



Well-being Objective 12

Healthy & Safe Environment -

Look after the environment now and for the future

The following are our commitments and end of year progress comments for this Well-being Objective during 2018/19.

Last Year's Commitments	✓ ✗	Progress Comment
A - Address requirements of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016		
<p>We will continue to deliver the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area Conservation (SAC) Marsh Fritillary project, consistent with Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), which aims to ensure the management of at least 100ha of Marsh Fritillary habitat in perpetuity. (Ref 12649)</p>	✓	<p>The project continues to manage 24 sites that provide 40.46ha of habitat in suitable condition for the marsh fritillary butterfly. Surveys results in summer 2018 show that numbers of larval webs recorded were exceptionally high this year with 86 webs recorded on one site. Habitat surveys found new records of marsh fritillaries in 31 fields, across the area, expanding our knowledge of the butterfly in this part of the county, and this work will inform the new LDP and the revision of the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG. The project continues to ensure the appropriate grazing of the land in managements' agreements, often assisting landowners in finding suitable grazing animals. It has also been making use of the Glas Tir small grants scheme, when it can, for hedgerow management.</p>
<p>We will develop a tree strategy to improve the environment and mitigate the effects of air and noise pollution in our more populated areas. (Ref 13241) MF5-23</p>	✓	<p>The Tree Strategy was approved this year and implementation has commenced.</p>
<p>We will review the Council's Rural Buildings Policy. (Ref 13242) MF5-22</p>	✓	<p>This is being done as part of the review of the LDP. Full results will be clear by deposit version late 2019</p>
<p>We will implement and monitor the adopted Local Development Plan (LDP) in accordance with the statutory requirements and the content of the agreed Monitoring and Implementation Framework. (Ref 13243) MF5-20</p>	✓	<p>Planning applications continue to take full accordance of the LDP. The AMR for 2017/18 has been completed and acts as a checking mechanism to see how well decisions accord with plan policies.</p>
<p>We will commence the preparation of a Revised LDP in accordance with statutory provisions. 2018/19 focus will be the Candidate sites process, evidence gathering and general engagement and Pre Deposit Consultation. (Ref 13244)</p>	✓	<p>The preparation of the Revised LDP has commenced with the Delivery Agreement having been agreed by the WG. The Candidate Site process has been completed. The Draft Pre Deposit Preferred Strategy along with other supporting documents have been published for formal consultation with over 300 representations having been received. The responses to these consultations are currently being considered.</p>
<p>The Planning Division will develop a consistent approach to ensuring that biodiversity is maintained and enhanced, and that ecosystem resilience is promoted as part of the planning system and also within its Conservation, Minerals and Building Control activities. (Ref 13245)</p>	✓	<p>Various workshops have been held throughout the year. Including with Minerals and Waste team</p>
<p>We will adopt and implement a Local Development Order for Llanelli Town Centre as</p>	✓	<p>Central to the preparation of the LDO and its publication for consultation was the availability of</p>

