

**VOLUME 9**

**MEMBER OF PUBLIC  
NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Title: Do you have any comments to make on the natural and built environment policies?

ID	Comment	Summary of changes being sought/proposed	Council response
687	<p>Building houses and schools on one of the last beautiful green areas in the BCBC area cannot be a positive move. As we live in Island Farm road we have the privilege of enjoying the landscape and wild life we have a large neighbourhood hedgehog highway and 5 of us take rescue hedgehogs for rehabilitation from the GH hedgehog rescue centre, the fields are alive with rabbits, badgers, foxes, dormice, bats, frogs and a plethora of insects and wild plants. Why would it be beneficial to anyone to destroy these habitats?</p>	<p>Concerns related to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate site PS.1 Island Farm was considered appropriate for allocation.</p>

			<p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p>
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			<p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy</p>
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			<p>PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future”. A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as “high” and “outstanding” against certain criteria, it also performs as “medium” and “low” for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that the proposed development with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
699	Stop acquiring farmland for houses.	No development on agricultural land	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period

			<p>have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>Further detail regarding the loss of agricultural land can be found with Background Paper 15: Minimising the Loss of the Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land. It sets out how the Local Planning Authority has considered the location and quality of agricultural land in developing the Bridgend Replacement LDP. It demonstrates how the Preferred Strategy and site selection process has sought to minimise the loss of BMV agricultural land when balanced against a range of other material planning considerations.</p>
708	Yes No to the development of Island Farm. Area for nature should not be broken up by development. A48 should form a barrier to protect wild life	Objection to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County</p>

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			<p>assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional</p>
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			<p>European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b><i>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</i></b></p>
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			<p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taken into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows.</p>
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			<p>There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u> The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u> The River Ogmere was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the</p>
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			<p>retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the</p>
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			<p>SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that the proposed development with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
723	Cannot see how if you intend to build on greenfield sites close to water sources how you can say you are promoting the protection of the environment.	Concerns with greenfield development	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p>

			<p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>In terms of flood risk, the Council commissioned consultants to prepare a Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment (SFCA) (See Appendix 31) to support the production of the LDP. As part of the SFCA, candidate sites were assessed on their potential risk of flooding. Where a flood risk has been identified, site promoters have undertaken a site-specific flood consequence assessment to demonstrate that the flood risks can be managed in line with the requirements of TAN15.</p>
752	<p>I absolutely disagree with the proposal of putting extra housing on Island Farm. We simply do NOT have adequate infrastructure to support such a large housing estate. All the local schools are way over full and so are the Doctor surgeries. MerthyrMawr Road is so busy now and this will only get worse. Increased traffic will automatically be detrimental to the air quality overall. The only people who will benefit here are the developers, who are only interested in profit. Shameful that the LDP are even considering this proposal.</p>	<p>Objection to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p>

			<p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate site PS.1 Island Farm was considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In terms of supporting infrastructure, an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) has been produced (See Appendix 37). The IDP provides a single schedule of all necessary infrastructure without which the development of allocated sites for the anticipated quantum of proposed housing/employment uses within the plan period could not proceed. Such infrastructure includes transport, education, health, environmental management, utilities in addition to community and cultural infrastructure.</p> <p>In terms of traffic, the proposed allocation is supported by detailed masterplanning work, including an illustrative block plan to identify a realistic dwelling yield on the site's net developable area. The initial Transport Assessment has now been updated to reflect the final number of dwellings the site is expected to deliver. This identifies the various transport issues relating to the proposed development, and, in combination with the Strategic Transport Assessment, what measures will be taken to deal with the anticipated transport impacts of the scheme. Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes the appropriate development requirements in relation to all forms of travel. The density and mix of uses proposed is considered appropriate to support a diverse community and vibrant public realm, whilst generating a critical mass of people to support services such as public transport, local shops and schools. In accordance with national planning policy, higher densities should be encouraged in urban centres and near major public transport nodes or interchanges. Given the site's location within the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and the proximity to Bridgend Town Centre, this density level is therefore considered appropriate to foster sustainable communities, further bolstered by the proposed enhancements to the active travel network.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP aims to reduce private car reliance and help the County Borough achieve the principles set out by the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, with the ultimate aim of improving and expanding upon the current active travel routes as identified in the Existing Route Maps. Consideration of active travel has been key during the master planning of strategic sites in the County Borough. Reference to the Active Routes detailed in Policy</p>
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			<p>PLA2 in conjunction with Policy PLA12 should be considered essential in the delivery of any strategic site or any proposal, ensuring that development is contributing to the promotion of a sustainable and healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>The Active Travel Network Maps aim to improve access to key services and facilities including town centres, employment sites, retail areas and transport hubs, improved access to education facilities such as schools and colleges and improvements to, and expansion of, the existing strategic cycle network in the County Borough. Opportunities will be maximised to further improve upon these routes, providing walking connections which will allow integration between new developments and existing communities.</p> <p>Whilst developments should be encouraged in locations which reduce the need to travel and promote the use of sustainable transport, the Council recognises that any development growth will likely result in greater travel demand, and that increased traffic levels and congestion is likely to occur if appropriate mitigating transport measures and infrastructure are not delivered. Therefore a Strategic Transport Assessment (See Appendix 36) has been undertaken to consider the impact of plan proposals and help guide and inform the process of delivering land allocations by means of modelling and quantifying the transport impact of these proposals. The technical notes accompanying this assessment demonstrate that the proposed level of development detailed within the LDP can be accommodated within the BCBC Highway Network with suitable mitigation.</p> <p>Furthermore Strategic Policy 5: Sustainable Transport and Accessibility will ensure that development must be located and designed in a way that minimises the need to travel, reduces dependency on the private car and enables sustainable access to employment, education, local services and community facilities. Development will be required to deliver, or contribute towards the provision of, active travel scheme, public transport measures, road infrastructure, and other transport measures, in accordance with the Bridgend Local Transport Plan and the Bridgend Integrated Network Plan (See Appendix 29).</p> <p>It must be noted that the proposed development and masterplan does not direct vehicles towards New Inn Road and the Dipping Bridge. Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. Such requirements include pursuing transit-orientated development that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport use, whilst reducing private motor vehicle dependency. Well-designed, safe walking and cycling routes must be incorporated throughout the site to foster community orientated, healthy walkable neighbourhoods. There will be a clear emphasis on providing safe pedestrian and cycling linkages between the site, the Town Centre, Brynteg Comprehensive School and surrounding environs. In addition proposed Policy PLA2 will require the site's green infrastructure network to extend to Newbridge Fields, thereby capitalising on proposed active travel route INM-BR-49 and establishing a 'green lung' that connects the site to both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will facilitate a key multi-functional network of integrated spaces and features south of Bridgend, providing a plethora of economic, health and wellbeing benefits for new and existing residents. Housing allocation COM1(2) will also be required to provide a link/extend route on A48 to connect the adjacent site (PLA2) in addition to widening footway on southern side of A48 to 3m and extend length on both southern and northern side. Broadlands roundabout will also be required to be upgraded for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>The site promoter's Transport Assessment has identified that with exception of the A48 proposed site access junction, and the Ewenny Road Roundabout in the AM peak hour, and the B4265 / Ewenny Road junction in both peak hours, the revised Island Farm proposals will result in lower traffic flows through all junctions across the assessment network over both the AM and PM peak hour periods, compared to the previous consented development proposals on the Island Farm Site. As the consented flows are technically already considered to be existing on the highway network, this revised scheme will provide traffic reduction improvements across the local highway network. Previous assessment work on the Island Farm site has identified that the Broadlands Roundabout, Ewenny Roundabout, and Picton Close Junction all show capacity issues in forecast year</p>
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			<p>assessment scenarios both including and excluding the consented Island Farm proposals traffic. Although the revised Island Farm proposals in general bring traffic reductions across these junctions (from what was previously consented), with consideration of background traffic growth alone, these junctions will still likely require mitigation to operate within capacity during future forecast years. The reduction in flows as a result of the revised Island Farm proposals however, may mean that any mitigation measures implemented can potentially achieve greater capacity improvements at each junction. The revised proposals at the Island Farm site include three separate vehicle access points onto the local highway network (compared to just two within the consented scheme). All three site access junctions are expected to operate within capacity under the revised Island Farm proposals. An updated assessment at all three identified junctions, and the site access junctions will be undertaken as part of a future supporting Transport Assessment for the revised Island Farm development, which will ideally include up to date baseline traffic flows as the basis for the assessment (Covid restrictions allowing).</p>
777	Merthyr Mawr, island farm should be left for a natural, historic environment. Not to be distroid by traffic	Concerns related to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportiones sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined</p>

