

Revised 2018-2033
Local Development Plan

Minutes of the Advisory Panel
Volume 4



February 2023

Revised Local Development Plan (LDP) Advisory Panel

October 19 2022 – Virtual ‘Teams’ Meeting – 10am

1 In attendance

Councillors: Ann Davies (Chairman), Tyssul Evans, Ken Howell, John James, Michael Thomas, Russel Sparks

Officers: Rhodri Griffiths - Head of Place & Sustainability, Ian Llewelyn - Forward Planning Manager, Steven P Murphy, Senior Solicitor, Gail Pearce Taylor - Nutrient Management Board Programme Manager, Simon Clement, Bethan Lovering, Robert Neil Bateman - Forward Planning Officers, Rhys T Evans – EARTH Programme Officer - Land Use Planning & Llinos Jones – Forward Planning Assistant.

Other: Translator.

2 Welcome and introductions

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting with new Members.

Introductions

Apologies for absence

- Cllr Gary Jones and Cllr Sue Allen.

3. To review and consider the Terms of Reference

Members had been provided with the current terms of reference ahead of the meeting as they stand.

This version incorporates various amendments with changes made with new members

Councillor C.A Davies is the new Cabinet Member

Plaid Cymru Group (4) Councillors H. Davies, W.T Evans, K. Howell, and R. Sparks.
Labour Group (3) Councillors J. James, G.R Jones, and M. Thomas. Independent Group (1) Councillor S.M Allen

We have one vacant seat on the independent Group (to be looked into)

Noted if the Chair would be unavailable, it was nominated from Cllr K. Howell that Cllr W. T. Evans would step up as Chair, agreed on and supported by Cllr R. Sparks and Cllr M. Thomas.

It was noted that Executive Board has changed to Cabinet.

It was resolved to note the Terms of Reference and circulate an updated version ahead of the next meeting of the Panel.

4. To receive an update and next steps on the Revised LDP

Members received a report from the Forward Planning Manager on the Revised LDP Update and Next Steps. The report provided an overview of the LDP, its role and purpose and the process associated with its preparation and an update on the

progress of the Revised LDP along with an explanation of the delays in progressing the Plan. In this respect, the impacts associated with the Covid – 19 pandemic and publication of the NRW phosphate guidance on protected riverine Special Areas of Conservation were noted.

In referencing the next steps, the Forward Planning Manger drew members attention to the decision of Council on the 9th March 2022 to prepare a second version of the Deposit version of the Plan and that a Revised Delivery Agreement, including a timetable for Plan preparation and a Community Involvement Scheme was agreed with the Welsh Government on the 25th August 2022.

Members were informed that the second Deposit will look to build on the previous LDP documents and work undertaken including the evidence base but that it isn't intended to change content and strategic direction of the Plan.

Reference was made to the need for the Plan make appropriate provision for a sustainable and deliverable level of growth - reflecting the ambitions of the County and meeting the needs of its communities. This will include updates to ensure it is supported by a robust and updated evidence base. Agenda item 6 was specifically referenced as presenting an update on the evidence for the housing and economic growth projections.

The Forward Planning Manager provided feedback to a query raised in regards Welsh Language, Affordable Housing and Second Homes.

It was resolved to thank the Forward Planning Team for their work

5. To receive and consider the update on phosphates in relation Revised LDP

Gail Pearce Taylor was congratulated on her new post as Nutrient Management Board Programme Manager

Gail Pearce Taylor gave an overview on phosphates in protected SAC rivers and the proposed approach in relation to the emerging Revised LDP in addressing the issue.

The Impacts arising from phosphates and the NRW Guidance in relation to protected Riverine SACs is a significant strategic barrier to the future growth of communities within affected catchments.

In Carmarthen we have produced phosphate Nutrient Budget Calculator and Mitigation Guidelines only one produced and published in Wales.

The river Tywi is passing as it stands. Teifi and Cleddau are falling.

Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire are working with Carmarthenshire on a regional basis and using Carmarthenshire's documents as a basis for their own.

Members thanked Gail Pearce Taylor for her work and that have been done by the Team.

Rhodri Griffiths apologised on being late and introduced himself to the new members

7. To receive a presentation on Housing and Economic Growth projections

Simon Clement gave the presentation on the emerging evidence in relation to Housing and Economic Growth projections for the Plan period 2018 – 2033. As part of the presentation the context in relation to existing build rates and the number of dwellings with planning permission was outlined. The presentation outlined a series of growth scenarios for consideration as part of the preparation of the second Deposit Revised LDP.

