputy Section 151 officer) confirms that there are no direct financial implications to the Council in adopting the scheme as long as the Welsh Government guidelines in terms of qualifying ratepayers, are adhered to. The full value of discretionary awards is reimbursed by the Welsh Government.
- 4.4 Furthermore there are no known ICT, customer services or physical implications. Front line services have been made fully aware of the temporary

scheme to operate during the financial year 2022-23 and how ratepayers submit an application to be considered for the relief.

- 4.5 Corporate Communications Commented, “This relief is of significant public interest and will be promoted widely through all channels including media release and social media”.

## **5 Legal Implications Options Considered/Available**

- 5.1 The report was shared with legal who commented “The recommendations can be supported from a legal point of view”.
- 5.1 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: “I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report, I am not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report”.

## **6 Data Protection**

- 6.1 Applications for this relief will be submitted by way of an on-line form, on Councils’ website, thus minimising the handling and transferring of personal data.

## **7 Local Member(s)**

- 7.1 The relief scheme in respect of Business Rates will apply equally across the whole County. No comments have been received from local members.

## **8 Integrated Impact Assessment**

- 8.1 An impact assessment has not been undertaken, as the relief scheme will apply equally to all businesses that meet the criteria set out in section 3 and appendix 1.

## **9 Recommendation**

- 9.1 That a Business Rates Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief scheme 2022-23 be established in accordance with section 3 of this report.
- 9.2 Applications for Business Rates retail, leisure, and hospitality rates relief 2022-23 under the scheme referred to above shall be delegated to and determined by the Portfolio holder for Finance in consultation with the Head of Financial services (Section 151 Officer).

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<b>Email</b>	andrew.griffiths@powys.gov.uk
<b>Head of Service</b>	Jane Thomas

## **Background Papers used to prepare Report:**

### **Appendix 1**

Non-Domestic Rates Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief in Wales 2022-23  
Guidance Note

# Non-Domestic Rates – Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief in Wales – 2022-23

## Guidance

### About this guidance

This guidance is intended to support county and county borough councils (local authorities) in administering the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief scheme (the relief). On 20 December 2021, the Minister for Finance and Local Government announced the continuation of the relief on a temporary basis for 2022-23. This guidance applies to Wales only.

This guidance sets out the criteria which the Welsh Government will use to determine the funding for local authorities for relief provided to retail, leisure and hospitality properties. The guidance does not replace any existing non-domestic rates legislation or any other relief.

Enquiries about the scheme should be sent to: [localtaxationpolicy@gov.wales](mailto:localtaxationpolicy@gov.wales)

The relief is being offered from 1 April 2022 and will be available until 31 March 2023.

### Introduction

This relief is aimed at businesses and other ratepayers in Wales in the retail, leisure and hospitality sectors, for example shops, pubs and restaurants, gyms, performance venues and hotels.

The Welsh Government will provide grant funding to all 22 local authorities in Wales to provide the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief scheme to eligible businesses for 2022-23. The scheme aims to provide support for eligible occupied properties by offering a discount of 50% on non-domestic rates bills for such properties. The scheme will apply to all eligible businesses, however the relief will be subject to a cap in the amount each business can claim across Wales. The total amount of relief available is £110,000 across all properties occupied by the same business. All businesses are required to

make a declaration that the amount of relief they are seeking across Wales does not exceed this cap, when applying to individual local authorities. An example declaration form is at [Annex 1](#) for local authorities to utilise when developing their own forms to publish and issue to businesses.

This document provides guidance on the operation and delivery of the scheme.

## **Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief**

### **How will the relief be provided?**

As this is a temporary measure, we are providing the relief by reimbursing local authorities that use their discretionary relief powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988. It will be for individual local authorities to adopt a scheme and decide in each individual case when to grant relief under section 47. The Welsh Government will reimburse local authorities for the relief that is provided in line with this guidance via a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 and section 58A of the Government of Wales Act 2006.

### **How will the scheme be administered?**

It will be for local authorities to determine how they wish to administer the scheme to maximise take-up and minimise the administrative burden for ratepayers and for local authority staff.

Local authorities are responsible for providing businesses with clear and accessible information on the details and administration of the scheme. If, for any reason, an authority is unable to provide this relief to eligible businesses from 1 April 2022, consideration should be given to notifying eligible businesses that they qualify for the relief and that their bills will be recalculated.

### **Which properties will benefit from relief?**

Properties that will benefit from this relief will be occupied retail, leisure and hospitality properties – such as shops, pubs and restaurants, gyms, performance venues and hotels across Wales. More detailed eligibility criteria and exceptions to the relief are set out below.

Relief should be granted to each eligible business as a reduction to its rates bill based on occupation between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. It is recognised that there may be some instances where a local authority is retrospectively notified of a change of occupier. In such cases, if it is clear that the business was in occupation on or after the 1 April 2022, the local authority may use its discretion in awarding relief.

It is intended that, for the purposes of this scheme, retail properties such as 'shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments' will mean the following (subject to the other criteria in this guidance).

Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public

**Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public**

- Shops (such as florists, bakers, butchers, grocers, greengrocers, jewellers, stationers, off-licences, newsagents, hardware stores, supermarkets, etc)
- Charity shops
- Opticians
- Pharmacies
- Post offices
- Furnishing shops or display rooms (such as carpet shops, double-glazing, garage doors)
- Car or caravan showrooms
- Second hand car lots
- Markets
- Petrol stations
- Garden centres
- Art galleries (where art is for sale or hire)

**Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public**

- Hair and beauty services
- Shoe repairs or key cutting
- Travel agents
- Ticket offices (e.g. for theatre)
- Dry cleaners
- Launderettes
- PC, TV or domestic appliance repair
- Funeral directors
- Photo processing

- DVD or video rentals
- Tool hire
- Car hire
- Estate and letting agents

**Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of food and / or drink to visiting members of the public**

- Restaurants
- Drive-through or drive-in restaurants
- Takeaways
- Sandwich shops
- Cafés
- Coffee shops
- Pubs
- Bars or Wine Bars

We consider assembly and leisure to mean the following.

**Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of sport, leisure and facilities to visiting members of the public (including for the viewing of such activities) and for the assembly of visiting members of the public**

- Sports grounds and clubs
- Sport and leisure facilities
- Gyms
- Tourist attractions
- Museums and art galleries
- Stately homes and historic houses
- Theatres
- Live Music Venues
- Cinemas
- Nightclubs

**Hereditaments that are being used for the assembly of visiting members of the public**

- Public halls



- Clubhouses, clubs and institutions

We consider hotels, guest and boarding premises, and self-catering accommodation to mean the following.

### **Hereditaments where the non-domestic part is being used for the provision of living accommodation as a business**

- Hotels, Guest and Boarding Houses,
- Holiday homes,
- Caravan parks and sites

### **Other considerations**

To qualify for the relief, the hereditament should be wholly or mainly used for the qualifying purposes. In a similar way to other reliefs, this is a test on use rather than occupation. Therefore, hereditaments that are occupied, but not wholly or mainly used for the qualifying purpose, will not qualify for the relief. For the avoidance of doubt, hereditaments which closed temporarily due to the government's advice on Covid-19 should be treated as occupied for the purposes of this relief.

The above list is not intended to be exhaustive as it would be impossible to list all the many and varied retail, leisure and hospitality uses that exist. There will also be mixed uses. However, it is intended to be a guide for local authorities as to the types of uses that the Welsh Government considers for this purpose to be eligible for relief. Local authorities should determine for themselves whether particular properties not listed are broadly similar in nature to those above and, if so, to consider them eligible for the relief. Conversely, properties that are not broadly similar in nature to those listed above should not be eligible for the relief.

The grant of the relief is discretionary. Should local authorities decide to exercise their discretion not to apply the relief to eligible businesses, they may wish to consider taking their own legal advice upon any potential consequential legal issues which might arise from such a decision and on a case by case basis.

Businesses may view that they have been able to continue trading at a substantial level during Coronavirus restrictions and as such may be inclined to not apply for the relief.

### **Types of hereditaments that are not considered to be eligible for Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief**

The following list sets out the types of uses that the Welsh Government does not consider to be retail, leisure or hospitality use for the purpose of this relief and which would not be deemed eligible for the relief. However, it will be for local authorities to determine if hereditaments are similar in nature to those listed and if they would not be eligible for relief under the scheme.

#### **Hereditaments that are being used wholly or mainly for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public**

- Financial services (eg banks, building societies, cash points, ATMs, bureaux de change, payday lenders, betting shops, pawnbrokers)
- Medical services (eg vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors)
- Professional services (eg solicitors, accountants, insurance agents, financial advisers, tutors)
- Post Office sorting offices
- Day nurseries
- Kennels and catteries
- Casinos and gambling clubs
- Show homes and marketing suites
- Employment agencies

#### **Hereditaments that are not reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public**

If a hereditament is not usually reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public, it will be ineligible for relief under the scheme, even if there is ancillary use of the hereditament that might be considered to fall within the descriptions listed under *Which properties will benefit from relief?*

#### **Hereditaments that are not occupied**

Properties that are not occupied on 1 April 2022 should be excluded from this relief. However, under the mandatory Empty Property Rates Relief scheme, empty properties will receive a 100% reduction in rates for the first three months (and in certain cases, six months) of being empty.

#### **Hereditaments that are owned, rented or managed by a local authority**

Hereditaments owned, rented or managed by a local authority, such as visitor centres, tourist information shops and council-run coffee shops or gift shops attached to historic buildings, are exempt from this scheme.

#### **How much relief will be available?**

The total amount of government funded relief available for each property under this scheme for 2022-23 is 50% of the relevant bill. This is subject to a cap of £110,000 per business across all their properties in Wales. The relief should be applied to the net bill remaining after mandatory reliefs and other discretionary reliefs funded by section 31 grants have been applied (excluding those where local authorities have used their wider discretionary relief powers introduced by the Localism Act 2011, which are not funded by section 31 grants).

The eligibility for the relief and the relief itself will be assessed and calculated on a daily basis. The following formula should be used to determine the amount of relief to be granted for a particular hereditament in the financial year.

Amount of relief to be granted =  $V/2$ , where

V is the daily charge for the hereditament for the chargeable day after the application of any mandatory relief and any other discretionary reliefs (excluding those where local authorities have used their discretionary relief powers introduced by the Localism Act 2011, which are not funded by section 31 grants).

This should be calculated ignoring any prior-year adjustments in liabilities which fall to be liable on the day.

Businesses who occupy more than one property will be entitled to Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief for each of their eligible properties, within the cap of £110,000 per business across Wales.

A business with a single property with a remaining liability (after reliefs) greater than £220,000 can use the entire allocation of relief. No other properties owned by that business will be eligible for the scheme.

Retail, leisure and hospitality properties which are excluded from Small Business Rates Relief due to the multiple occupation rule are eligible for this relief scheme, subject to the cap being applied.

## **Changes to existing hereditaments, including change in occupier**

Empty properties becoming occupied after 1 April 2022 will qualify for this relief from the time of occupation.

If there is a change in occupier part way through the financial year, after relief has already been provided to the hereditament, the new occupier will qualify for the relief if they operate in the retail, leisure or hospitality sectors, on a pro-rata basis. This will be calculated based on the remaining days of occupation using the formula used in the section titled *How much relief will be available?*

The discount should be applied on a day-to-day basis using the formula set out above. A new hereditament created as a result of a split or merger during the financial year, or where there is a change of use, should be considered afresh for the discount on that day.

## **State Aid / Subsidy Control Regime**

Following the end of the transition period for the United Kingdom leaving the European Union on 31 December 2020, EU State Aid regulations only apply in limited circumstances. As the relief is not funded by EU residual funds, EU State Aid regulations no longer apply for this scheme. As of 1 January 2021, the UK Subsidy Regime came into force. The scheme is considered by the Welsh Government to be outside the scope of any international trade agreements as measures are focused locally within Wales.

## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

CABINET EXECUTIVE  
22nd February 2022

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Cllr Aled Davies  
Portfolio Holder for Finance

**REPORT TITLE:** Financial Forecast for the year ended 31st March 2022  
(as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021)

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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**1. Purpose**

1.1 To provide Cabinet with the revenue budget outturn forecast for the 2021-22 financial year. This includes information on the additional hardship funding received from Welsh Government and the impact on the projected position both in the current year and for 2022-23.

**2. Background**

2.1 The ongoing demands of the pandemic continue to have a financial impact upon the Council, and the funding from Welsh Government remains essential in supporting the Council's financial position. Additional costs and lost income continue to be claimed and this support is in place until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

2.2 We must continue to monitor our financial position carefully as we progress through the final quarter of the year and ensure that we react quickly if the position changes.

2.3 Table 1 below summarises the projected full year underspend position of £1.155 million across the Council's services including HRA and delegated schools (September position £30,000 deficit).

**Table 1 – Forecast Position**

Revenue Budget	£'000
Base Budget	279,808
Cost Pressures	6,046
Cost Underspends	(9,618)
Cost Reductions Shortfall	3,061
WG Future Support	(644)
Forecast Outturn	278,653
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>1,155</b>

2.4 Appendix A provides a breakdown of the financial position for each service, broken down into categories covering cost pressures, cost underspends, service reductions and covid hardship funding from Welsh Government expected to date. A projected underspend of £579k is reported for the Councils General fund when you exclude Schools Delegated and the HRA.

2.5 The improved position is mainly due to:

- Highways, Transport and Recycling £0.67 million, improvement attributable to the use of grant that was rolled forward from last year and Welsh Government have allowed the use of it to fund this years unachieved savings
- Education £0.298 million deterioration due to an overspend on schools property repair and maintenance budget, steps are being taken to try and minimise the impact through the rest of the year.
- Housing and Community Development £0.09 million. This improvement is attributed to staffing underspends and the receipt of grant funding. The Service has been very successful bidding for grant funding this financial year.
- Economy and Digital £0.36 million. Although the service still shows a deficit due to delivered savings on service digitalising projects (that are being written off as part of budget setting 2022-23). The service has endeavoured to meet this gap through management of controllable spend, delayed recruitment and maximising grant income.
- Legal £0.011 million. Improvement partly due to the improved prediction for registration fees income and gaining funding for a solicitor that was unbudgeted.
- Corporate £0.434 improvement million due to the continued reprofiling of capital programme and the reduction in borrowing requirement.