			<p>based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate site PS.1 Island Farm was considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of</p>
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			<p>land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Eweny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li><li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li><li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li><li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li></ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of</p>
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			<p>Heronbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b>  As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b>  The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications’ ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included ‘Hut 9’ a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p>
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Dormouse

The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Riparian mammals

The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Great crested newt

The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.

Birds

There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Bats

The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.

Badgers

The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.

Reptiles

Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.

			<p><u><i>SINC Review</i></u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised. NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of</p>
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			<p>the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that "while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p>
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			<p>be existing on the highway network, this revised scheme will provide traffic reduction improvements across the local highway network. Previous assessment work on the Island Farm site has identified that the Broadlands Roundabout, Ewenny Roundabout, and Picton Close Junction all show capacity issues in forecast year assessment scenarios both including and excluding the consented Island Farm proposals traffic. Although the revised Island Farm proposals in general bring traffic reductions across these junctions (from what was previously consented), with consideration of background traffic growth alone, these junctions will still likely require mitigation to operate within capacity during future forecast years. The reduction in flows as a result of the revised Island Farm proposals however, may mean that any mitigation measures implemented can potentially achieve greater capacity improvements at each junction. The revised proposals at the Island Farm site include three separate vehicle access points onto the local highway network (compared to just two within the consented scheme). All three site access junctions are expected to operate within capacity under the revised Island Farm proposals. An updated assessment at all three identified junctions, and the site access junctions will be undertaken as part of a future supporting Transport Assessment for the revised Island Farm development, which will ideally include up to date baseline traffic flows as the basis for the assessment (Covid restrictions allowing).</p>
783	<p>Again see previous comments. Preserving wildlife habitat and the historically important site of Hut 9 at Island Farm should be of high importance to the council.</p>	<p>Concerns related to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p>

			<p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate site PS.1 Island Farm was considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough’s ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p>
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			<p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p>
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			<p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b><i>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</i></b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC are area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p>
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As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:

Dormouse

The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Riparian mammals

The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Great crested newt

The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.

Birds

There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Bats

The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.

Badgers

The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.

Reptiles

Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the

			<p>woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u><i>SINC Review</i></u>  A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site.</p> <p>The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b>  PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC,</p>
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			<p>SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that "while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the</p>
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			<p>level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p>
789	I read this, then wondered if you think the proposed huge development at Island Farm can be part of it. "Conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment". Good grief, Island Farm being developed as planned will be the very opposite of this.	Concerns related to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County</p>

		<p>Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate site PS.1 Island Farm was considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental</p>
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			<p>assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional</p>
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			<p>European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li><li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li><li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li><li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li></ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p>
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			<p>retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the</p>
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			<p>SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered</p>
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			<p>extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future”. A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as “high” and “outstanding” against certain criteria, it also performs as “medium” and “low” for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under ‘Cultural Heritage’, which is one of the 14</p>
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			<p>Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p>
801	And your going to build houses on Greenfield sites. Spot the irony eh!	Concerns related to greenfield development	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables</p>



			<p>sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
820	Traffic will run any of these aims.	Concerns related to traffic	<p>Comments noted. The Replacement LDP identifies and differentiates between the sustainability of places by defining a settlement hierarchy. This has been informed by the conclusions of the Bridgend County Borough Settlement Assessment (2019, updated in 2021) (See Appendix 19), which reflects Bridgend's historical and functional settlement pattern and seeks to achieve more sustainable places in a number of ways. The scale and type of growth apportioned to settlements is dependent upon their individual roles, functions and positions within the settlement hierarchy. This is to ensure the Replacement LDP and spatial strategy (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3: Spatial Strategy Options) directs the majority of growth towards areas that already benefit from good infrastructure including transport networks, services and facilities, or where additional capacity can be provided.</p> <p>Whilst developments should be encouraged in locations which reduce the need to travel and promote the use of sustainable transport, the Council recognises that any development growth will likely result in greater travel demand, and that increased traffic levels and congestion is likely to occur if appropriate mitigating transport measures and infrastructure are not delivered. Therefore a Strategic Transport Assessment (See Appendix 36) has been undertaken to consider the impact of plan proposals and help guide and inform the process of delivering land allocations by means of modelling and quantifying the transport impact of these proposals. The technical notes accompanying this assessment demonstrate that the proposed level of development detailed within the LDP can be accommodated within the BCBC Highway Network with suitable mitigation.</p> <p>Furthermore Strategic Policy 5: Sustainable Transport and Accessibility will ensure that development must be located and designed in a way that minimises the need to travel, reduces dependency on the private car and enables sustainable access to employment, education, local services and community facilities. Development will be required to deliver, or contribute towards the provision of, active travel scheme, public transport measures, road infrastructure, and other transport measures, in accordance with the Bridgend Local Transport Plan and the Bridgend Integrated Network Plan (See Appendix 29).</p> <p>Strategic site allocations identified by policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements include pursuing transit-orientated development that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport use, whilst reducing private motor vehicle dependency. Well-designed, safe walking and cycling routes must be incorporated throughout the site to foster community orientated, healthy walkable neighbourhoods.</p>