The Forward Planning Manager and Officers addressed questions raised by the Panel.

8 Approving the minutes of this meeting.

Agreed that the minutes be circulated ahead of the next meeting.

9 Closure and date of next meeting.

The meeting closed at 12:02 PM.

Date of next meeting be in November (date to be confirmed).

Revised Local Development Plan (LDP) Advisory Panel

30 November 2022 – Virtual ‘Teams’ Meeting – 2pm

1. In attendance

Councillors: Ann Davies (Chairman), Gary Jones, Handel Davies, Tyssul Evans, Ken Howell, John James, Michael Thomas.

Officers: Ian Llewelyn - Forward Planning Manager, Steven P Murphy, Senior Solicitor, Gail Pearce Taylor - Nutrient Management Board Programme Manager, Simon Clement, Bethan Lovering - Forward Planning Officers, Beau Gray – Sustainability Policy Officer, Rhys T Evans – EARTH Programme Officer - Land Use Planning & Llinos Jones – Forward Planning Assistant.

Other: Translator.

2. Welcome and introductions

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies for absence

Cllr Russel Sparks, Cllr Sue Allen and Rhodri Griffiths - Head of Place & Sustainability,

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Panel meeting held on 19 October 2022 had been provided to Members in advance of the meeting and was confirmed by Cllr Ken Howell and Cllr Tyssul Evans.

To review and consider the Terms of Reference

Members had been provided with the updated terms of reference the version incorporates various amendments with changes made with new members and was confirmed by Cllr Gary Jones and Cllr Tyssul Evans.

4. To receive the report on the Second Deposit Revised Local Development Plan

Members had been provided with the documents in advance of the meeting, The Forward Planning Manager gave an overview on these: -

The panel was received and considered the report setting out the Draft Second Deposit Revised Local Development Plan (LDP) which identified the Council's land use Vision, Strategic Objectives and Strategic Growth requirements for the County through to 2033.

The LDP included a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and provisions, including site specific allocations for housing and employment use, as well as environmental and other spatial considerations. It was recognised that a series of factors had impacted upon the progress and content of the Plan including, but not limited to, phosphate levels in protected rivers and the Covid-19 pandemic. The report outlined that the Revised 2nd Deposit Plan has been prepared for the publication along with its supporting documents as part of a formal public consultation for a minimum statutory period of 6 weeks commencing early 2023.

The report also highlighted the process moving forward and that the Plan would be subject to public examination by a Welsh Government appointed Planning Inspector with a view to its formal adoption at the end of 2024.

The Forward Planning Manager and the Officers addressed questions raised by the Panel on Growth Level, Town Centres and on Welsh Language

It was resolved to receive the report and thank the officers for their work.

4. To receive a presentation on Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment

Beau Gray (Sustainability Policy Officer gave a presentation)

The Sustainability Policy Officer set out that the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (or ISA) is a procedure that ensures the LDP is compatible with the aims of sustainable development. It is a means of characterising and mitigating any of the adverse effects that the plan might have, and it ensures that the plan's options and policies are sound and appropriate in light of other reasonable alternatives. The chosen ISA process incorporates 6 separate assessments into an extensive reporting platform which sits alongside the revised Plan. Each required by various pieces of legislation alongside other commitments set out by planning policy Wales. These are the joint Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

The European Habitats Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna is implemented in the Wales through the Habitat Regulations. This provides legal protection for a range of habitats and species which are deemed to have European importance. To meet the requirements set out by these regulations, the purpose of the HRA is to determine whether the plan, alone or in combination with other plans, is likely to have significant effect on any European sites within or near Carmarthenshire. We have been working closely with external consultants and specialist to ensure not harm comes to SACs/SPAs due to phosphates.

In conclusion, the revised deposit Plan would have significant benefits in terms of providing the housing and employment land required to support sustainable growth in Carmarthenshire, and it performs positively against the socio-economic objectives of the ISA framework. As is the case with most development, some potential negative effects are predicted (e.g., HRA), however these can be reduced and/or avoided entirely with the proposed mitigation measures.

The Forward Planning Manager and the Nutrient Management Board Programme Manager addressed questions raised by the Panel on Phosphates.

Cllr Ann Davies (Chairman) thanked Beau Gray on his presentation.

5. Approving the minutes of this meeting

Agreed that the minutes be circulated ahead of the next meeting.

6. Closure and date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 15:44pm.

Date of next meeting be in April after the consultation (date to be confirmed).