2.6 The current underspend includes a £0.81 million surplus achieved from pension contributions that will be transferred to the pension reserve at year end to support the actuarial valuation in 2023. In addition, the cost of borrowing - interest and Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) to support the capital programme remains underspent by £1.5 million, it was previously agreed that the council may use the underspend to make a voluntary revenue provision or overpayment on top of the budgeted MRP and can be reclaimed in later years if deemed necessary or prudent. If this takes place the Council would require a contribution from reserve of £1.731 million at year end to balance the financial position.

2.7 Services that are projecting an overspend position must act now to recover their forecasted position and deliver within budget, if necessary, completing and submitting virements for consideration to realign budgets. Childrens services have had a virement approved for £1.8 million to cover the projected costs for Childrens services outturn. This is not currently included as a draw on reserves as this is currently being managed within the overall projected budget position.

2.8 Further detail about each service area is provided in Appendix B, with Heads of Service setting out their individual narrative that explains their financial position. This includes their activities being undertaken to deliver cost reductions and mitigate shortfalls, the level of pressures and if any that are being managed “at risk” are likely to materialise significantly.

### **3. Cost Reductions**

3.1 Cost reductions of £13.397 million were approved as part of the Councils budget for this year and the delivery of these is required to achieve a balanced budget in year. These include undelivered reductions from 2020-21 of £1.569 million that have been carried forward.

- 3.2 The summary at Table 2 shows that 61% or £8.133 million have been delivered and a further 16% £2.204 million are assured of delivery by Services. £3.061 million, 23% are unachieved and are at risk of delivery in this year. £1.317 million of those undelivered cost reductions are proposed to be written out as part of the 2022-23 budget setting, the remainder will roll forward to be delivered next year.
- 3.3 The budget set by Council included the provision of a risk budget to manage the risk of delivery, together with potential additional service pressures and this will be drawn upon to support the budget gap .

### 3.3 Table 2 – Cost Reductions

£'000	To Be Achieved	Actually Achieved	Assured	Un-achieved	% Achieved
Adult Services	5,091	4,111	880	100	81%
Childrens Services	3,184	2,212	972	-	69%
Commissioning - Adults & Children	-	-	-	-	-
Economy and Digital Services	1,167	92	49	1,026	8%
Education	381	381	-	-	100%
Schools Delegated	39	39	-	-	100%
Finance	324	300	24	(0)	93%
Central Activities	(175)	(175)	-	-	100%
Highways Transport & Recycling	1,745	267	66	1,411	15%
Housing & Community Development	310	235	-	75	76%
Legal & Democratic Services	298	135	7	156	45%
Transformation and Communications	57	57	-	-	100%
Property, Planning & Public Protection	818	470	201	147	57%
Transformation and Communication	-	-	-	-	-
Workforce & OD	160	10	5	145	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,397</b>	<b>8,133</b>	<b>2,204</b>	<b>3,061</b>	<b>61%</b>
		61%	16%	23%	

## 4. Welsh Government Support

- 4.1 The Welsh Government budget confirmed that the Hardship fund will continue until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 but expect the value of claims to reduce as councils bear the cost of new working and custom and practice that become the norm. This fund continues to support additional costs arising from the pandemic associated with external providers of Social Care, Homelessness, PPE, Free School Meals, limited general additional expenses, and the Mortuary Facility. The fund also continues to support the net effect of lost income.
- 4.2 Thus far this year the council has submitted cost claims totalling £7.4 million, of which £3.6 million directly supports the adult care providers and £0.58 million reclaims costs for self-isolation payments. Lost income has been claimed totalling £0.852 million.

## 5. Transformation

- 5.1 The transformation fund is funded from capital receipts, under a capitalisation directive from Welsh Government which ceases on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Qualifying expenditure is expenditure that is designed to generate ongoing revenue savings in the delivery of public services and/or transform service delivery in a way that reduces costs or demand for services in future years for the Authority or any of the delivery partners. This includes investment which supports economic growth projects which are also designed to reduce revenue costs or pressures over the longer term. Within

this definition, it is for individual local authorities to decide whether a project qualifies for the flexibility.

- 5.2 Transformation funding under the capitalisation directive funds both transformational projects and redundancy costs across all services within the authority.
- 5.3 Table 3 confirms the total budget allocated to transformational funding in 2021-22 is £4.013m, thus far the projected outturn is £3.018mm, the underspend will allow unused capital receipts to remain available to support the future capital programme.

**Table 3 Transformation Summary**

Transformation Costs 21-22	Forecast Outturn	Budget	Variance
	£,000	£,000	£,000
Transformation Projects to be capitalised	2,618	3,013	395
Organisational Transformation	400	1,000	600
	<b>3,018</b>	<b>4,013</b>	<b>995</b>

## 6. Reserves

- 6.1 The Reserves position at Table 4 sets out the reserve forecast as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. The current general fund balance is forecast at £9.34 million which represents 4.7% of the Councils net revenue budget (excluding delegated schools and Housing Revenue Account (HRA)).
- 6.2 Both the Transport and HRA reserves are primarily used to fund capital schemes such as vehicle and ICT purchase and building council house stock.

**Table 4 – Reserves Table**

Summary	Opening Balance (1st April 21) Surplus / (Deficit)	Forecast Addition / (Use) of Reserves	Forecast (Over) / Under Spend	Projected Balance (31st March 22) Surplus/ (Deficit)
General Fund	13,634	(4,294)	0	9,340
Budget Management Reserve	4,330	0	0	4,330
Specific Reserves	15,651	2,472	(426)	17,697
Transport & Equipment Funding Reserve	11,282	(8,558)	0	2,724
<b>Total Usable</b>	<b>44,897</b>	<b>(10,380)</b>	<b>(426)</b>	<b>34,091</b>
Schools Delegated Reserves	3,251	(693)	9	2,567
School Loans & Other Items	(371)	7	0	(364)
Housing Revenue Account	4,481	(2,404)	567	2,644
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>52,258</b>	<b>(13,470)</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>38,938</b>

- 6.3 The schools reserve position presents a minimal use of reserves, although some schools may have a significant call on their reserve. There is funding from Welsh Government to support schools, as can be seen in section 7, through the rest of this financial year and these grant allocations may help the current forecasts improve.

## 7. Grants and Virements – for 2021-22

- 7.1 There have been additional school grants received this quarter from Welsh Government (unless otherwise specified) and now form part of the financial position:



## 7.2 Education:

- £371,801 – Post 16 Learner Recovery and Progression funding in recognition that learners will have experienced disruption because of COVID-19.
- £456,474 – LA Education Grant (variation 2) – To alleviate the immediate pressures associated with the teachers' pay award, support the emotional and mental wellbeing of learners and school staff, reimbursing home schooled learners for those obtaining a centre determined grade during the summer 2021 exam series and delivering induction placement schemes for NQTs during September – December 2021.
- £58,973 – Supporting Music Services in Wales
- £31,620 – Musical Winter of Wellbeing supporting music activities that will be accessible to learners, across the age range, within a school or setting.
- £27,000 - Supporting Service Children in Education focusing on sustainability of best practice, building capacity, and considering local needs and requirements,
- £496,896 - Professional Learning to meet the demands of the new National Approach.
- £255,876 - Teachers Pay Award – to fund additional 0.75% award in Sept 21. This grant covers the period Sept 21 to March 22 and will be allocated to Schools delegated budget based on real teachers pay award.

## 7.3 Children

- £25,000, Pathfinder – Welsh Government Early Years Integration Transformation Programme Grant. To be used to commission consultant support to undertake scoping and mapping of Early Years services in Powys.
- £11,986, Additional Child Development Fund allocation. – Welsh Government Grant To respond to the needs of families impacted the most by the Covid 19 pandemic through the implementation of small grant schemes to services and community groups to provide a wide range of opportunities, activities, and training for 0–5-year-olds and their families in their communities The revenue allocation is being used on resources and staffing to allocate and distribute the capital element.
- £239,227, Additional All Wales Play Opportunities Grant allocation- Winter of Wellbeing. To enable Powys to meet some of the actions within your 2021 – 2022 Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) Action Plan and to build on the success of the Summer of Fun and provide more opportunities for children and young people aged 0-25 to develop their social, emotional, and physical well-being outside of the school day.
- £14,500, Young Care ID Card Grant. Welsh Government Grant to Progress the work at local authority level for development, trialling and local area launches of a young carers ID card. This will enable each local authority to test what works to promote awareness of young carers' issues with schools, organisations, and businesses; feedback their experiences to Carers Trust Wales so that both the LA and CTW can disseminate learning to the LA learning clusters; and to promote take up and use of the card by individual young carers. This Grant will be fund resources and staffing.
- £1,606, Additional Youth Justice Grant allocation from the Youth Justice Board. The aims and objectives of the Grant is to reduce the number of children in the

youth justice system, reduce reoffending by children in the youth justice system, improve the safety and wellbeing of children in the youth justice system; and improve outcomes for children in the youth justice system.

- £21,250, Additional allocation of The Out of Court Parenting Support Welsh Government Grant. The grant is in relation to the provision of parenting support because of an out of court disposal issued to an individual by the police. This is funding a parenting office to undertake the work required.
- £797,106 Additional Social Care Recovery. The purpose of the grant is to support appropriate recovery of social care services in local authority areas across Wales, aligning with the priority areas set out in the Social Care Recovery Framework in respect of Children Service pressures and unpaid carers.

#### 7.4 Regeneration

- £36,250. COP29 Domestic Campaign 2021/22. Objectives of the grant
  - better understand and collect supporting evidence of impacts of funding spent on Net Zero by Local Authorities (LAs) including national, local, and commercial funding;
  - understand better the work done by community groups on net zero and the impacts this has;
  - understand barriers to further work by these two sectors to support the Net Zero strategy;
  - understand better the SME landscape including opportunities for DIT for both inward investment and export advice for emerging and existing Net Zero businesses including supply chain.
- £125,000, Levelling Up Fund Capacity and Resource Grant to assist with the costs of developing a bid for the future rounds of the Levelling up Fund
- £20,000, Community Renewal Fund, capacity funding to invite bids locally and appraise

7.5 The following grants came into the Authority during December 2021 and the Service are working through the detail of the terms and conditions of the grants to ensure that they are utilised as effectively as possible, these have not yet been built into forecasts:

- £545,173, Additional Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant – To strengthen delivery of Foundation Phase, support Wales collaborative for Learning Design, deliver additional professional learning, deliver the national pedagogy project and Centre determined grades.
- £2,667,190, LA Education Grant (variation 3) – To deliver the Winter of Wellbeing programme, provide high quality support for children and young people with ALN to deal with the impacts of COVID-19, fund online solutions for Individual Development Plans (IBP) as part of the ALN transformation programme, prepare for the phased commencement and full implementation of the ALN Act, training for trauma informed approach, enhancing attendance support, additional Recruit Recover Raise standards funding, extending PDG Access to Years 2,4 and 6 for uniforms, sports kit and IT equipment and funding for preparation for changes to Free School Meals.

- £1,807,241, Revenue Maintenance funding to alleviate pressures for caretaking, cleaning and planned maintenance costs not covered by the hardship fund.

7.6 The Finance service has received additional funding to support the delivery of the Business Grant work on behalf of Welsh Government. As a result of this the service is projecting an underspend this year. This was considered when transformation bids across the Council were being approved. To limit the pressure on the revenue budget it was proposed that the service use this underspend to fund the posts delivering the finance transformation work and a request is now submitted to set up a specific reserve to manage this.

## **8. Financial Risks**

8.1 The greatest financial risk remains in our ability to deliver a balanced budget over the medium and longer term. The updated Medium Term Financial Strategy recently proposed by Cabinet continues to show a significant budget gap across the 4 years of the strategy to 2026/27. We continue to plan in a challenging and uncertain time and will update our projections as more information becomes available.

8.2 Treasury Management, maintaining the Councils cash flow to meet liabilities, continues to be monitored daily. We must ensure that the Council has sufficient liquidity to meet its immediate costs such as salaries and wages, HMRC taxation, and maintaining payment to suppliers and precepting authorities. The current position remains stable with additional borrowing recently being undertaken taking advantage of the reduced borrowing rates.

8.3 The Council remains under borrowed as we continue to utilise our cash reserves to underpin our cashflow. We can borrow both in the short to medium or long term, our approach is regularly updated and explained as part of the Treasury Management report.

## **9 Resource Implications**

The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) has provided the following comment:

9.1 The projected position has improved during the last quarter, but some services continue to project overspends for the year. Action must be taken now to recover the projected overspends wherever possible. Any service that cannot manage the additional financial pressures within their existing budget are requested to submit a report explaining the situation. Cabinet can then consider the wider action that may need to be taken.

9.2 Maintaining appropriate levels of useable reserves is an important safety net to support financial sustainability and has been a key consideration in the development of the budget now proposed for 2022/23.

9.3 Delivery of the financial savings included in the budget is also a key aspect of ensuring ongoing financial sustainability, full delivery of the savings approved in the current year cannot be achieved and the resetting of the base budget for 2022/23 puts an additional pressure £1.3 million within the budget proposed.

9.4 We must consider the continuing implications of the pandemic and how these impact on the Council and embed this into our planning and new ways of working. The additional costs and reductions in our income have been considered and factored into our budget plans.

9.5 As we move into the final quarter of the current financial year we must take any opportunities that arise to strengthen our financial sustainability as we move into 2022/23. Setting aside unused revenue MRP budget to support the future capital programme and setting aside funds to reduce specific risks facing us over the next few years will improve our resilience over the medium term.

## **10. Legal implications**

10.1 Legal: the recommendations can be accepted from a legal point of view

10.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services ( Monitoring Officer ) has commented as follows: “ I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report”.

## **11. Data Protection**

11.1 There are no data protection issues within this report.

## **12. Comment from local member(s)**

12.1 This report relates to all service areas across the whole County.

## **13. Impact Assessment**

13.1 No impact assessment required.

## **14. Recommendation**

14.1 That Cabinet note the current budget position and the projected full year forecast to the end of March 2022.

14.2 That the grants set out in section 7 of the report are noted.

14.3 The virement set out in section 7.6 is approved.

14.4 That where additional in year financial pressure cannot be accommodated within existing budget, a detailed report is requested to give clear explanation of projected overspend before action is taken by Cabinet to address the projected deficit.