886	<p>If the council cared a jot about the environment it would provide adequate litter bins. There is on Merthyr Mawr Road 1 - One litter bin that is within hours full of 'doggy bags' and then these are dumped on the road/pavement around. This is despite that fact that there is an enormous school less than 100 yards from this solitary litter bin. Travelling on the continent it is quite a shock to realise that traipsing through discarded litter is not the norm, there are bins every few meters and people use them. The council use of an outside contractor to collect refuse is the wrong decision, you only have to walk on a street that has just had it refuse collected to see that, they do not take sufficient care in ensuring the refuse all goes in the refuse lorry. Seeing country lanes cluttered up with litter and household waste because of the high charges for commercial firms to use landfill is also no way to improve the environment - make access to landfill free then the cost of cleaning up would be a thing of the past</p>	Concerns related to waste	<p>Comments noted. In terms of the existing quantity and location of litter bins, in addition to the Councils handling of waste, such matters are beyond the scope of the LDP. However, Policy ENT16: Waste Movement in New Development will ensure that all proposals for new built development include provision for the proper design, location, storage and management of waste generated by the development both during construction and operation of the site.</p> <p>Development must also incorporate, as appropriate, adequate and effective provision for the storage, recycling and other sustainable management of waste, and allow for appropriate access arrangements for recycling and refuse collection vehicles and personnel.</p> <p>The views of the Council's Waste Management Section will be taken into account on all types of development to ascertain the extent and nature of facilities needed to deal with any potential municipal waste arising associated with development.</p>
898	<p>Protect our natural spaces, resist developers plans to build on the jewels of County and be aware of unscrupulous lobbying by Councillors with alternative agenders.</p>	Protect the environment / resist development	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a</p>

			<p>sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC’s. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that proposed development with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
951	<p>The proposed housing plans for Island farm and Craig - Y - Parcau will swamp both the WWII prisoner of war hut and the Merthyr Mawr village area. Both these are historical icons are Wales at their best.</p>	<p>Concerns related to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys</p>

			<p>Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In terms of supporting infrastructure, an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) has been produced (See Appendix 37). The IDP provides a single schedule of all necessary infrastructure without which the development of allocated sites for the anticipated quantum of proposed housing/employment uses within the plan period could not proceed. Such infrastructure includes transport, education, health, environmental management, utilities in addition to community and cultural infrastructure.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside</p>
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			<p>Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC are area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritis</i>.</p>
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			<p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p>
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			<p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u> The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u> The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds.</p>
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Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Bats

The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.

Badgers

The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.

Reptiles

Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.

SINC Review

A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site.

The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.

**Overall**

PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.

			<p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the</p>
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			<p>cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future”. A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as “high” and “outstanding” against certain criteria, it also performs as “medium” and “low” for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under ‘Cultural Heritage’, which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each</p>
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			<p>strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p>
955	keep merthyr mawr for its nature content	Protect Methyr Mawr	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed</p>

			<p>appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>The proposed development is not envisaged to have an adverse impact on Merthyr Mawr and its nature content.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a</p>
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			<p>vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields.</p>
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			<p>Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul>
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***Proposed mitigation***

As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:

- To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;
- To identify the existing habitats on site;
- To identify the potential for protected species;
- To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and
- To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.

***General habitat – Existing***

The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.

Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.

Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.

Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.

Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.

A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.

As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:

**Dormouse**

The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore



assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Riparian mammals

The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Great crested newt

The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.

Birds

There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Bats

The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.

Badgers

The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.

Reptiles

Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.

SINC Review

A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the

			<p>field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site.</p> <p>The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b></p> <p>PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p><u>Landscape</u></p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing</p>
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			<p>management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that "while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p>
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975	The development at Island farm proposed is in direct Conflict with this policy.	Concerns related to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p>

			<p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate site PS.1 Island Farm was considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In terms of ecology, the site promoter has undertaken an ecological appraisal of the site. Part of the site is designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). This area is to be retained as a SINC as part of the development proposal. It is required that the spine road from the A48 dissects the SINC and there are appropriate mitigation measures that can and will be implemented to reduce and mitigate any adverse effects that this required infrastructure has on the integrity of the SINC. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, there are considered to be no in principle constraints to development of the site as a result of its ecological condition. Policy PLA2 will require the development to retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC. Policy PLA2 will also require the developer to submit and agree ecological management plans including proposals for mitigation, enhancement and maintenance for retained habitats and protected species (including for bats and dormouse) and provide appropriate compensatory and replacement habitat.</p>
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			<p>In relation to landscape matters, the site promoter has considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated Landscape Visual Impact Assessment will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). Nevertheless, Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>Hut 9 of the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp is Grade II listed and is located in the north-eastern section of the site. The Masterplan and Strategic Site Policy seek to ensure that Hut 9 is fully integrated with future development proposals.</p> <p>The proposed development is not considered to impact upon the Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. However, Policy PLA2 requires development to integrate positively with the existing landscape and adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that the proposed development with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
983	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
987	all my a cynic but I cannot understand how this chapter sits comfortably and appropriately in a policy documents that is designed to not "conserve and enhance the natural and historic environment".	Concerns regarding the plan and policies	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p>

			<p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Strategy also recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy DNP10 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Development Management Policy DNP11 (See Page 213) ensures that development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that the plan will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
999	N/A	No changes proposed	N/A
1017	I fail to see how you can protect the natural environment by building over 800 new houses on an area of land rich in wildlife and history. Our roads are already shoddy, badly maintained and over congested and you propose to cram more and more houses and people into the area. Our wildlife are already on a massive decline, hit by cars and having their habitats destroyed. And building houses on a historical landmark??	Objection to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County</p>