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part of a co-ordinated strategic approach to regeneration within the town centre (subject to agreement through the political process post public consultation). <i>(Ref 13246)</i>		a robust and defensible evidence base and statutory provisions underpinning its designation. This work has been completed and has along with the evidence supporting the LDO was published for consultation following which Council agreed to adopted the LDO. The agreement of the Welsh Government has been received and the LDO is now operational.
We will continue to monitor and where appropriate manage the use of monies raised through developer contribution including s106 agreements. As a consequence we will ensure monies are appropriately used and that there is an efficient turn around in the use of funds. <i>(Ref 13247) MF5- 21</i>	✓	Monies continue to be secured and used in accordance with the policy provisions as set out within the LDP and legal agreements. Such contributions, the process used for their collection and their use is subject to continual monitoring.
We will develop and implement a comprehensive plan to fully utilise the assets at the house and park at Parc Howard with the aim of making the venue a Green Flag location and consider other venues across the County that may benefit from becoming a Green Flag location. <i>(Ref 13248) MF5-19</i>	✓	In early discussion with partner groups, Llanelli Town Council and Parc Howard Association. Ongoing.
We will work with stakeholders to improve sewerage capacity within the County through the development of appropriate schemes. Ensure planned programmed improvements are designed and implemented to address capacity issues. Address water supply too. <i>(Ref 13249) MF5-24</i>	✓	This proposal will remain an ongoing concern - We will also continue to engage as part of the preparation of the Revised LDP to ensure that where it is within the remit of the service that this action is delivered. We will also where appropriate to liaise with the SAB's body on matters relating surface water and capacity issues where it is within their responsibility
We shall increase the % of all planning applications determined in time <i>(PAM/018)</i> <i>(2017/18 - Result - 71.2%/2018/19 Target - 75%)</i>	✗	72.6% of planning applications were determined on time. This is an improvement on the previous year but we have not met our target. The loss of experienced officers (one permanent and one on maternity leave) during the year has influenced the result. Officers have been and will continue to be reminded of the importance of extension time letters which should be secured in most if not all instances where the determination for various reasons cannot be achieved within the statutory timescales. This remains a matter for negotiation with agents/ applicants and it is important to note that Carmarthenshire performs at a higher level than a lot of other planning authorities when measuring customer satisfaction with areas such as accessibility to officers.
We shall increase the % of planning appeals dismissed <i>(PAM/019)</i> <i>(2016/17 -Result -66.67%/2017/18 Target-69%)</i>	✓	71.4% of planning appeals were dismissed during 2018/19.
B - Monitor delivery of CCC's Environment Act Forward Plan		

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Through monitoring the delivery of the Council's Forward Plan, we will evidence how Carmarthenshire County Council is meeting its Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act, reporting on outcomes achieved to WG. (Ref 13250)	✓	The Rural Conservation Manager has prepared a report to E&PP Scrutiny Committee for 29/06/2018. In summary, the March reporting round demonstrated that of the 35 actions within the Env Act Forward Plan, 26 have progressed and 9 have not. Details of action delivered is set out in the report to Scrutiny.
C - Implement and promote the increased use of renewable energy		
We shall reduce energy consumption (kWh) / carbon emissions (tonnes) in the Council's existing non-domestic building portfolio. (Ref 13251) MF5-13	✓	We continue to review use and invest in smart metering and new technologies to reduce consumption and emissions. We have signed up to the Welsh Government's re:FIT scheme to review energy saving initiatives at over 30 of the Council's most energy-consuming buildings. The tender process has been completed with an award made. Work is ongoing with the successful contractor
We will identify and deliver energy efficiency projects within the Council's existing, non-domestic buildings. (Ref 13252)	✓	The Council is participating in the Welsh Government supported Re:fit Cymru programme in order to identify energy, and water, efficiency opportunities in 30+ non-domestic buildings including schools. Unlike previous Salix energy efficiency projects, under the Re:fit Cymru programme a service provider is appointed, via a national procurement framework, that underwrites/guarantees identified savings as part of an energy performance contract. Following a competitive tender process, a company named Ameresco is the preferred service provider. Ameresco have undertaken high level appraisals of each site to identify energy conservation measures plus associated costs / financial paybacks. Confirmation was received from Salix on 27th March 2019 that an interest-free loan to the value of £2,541,498 is available for these projects. Aiming for works to commence on site during Summer 2019 and to be completed by Autumn 2020.
We will contribute to delivering the Swansea Bay City Deal programme to develop 'Homes as Power Stations' to help generate sustainable and affordable homes and address fuel poverty for our residents by exploring the potential for retro-fit renewable technology on benefit our housing stock. (Ref 13253)	✓	We have explored the potential for retro-fitting renewable technology on our housing stock but has been deemed as unviable. Other Property-related contributions to the Homes as Power Stations project are being undertaken as part of the construction of innovative new homes at Garreglwyd and Dylan – see below.
We will contribute to delivering the Swansea Bay City Deal programme to develop 'Homes as Power Stations' to help generate sustainable and affordable homes and address fuel poverty for our residents by developing new homes with innovative technologies. (Ref 13254) MF5-46 (part)	✓	Both housing schemes for Dylan and Garreglwyd, which incorporate a number of enhanced innovative technologies over and above Building Regulations requirements, are currently on site. These homes will reduce energy usage and costs for tenants. We are further considering and developing opportunities of further options and designs on a pair of semi-detached homes as a pilot to further