Contact Officer: Jane Thomas Email: jane.thomas@powys.gov.uk Head of Service: Jane Thomas
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Appendix A – Forecast to year end as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER				
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Adult Services	67,309	1,184	63	(778)	980	68,758	(100)	(880)	(420)	67,358	(49)
Children's Services	25,987	2,598	0	(623)	972	28,934		(972)	(187)	27,775	(1,788)
Commissioning	3,290		0	(165)	0	3,125		0		3,125	165
Education	9,480	356	0	(233)	0	9,603	0	0		9,603	(123)
Highways Transport & Recycling + Director	28,173	892	(8)	(2,051)	1,478	28,484	(139)	(66)	(57)	28,222	(49)
Property, Planning & Public Protection	4,717	162	(554)	(203)	348	4,470		(201)		4,269	448
Housing & Community Development	5,277	567	(6)	(248)	75	5,665	(405)	0	0	5,260	17
Economy and Digital Services	4,288	0	(8)	(646)	1,075	4,709		(49)		4,660	(372)
Transformation & Communication	1,509	0	(9)	(32)	0	1,468		0		1,468	41
Workforce & OD	2,031	57	(11)	(275)	150	1,952		(5)		1,947	84
Legal & Democratic Services	3,087	83	(41)	(191)	163	3,100		(7)		3,093	(6)
Finance & Insurance	6,099	348	0	(96)	24	6,375		(24)		6,351	(252)
Corporate Activities	35,534	463	565	(3,491)	0	33,071		0		33,071	2,463
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,781</b>	<b>6,710</b>	<b>(9)</b>	<b>(9,032)</b>	<b>5,265</b>	<b>199,714</b>	<b>(644)</b>	<b>(2,204)</b>	<b>(664)</b>	<b>196,202</b>	<b>579</b>
Housing Revenue Account	0			(567)		(567)				(567)	567
Schools Delegated	83,027			(9)		83,018				83,018	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>83,027</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(576)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>82,451</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>82,451</b>	<b>576</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>279,808</b>	<b>6,710</b>	<b>(9)</b>	<b>(9,608)</b>	<b>5,265</b>	<b>282,165</b>	<b>(644)</b>	<b>(2,204)</b>	<b>(664)</b>	<b>278,653</b>	<b>1,155</b>
						<b>(2,357)</b>				<b>1,155</b>	

## Appendix B Head of Service Commentary

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER				
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Adult Services	67,309	1,184	63	(778)	980	68,758	(100)	(880)	(420)	67,358	(49)

### Adult Social Care Overview

#### Cost Pressures

(a) **Current Pressures** - Included in the forecast outturn at quarter 3

- £63k re staff redeployed from other services within the Council following business continuity being invoked, so there should be corresponding underspends in other departments. Otherwise, this would be a balanced budget.
- £190k regarding loss of income due to Covid-19 and services not occurring e.g. meals at Older Day Centres, which is anticipated will be reclaimed from the Welsh Government Covid 19 Hardship fund.
- £200k to cover the increase in 'unpaid Carer' breakdown following the lockdown and the need for additional 'Home Based' respite.
- £374k in relation to community based services following the risk assessment to not open Older Day Centres and Day Bases and alternative community based service delivery, in the main due to double running costs e.g. having to run and maintain empty buildings and vehicles/fleet ordinarily utilised for service delivery and fund current reprovision. Additionally, in relation to frontline staff previously furloughed to 30<sup>th</sup> September who are still shielding and unable to deliver care within a two metre radius.
- £420k due to increase in Domiciliary Care hours in line with the additional 'front door' presentations and service user frailty due in part to the wider impacts of Covid 19, as older adults engage in more physical activity as lockdown restrictions are lifted. Likewise, as a result also of the lack of and reduction in Health preventative services/treatments during the pandemic.

(b) **Future pressures** - Not included in the forecast outturn

- Unknown future impact of Covid 19 on services, are not included in the forecast and only clarity from Welsh Government (WG) re Hardship funding to March 2022 in the current format. This relates to support to local authorities to maintain their commissioned and in-house adult social care placements.

- Winter pressures and potential demand on home-based care and interim bed options, future demand is unknown and so further cost pressures may arise.
- Stability of commissioned providers. There are currently 2+ providers who may be at risk of failure.
- Future demography.
- Additional and backdated costs for “Sleep-ins” following the outcome of the judicial review, possibly backdated to November 2011. Awaiting judgement and liability to be calculated by the payroll team for the in-house service and legal direction.

### **Cost Underspends**

- £151k as the service has only been recruiting in respect of frontline services, which has resulted in staff slippage due to vacancies and a reduction in travel as face to face meetings have reduced.
- £610k regarding services not occurring due to Covid 19 restrictions and contract reductions following outcomes of mini-UK Government Policy note PPN02/20 & PPN04/20, undertaken in line with guidelines.

### **Cost Reductions**

- Tudalen 263
- **Assured**  
The original target of £5.091 million is currently on target to achieve delivery, of which £4.111 million (80.7%) of the original target to date achieved and included in the forecast outturn. There is assurance of delivery of a further £0.880 million, but a risk on delivery if Covid continues and referrals continue at the current levels.
  - **Undeliverable**  
£0.1 million of the original target set is at this point unachievable due to business continuity being invoked and capacity to undertake management of change. The budget pressure will be carried forward to 2022/23 and be part of the Finance Resource model (FRM).

### **WG Funding not yet claimed**

- £100k regarding loss of income which is anticipated will be reclaimed from the Welsh Government Covid 19 Hardship fund.

### **Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.**

- Maximisation/utilising of any grant underspends, if within the grant terms and conditions for previously budgeted and funded baseline costs.
- Strength based approach to care assessments to mitigate pressures.

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021				ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER					
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Children's Services	25,987	2,598	0	(623)	972	28,934		(972)	(187)	27,775	(1,788)

## Children's Services Overview

### Cost Pressures

Tudalen 264

#### a) **Current Pressures** - Included in the forecast outturn

- £2.25m relates to the increased expenditure which is a combination of the costs associated with the new children who are becoming looked after and the increasing costs in relation to meeting the complexity of need of the current cohort of Children Looked After (CLA). This is in the context of a national shortage of placements for looked after children across the UK.
- £196k increased demand for short breaks due to the pressures on families as an indirect result of the pandemic.
- £72k budget pressure in regards to Section 21, for families in need of care and support following the lockdown and trying to keep children with their families wherever it is safe and in their best interests to do so.

#### b) **Future pressures** - Not included in the forecast outturn

- The situation for families due to the pandemic makes predicting future pressures even more uncertain. We are working hard to keep children with their families wherever it is safe and in their best interests and have so far brought into care fewer children than in the same period last year. The numbers of children in care has reduced this quarter, this may change moving forward.
- The national shortage of placements is making it more difficult to find suitable placements that meet children's needs, this is particularly for children with the most complex needs. There is likely to be a further pressure on placement costs, but it is impossible to forecast at this point.
- The sustained increased demand at Front Door and Early Help means additional staff have been required. This has been covered by the Welsh Government Covid recovery fund to date. If demand continues to grow this will create an ongoing budgetary pressure. It is critical to respond as early as possible to prevent escalating need and avoid the accompanying costs.

### Cost Underspends



All budget underspends are currently being utilised to mitigate the overall budget overspend.

### **Cost Reductions**

#### **a) Assured**

The original target of £3.2 million is currently on target to achieve delivery, of which £2 million (62%) of the original target to date achieved and included in the forecast outturn. There is assurance of delivery of the £1.2 million balance outstanding.

#### **b) Undeliverable**

Work to ensure shared costs for continuing care for children and young people continues with very limited success.

#### **c) Mitigations being delivered**

We expect to over-deliver on our 'closer to home' work to mitigate the above.

### **WGC Funding not yet claimed**

### **Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.**

- Maximisation/utilising of any current grant underspends, if within the grant terms and conditions for previously budgeted and funded baseline costs.
- Children's Services usually receives additional grant funding later in the year and we always try to maximise this to deliver a balanced budget.

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER			
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22
Commissioning	3,290		0	(165)	0	3,125		0		3,125
										Dec Variance
										165

### Commissioning Overview

There is a service budget overspend due to staff slippage and reduction in travel as face to face contract monitoring not occurring. In the last quarter previously utilised base budget costs have been utilised to maximise grant utilisation, if within the terms and conditions. The service is working with children's services and adults' services to deliver efficiencies within those areas.

T 266

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021				ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER					
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Education	9,480	356	0	(233)	0	9,603	0	0		9,603	(123)

## Education overview

### Cost Pressures

**Current Pressures £356k** - The main reasons for this is the overspend Property plus - The Property Plus budget is forecasted to be overspent during 2021/22 due to insufficient budget allowance for repairs and maintenance in school budgets. To minimise the overspend, works are prioritised to undertake emergency, urgent, statutory compliance remedial works and environmental health works only. This has been the case since October 2019 and the effects of the spending restriction will have an ongoing detrimental impact on the backlog maintenance costs of the school estate. The forecast is subject to review and may increase if inclement weather is experienced during the winter months. Contributing to the increased overspend has been significant increases in external material, labour, and fuel costs The Service is also dealing with a backlog of maintenance work following the closure of school during the COVID pandemic in 2020 due to access to school sites and resourcing works

### Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.

The school service budget remains in an overspend position, vacant posts and additional grant funding has helped to offset the pressures that the service is facing. Efficiencies are yet to be achieved regarding the ALN strategy because of Covid, but work is ongoing to achieve this on a permanent basis. This year they have been covered by underspends in the service. Larger underspends are for:

- £147k underspend on ALN strategy – staffing underspends including Educational Psychology service and sensory team.
- £126k underspend Asset Management –. The overall underspend is due to rates rebates of £277k, offsetting some overspends in remedial works on schools.

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER			
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22
Schools Delegated	83,027			(9)		83,018				83,018
										Dec Variance
										9

### Schools Delegated Overview

Officers continue to work with Schools in deficit to bring budget plans back to a balanced in year position. The Council has also received a substantial amount of grant funding just before the Christmas period. Schools service and finance officers are working through the detail of the terms and conditions of the grants to ensure that they are utilised as effectively as possible. Finance officers will work with schools once the grant allocations have been distributed to ensure spend is accounted for within their budget plan.

There are several schools under warning and of concern and the service is working closely to ensure they deliver their recovery plans

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER				
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	
Highways Transport & Recycling + Director	28,173	892	(8)	(2,051)	1,478	28,484	(139)	(66)	(57)	28,222	Dec Variance (49)

### Highways Transport & Recycling Overview

In summary the overall deficit has reduced to £49,000 compared to £663,000 in Qtr.2. The main areas of overspend are in Highway Operations and Waste Collection Services, but this is offset by underspends in other service areas within HTR, as set out below.

### Current Pressures

**Highways Operation** - A forecast over-spend of £147k against budget is reported at end of November, principally due to £130k unachieved savings for the reduction in winter maintenance service.

**Waste Collection** - Forecasting £664k overspend, through increased labour and plant costs because of the shuttling service to adhere to the social distancing requirements. However, the service has now reverted to three in a cab, so these costs will reduce. There is also lack of income on Trade Waste creating a deficit of £265k, and similarly with green waste which is showing a deficit of £158k

### Cost Underspends

- Waste & Recycling Strategy forecast a £182 k Underspend, through improvements in the sale of recycling.
- Integrated Transport reporting an underspend of £99k
- Home to school transport a £58 k underspend; and
- Highways Technical forecast a £484k underspend – big improvement in StreetWorks income where more applications are coming in for road closures etc from the utility companies.

### WG Funding

HTR are expecting a total of £9.7 Million in revenue grant funding and £3.9 million of capital grant allocation.

### Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.

All non-essential spend to seize during Qtr.4 to reduce any overspends particularly around stock.

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER			
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22
Property, Planning & Public Protection	4,717	162	(554)	(203)	348	4,470		(201)		4,269
										Dec Variance
										448

## PPPP Overview

### Cost Pressures

#### Current Pressures:

- Trading Standards are forecasting an overspend of £102K. This is because of unachievable income targets. Work is ongoing to identify ways to address this forecast overspend.
- Planning application fee income has recently been below monthly predicated levels. This trend is being carefully monitored and mitigating measures are currently being considered by the service area.

### Cost Reductions

#### **a) Assured:**

Savings of £818k are targeted for this financial year with £304k achieved to date and £366k of savings assured.

#### **b) Undeliverable:**

The full savings identified by PCC exiting building (£141K) is not achievable given the costs of running alternative buildings. This has resulted in a shortfall of £51K.

#### **c) Mitigations being delivered**

Strategic Property are currently not on target to achieve income targets related to commercial buildings and offices. New tenants are however in the process of signing leases and salary underspends and better than expected results from other Strategic Property savings exercises (Business rate reviews) are likely to offset any shortcomings.

### Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.

- Officers continue to apply for available grants and funding to support the services wherever appropriate

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021				ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER					
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Housing & Community Development	5,277	567	(6)	(248)	75	5,665	(405)	0	0	5,260	17

### Housing and Community Development Overview

- Tudalen 271
- Assured** - Savings delivered/income generation on track across Arts, the Housing General Fund, Archives and Information Management, Sport Powys, and the Cleaning Service.
  - Undeliverable** - The libraries service had a saving to achieve of £150k. £75k has been achieved this financial year, delays have been caused due to the focus on business-critical work. However, under spends are mitigating the £75k saving not achieved. Libraries are forecast to underspend by £16k.
  - Mitigations being delivered** - Continue to take action to reduce void times to minimise rent lost because of empty properties.

### Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.

The Service is forecasting an underspend for the year end, due in part to staff vacancies and the successful award of grant funding.

### WG Funding not yet claimed

The cost of Free School Meal payments in relation to COVID-19 are continuing to be supported by Welsh Government. Until the end of March the expectation is that the income lost because of COVID-19 will still be recovered through the lost income hardship claim. Some furlough income has been received which offsets the lost income. The Service hopes to return to normal meal delivery in High Schools as soon as possible, which would have a significant impact on income. However, this will be dependant on covid restrictions and decisions made by individual schools. Income will continue to be monitored carefully by the Service and Finance Business Partners.