<p>Not that I'm surprised as landowners are just greedy and think of nothing but money. I think these plans are awful and definitely should not go ahead.</p>		<p>Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate site PS.1 Island Farm was considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In terms of traffic, the proposed allocation is supported by detailed masterplanning work, including an illustrative block plan to identify a realistic dwelling yield on the site's net developable area. The initial Transport Assessment has now been updated to reflect the final number of dwellings the site is expected to deliver. This identifies the various transport issues relating to the proposed development, and, in combination with the Strategic Transport Assessment, what measures will be taken to deal with the anticipated transport impacts of the scheme. Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes the appropriate development requirements in relation to all forms of travel. The density and mix of uses proposed is considered appropriate to support a diverse community and vibrant public realm, whilst generating a critical mass of people to support services such as public transport, local shops</p>
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			<p>and schools. In accordance with national planning policy, higher densities should be encouraged in urban centres and near major public transport nodes or interchanges. Given the site's location within the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and the proximity to Bridgend Town Centre, this density level is therefore considered appropriate to foster sustainable communities, further bolstered by the proposed enhancements to the active travel network.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP aims to reduce private car reliance and help the County Borough achieve the principles set out by the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, with the ultimate aim of improving and expanding upon the current active travel routes as identified in the Existing Route Maps. Consideration of active travel has been key during the master planning of strategic sites in the County Borough. Reference to the Active Routes detailed in Policy PLA2 in conjunction with Policy PLA12 should be considered essential in the delivery of any strategic site or any proposal, ensuring that development is contributing to the promotion of a sustainable and healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>The Active Travel Network Maps aim to improve access to key services and facilities including town centres, employment sites, retail areas and transport hubs, improved access to education facilities such as schools and colleges and improvements to, and expansion of, the existing strategic cycle network in the County Borough. Opportunities will be maximised to further improve upon these routes, providing walking connections which will allow integration between new developments and existing communities.</p> <p>Whilst developments should be encouraged in locations which reduce the need to travel and promote the use of sustainable transport, the Council recognises that any development growth will likely result in greater travel demand, and that increased traffic levels and congestion is likely to occur if appropriate mitigating transport measures and infrastructure are not delivered. Therefore a Strategic Transport Assessment (See Appendix 36) has been undertaken to consider the impact of plan proposals and help guide and inform the process of delivering land allocations by means of modelling and quantifying the transport impact of these proposals. The technical notes accompanying this assessment demonstrate that the proposed level of development detailed within the LDP can be accommodated within the BCBC Highway Network with suitable mitigation.</p> <p>Furthermore Strategic Policy 5: Sustainable Transport and Accessibility will ensure that development must be located and designed in a way that minimises the need to travel, reduces dependency on the private car and enables sustainable access to employment, education, local services and community facilities. Development will be required to deliver, or contribute towards the provision of, active travel scheme, public transport measures, road infrastructure, and other transport measures, in accordance with the Bridgend Local Transport Plan and the Bridgend Integrated Network Plan (See Appendix 29).</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. Such requirements include pursuing transit-orientated development that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport use, whilst reducing private motor vehicle dependency. Well-designed, safe walking and cycling routes must be incorporated throughout the site to foster community orientated, healthy walkable neighbourhoods. There will be a clear emphasis on providing safe pedestrian and cycling linkages between the site, the Town Centre, Brynteg Comprehensive School and surrounding environs. In addition proposed Policy PLA2 will require the site's green infrastructure network to extend to Newbridge Fields, thereby capitalising on proposed active travel route INM-BR-49 and establishing a 'green lung' that connects the site to both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will facilitate a key multi-functional network of integrated spaces and features south of Bridgend, providing a plethora of economic, health and wellbeing benefits for new and existing residents. Housing allocation COM1(2) will also be required to provide a link/extend route on A48 to connect the adjacent site (PLA2) in addition to widening footway on southern side of A48 to 3m and extend length on both southern and northern side. Broadlands roundabout will also be required to be upgraded for pedestrians and cyclists.</p>
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			<p>The site promoter's Transport Assessment has identified that with exception of the A48 proposed site access junction, and the Ewenny Road Roundabout in the AM peak hour, and the B4265 / Ewenny Road junction in both peak hours, the revised Island Farm proposals will result in lower traffic flows through all junctions across the assessment network over both the AM and PM peak hour periods, compared to the previous consented development proposals on the Island Farm Site. As the consented flows are technically already considered to be existing on the highway network, this revised scheme will provide traffic reduction improvements across the local highway network. Previous assessment work on the Island Farm site has identified that the Broadlands Roundabout, Ewenny Roundabout, and Picton Close Junction all show capacity issues in forecast year assessment scenarios both including and excluding the consented Island Farm proposals traffic. Although the revised Island Farm proposals in general bring traffic reductions across these junctions (from what was previously consented), with consideration of background traffic growth alone, these junctions will still likely require mitigation to operate within capacity during future forecast years. The reduction in flows as a result of the revised Island Farm proposals however, may mean that any mitigation measures implemented can potentially achieve greater capacity improvements at each junction. The revised proposals at the Island Farm site include three separate vehicle access points onto the local highway network (compared to just two within the consented scheme). All three site access junctions are expected to operate within capacity under the revised Island Farm proposals. An updated assessment at all three identified junctions, and the site access junctions will be undertaken as part of a future supporting Transport Assessment for the revised Island Farm development, which will ideally include up to date baseline traffic flows as the basis for the assessment (Covid restrictions allowing).</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p>
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			<p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Eweny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the</p>
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			<p>'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b><i>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</i></b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC are area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritis</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p>
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1018	Totally agree with conserving the natural and historic site - Merthyr Mawr will be affected adversely by a housing development. How will these two stands of the LDP marry up?	Concerns regarding Merthyr Mawr	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these</p>



			<p>settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p>
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			<p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritis</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the</p>
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		<p>site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p>
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			<p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u> The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u> The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p>
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			<p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p>
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			<p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p><u>Landscape</u></p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the “Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline” which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes’ ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP’s evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape’s character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change</p>
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			<p>in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles</p>
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			<p>included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p>
103 1	No development- enough has been done	Objection to development	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p>

			Policy PLA1-5 (See Deposit Plan – Page 62) detail the site-specific requirements for the mixed-use Strategic Development Sites in Regeneration Growth Areas and Sustainable Growth Areas. Such development will deliver a wide range of land uses including affordable housing, education, recreation facilities, public open space, active travel plus appropriate community facilities and commercial uses. Delivery of these Strategic Sites will prove fundamental in achieving the Replacement LDP’s Vision and Objectives for the County Borough.
103 7	See first box comments		Comments noted.
105 2	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
105 5	see previous. Large scale development puts the rich historic landscape at risk.	Concerns related to historic landscape	<p>Comments noted. With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the “Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline” which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes’ ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP’s evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape’s character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment</p>

			<p>period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance</p>
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			<p>of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p>
107 7	<p>Again, you cannot hope to capitalise on the attraction to visitors of Merthyr Mawr and the Ogmore river if you create a sterile suburb cut off from the town, overshadowing one of Bridgend's best attractions</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Merthyr Mawr</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit</p>

			<p>Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b>  In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was</p>
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			<p>subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Eweny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments</p>
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and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II\* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.