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		enhance the benefits of the fabric first approach to reduce energy usage and carbon footprint. These, when developed, could be utilised on any further housing developments for even better energy related efficiencies and for occupier comfort and performance.
D - Protect our environment & properties through delivering our Flood & Waste Management Plan; & protect & manage our coast by delivering the Shoreline Management Plan.		
We will finalise Flood Risk Management Plans as part of the strategy for identifying, managing and mitigating flood risk within our communities. (Ref 13255)	✓	The documents are complete and have been reviewed internally within Flood Defence and externally by a framework contractor. Part-1 now with translation and Part-2 due to go to translation this week.
E - Deliver actions from the 'Towards Zero Waste strategy', to become a high recycling nation by 2025 and a zero waste nation by 2050.		
We will continue to review our waste treatment strategy options and recycling infrastructure needs to ensure that we can continue to meet our statutory recycling targets and landfill diversion targets from April 2018. (Ref 13256) MF5-16	✓	A project steering group has been set up to review future waste services. A Public consultation has been delivered. We have identified potential models of service delivery and financial and performance modelling is taking place.
We shall undertake review of green waste routes to ensure the most effective provision for residents. (Ref 13257) MF5-17	✓	A review of the green waste route took place at the end of last season (November 2018). In response to the review, new routes have been developed and a Business Case approved for the provision of a third vehicle for the coming season, to allow for promotion of the service and hence customer growth.
We will work with local stakeholders to pilot litter management arrangements across Llanelli with specific attention to the town centre and approach roads, with a view to introducing across the County. (Ref 13258) MF5-18	✓	We continue to work with local groups, partner agencies and fast food outlets to address litter related problems in towns and across the wider County through education & awareness initiatives, Anti – litter Posters and eyes on signage have been provided to the fast food restaurants within the county. Direct action by deploying resources and utilising local litter groups and of course through enforcement by means of fixed penalty notices and prosecutions as appropriate. Monitoring work has been undertaken to identify how quickly litter areas have degraded following cleaning operations at Litter Hotspot areas.
We will continue to work with CWM Environmental to review our waste treatment/disposal arrangements in the immediate term by securing appropriate arrangements for treating and disposing of our waste. (Ref 13259)	✓	During this year work has been undertaken to review services delivered by CWM and following Teckal implementation the development of a new SLA. The new SLA is expected to be delivered imminently.
We shall continue to review existing household recycling participation rates to maximise landfill diversion and increase recycling. Undertake a programme of door-stepping to advise and	✓	Household engagement took place between July and November 2018, with a number of additional staff employed to undertake this work.