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER			
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22
Housing Revenue Account	0			(567)		(567)				(567)
										Dec Variance
										567

**HRA –** The HRA is ring fenced and forms part of its own trading account, any surpluses and deficits are contained within a ring fenced reserve. There have been some staff vacancies, which are being addressed through the Housing restructure. Some challenges in terms of the supply of goods and services. Income, including rent, is currently forecast to overachieve the target.

**a) Current Pressures**

**b) Future pressures -** Not included in the forecast outturn.

**Cost Underspends**

**Cost Reductions**

- a) Assured
- b) Undeliverable
- c) Mitigations being delivered

**WG Funding not yet claimed**

**Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.**

27/01/2022  
 27/01/2022  
 27/01/2022



		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER				
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Economy and Digital Services	4,288	0	(8)	(646)	1,075	4,709		(49)		4,660	(372)

### Economy & Digital Overview

- a) **Current Pressures** – The service work over the past year has focussed on supporting innovative solutions to aid the Council's response to Covid including the re-deployment of staff to support business critical services. This has meant delays in delivery of digital transformation savings from last year added to further savings this year. Some savings are also waiting to be confirmed before being moved to other service budgets.
- b) **Future pressures** - Not included in the forecast outturn.

### Cost Underspends

Current cost underspends due to vacant posts are being used to off-set current undelivered cost reductions.

### Cost Reductions

- a) **Assured** - only a small proportion of savings have been assured due to the delays with transformational change and final transformation projects are confirmed for 21/22 a virement request will be considered to seek approval for the deficit.
- b) **Undeliverable** - the savings for Regeneration remain very challenging and have been covered in the previous year by grant income. The service will continue to look for these opportunities in the current year, but this puts a strain on limited resources and effects the organisations' ability to maximise economic recovery a virement request will also be considered for approval for this deficit.
- c) **Mitigations being delivered** - a review of the regeneration service is being undertaken to ensure future establishment is in line with Vision 2025 priorities and due to be implemented early in the 2022/23.

### WG Funding not yet claimed

All grant funding for Regeneration is currently unknown as many initiatives are launched throughout the financial year.

### Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.

Recruitment to posts are being carefully considered to help bridge the current gap in funding.

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER				
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Transformation & Communication	1,509	0	(9)	(32)	0	1,468		0		1,468	41

### Transformation and Communication Overview

Tudalen 27

#### a) Current Pressures

b) **Future pressures** - Not included in the forecast outturn. Future pressures are emerging around the potential cessation of external funding to support Communications. Work to continue with finance and a discussion ensued with Executive Management Team in respect to of the operating model.

**Cost Overspends** – additional income received rather than a cost underspend and a Director vacancy attributes to the £41k.

#### Cost Reductions

- a) **Assured – 100% of savings for 2021/22 are achieved.**
- b) Undeliverable
- c) Mitigations being delivered

#### WG Funding not yet claimed

#### Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget.

Budget will be balanced.

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER			
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22
Workforce & OD	2,031	57	(11)	(275)	150	1,952		(5)		1,947
										Dec Variance
										84

### Workforce and OD Overview

- a) **Current Pressures** – minimal cost pressures have been identified which will be more than offset by cost underspends
- b) **Future pressures** - not included in the forecast outturn.

### Cost Underspends

The service is underspending by £275k against other budgetary lines (mainly staffing costs), which will help to mitigate the undeliverable cost reductions identified below.

### Cost Reductions

- d) **Assured** - £10k of the cost reductions have been achieved and are therefore assured
- e) **Undeliverable** – the balance of cost reductions of £150k have been reviewed and will not be fully deliverable. This comprises £120k in relation to an apprenticeship programme which is not achievable and £30k in lieu of a salary sacrifice additional voluntary contribution pension arrangement, which is being rolled out from Q3. Given that this opportunity is being offered to staff, the service is forecasting that it will achieve £5k of this savings during the current year, and the full £30k saving from 2022-23 onwards.
- f) **Mitigations being delivered** – as can be seen from the above analysis, the service is more than mitigating the value of the cost reductions not achieved, through underspending £275k against other budgetary lines (mainly staffing costs), providing for an overall forecast variance of (£84k).

WG Funding not yet claimed - not applicable

Other mitigating actions to deliver a balanced budget - the service is forecast to underspend against the base budget.

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER				
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Legal & Democratic Services	3,087	83	(41)	(191)	163	3,100		(7)		3,093	(6)

### Legal Overview

- a) **Current Pressures** - minimal cost pressures have been identified which can be dealt with in the existing budget  
 b) **Future pressures** - Not included in the forecast outturn.

**Cost Overspends** – annual forecast overspend of £6k against budget (116k forecast overspend in September), considering assured savings of £7k . The principal reasons for the improvement in forecast outturn since reporting in September is an improvement of £35k in forecast Registrar’s income, £8k improvement in forecast spend on Registrars staffing costs, a £36k contribution from corporate budget to support agency staff employed to cover a maternity within the Solicitor team and £30k general improvements on other costs

### Cost Reductions

- a) Undeliverable - £98k of these cost reductions are undeliverable and will be removed as part of budget setting 2022-23  
 b) £7k Assured  
 c) Mitigations being delivered include using underspends in the service to bridge the gap for this year only

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		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER				
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Finance & Insurance	6,099	348	0	(96)	24	6,375		(24)		6,351	(252)

### Finance Overview

**Current Pressures** – £12k relates to procuring expert insurance analysis in readiness for the insurance tender, £265k relates to the likely overspend on cost of insurance claims in year, whilst the balance is from additional resource required to support Pensions work, which gets funded by the pension scheme.

### Cost Underspends

There are some savings from unused budgets such as travel and slippage on staffing

### Cost Reductions

a) **Assured** – all savings are expected to be achieved

Budgets in 2017

		FORECAST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 AS PER CP/LEDGER DECEMBER 2021					ADJUSTMENTS FROM HEADS FOR ASSUMPTIONS OUTSIDE LEDGER				
		Add	+ / -	Less	Add	Revised	+ / -	Less	Less	Final	
£'000	2021/22 Base Budget	Cost Pressures	Staff Redeployment	Cost Underspends	Cost Reductions not delivered (unachieved)	Outturn	WG Hardship not yet recovered to offset position	Cost Reductions not yet delivered but assured	Use of Risk Reserve to cover unfunded Pressures	Outturn Position 2021/22	Dec Variance
Corporate Activities	35,534	463	565	(3,491)	0	33,071		0		33,071	2,463

## Corporate Overview

### Pressures

- judalen 278
- Current Pressures** - it is forecast that we will have increased demand on the need for discretionary housing payments, especially when furlough ceases in addition the benefit received for managing homelessness does not cover the cost, in total we are forecasting £363k overspend. The forecast also includes £56k budgeted for the profit/dividend expected from Howps that is unlikely to be achieved and a shortfall on precepts of £45k due to higher than anticipated inflation uplifts that were not budgeted for.
  - Future pressures** - Not included in the forecast outturn. - none

### Cost Underspends

- There is an underspend on the cost of borrowing budget, forecast at £1.5 million due to the reprofiling of the capital programme, which has reduced the plan for 2021/22, and consequently less borrowing required. This underspend is expected to be allocated to Voluntary MRP as agreed previously at cabinet and set aside to be used for the future capital programme.
- There is a forecast £800k surplus re over collection of the pension fund contributions which will be transferred to specific reserve at year end and used to reduce the pension fund deficit when the actuarial review takes place, with the aim to mitigate the need to increase future contributions and reduces the call on future budgets.
- A £800k surplus on council tax collection is forecast based on the collection of council tax premiums (empty and second homes) in previous years, assuming we will have a similar level this year.

## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

CABINET EXECUTIVE  
8<sup>th</sup> February 2022

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Cllr Aled Davies  
Portfolio Holder for Finance

**REPORT TITLE:** Capital Forecast as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision / Information

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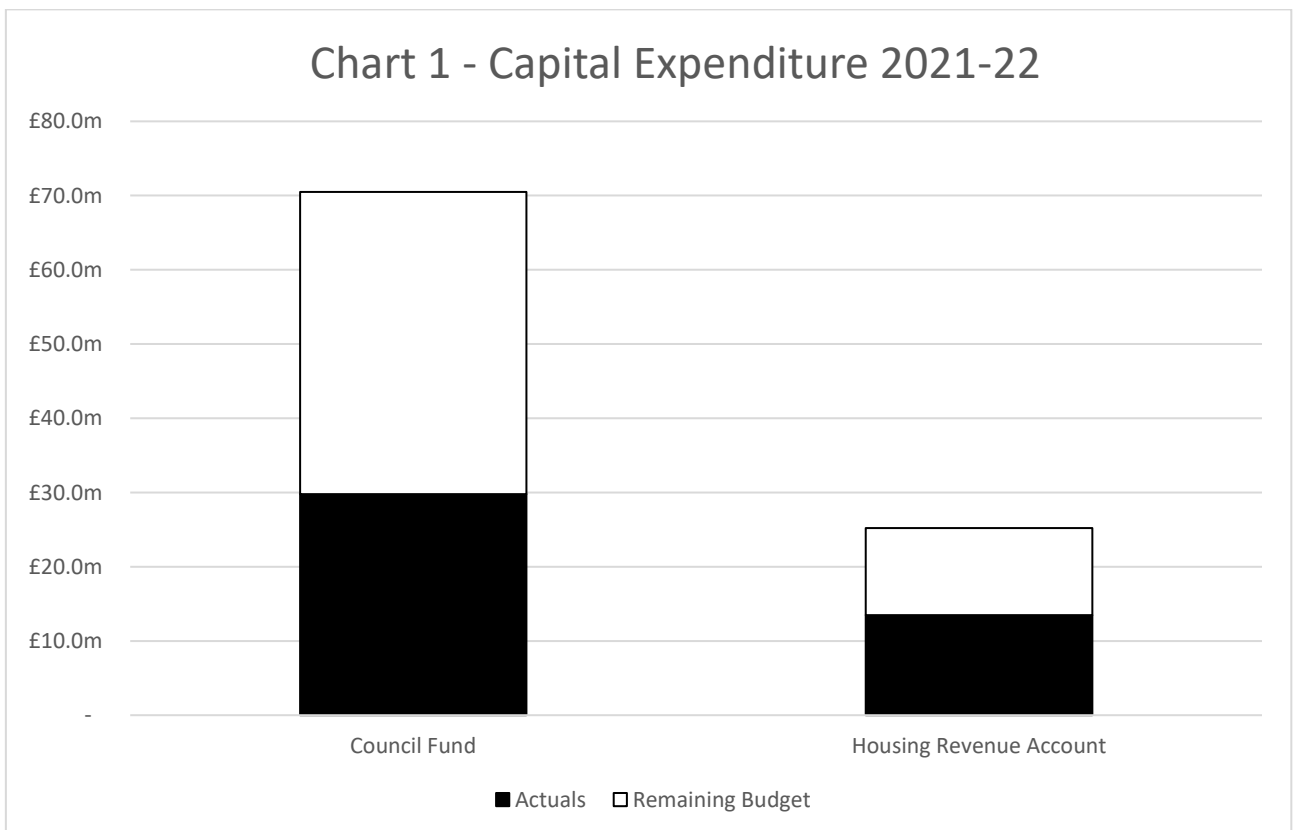
## 1. Purpose

1.1 This report provides an update on the financial position of the Council's capital programme for 2021/22 as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

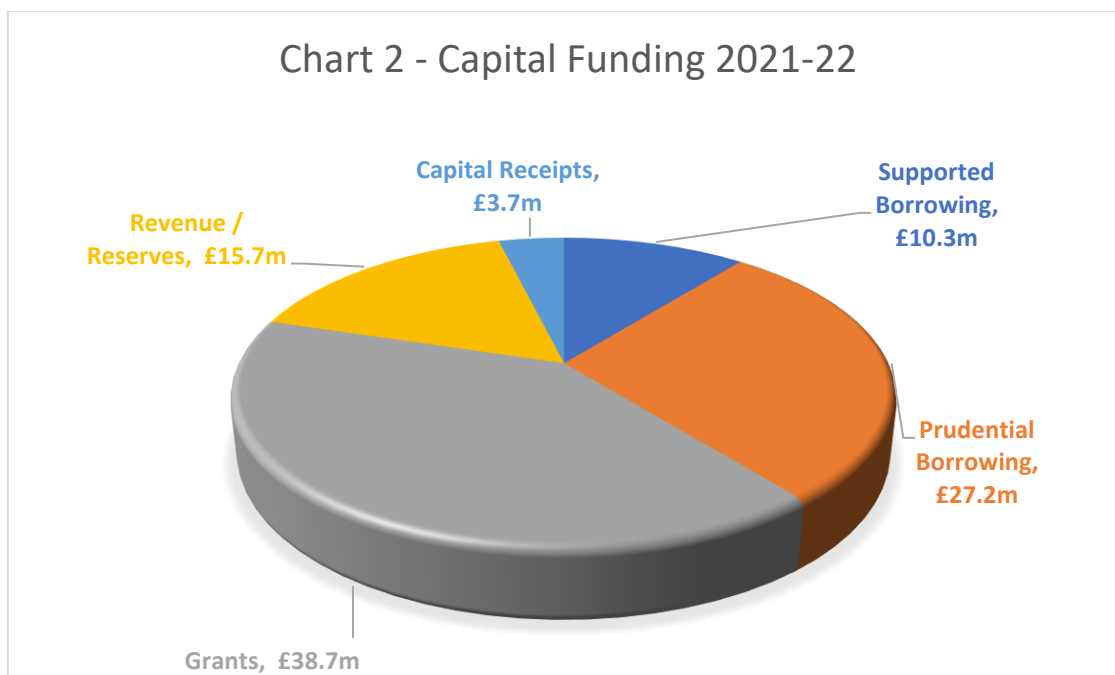
## 2. Background

2.1 The revised programme at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 is budgeted at £95.59 million following the successful award of additional grants and the reprofiling of budgets between financial years.

2.2 Actual spend amounts to £43.18 million, representing 45% of the total budget. Chart 1 below summarises the financial position. A full breakdown for each service area can be found in Appendix A and includes a service manager's update.