**Ecological mitigation measures already implemented**

As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius* to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats *Rhinolophus hipposideros* and brown long-eared bats *Plecotus auritus*.

As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts *Triturus cristatus* to be taking into account.

The habitat design for the consented scheme included:

- **Tree and Scrub Planting:** translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.
- **Hedgerow Enhancement:** enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.
- **Bat Roosting Building:** a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.
- **Dormouse Nest Boxes:** 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.
- **Pond creation:** two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.
- **Grassland Creation:** rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.

**Proposed mitigation**

As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:

- To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;
- To identify the existing habitats on site;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications’ ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included ‘Hut 9’ a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u></p> <p>The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u></p> <p>The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat</p>
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			<p>directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site.</p>
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			<p>The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 and Housing Allocation (COM1(2)) will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC,</p>
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108 3	Bridgend has some beautiful green areas that the Borough should preserve and it's economic focus should be on promoting tourism, maintaining these landscapes, biodiversity rather than destroying it by building as many houses as possible. Perhaps you should consider how much housing is already in the Borough before building more. There are already huge housing estates - Brackla, Broadlands,	Concerns regarding proposed developments	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County</p>

<p>Penyfai, Parc Derwen, and more. These are being built with no thought to the environment each one getting more depressing than the last. Parc Derwen for example has barely any greenery outside of the houses. The new estates are built without proper consideration to the number of cars per household because too many houses are crammed in. You say that appropriate development will need to conserve valued countryside but by building 1000 houses you are doing the exact opposite.</p>		<p>Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>In relation to parking, Policy PLA11: Parking Standards requires all development to be served by appropriate levels of parking, of which should be in accordance with adopted parking standards. Further guidance is set out by Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
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111 6	Island farm, Hut 9, dipping bridge areas need to be preserved as they are to retain their biodiversity, to protect the green infrastructure	Preserve Island Farm, Hut 9 & dipping bridge	<p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the</p>
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			<p>Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taken into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul>
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**General habitat – Existing**

The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.

Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.

Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.

Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.

Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.

A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.

As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:

Dormouse

The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Riparian mammals

The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

			<p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p>
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			<p><b>Overall</b></p> <p>PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of</p>
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			<p>the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that "while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p>
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122 4	i support the conservation and enhancement of the natural, historic and archeological environment of the County, which would logically prevent the building of new structures on greenfield sites - provision of necessary housing and industry should be achieved by the use of brown field sites, and infill in existing housing/ industrial areas.	Development should be located brownfield sites	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as</p>

			<p>Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>Additional long-term brownfield Regeneration Sites are also proposed for allocation (See Policy COM1(R1-R3)), located within parts of the County Borough that will benefit the most and also those that exhibit opportunities to deliver the greatest positive impacts of such growth. However, as referenced in Planning Policy Wales, the housing land supply will not be dependent on these additional long-term Regeneration Sites, as they require longer lead-in times, preparatory remediation-based enabling works and more detailed strategies to enable their delivery.</p>
126 2	The development areas will impact the natural and historical elements south of Bridgend	Proposed development will impact natural and historical elements south of Bridgend	<p>The proposed development is not envisaged to have an adverse impact upon the natural and historical elements south of Bridgend.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p>

			<p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li><li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li></ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC are area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritis</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the</p>
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		<p>site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p>
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			<p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u> The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u> The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p>
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			<p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p>
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			<p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 and Housing Allocation (COM1(2)) will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the importance of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p>
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			<p>with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p>
1309	<p>The proposal does not command local support. A previous attempt to promote large scale development in this location was overturned in the previous LDP. It is the case that this area does not possess the environmental capacity to promote such large scale housing development and the strategic planning response should be for management and maintenance of the area for low key countryside management as with other protected areas in the County Borough. As stated in the objectives to the LDP Review, the proposals should protect local diversity, character and sensitive environments. The current proposals would produce the opposite impact for current and future generations. In short the strategic allocations would fail to meet the objectives of sustainable development and would frustrate the opportunities of future generations to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment surrounding Bridgend in the way that previous generations have been allowed to.</p>	<p>Objection relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a</p>

			<p>sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p>
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			<p>P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have</li> </ul>
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			<p>both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p>
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Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.

As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:

Dormouse

The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Riparian mammals

The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Great crested newt

The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.

Birds

There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Bats

The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.

Badgers

The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.

			<p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised. NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 and Housing Allocation (COM1(2)) will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and</p>
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			<p>enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the “Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline” which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes’ ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP’s evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape’s character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term</p>
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			<p>future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These</p>
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			principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.
1330	I would like to raise my objection to the current plans to build houses at the site of island farm. Island farm is a fantastically important site of war history that is unique in the uk. I have always been shocked at the lack of local funding for the site to preserve it; it really should be respected and enjoyed more. I would like you to be aware I chose to bring a group of 17/18 for the school I teach at in Cardiff to island farm prior to covid. They loved the experience and were shocked that wales had something that they only known to be in Germany on school excursions!! Please do not remove this site of historical importance for homes.	Objection relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm	<p>Objection noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit</p>

			<p>Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under ‘Cultural Heritage’, which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p>
133 8	The biggest objection that I have to the Island Farm proposal relates to the fact that the development will negatively impact the SINC which is located in the vicinity of the site plans. There is no doubt that a development of this size will affect the wildlife that thrive in these areas. It is known for housing Dormice and Lesser horseshoe bats, Barn owls, lapwing and unknown quantities of insects live in these natural habitats. Various scientific resources (e.g.	Objection relating to Strategic Allocations PLA2: Island Farm, PLA3: Land West of Bridgend and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate</p>