Last Year's Commitments	✓ ✘	Progress Comment
encourage householders to participate in our recycling schemes. <i>(Ref 13260)</i>		29,440 households were visited with 8,318 households actively engaged in discussion as part of the door-stepping scheme.
We shall explore the potential partnership with local community third sector companies to improve the performance of the council bulky waste and re-use service. <i>(Ref 13261)</i>	✓	Initial scoping meetings have been held with some potential partner organisations to gain insight into capacity and appetite for partnership working. Full review of service will commence in April 2019.
We will undertake a public satisfaction survey to assess the public opinion of current services. Also assess the appetite for future service change to deliver enhanced recycling performance for Carmarthenshire. <i>(Ref 13262)</i>	✓	A public survey was delivered to gather information on public opinion regarding the current recycling service provided and to understand the barriers to recycling that residents may face. The consultation also aimed to assess public opinion on imminent changes to the service and invite residents to put forward their suggestions as to how they believe recycling rates could be increased. A report will be presented to CMT and Scrutiny in May 19
We will reduce the amount (Kg) of municipal waste that is not reused, recycled or composted during the year per person <i>(PAM/043)</i> <i>(2017/18 Baseline - 167.9 Kg / 2018/19 Target - 167.9Kg)</i>	✘	2018/19 result - 179.7. This is off target and showing a decline on the previous year. The Authority has experienced increased levels of residual waste entering the stream through the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) network and difficulties with refuse derived fuel markets; the combination of these events has resulted in the measure being off target. We have recently finished a programme of engagement with the public to increase participation in our recycling schemes. Officers were employed to carry out a programme of door-knocking to provide information, support and materials to the public to aid in our recycling performance increase. During 2019/20 we aim to work on residual waste minimisation schemes, with the collection crews being supported further in promoting the four black bag per fortnight directive through training and new process development.
We will continue with to re-used, recycled or composted a high percentage of waste <i>(PAM/030)</i> . <i>(2017/18 Result - 63.64%/2018/19 Target - 64%)</i> <i>Target set to achieve national waste targets</i>	✘	2018/19 result – 58.94. This is off target and showing a decline on the previous year. A market failure in the Refuse Derived Fuel offtake contract has resulted in a large drop in material being recovered through Energy from Waste and consequently a reduction in bottom ash recycling performance. This has been combined with a disproportionate increase in residual waste being collected through Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) abuse when compared with the recycling being collected by the Authority and together this has led to a reduction in overall recycling performance. This performance falls beneath what is expected and a number of activities are being implemented to rectify this. We have implemented new controls at HWRCs for

Last Year's Commitments	✓ ✗	Progress Comment
		waste from commercial and non-resident sources, in addition to further black bag sorting due to be implemented in October. We are also looking to increase food capture through alternative arrangements and place greater restrictions on kerbside black bag collections in 2019
<p>We will keep the average number of working days taken to clear fly-tipping incidents to a minimum <i>(PAM/035)</i> (2017/18 Result - 1.7 days / 2018/19 Target - 2 days)</p>	✗	<p>2018/19 Result - 2.3 days. This is off target and showing a decline. There have been changes to categorisation and the methods of recording fly-tipping which has meant that the number of apparent fly-tipping incidents has increased significantly. In reality, the levels of fly-tipping in the conventional sense has remained fairly static, but we now also record incidents of misuse of litter bins across the County as “fly-tipping” in order to measure the extent of the bin misuse problem. This has skewed the results when compared to the original methods of recording.</p>
<p>We will maintain a high level of streets that are clean <i>(PAM/010)</i> (2017/18 Result – 98.7% / 2018/19 Target - 92.0%)</p>	✗	<p>2018/19 Result 91.5%. Poor results in the road assessments showed increased smoking related litter, drinks and confectionary litter being observed with the annual performance falling. A number of initiatives have been put in place during 2018/19, We continue to work with local groups, partner agencies and fast food outlets to address litter related problems in our towns and across the wider County through education & awareness initiatives, Direct action by deploying resources and utilising local litter groups and of course through enforcement by means of fixed penalty notices and prosecutions as appropriate. Monitoring work has been undertaken to identify how quickly litter areas have degraded following cleaning operations at Litter Hotspot areas. We continue to monitor and review potential improvements, these include improved litter bin signage, new pavement messages have been launched in Llanelli to encourage residents / visitors to dispose of their litter correctly, and a full review of the litter bins currently in service within the county, these locations have been mapped out to identify the number of units that are out on the streets of Carmarthenshire.</p>
<p>We shall maintain a high level of cleanliness of our highways based on the Keep Wales Tidy and Cleanliness Index inspections <i>(STS/005a)</i> (2017/18 Result - 77.8% / 2018/19 Target - 71%)</p>	✓	<p>75.7% of our highways are classed as clean during 2018/19 based on the Keep Wales Tidy and Cleanliness Index inspections. This is on target but slightly down on the previous year.</p>