- 2.3 The affordability of the capital programme is challenging with significant cost pressures due to the increasing costs of materials, this together with the limited numbers of contractors tendering for schemes and the rurality of Powys is impacting on the cost of schemes. A number of schemes are currently out for tender, once these are evaluated it will provide an indication of the level and impact of these cost increases. This may lead to some schemes being paused or stopped until additional funding is secured, or schemes being changed to deliver them in line with the funding available.
- 2.4 Chart 2 below sets out how the 2021/22 capital programme is funded, 39% is funded through borrowing, the interest cost for this is charged to the revenue account.



- 2.5 The revenue expenditure to cover the borrowing for past and present capital schemes, which includes the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), is estimated at £17.98 million. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) proportion of these costs is expected to be £5.75 million. The total includes an over provision of MRP of £2.60 million (of which £1.22 million relates to the HRA) following the change of the MRP policy. This will allow the council to repay its debt earlier. The council retains the option to claw back an overprovision in future years to support the ongoing MRP provision limiting the impact on revenue in the short term should it be required.
- 2.6 Based on the estimates above, 4.4% of our net revenue budget of £279.80 million is supporting the past and present capital spend. It is essential that the investment in our capital programme is affordable over the short, medium, and longer term and can demonstrate tangible benefits linked to the council's priorities.

### 3. **Advice**

- 3.1 **Grants Received.** - The following grants have been received since the last report and are included for information.
- 3.2 **Education** - Welsh Government (WG) have awarded an additional sum of £0.49 million which forms part of the Covid recovery capital to support early years and childcare provision. This will be used to meet the increased costs on the existing childcare capital



schemes at Ysgol Dyffryn y Glowyr, Crossgates – Little Acorns, Guilsfield CP Primary School, Cylch Meithrin Rhayader and Ysgol Pontrobert. It also includes £0.13 million Covid 2021-22 Small Grant funding which is allocated to other early years and childcare settings.

- 3.3 **Childrens** - £0.07 million, which forms part of the Welsh Government Covid recovery capital to support Flying Start provision has been awarded to complete canopy works at Priory School.
- 3.4 £0.24 million of Welsh Government Flying Start Capital 2021/22 has been awarded for additional refurbishment to create a community kitchen, outdoor meeting area and demolition of building at the Oldford Integrated Family Centre.
- 3.5 £0.20 million of Welsh Government All Wales Play Opportunities Grant funding has been awarded. The purpose of the capital funding is to support, some of the actions within the Play Sufficiency (PSA) Action Plan and can also be used to complement play work provision.
- 3.6 **Economy and Digital Services** - £0.49 million awarded from Welsh Government for purchase of Hwb EdTech equipment for schools to maximise the opportunities digital can offer to teaching and learning in the delivery of the new curriculum in Wales.
- 3.7 An award of £0.63 million has been received from Welsh Government for the Connect Powys – Local Broadband Programme. The main project will connect 13 ‘hard to reach properties’ largely located at the ‘end of the line’ in Powys with an additional 139 properties passed on route also being connected as part of the project. £0.07 million is allocated for 2021/22 and the remaining amount will be utilised in 2022/23.
- 3.8 A total of £23.20 million has been included in the capital programme following the central Government Levelling Up Funding announcement that the Montgomery Canal scheme and schemes in Brecon and Radnorshire have been approved. £20.90 million is funded by Central Government, £1.00 million from third parties and the remaining £1.30 million funded by the council.
- 3.9 **Adult Services** - An allocation of £0.05 million has been awarded from the Welsh Government Substance Misuse Action Fund to provide a grant to Kaleidoscope towards refurbishment and alarm works.
- 3.10 **Virements**
- 3.11 **Adult Services** - A business case was considered by Executive Management Team for continued urgent capital works on the Powys owned residential homes. This £0.40 million investment is required as part of the extension of the agreement between Powys and Shaw Healthcare who manage these properties. Cabinet is requested to approve this virement with the amount being split equally between 2022/23 and 2023/24.
- 3.12 **Reprofiling Budgets Across Financial Years.**
- 3.13 Following a review of the pipeline schemes held under the corporate capital heading a total of £1.68 million has been reprofiled into future years. This funding will be released to the relevant projects when they have reached the relevant stage of approval under the capital governance process.

- 3.14 Following a review of the Highway Asset Management Plan (HAMP) £0.13 million has been rolled forward into 2022/23 for projects that will continue into the new financial year.
- 3.15 The South Powys Bulking Site project has been paused while a new business case is developed to ensure that the site is fully compliant with updated NRW permitting requirements and has the capacity to deal with additional recyclable materials in the future. The remaining budget of £1.20 million budget has been rolled forward into 2022/23.
- 3.16 Due to the project still being in the design phase, £0.43 million of the budget for Brecon Household Waste Recycling Centre project has been rolled forward into next financial year.
- 3.17 Welsh Government funding of £0.36 million in relation to implementation of separate household collections for absorbent hygiene product waste has been rolled forward into 2022/23 as it is not viable to progress with separate collections at the current time.
- 3.18 £0.50 million has been reprofiled into 2022/23 for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Trallwng, there have been some delays in this financial year with this scheme. Construction is now well underway, and this roll forward is required based on the latest spend profile.
- 3.19 A total of £0.46 million budget for delayed Countryside Services schemes has been reprofiled into future years. Of this amount £0.15 million has been rolled forward to enable applications for match funded grants and £0.28 million for works at Monks Trod that cannot currently go ahead for ecological reasons.
- 3.20 £1.36 million funding for the regeneration of the Autopalace in Llandrindod Wells has been rolled forward into 2022/23 as the scheme is experiencing delays and is still in the design stage.
- 3.21 **Capital Receipts**
- 3.22 The Council's transformation programme is currently funded through a capitalisation directive that allows capital receipts to fund revenue transformation spend and transformation redundancies. This directive is due to end on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This year the budget requirement is £3.00 million. Following the decision to fund the Transformation costs in 2020/21 from the revenue budget there is sufficient capital receipts already held to cover this year's requirement.
- 3.23 There are currently sales agreed to the value of £1.88 million which are at the legal stage of the process and will generate future capital receipts. The year-end forecast is estimated at £2.10 million. The year-end forecast is very much reliant on being able to market property in a timely way to allow acceptable offers to be received and sales being completed. Any increase in the Covid restrictions in Wales will clearly increase the risk that the completion of some agreed sales will be delayed or indeed lost. There is clearly increased market uncertainty which may lead to a reduction on demand and offers.

3.24 At the end of 2020/21 there is £4.54 million of capital receipts already in hand. Any capital receipts above those required to cover Transformation costs, will be used to support the Capital Strategy in future years.

#### **4. Resource Implications**

4.1 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes the content of the report and can support the recommendation to approve the virement. Expenditure on the Capital Programme needs to be monitored carefully as the year progresses. The re-profiling of schemes is essential to enable us to more accurately project expenditure, the consequential need to borrow and the impact on the revenue budget. Project Managers and Service leads will be supported to improve financial monitoring and forecasting of expenditure. Our capital financing strategy must look to utilise all sources of funding before committing to borrowing and we must take every opportunity to maximise the use of resources to support projects already approved in the Programme. Prioritisation of resources at a corporate level ensures that the council can effectively meet its objectives whilst maintaining an affordable level of investment.

#### **5. Legal implications**

5.1 The Monitoring Officer has no specific concerns with this report.

#### **9. Recommendation**

9.1 That the contents of this report are noted.

9.2 That Cabinet approves the virement proposed in section 3.10.

## Appendix A:

**Table 2 - Capital Table as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

Service	Original Budget	Virements Approved	Revised Budget	Actuals	Remaining Budget £	Remaining Budget %
	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	%
Adult Services	300	336	636	68	568	89
Childrens Services	1,092	674	1,766	173	1,593	90
Education	34,949	(18,477)	16,472	9,068	7,404	45
Highways Transport & Recycling	13,771	13,597	27,368	13,644	13,724	50
Property, Planning & Public Protection	1,525	1,861	3,386	677	2,709	80
Housing & Community Development	10,419	(2,900)	7,519	2,323	5,196	69
Regeneration	0	7,307	7,307	874	6,433	88
Digital Services	1,130	526	1,656	1,070	586	35
Corporate	10,440	(6,172)	4,268	1,762	2,506	59
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>73,626</b>	<b>(3,248)</b>	<b>70,378</b>	<b>29,659</b>	<b>40,719</b>	<b>58</b>
Housing Revenue Account	27,903	(2,695)	25,208	13,498	11,710	46
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>101,529</b>	<b>(5,943)</b>	<b>95,586</b>	<b>43,157</b>	<b>52,429</b>	<b>55</b>

**Table 3 - Funding of the Capital Budget as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

Service	Supported Borrowing	Prudential Borrowing	Grants	Revenue Contribution	Capital Receipts	Total
	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Capital	10,254	18,295	29,306	8,857	3,666	<b>70,378</b>
HRA	0	8,952	9,425	6,831	0	<b>25,208</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,254</b>	<b>27,247</b>	<b>38,731</b>	<b>15,688</b>	<b>3,666</b>	<b>95,586</b>

## Head of Service Commentary

Service Area	Budget	Actuals	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining as a % of Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
<b>Adult Services</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>89</b>
<b><u>HOS Comment</u></b>				
With the exception of budget allocation of £130k for Community Equipment the budget will be utilised in full.				

Service Area	Budget	Actuals	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining as a % of Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
<b>Childrens Services</b>	<b>1,766</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>1,593</b>	<b>90</b>
<b><u>HOS Comment</u></b>				
Oldford Integrated Family Centre - We have been successful with the commissioning process for Oldford and have appointed a company local to Welshpool, with a wealth of experience in similar projects. The majority of project and spend will be completed 21/22 and WG have confirmed carry forward of any funding not spent in 21/22.				
Flying Start Childcare provision, Priory – Planning permission granted and contract awarded. We have contacted WG about seeking a formal extension to the project and carry over of funding which has been agreed.				
Play opportunities Grant – On track for full spend by end of March 2022.				
Bannau Camlas – All funding will be spent by end of March 2022.				

Service Area	Budget	Actuals	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining as a % of Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
<b>Education</b>	<b>16,472</b>	<b>9,068</b>	<b>7,404</b>	<b>45</b>
<b><u>HOS Comment</u></b>				

Service Area	Budget	Actuals	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining as a % of Budget
--------------	--------	---------	------------------	-----------------------------------

	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
<b>Highways, Transport and Recycling</b>	<b>27,368</b>	<b>13,644</b>	<b>13,724</b>	<b>50</b>
<b><u>HOS Comment</u></b>				

Service Area	Budget	Actuals	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining as a % of Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
<b>Property, Planning and Public Protection</b>	<b>3,386</b>	<b>677</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>80</b>
<b><u>HOS Comment</u></b>				

Service Area	Budget	Actuals	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining as a % of Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
<b>Housing and Community Development</b>	<b>7,519</b>	<b>2,323</b>	<b>5,196</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	<b>25,208</b>	<b>13,498</b>	<b>11,710</b>	<b>46</b>
<b><u>HOS Comment</u></b>				

Service Area	Budget	Actuals	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining as a % of Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
<b>Regeneration</b>	<b>7,307</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>6,433</b>	<b>88</b>
<b><u>HOS Comment</u></b>				
Capital grant funding for regeneration projects are monitored on a regular basis. Any delays to planned delivery are raised with grant funders as soon as this becomes apparent to ensure roll-over is acceptable or delivery can be adjusted to achieve project delivery. All known changes for planned delivery have been approved and revised within the profile.				

Service Area	Budget	Actuals	Budget Remaining	Budget Remaining as a % of Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
<b>Digital Services</b>	<b>1,657</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>35</b>

**HOS Comment**

Capital spend is currently on track against planned spend profile. The remaining budget supports Infrastructure investment, cyber security improvements and digital transformation and are on track for delivery in year.

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actuals</b>	<b>Budget Remaining</b>	<b>Budget Remaining as a % of Budget</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Corporate</b>	<b>4,268</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>2,506</b>	<b>59</b>

**HOS Comment**

£3 million of the budget relates to Transformation schemes which under the Welsh Government Capitalisation Directive are funded from Capital Receipts.

The remaining budget relates to capital bids that have yet to complete the Capital Governance process, if the schemes are approved the budgets will be released to the service area.

Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwriadol



**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.****AUDIT COMMITTEE**  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2022**CABINET EXECUTIVE**  
22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Aled Davies  
Portfolio Holder for Finance and Transport**REPORT TITLE:** Treasury Management Quarter 3 Report

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**REPORT FOR:** Information

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**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 CIPFA's 2009 Treasury Management Bulletin suggested:  
'In order to enshrine best practice, it is suggested that authorities report formally on treasury management activities at least twice a year and preferably quarterly.'

The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management emphasises a number of key areas including the following:

xi. Treasury management performance and policy setting should be subject to scrutiny prior to implementation.

- 1.2 In line with the above, this report is providing information on the activities for the quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Treasury Management Strategy approved by Full Council on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 can be found here.

<https://powys.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s57662/Appendix%20F%20Capital%20Strategy%20and%20Treasury%20Management%20Strategy.pdf>

- 2.2 The Authority's investment priorities within the Strategy are.

- (a) the security of capital and  
(b) the liquidity of its investments.

- 2.3 The Authority aims to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity. The risk appetite has been low in order to give priority to security of investments.

2.4 With interest rates for investments remaining extremely low the use of cash reserves as opposed to borrowing is prudent and cost-effective.

### **3. Advice**

#### **3.1 Investments**

3.2 Short-term money market investment rates have increased slightly following the increase to the Bank Rate (to 0.25%) in December. This has increased the interest rate on the deposit account with the councils' main bankers from 0.01% to 0.16%. However, given the surplus of cash held by other local authorities' investment returns on inter-authority lending are expected to remain low.

3.3 When looking at temporary investing, the Treasury team consider the bank fee to set up the arrangement, because of this cost some investments are not cost effective for very short periods of time where interest rates are circa 0.01% - 0.03%. However, the Authority does not have sufficient certainty around its cashflow to lend for longer periods where the return is higher.

3.4 The Welsh Government repayable funding the council received in March 2021 towards the Global Centre of Rail Excellence (GCRE) is currently being held in the Council's deposit account until it is required for the project. It is earning a minimal return (0.02%) which under the terms of the funding is ringfenced to be used for this scheme.