<p>Biological Conservation paper, supported by the Natural History Museum, ) has revealed that over 40% of all insects are declining, and a third are endangered. The data suggests that the rate of decline is at least 2.5% per year. According to the researchers' analysis, a quarter of insects could be wiped out within just a decade. Any large scale housing developments in the Bridgend area WILL negatively impact insects and wildlife in the area. I do not believe that you will be able to provide adequate compensatory and replacement habitat, as you claim to be planning to provide. The original habitat should be allowed to thrive. Many of the objections raised regarding the Island Farm and Craig Y Parcau development are also valid concerns that I have regarding the development for Laleston/Bryntirion. The environmental impacts cannot be overlooked here, 850 houses will decimate the wildlife in an area of natural and historic beauty. The area has ancient trees including oaks; flora including orchids, meadow flowers, fungi, mosses, and a mix of hedgerow species which date the hedgerows in terms of hundreds of years. As for fauna, there are regular sightings of fox, rabbit, weasel, squirrel, dormouse, hedgehog, frog and toad. There are bats, and a variety of birds, including birds of prey. We have a responsibility to future generations to preserve as much greenbelt land as possible. The lanes which connect Bryntirion to Rogers Lane and Pen Y Fai are centuries old. They currently provide a relatively little used vehicle access but also a massively used walking route for local residents, running clubs, dog walkers, nature lovers and historians. The value of these fields and lanes to people who need exposure to outside spaces for mental health benefits is being massively undervalued by these proposals.</p>		<p>response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p>
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			<p>approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Eweny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b><i>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</i></b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both</p>
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			<p>within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taken into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p>
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			<p>enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 and Housing Allocation (COM1(2)) will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Allocation Land West of Bridgend, Policy PLA3 sets out site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Page 71).</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will ensure development positively integrate the remains of Llangewydd Church and Churchyard Scheduled Ancient Monument in a manner that preserves and enhances the remains as part of the wider site. Development must also incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way. Furthermore, the enclosed byway with the existing hedgerow corridor will be retained as the Y Berth cross link. In terms of active travel, Policy PLA3 requires on-site and off-site measures to provide good quality, attractive, legible, safe and accessible pedestrian and cycle linkages in accordance with Active Travel design. Improved linkages must be provided along the A473, with Bryntirion Comprehensive School and Bridgend Town Centre (including the bus station and train station). New routes should be provided to accord with the proposed routes within the Council's Active Travel Network Maps: INM-BR-52, INM-BR-55, INM-BR-57, INM-BR-58, BRC9b.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also</p>
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			<p>identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>All Stage 2 Candidate Site Sites were considered to ascertain whether they had the potential to cause an adverse impact upon the historic environment. To facilitate this assessment, the Council consulted with the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) early on in the process for their views on the likely range of impacts on the historic environment along with recommendations for mitigation. Any identified impacts were required to be mitigated by site promoters.</p> <p>For Land West of Bridgend the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and important archaeological sites. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA3 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA3 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>Further to this, the site promoter commissioned EDP to undertake an Archaeological and Heritage Assessment. The assessment establishes that the site does not contain any World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens or historic landscapes, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in-situ and against development. In terms of archaeological remains, the site is identified as having moderate to high potential to contain remains from the medieval period, particularly in its northern extremity, which is adjacent to the site of the former Llangewydd Church. However, the land is a SINC and will not be developed. Policy PLA3 will require development to positively integrate with the remains of Llangewydd Church and Churchyard Scheduled Ancient Monument in a manner that preserves and enhances the remains as part of the wider site.</p> <p>While there is a small amount of evidence for late prehistoric and Roman activity in the surrounding 1km study area, the potential for archaeology of these periods within the site is deemed low. Post-medieval settlement was focused elsewhere in the locality and any archaeology of this period within the site is most likely to relate to agriculture. Overall, the baseline data indicate that the probability of significant archaeology being present is low. Any further archaeological investigation can reasonably be secured through an appropriately worded planning condition appended to a planning permission.</p>
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			<p>Potential impacts upon the setting of historic assets in the locality have focused on the 1km study area. No significant effects arising from changes to setting have been identified for scheduled monuments, listed buildings and registered parks and gardens. In respect of the Laleston Conservation Area, there will also not be any significant changes to its visual setting. It is acknowledged that development in the southern part of the Site will remove a part of the agricultural landscape around Laleston which forms a buffer from Bryntirion to the east. However, agricultural land will remain on all sides around Laleston, which will retain its character as a discrete settlement, while landscaping measures associated with the development will mitigate any impression of coalescence. This is assessed as an impact of a minor order, with the special interest of the conservation area being retained. Policy PLA3 will require development to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p> <p>The site promoter also commissioned EDP to undertake a Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA). The purpose of the appraisal was firstly to inform the design evolution of the scheme which enabled an integrated approach to potential landscape and visual opportunities and constraints.</p> <p>The LVA outlines that there are adverse and beneficial landscape effects resulting from development of this site. However, the embedded mitigation and the approach to design is considered to minimise adverse effects over time as the proposed landscape establishes and overall the predicted effects are not considered unacceptable from a landscape and visual perspective in the context of the delivery of a strategic housing site.</p> <p>The appraisal included a review of national and local policy, landscape character and visual amenity. The appraisal included assessment of the National Landscape Character Assessment (NLCA), LANDMAP, and Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough (LCABC) (2013) in addition to an on-site assessment. The appraisal confirms that the site relates well both in landscape and visual terms to the existing landscape and settlement, and that the site represents a logical extension to Bryntirion provided a considered design is sensitive to the site's existing characteristics. The design appraised responds sensitively to assets on site such as the Bridgend Circular Walk, the byway, the hedgerow network and vegetated site boundaries. As such the proposals put forward at this stage are considered to be a thoughtful and easily assimilated future development of this site.</p> <p>Mitigation measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Laleston Meadows SINC would be brought into regular long-term management. This would protect the visual amenity and landscape character of this northern part of the site. A landscape buffer would set development back from the SINC, and dwellings would front onto it. The SINC could be used as a mitigation receptor site (in ecological terms) and the grazed fields currently within the SINC could be improved by the proposals as well as maintained in the long term. The SINC offers a great opportunity for informal and natural play on site provided increased public access would not clash with its ecological function;</li><li>• The site contains very few of the key characteristics listed in the published documents on Laleston SLA. The site has a strong network of hedgerows, some which would be lost and the field pattern replaced by urban form. However, the retained hedgerows and trees would be protected by landscape buffers and some of the character of the SLA within which the site lies would be retained;</li><li>• Provision of structural landscaping, a mix of native and non-native trees and shrubs proposed throughout the site for biosecurity, diversity of ecosystems and habitat creation as well as the visual amenity of future residents. Areas of open space would be bolstered by considered structural planting to create an aesthetically pleasing urban development which is well integrated with the proposed landscape strategy and the settled landscape character currently experienced in the local area;</li></ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Retention of existing landscape features (hedgerows and trees) is a priority of the emerging proposals as it forms a desirable strong green framework that links with the wider green infrastructure to the north, west and south of the site;</li><li>• Adequate replacement planting of local species in appropriate locations to compensate for any loss of trees and hedgerows, and enhancement planting; and</li><li>• The location of public open space, public footpaths and the street-alignment has been designed to protect and reflect local character.</li></ul> <p>Through consideration of the findings above, it is anticipated that any notable landscape and visual effects resulting from the addition of the proposed scheme would be localised in extent and contained within a c.400m radius of the site, despite the site's relatively open character.</p> <p>Overall is it considered that the masterplan framework proposed for the site has been sensitively designed through a landscape and ecology-led approach, with appropriate incorporation of mitigation measures in order to address concerns of the site in relation to landscape and visual matters. As such, the promotion of this site for residential development should be considered an acceptable extension to the existing settlement of Bryntirion which would not cause significant or wide-ranging adverse effects upon its surrounding landscape context.</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will ensure that the design and layout of the site has regard to the landscape in which it sits, considering the interface between the site, Bridgend and Laleston. Visual impacts must be minimised through the inclusion of mitigation measures and provide links with the existing landscape and access features to safeguard landscape character whilst creating a sense of place. The development must also not be to the detriment of the Special Landscape Area and any development proposal must incorporate measures to reduce adverse effects and/or visual intrusion on the wider landscape.</p> <p>In terms of biodiversity/ecology, an ecological desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey has been undertaken by EDP. The desk study has noted that within the Study Site's zone of influence there are a number of statutorily and non-statutory designated sites present, most notably Laleston Meadows SINC which overlaps with the site itself.</p> <p>Given the combination of designated sites, it is concluded that any future planning submission will need to consider the potential for direct and indirect impacts to arise upon qualifying features, including the Laleston Meadows SINC. However, it is inherent within the emerging masterplan that the Laleston Meadows SINC and its associated designated features will be retained. Furthermore, such retained features will be further protected from potential harm, damage and disturbance through the sensitive design of built development away from SINC boundaries and inclusion of suitable buffers.</p> <p>The desk study confirms that the inclusion of Laleston Meadows SINC within the Study's Site boundary will provide substantial potential for a balanced provision of areas of informal public open space and wildlife zones. When linked with proposed POS and play areas across the developable site this will provide a significant benefit to both visual and recreational amenity, conservation and biodiversity enhancement. In respect of the latter, the SINC provides a potential space to accommodate ecological mitigation and biodiversity enhancements and thus offset ecological impacts that may arise during the development of adjacent land.</p> <p>An Extended Phase 1 survey was undertaken in February 2020, supplemented by further roosting bat works in March 2020. The Phase 1 survey concluded that the site is dominated by agriculturally improved grassland of limited botanical interest and thus of low inherent ecological value. Habitats of greatest ecological importance include the native hedgerows delineating the northern boundary and internal field boundaries in addition to woodland habitat and marshy grassland associated with Laleston Meadows SINC. The roosting bats surveys</p>
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			<p>identified several trees with low to high potential to support a bat roost whilst onsite ponds have been considered for their potential to support great crested newt.</p> <p>The results of the desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey have influenced the masterplan which has sought to locate development across those habitats of predominantly limited ecological value whilst retaining boundary habitats as far as possible. Where retained, such features have been accommodated within proposed informal green space and sustainable transport links, which ultimately enhances connectivity throughout the Site and contributes to the wider green infrastructure resource.</p> <p>Where avoidance is not possible, however, and will result in the loss of internal field boundaries (albeit predominantly species-poor or defunct), the site is considered to be of sufficient size and extent to enable future development proposals to flexibly avoid and/or mitigate for any significant ecological constraints and compensate where necessary. This will be in addition to the sensitive positioning of built development away from retained boundary features to minimise damage.</p> <p>The report also highlights further detailed habitat and species surveys which are recommended to inform a planning application and ensure proposed mitigation is appropriate and proportional. These include a Dormouse survey, which was raised in comments received from NRW. Policy PLA3 will require the development to retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland) and Laleston Meadows SINC, which includes the green space bordering the northern and north-western boundaries of the site. PLA3 will also require the developer to submit and agree ecological management plans including proposals for mitigation, enhancement and maintenance for retained habitats and protected species (including for bats and dormouse) and provide appropriate compensatory and replacement habitat.</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will require development to incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way. Additionally, PLA3 requires 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space across the site comprising seven key areas of formal open space (including 0.5ha of equipped play provision), informal spaces and linkages, green streets, and explore the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland.</p>
1349	<p>SP(2) Island Farm COM1(2) Craig-Y-Parcau I do not agree with these developments in relation to the nature losses that will occur. As a resident of Broadlands, Bridgend I feel this could be very damaging to our environment.</p>	<p>Objection relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl,</p>