3.5 The Authority had no other investments on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

#### **3.6 Credit Rating Changes**

3.7 There have been no credit rating changes relevant to this Authority's position during the last quarter.

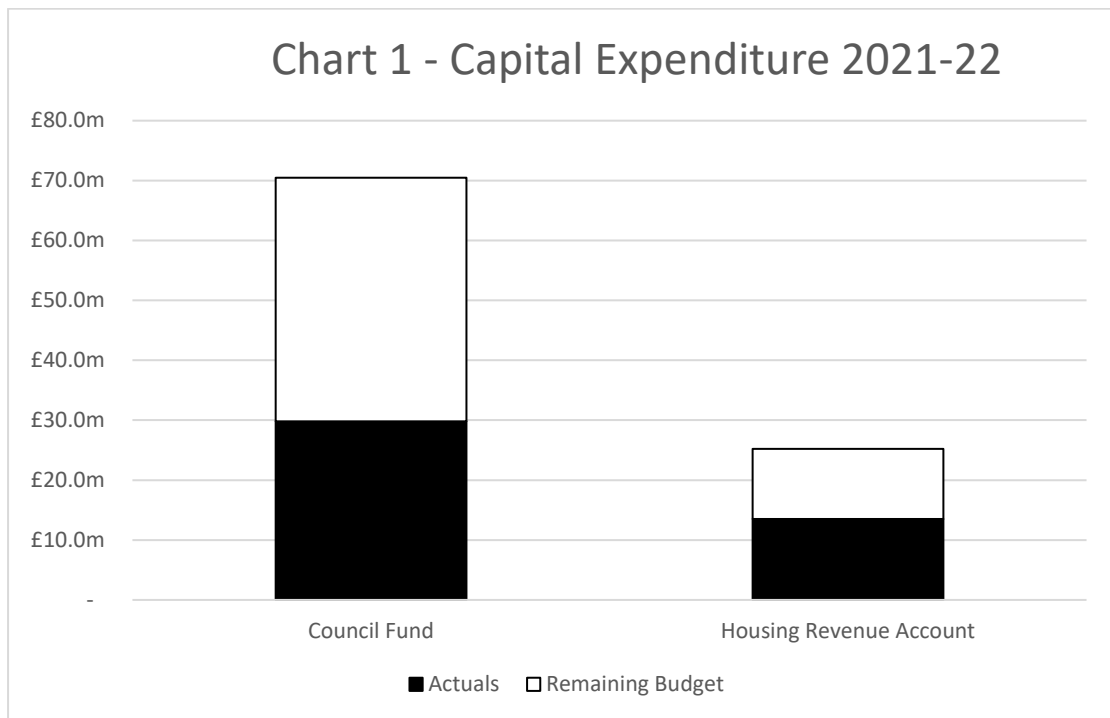
#### **3.8 The Authority's Capital Position**

3.9 The council approved the 2021 to 2031 Treasury Management and Capital Strategy on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2021. This included a Capital Programme for 2021/22 totalling £101.53 million.

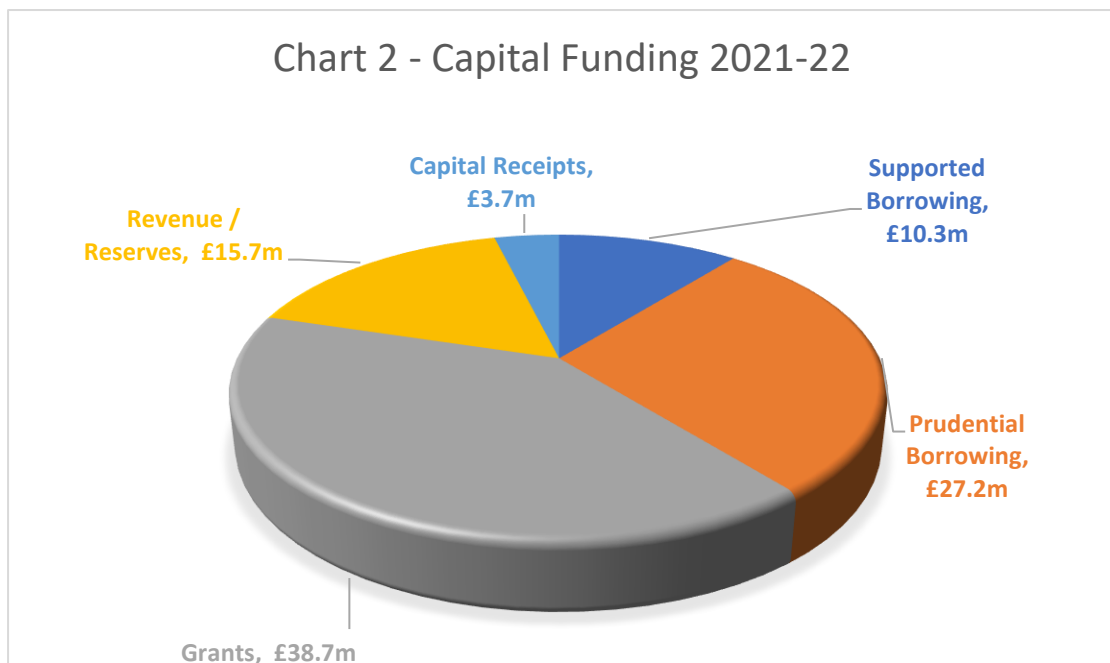
3.10 The revised programme at the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2021 has reduced to £95.59 million. As part of the Capital Review, services are being challenged on their profile of spend in year, it is likely this forecast will reduce.

3.11 Actual spend to date amounts to £43.18 million, representing 45% of the total budget.

3.12 Chart 1 below summarises the spend against budget.



3.13 Chart 2 below sets out how the 2021/22 capital programme is funded, 39% will be funded through borrowing, the interest cost for this is charged to the revenue account.



3.14 The Council's underlying need to borrow for capital expenditure is termed the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This figure is a gauge of the Council's indebtedness. It represents the current year's unfinanced capital

expenditure and prior years' net or unfinanced capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for by revenue or other resources.

3.15 Part of the Council's treasury activities is to address the funding requirements for this borrowing need. Depending on the capital expenditure programme, the finance team organises the Council's cash position to ensure that sufficient cash is available to meet the capital plans and cash flow requirements. This may be sourced through external borrowing or utilising temporary cash resources within the Council.

3.16 Net external borrowing (borrowings less investments) should not, except in the short term, exceed the total of CFR in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional CFR for the current year and next two financial years. This allows some flexibility for limited early borrowing for future years.

### 3.17 Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

£'m	2020/21	2021/22 Estimate	2022/23 Estimate	2023/24 Estimate
Original Estimates 25/02/2021	422.77	468.58	509.45	534.90
Quarter 1 estimate	397.10	436.96	460.03	480.61
Quarter 2 estimate	397.10	431.17	453.27	472.40
Quarter 3 estimate*	397.10	419.11	444.23	466.37

3.18 The budget reprofiling into future financial years has reduced the CFR estimates as shown in the above table. The above estimates are based on the assumption that only 70% of borrowing included in the capital programme will be required. This will differ from the figures disclosed in the 2022/23 Capital and Treasury Management Strategy.

### 3.19 Borrowing / Re-scheduling

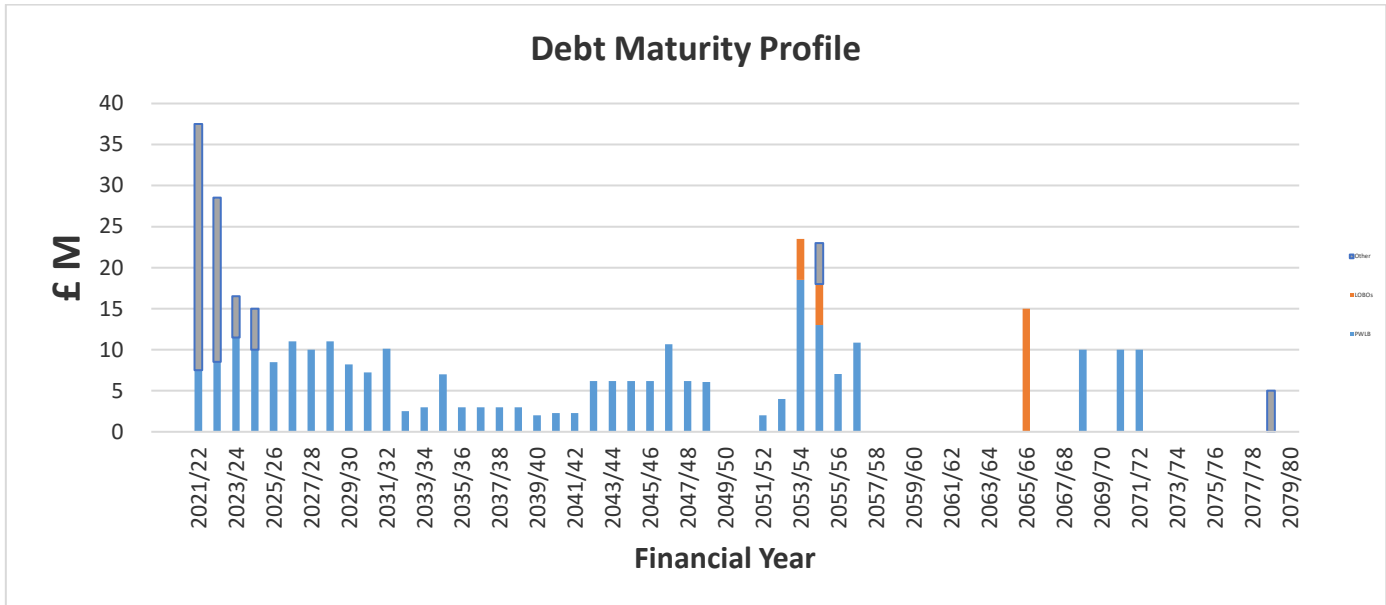
3.20 Effective management of the Authority's debt is essential to ensure that the impact of interest payable is minimised against our revenue accounts whilst maintaining prudent borrowing policies.

3.21 A prohibition is still in place to deny access to borrowing from the PWLB for any local authority which had purchase of assets for yield in its three year capital programme. There are currently no schemes for yield in the Capital Programme. With the significant amounts of borrowing in the future Capital Programme, the inability to access PWLB borrowing will need to be a major consideration for any future purchases of assets for yield. The additional income these assets generate must be sufficient to cover the increased borrowing costs, as borrowing sources other than the PWLB are likely to be more expensive.

3.22 The Authority had outstanding long-term external debt of £347.7 million at 31st March 2021 (excluding the GCRE repayable funding). In relation to the CFR figure for 31st March 2021, this equated to the Authority being under borrowed by £49.4 million. Using cash reserves as opposed to

borrowing has been a prudent and cost-effective approach over the last few years. However, members will be aware that internal borrowing is only a temporary situation and officers have advised that, based on capital estimates, it will be necessary for the Authority to borrow at stages over the next few years.

### 3.23 Debt Maturity Profile as at 31st December 2021.



**Key** Blue = PWLB; Grey = Market Loans including other local authorities; Orange = LOBOs

3.24 The treasury team together with advice from our treasury advisers have been monitoring the PWLB rates and the uncertainty around the Omicron variant caused the PWLB rates to drop. In November £20 million of long term PWLB borrowing was secured over 49 and 50 year duration at rates of 1.71% and 1.70% respectively. The rates at the time were 20 basis points (0.20%) below the forecasts and with the funding required to ensure the council had sufficient cash available to meet its commitments in November and December 2021 the borrowing was secured.

3.25 Continued uncertainty over the Omicron variant saw the rates drop to 1.35% in December 2021 and with a further £11.5m to be repaid in quarter 4, the decision was made to borrow a further £10m at this rate over 48 years. This was slightly further in advance than the council would usually borrow, by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2021 the rate had increased to 1.70%. There will be a cost to carry of £0.021 million in 2021/22 but it saves £0.035 million per year compared to borrowing at the higher rate of 1.70%, giving a total saving of £1.680 million over the duration of the borrowing.

3.26 Staged repayment of the Nant Helen section 106 deposit is continuing as the backfilling works on the site progress. This is also reducing the cash position of the authority; this repayment will reduce the amount the council is under borrowed.

3.27 It is unlikely that any further borrowing will be required before the end of the financial year.

3.28 With the changes to the MRP policy and the delayed requirement to borrow, it is likely that the revenue budget set aside to cover these costs will be underutilised in this financial year, however as demonstrated in the tables later in the report, these costs are likely to increase year on year.

### 3.29 PWLB Loans Rescheduling

3.30 Debt rescheduling opportunities have been very limited in the current economic climate and following the various increases in the margins added to gilt yields which have impacted PWLB new borrowing rates since October 2010. No debt rescheduling has therefore been undertaken to date in the current financial year.

### 3.31 Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

3.32 This indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital, (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income), against the Councils net revenue budget (net revenue stream). The estimates of financing costs include current commitments and the proposals in the capital programme.

£'m	2021/22 Estimate	2022/23 Estimate	2023/24 Estimate
<b>From the approved Treasury Management and Capital Strategy 2021/22</b>			
Financing Costs	13.59	16.55	17.61
Net Revenue Stream	279.81	281.26	282.17
%	4.8%	5.9%	6.2%
<b>Quarter 1 estimates (before any over provision)</b>			
Financing Costs	11.14	13.09	14.35
Net Revenue Stream	279.81	281.26	282.17
%	4.0%	4.7%	5.1%
<b>Quarter 2 estimates (before any over provision)</b>			
Financing Costs	10.70	11.73	12.89
Net Revenue Stream	279.81	281.26	282.17
%	3.8%	4.2%	4.6%
<b>Quarter 3 estimates (before any over provision)</b>			
Financing Costs	10.85	11.29	12.17
Net Revenue Stream	279.81	302.33	314.29
%	3.9%	3.7%	3.9%

3.32 The table above shows the change in the current estimates for the capital financing costs between those disclosed in the Treasury Management and

Capital Strategy included as part of the 2021/22 Budget report and the updated estimates at the end of December 2021.

3.33 The decrease has been caused by two factors.

1. The updated Minimum Revenue Policy (MRP) approved by Council in March 2021 has realigned these costs more equally across the life of the assets involved.
2. The reduced borrowing requirement to support the capital programme in 2020/21 and future years. This has been the result of reprofiling of budgets into future years and funding from Welsh Government being made available earlier than anticipated. This has allowed the council to defer the date that it expected to take out additional borrowing, reducing the current interest costs, however this borrowing will still be required in the future.

The table below provides a breakdown of these changes

£'m	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
<b>Original Estimates 25/02/2021</b>	<b>13.59</b>	<b>16.55</b>	<b>17.61</b>
Change in MRP Policy	(1.75)	(3.64)	(3.68)
Change due to reprofiling/grants	(0.70)	0.18	0.42
<b>Quarter 1 estimate</b>	<b>11.14</b>	<b>13.09</b>	<b>14.35</b>
Change due to reprofiling/grants	(0.44)	(1.36)	(1.46)
<b>Quarter 2 estimate</b>	<b>10.70</b>	<b>11.73</b>	<b>12.89</b>
Change due to reprofiling/grants	(0.04)	(0.08)	(0.05)
Change due to lower borrowing rates	(0.10)	(0.52)	(0.94)
Change due to HRA/GF apportionment	0.29	0.16	0.27
<b>Quarter 3 estimate</b>	<b>10.85</b>	<b>11.29</b>	<b>12.17</b>

3.34 A principal was set in both the 2021/22 Budget and the MRP Policy Report that any benefits from the MRP change are ringfenced to support the Capital Programme to ensure the Council is beginning to address its increasing capital financing costs. It was agreed that the council may use the underspend to make a voluntary revenue provision or overpayment on top of the budgeted MRP and can be reclaimed in later years if deemed necessary or prudent. As such, an overprovision of MRP can be made in line with any surplus in the revenue budget allocated to MRP to help reduce the increasing Capital Financing Requirement. Further work is being undertaken as part of the Capital Review to understand the implications of the Capital Programme and the capital ambitions of the council.

### 3.35 Prudential Indicators

3.36 All Treasury Management Prudential Indicators were complied with in the quarter ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

### 3.37 Economic Background and Forecasts

3.38 The most recent forecast of interest rates by the Authority's advisor are shown below, an increase in the rates is expected over the next few years which will increase the costs of borrowing.

Link Group Interest Rate View 20.12.21														
	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25
BANK RATE	0.25	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25
3 month ave earnings	0.20	0.30	0.50	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	0.90	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
6 month ave earnings	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
12 month ave earnings	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
5 yr PWLB	1.40	1.50	1.50	1.60	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00
10 yr PWLB	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.30
25 yr PWLB	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30	2.40	2.40	2.50	2.50
50 yr PWLB	1.50	1.70	1.80	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30

3.39 The economic background provided by our treasury advisers; Link Group is attached at Appendix A.

### 3.40 VAT

3.41 The Technical Section of Finance act as the authority's VAT section. VAT can pose a risk to the authority hence this report includes VAT information.

3.42 The monthly VAT returns were submitted within the required deadlines during this quarter.

3.43 Key Performance Indicators - The VAT KPI's for 2021/22 are attached at Appendix B.

## 4. Resource Implications

4.1 N/A

## 5. Legal implications

5.1 N/A

## 6. Data Protection

6.1 N/A

## 7. Comment from local member(s)

7.1 N/A

## 8. Impact Assessment

8.1 N/A



## 9. Recommendation

9.1 This report has been provided for information and there are no decisions required. It is recommended that this report be accepted.

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## Appendix A

### Economics update, provided by Link.

#### MPC meeting 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021

- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) voted 8-1 to **raise Bank Rate by 0.15% from 0.10% to 0.25%** and unanimously decided to make no changes to its programme of quantitative easing purchases due to finish in December 2021 at a total of £895bn.
- The MPC disappointed financial markets by not raising Bank Rate at its November meeting. Until Omicron burst on the scene, most forecasters, therefore, viewed a Bank Rate increase as being near certain at this December meeting due to the way that inflationary pressures have been comprehensively building in both producer and consumer prices, and in wage rates. However, at the November meeting, the MPC decided it wanted to have assurance that the labour market would get over **the end of the furlough scheme on 30<sup>th</sup> September** without unemployment increasing sharply; their decision was, therefore, to wait until statistics were available to show how the economy had fared at this time.
- **On 10<sup>th</sup> December we learnt of the disappointing 0.1% m/m rise in GDP** in October which suggested that economic growth had already slowed to a crawl even before the Omicron variant was discovered in late November. Early evidence suggests growth in November might have been marginally better. Nonetheless, at such low rates of growth, the government's "Plan B" COVID-19 restrictions could cause the economy to contract in December.
- **On 14<sup>th</sup> December, the labour market statistics** for the three months to October and the single month of October were released. The fallout after the furlough scheme ended on 30th September, (about one million people were still on furlough), was smaller and shorter than the Bank of England had feared: unemployment did not increase hugely in October. Indeed, vacancies rose to a record 1.219m in the three months to November showing there were acute shortages of labour.
- These figures by themselves, would probably have been enough to give the MPC the assurance that it could press ahead to raise Bank Rate at this December meeting. However, the advent of Omicron in late November potentially threw a spanner into the works as it poses a major headwind to the economy which, of itself, will help to cool the economy. The financial markets, therefore, swung round to expecting no change in Bank Rate.
- **On 15th December we had the CPI inflation** figure for November which spiked up further from 4.2% to 5.1%, confirming again how inflationary pressures have been building sharply. However, Omicron also caused a sharp fall in world oil and other commodity prices; (gas and electricity inflation has generally accounted on average for about 60% of the increase in inflation in advanced western economies).
- **Other elements of inflation are also transitory** e.g., prices of goods being forced up by supply shortages, and shortages of shipping containers due to ports being clogged have caused huge increases in shipping costs. But

these issues have reduced during the second half of 2021 and are likely to clear during 2022 when prices would be expected to subside back to more normal levels. Gas prices and electricity prices will also fall back once winter is passed and demand for these falls away.

- The Government has stepped in with some **fiscal support for the economy**, targeted mainly at the hospitality sector. Due to the huge cost of such support to date, it is likely to remain being limited and targeted on narrow sectors. The Government may well, therefore, effectively leave it to the MPC, and to monetary policy, to support economic growth – but at a time when the threat posed by rising inflation is near to peaking!
- This is the adverse set of factors against which the MPC had to decide on Bank Rate. For the second month in a row, the MPC blind-sided financial markets, this time with a **surprise increase in Bank Rate from 0.10% to 0.25%**. What's more, the hawkish tone of comments indicated that the MPC is now concerned that inflationary pressures are indeed building and need concerted action by the MPC to counter. This indicates that there will be more increases to come with financial markets predicting 1% by the end of 2022. The 8-1 vote to raise the rate shows that there is firm agreement that inflation now poses a threat, especially after the CPI figure hit a 10-year high. The MPC commented that “there has been significant upside news” and that “there were some signs of greater persistence in domestic costs and price pressures”.
- On the other hand, it did also comment that “**the Omicron variant is likely to weigh on near-term activity**”. But it stressed that at the November meeting it had said it would raise rates if the economy evolved as it expected and that now “these conditions had been met”. It also appeared more worried about the possible boost to inflation from Omicron itself. It said that “the current position of the global and UK economies was materially different compared with prior to the onset of the pandemic, including elevated levels of consumer price inflation”. It also noted the possibility that renewed social distancing would boost demand for goods again, (as demand for services would fall), meaning “global price pressures might persist for longer”. (Recent news is that the largest port in the world in China has come down with an Omicron outbreak which is not only affecting the port but also factories in the region.)
- On top of that, there were no references in December to inflation being expected to be below the **2% target in two years' time**, which at November's meeting the MPC referenced to suggest the markets had gone too far in expecting interest rates to rise to over 1.00% by the end of the year.
- These comments indicate that there has been a material reappraisal by the MPC of the inflationary pressures since their last meeting and the Bank also increased its forecast for inflation to peak at 6% next April, rather than at 5% as of a month ago. However, as the Bank retained its guidance that only a “**modest tightening**” in policy will be required, it cannot be thinking that it will need to increase interest rates that much more. A typical policy tightening cycle has usually involved rates rising by 0.25% four times in a year. “Modest” seems slower than that. As such, the Bank could be thinking

about raising interest rates two or three times in 2022 to 0.75% or 1.00%.

- In as much as a considerable part of the inflationary pressures at the current time are indeed **transitory**, and will naturally subside, and since economic growth is likely to be weak over the next few months, this would appear to indicate that this tightening cycle is likely to be comparatively short.
- As for the timing of the next increase in Bank Rate, the MPC dropped the comment from November's statement that Bank Rate would be raised "in the coming months". That may imply another rise is unlikely at the next meeting in February and that May is more likely. However, much could depend on how adversely, or not, the economy is affected by Omicron in the run up to the next meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Once 0.50% is reached, the Bank would act to start shrinking its stock of QE, (gilts purchased by the Bank would not be replaced when they mature).
- **The MPC's forward guidance on its intended monetary policy** on raising Bank Rate versus selling (quantitative easing) holdings of bonds is as follows: -
  1. Placing the focus on raising Bank Rate as "the active instrument in most circumstances".
  2. Raising Bank Rate to 0.50% before starting on reducing its holdings.
  3. Once Bank Rate is at 0.50% it would stop reinvesting maturing gilts.
  4. Once Bank Rate had risen to at least 1%, it would start selling its holdings.
- **COVID-19 vaccines.** These have been the game changer which had enormously boosted confidence that **life in the UK could largely return to normal during the second half of 2021** after a third wave of the virus threatened to overwhelm hospitals in the spring. The bursting onto the scene of **the Omicron mutation** at the end of November had threatened to cancel the Christmas holidays, but the Government decided not to impose more severe restrictions in the hope that this mild, but highly contagious variant, would not overwhelm hospitals. The big question is whether further mutations of the virus could develop which render current vaccines ineffective, as opposed to how quickly vaccines can be modified to deal with them and enhanced testing programmes be implemented to contain their spread.

**US.** See comments below on US treasury yields.

**EU.** The ECB joined with the Fed by also announcing on 16th December that it will be reducing its QE purchases - by half from October 2022, i.e., it will still be providing significant stimulus via QE purchases during the first half of 2022. Although headline inflation reached 4.9% in November, over half of that was due to energy but oil and gas prices are expected to fall sharply after the winter. As overall inflation will fall back sharply during 2022, it is likely that the ECB will leave its central rate below zero, (currently -0.50%), over the next two years.

The main struggle that the ECB has had in recent years is that inflation has been doggedly anaemic in sticking below its target rate of 2% despite all the ECB's major programmes of monetary easing by cutting rates into negative territory and providing QE support.

**China.** The pace of economic growth has now fallen back after the initial surge of recovery from the pandemic and China has been struggling to contain the spread of the Delta variant through using sharp local lockdowns - which depress economic growth. However, with Omicron having now spread to China and being much more easily transmissible, this strategy of sharp local lockdowns to stop the virus may not prove so successful in future; this strategy poses a potential renewed threat to world supply chains. The People's Bank of China made a start in December 2021 on cutting its key interest rate to encourage flagging economic growth.

**Japan.** 2021 has been a patchy year in combating Covid. However, recent business surveys indicate that the economy is rebounding rapidly now that the bulk of the population is fully vaccinated, and new virus cases have plunged. However, Omicron could reverse the success of 2021 in combating Covid. The Bank of Japan is continuing its very loose monetary policy but with little prospect of getting inflation back above 1% towards its target of 2%, any time soon.

**World growth.** World growth was in recession in 2020 but recovered during 2021 until starting to lose momentum more recently. Inflation has been rising due to increases in gas and electricity prices, shipping costs and supply shortages, although these should subside during 2022. It is likely that we are heading into a period where there will be a reversal of **world globalisation** and a decoupling of western countries from dependence on China to supply products, and vice versa. This is likely to reduce world growth rates from those in prior decades.

## 2. Interest rate forecasts

The Council has appointed Link Group as its treasury advisor and part of their service is to assist the Council to formulate a view on interest rates. The PWLB rate forecasts below are based on the Certainty Rate (the standard rate minus 20 bps) which has been accessible to most authorities since 1<sup>st</sup> November 2012.

The latest forecast on 20<sup>th</sup> December is compared below to the last forecast (29<sup>th</sup> September) in the previous quarter. A comparison of these forecasts shows that PWLB rates have fallen, more so in the longer maturities, and show a speed up in the rate of increase in Bank Rate as inflation is now posing a greater risk. Some of the fall in PWLB rates during December was probably due to window dressing by pension and investment funds preparing their finances for the year and quarter end position for 2021 on 31<sup>st</sup> December: it was therefore expected that part of those falls would be unwound in the new year.

Link Group Interest Rate View 20.12.21														
	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25
BANK RATE	0.25	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25
3 month ave earnings	0.20	0.30	0.50	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	0.90	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
6 month ave earnings	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
12 month ave earnings	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
5 yr PWLB	1.40	1.50	1.50	1.60	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00
10 yr PWLB	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.30
25 yr PWLB	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30	2.40	2.40	2.50	2.50
50 yr PWLB	1.50	1.70	1.80	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30

Link Group Interest Rate View 29.9.21										
	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24
BANK RATE	0.10	0.10	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75
3 month ave earnings	0.10	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.50	0.60	0.70
6 month ave earnings	0.20	0.20	0.30	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.60	0.70	0.80
12 month ave earnings	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00
5 yr PWLB	1.40	1.40	1.50	1.50	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.70	1.70	1.70
10 yr PWLB	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.10
25 yr PWLB	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.50	2.50	2.60
50 yr PWLB	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30	2.40

Additional notes by Link on this forecast table: -

- *LIBOR and LIBID rates will cease from the end of 2021. Work is currently progressing to replace LIBOR with a rate based on SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average). In the meantime, our forecasts are based on expected average earnings by local authorities for 3 to 12 months.*
- *Our forecasts for average earnings are averages i.e., rates offered by individual banks may differ significantly from these averages, reflecting their different needs for borrowing short term cash at any one point in time.*

The coronavirus outbreak has done huge economic damage to the UK and to economies around the world. After the Bank of England took emergency action in March 2020 to cut Bank Rate to 0.10%, it left Bank Rate unchanged until it raised it from 0.10% to 0.25% at the MPC meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

### A summary overview of the future path of Bank Rate

- In December 2021, the Bank of England became the first major western central bank to put interest rates up in this upswing in the current business cycle in western economies as recovery progresses from the Covid recession of 2020.
- The next increase in Bank Rate could be in February or May, dependent on how severe an impact there is from Omicron.

- If there are lockdowns in January, this could pose a barrier for the MPC to putting Bank Rate up again as early as 3<sup>rd</sup> February.
- With inflation expected to peak between 5 and 6% in April, the MPC may want to be seen to be active in taking action to counter inflation on 5<sup>th</sup> May, the release date for its Quarterly Monetary Policy Report.
- However, rising gas and electricity prices last October and next April and increases in other prices caused by supply shortages and increases in taxation next April, are already going to deflate consumer spending power without the MPC having to take any action on Bank Rate to cool inflationary pressures.
- On the other hand, consumers are sitting on around £160bn of excess savings left over from the pandemic so when will they spend this sum, in part or in total?
- The December 2021 MPC meeting was more concerned with combating inflation over the medium term than supporting economic growth in the short term.
- Bank Rate increases beyond May are difficult to forecast as inflation is likely to drop sharply in the second half of 2022.
- However, the MPC will want to normalise Bank Rate over the next three years so that it has its main monetary policy tool ready to use in time for the next downturn; all rates under 2% are providing stimulus to economic growth.
- We have put year end 0.25% increases into Q1 of each financial year from 2023 to recognise this upward bias in Bank Rate - but the actual timing in each year is difficult to predict.
- Covid mutations remain a major potential downside threat in all three years as we ARE likely to get further mutations. How quickly can science come up with a mutation proof vaccine, or other treatment, – and for them to be widely administered around the world?
- Purchases of gilts under QE ended in December 2021. Note that when Bank Rate reaches 0.50%, the MPC has said it will start running down its stock of QE.

In summary, with the high level of uncertainty prevailing on several different fronts, it is likely that these forecasts will need to be revised again soon - in line with whatever the new news is.

### **Forecasts for PWLB rates and gilt and treasury yields**

The current PWLB rates are set as margins over gilt yields as follows: -.

- PWLB Standard Rate is gilt plus 100 basis points (G+100bps)
- PWLB Certainty Rate is gilt plus 80 basis points (G+80bps)
- PWLB HRA Standard Rate is gilt plus 100 basis points (G+100bps)
- PWLB HRA Certainty Rate is gilt plus 80bps (G+80bps)
- Local Infrastructure Rate is gilt plus 60bps (G+60bps)

**Gilt yields.** Since the start of 2021, we have seen a lot of volatility in gilt yields, and hence PWLB rates. Our forecasts show a steady, but slow, rise in both Bank Rate and PWLB rates during the forecast period to March 2025 but there will doubtless be a lot of unpredictable volatility during this forecast period.

**Upside risk to gilt yield forecasts.** While monetary policy in the UK will have a major impact on gilt yields, there is also a need to consider the potential impact that rising treasury yields in America could have on our gilt yields. **As an average since 2011, there has been a 75% correlation between movements in US 10-year treasury yields and UK 10-year gilt yields.** This is a significant upward risk exposure to our forecasts for longer term PWLB rates. However, gilt yields and treasury yields do not always move in unison.

**US treasury yields.** During 2020, US President Biden and the Democratic party pushed through a huge programme of fiscal stimulus and are still trying to get another major package approved – the American Families Plan; this is still caught up in political haggling. Financial markets were alarmed that all this stimulus was happening at a time when: -

1. A fast vaccination programme had enabled a rapid opening up of the economy during 2021.
2. The economy was growing strongly during the first half of 2021 although it has weakened overall during the second half.
3. It started from a position of little spare capacity due to less severe lockdown measures than in many other countries.
4. And the Fed was still providing substantial stimulus through monthly QE purchases during 2021.

It was not much of a surprise that a combination of these factors would eventually cause an excess of demand in the economy which generated strong inflationary pressures. This has eventually been recognised by the Fed at its recent December meeting with an aggressive response to damp inflation down during 2022 and 2023.

**At its 3<sup>rd</sup> November Fed meeting**, the Fed decided to make a start on tapering its \$120bn per month of QE purchases so that they ended next June. However, at its **15<sup>th</sup> December meeting** it doubled the pace of tapering so that they will end all purchases in February. These purchases are currently acting as downward pressure on treasury yields and so it would be expected that Treasury yields will rise over the taper period, all other things being equal. It also forecast that it expected there would be three rate rises in 2022 of 0.25% from near zero currently, followed by three in 2023 and two in 2024, taking rates back above 2% to a neutral level for monetary policy.



**Downside risk to gilt yield forecasts.** There are also possible downside risks from the huge sums of cash that the UK populace have saved during the pandemic; when savings accounts earn little interest, it is likely that some of this cash mountain could end up being invested in bonds and so push up demand for bonds and support their prices i.e., this would help to keep their yields down. How this will interplay with the Bank of England eventually getting round to not reinvesting maturing gilts and then later selling gilts, will be interesting to monitor.

### **Significant risks to the forecasts**

- COVID vaccines do not work to combat new mutations and/or new vaccines take longer than anticipated to be developed for successful implementation.
- The pandemic causes major long-term scarring of the economy.
- The Government implements an austerity programme that suppresses GDP growth.
- The MPC tightens monetary policy too early – by raising Bank Rate or unwinding QE.
- The MPC tightens monetary policy too late to ward off building inflationary pressures.
- Major stock markets e.g., in the US, become increasingly judged as being over-valued and susceptible to major price corrections. Central banks become increasingly exposed to the “moral hazard” risks of having to buy shares and corporate bonds to reduce the impact of major financial market sell-offs on the general economy.
- Geo-political risks - on-going global power influence struggles between Russia/China/US/Iran.

### **The balance of risks to the UK economy: -**

- The overall balance of risks to economic growth in the UK is now to the downside, including residual risks from Covid and its variants - both domestically and their potential effects worldwide.

### **The balance of risks to medium to long term PWLB rates: -**

- There is a balance of upside risks to forecasts for medium to long term PWLB rates.

### **A new era – a fundamental shift in central bank monetary policy**

One of the key results of the pandemic has been a fundamental rethinking and shift in monetary policy by major central banks like the Fed, the Bank of England and the ECB, to tolerate a higher level of inflation than in the previous two decades when inflation was the prime target to bear down on so as to stop it going above a target rate. There is now also a greater emphasis on other targets for monetary policy than just inflation, especially on ‘achieving broad and inclusive “maximum” employment in its entirety’ in the US before consideration would be given to increasing rates.

- The Fed in America has gone furthest in adopting a monetary policy based on a clear goal of allowing the inflation target to be symmetrical, (rather than a ceiling to keep under), so that inflation averages out the dips down and surges above the target rate, over an unspecified period of time.
- The Bank of England has also amended its target for monetary policy so that inflation should be 'sustainably over 2%' and the ECB now has a similar policy.
- **For local authorities, this means that investment interest rates and very short term PWLB rates will not be rising as quickly or as high as in previous decades when the economy recovers from a downturn and the recovery eventually runs out of spare capacity to fuel continuing expansion.**
- Labour market liberalisation since the 1970s has helped to break the wage-price spirals that fuelled high levels of inflation and has now set inflation on a lower path which makes this shift in monetary policy practicable. In addition, recent changes in flexible employment practices, the rise of the gig economy and technological changes, will all help to lower inflationary pressures.
- Governments will also be concerned to see interest rates stay lower as every rise in central rates will add to the cost of vastly expanded levels of national debt; (in the UK this is £21bn for each 1% rise in rates). On the other hand, higher levels of inflation will help to erode the real value of total public debt.

## **Appendix B**

### **VAT - Key Performance Indicators**

#### **Creditor Invoices**

VAT return for	No of high value Creditor invoices checked	No of Creditor invoices highlighted as requiring "proper" document for VAT recovery	% of creditor invoices checked requiring "proper" document for VAT recovery
Apr-21	205	0	0.00%
May-21	209	1	0.48%
Jun-21	286	1	0.35%
Jul-21	259	1	0.39%
Aug-21	189	0	0.00%
Sep-21	259	1	0.39%
Oct-21	253	0	0.00%
Nov-21	267	2	0.75%
Dec-21	229	1	0.44%
Jan-22			
Feb-22			
Mar-22			

#### **Income Management Entries**

VAT return for	No of entries checked by formula per the ledger account code used	No of entries needing follow up check (but not necessarily incorrect).	% of entries needing follow up check
Apr-21	697	0	0.00%
May-21	847	2	0.24%
Jun-21	972	4	0.41%
Jul-21	860	8	0.93%
Aug-21	869	0	0.00%
Sep-21	636	20 <sup>1</sup>	3.14%
Oct-21	892	2	0.22%
Nov-21	777	1	0.13%
Dec-21	866	0	0.00%
Jan-22			
Feb-22			
Mar-22			

- 1 These relate to two cash amounts, but one of them was NMWTRA which is split over many budgets so is counted per budget line for consistency with past statistics.

## Debtor Invoices

VAT return for	No of Debtor invoices checked	No of checked debtor invoices with incorrect VAT code used	% of debtor invoices with incorrect VAT code
Apr-21	88	0	0.00%
May-21	82	0	0.00%
Jun-21	86	0	0.00%
Jul-21	95	0	0.00%
Aug-21	72	0	0.00%
Sep-21	193	1	0.52%
Oct-21	105	0	0.00%
Nov-21	107	0	0.00%
Dec-21	145	0	0.00%
Jan-22			
Feb-22			
Mar-22			

Note: Debtors VAT checking is carried out by Finance via a work process prior to the invoice being raised hence the improvement in errors compared to previous years

## Purchase Cards

VAT return for	No of transactions for which paperwork requested for checking	Resolvable errors discovered	Value of VAT potentially claimable but recharged to budget due to non- response	No of transactions where VAT claimed incorrectly	% of transactions available to be checked where VAT was claimed incorrectly	Value of VAT incorrectly claimed hence recharged to budget
Apr-21	193	15	£2,000.55	14	7.25%	£555.26
May-21	144	5	£1,165.80	16	11.11%	£849.52
Jun-21	153	5	£1,083.04	28	18.30%	£726.18
Jul-21	123	6	£1,289.84	23	18.70%	£858.25
Aug-21	61	5	£730.68	1	1.64%	£5.00
Sep-21	151	14	£1,028.56	9	5.96%	£711.13
Oct-21	93	2	£384.00	10	10.75%	£294.07
Nov-21	127	2	£621.25	12	9.45%	£830.02
Dec-21	155	3	£692.09	30	19.35%	£1,307.69
Jan-22						
Feb-22						
Mar-22						

### Chargebacks to service areas

The upload of appropriate documents to the Barclaycard purchase card system to enable vat recovery was made mandatory in September 2017 as a result of the lack of response from service areas/establishments to provide documents when requested. Where no document has been uploaded, any VAT amount input against the transaction is charged to the service area as there is no evidence to support the vat recovery.

Any other VAT errors that come to light as a result of the various checks are also charged to the relevant service areas.

Budget holders are able to see this clearly as chargebacks are coded to account code EX400600 and the activity code used alongside this gives the reason why this chargeback has occurred.

The total amount charged back to service areas in 2021/22 to end of December is £253,279. The breakdown of this is as follows:

### Potentially correctable errors

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Not a tax invoice <sup>1</sup>	(35,860)
Powys County Council is not the named customer	0
No invoice uploaded to purchase card system	52,016
Invoice(s) do not match payment	4,273
No evidence to back recovery	252
No Signed Authenticated Receipt <sup>2</sup>	225,641
<b>Total</b>	<b>246,322</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes VAT successfully recovered relating to errors in previous years

<sup>2</sup> The majority of this figure relates to capital schemes and officers are obtaining the relevant documentation, the figure has reduced to £85,569 at the 1<sup>st</sup> of February and the balance should be cleared before the end of the financial year.

### Other errors

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Non-domestic VAT	82
No tax on invoice	2,602
Supply not to Powys County Council	1,794
Over-accounting for VAT	2,453
Internal payments	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,957</b>

Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwriadol

7 February	Portfolio Holder for Education and Property	Approved a change to the composition of the governing body of Caersws CP School.
11 February	Leader	Approved acceptance of an offer for the sale of land at Oakhurst and Domgay Hall, Four Crosses.

Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwiadol



Cabinet / Delegated	Decision Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Lead	Decision Maker
	23/02/22	Acquisition of Property	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Portfolio Holder
	23/02/22	Adaptations Policy	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Portfolio Holder
	23/02/22	Disposal of Property	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Portfolio Holder
	23/02/22	Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Portfolio Holder
	23/02/22	Homes in Powys Policy Update	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Portfolio Holder
	23/02/22	Local Housing Market Assessment	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Portfolio Holder
	01/03/22	Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan	Councillor Heulwen Hulme	Sian Barnes	Cabinet
		National Collaborative Arrangements for Welsh (local authority)			
	01/03/22	Adoption and Fostering services	Councillor Rachel Powell	Jan Coles	Cabinet
	01/03/22	Llanbedr CP School Objection report	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet
	01/03/22	Climate Strategy	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Diane Reynolds	Cabinet
	01/03/22	Socio-Economic Benefits from Council homes development	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Cabinet
	01/03/22	Regional infrastructure team for RPB	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Alison Bulman	Cabinet
	08/03/22	North Powys Project Strategic Outline Case	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Alison Bulman	Cabinet
	08/03/22	Corporate Safeguarding Update	Councillor Rachel Powell	Alison Bulman	Cabinet
	08/03/22	North Powys Project Memorandum of Understanding	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Alison Bulman	Cabinet
	08/03/22	Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors, Cradoc CP School Objection report	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet
	08/03/22	Sennybridge capital project Strategic Outline Case	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet

08/03/22 Brecon capital project Strategic Outline Case	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet
08/03/22 Llanfyllin Catchment Report	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet
08/03/22 Schools Major Improvement Programme	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet
08/03/22 STAR Survey	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Cabinet
08/03/22 HRA Business Plan	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Cabinet
08/03/22 Housing Support Programme Strategy	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Cabinet