			<p>Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>In relation to nature/biodiversity, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p>
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			<p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> </ul>
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- Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;
- Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;

The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.

Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.

Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II\* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.

***Ecological mitigation measures already implemented***

As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius* to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats *Rhinolophus hipposideros* and brown long-eared bats *Plecotus auritus*.

As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation

strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts *Triturus cristatus* to be taking into account.

The habitat design for the consented scheme included:

- **Tree and Scrub Planting:** translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.
- **Hedgerow Enhancement:** enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.
- **Bat Roosting Building:** a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.
- **Dormouse Nest Boxes:** 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.
- **Pond creation:** two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.
- **Grassland Creation:** rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.

**Proposed mitigation**

As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:

- To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;
- To identify the existing habitats on site;
- To identify the potential for protected species;
- To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and
- To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.

**General habitat – Existing**

The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.

Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.

Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development

			<p>proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u> The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u> The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p>
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			<p><u><i>Bats</i></u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u><i>Badgers</i></u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u><i>Reptiles</i></u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u><i>SINC Review</i></u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b><i>Overall</i></b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p>
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135 5	Nature - Roughly a quarter of the Island Farm site is a SINC and home to European protected species; dormice, Lesser Horseshoe bats and Brown Long Eared bats. Dormice require continuous hedgerow/tree cover. This will be severed by the entrance road. They will also be very vulnerable to domestic cats. Lesser Horseshoe bats are extremely negatively	Concerns relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.

<p>affected by light pollution, added to which they will have to travel further to find suitable feeding areas. The cumulative pressures of a dense housing development on the biodiversity of the SINC will reduce its value for biodiversity which could result in it losing its SINC status. Merthyr Mawr - To take the development boundary up to New Inn Road would irreparably degrade the rural context within which Merthyr Mawr lies. The environs of Merthyr Mawr, without a doubt, extend to the "Dipping Bridge" and arguably include the "Showground Field" which extends to the A48. New Inn Road should be seen as part of the context of this well-loved, unique and nationally regarded historic area. Apart from its function as a rat run, it serves solely as the approach to Merthyr Mawr and it should be valued by BCBC in accordance with their policy, "To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places". Merthyr Mawr is a unique asset for Bridgend and the wider area.</p>		<p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the</p>
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			<p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u> The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u> The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds.</p>
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			<p>Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><u>Overall</u> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p>
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			<p>impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future”. A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as “high” and “outstanding” against certain criteria, it also performs as “medium” and “low” for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>It must be noted that the proposed development and masterplan does not direct vehicles towards New Inn Road and the Dipping Bridge. The Dipping Bridge (New Inn Bridge) is Grade II* listed and is located outside the proposed site boundary. As part of the Candidate Site Assessment and consultations, the Council has also consulted the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust. No adverse impacts are envisaged as a result of the proposed development. However, in considering development proposals, the Council will seek to resist new development that impacts upon listed buildings unless the character of historic buildings and structures will be safeguarded and conserved and changed managed so that their special architectural and historic or archaeological interest and their settings are preserved. (See Policy DNP10).</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability</p>
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			effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that the proposed development with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.
135 6	Proposed site: SP2(2)/PLA2 Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) Proposal for 847 houses etc and Com 1(2) Craig-Y-Parcau, Proposal for 110 houses Nature - Roughly a quarter of the Island Farm site is a SINC and home to European protected species; dormice, Lesser Horseshoe bats and Brown Long Eared bats. Dormice require continuous hedgerow/tree cover. This will be severed by the entrance road. They will also be very vulnerable to domestic cats. Lesser Horseshoe bats are extremely negatively affected by light pollution, added to which they will have to travel further to find suitable feeding areas. The cumulative pressures of a dense housing development on the biodiversity of the SINC will reduce its value for biodiversity which could result in it losing its SINC status. Merthyr Mawr - To take the development boundary up to New Inn Road would irreparably degrade the rural context within which Merthyr Mawr lies. The environs of Merthyr Mawr, without a doubt, extend to the "Dipping Bridge" and arguably include the "Showground Field" which extends to the A48. New Inn Road should be seen as part of the context of this well-loved, unique and nationally regarded historic area. Apart from its function as a rat run, it serves solely as the approach to Merthyr Mawr and it should be valued by BCBC in accordance with their policy, "To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places". Merthyr Mawr is a unique asset for Bridgend and the wider area.	Concerns relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p>

			<p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><i>Existing Consent</i></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14th March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the</p>
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			<p>submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12th June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Eweny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11th October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities,</p>
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			<p>Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><i>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</i></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taken into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><i>Proposed mitigation</i></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul>
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			<p><i>General habitat – Existing</i></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u></p> <p>The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u></p> <p>The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p>
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			<p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><u>Overall</u></p>
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137 2	Proposed site: SP2(2)/PLA2 Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) Proposal for 847 houses etc andCom 1(2) Craig-Y-Parcau,	Concerns relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2:	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred

<p>Proposal for 110 houses Nature - Roughly a quarter of the Island Farm site is a SINC and home to European protected species; dormice, Lesser Horseshoe bats and Brown Long Eared bats. Dormice require continuous hedgerow/tree cover. This will be severed by the entrance road. They will also be very vulnerable to domestic cats. Lesser Horseshoe bats are extremely negatively affected by light pollution, added to which they will have to travel further to find suitable feeding areas. The cumulative pressures of a dense housing development on the biodiversity of the SINC will reduce its value for biodiversity which could result in it losing its SINC status. Merthyr Mawr - To take the development boundary up to New Inn Road would irreparably degrade the rural context within which Merthyr Mawr lies. The environs of Merthyr Mawr, without a doubt, extend to the "Dipping Bridge" and arguably include the "Showground Field" which extends to the A48. New Inn Road should be seen as part of the context of this well-loved, unique and nationally regarded historic area. Apart from its function as a rat run, it serves solely as the approach to Merthyr Mawr and it should be valued by BCBC in accordance with their policy, "To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places". Merthyr Mawr is a unique asset for Bridgend and the wider area.</p>	<p>Island Farm and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau</p>	<p>Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm and PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new one entry primary school with co-located nursery, the re-location of Heronsbridge Special School, leisure facilities, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities, employment and commercial uses.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to</p>
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			<p>be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><i>Existing Consent</i></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14th March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12th June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional</p>
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			<p>There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u> The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u> The River Ogmere was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Great crested newt</u> The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the</p>
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			<p>retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.</p> <p><u>Birds</u> There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Bats</u> The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><u>Overall</u> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the</p>
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			<p>SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 and Housing Allocation (COM1(2)) will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the</p>
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			<p>need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that "while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>It must be noted that the proposed development and masterplan does not direct vehicles towards New Inn Road and the Dipping Bridge. The Dipping Bridge (New Inn Bridge) is Grade II* listed and is located outside the proposed site boundary. As part of the Candidate Site Assessment and consultations, the Council has also</p>
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			<p>consulted the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust. No adverse impacts are envisaged as a result of the proposed development. However, in considering development proposals, the Council will seek to resist new development that impacts upon listed buildings unless the character of historic buildings and structures will be safeguarded and conserved and changed managed so that their special architectural and historic or archaeological interest and their settings are preserved. (See Policy DNP10).</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that the proposed development with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
1380	<p>3. Merthyr Mawr Wales Online ranks Merthyr Mawr as the second prettiest village in all Wales, beaten only by Beddgelert in Snowdonia which is more than helped by it's spectacular surroundings. The environs of Merthyr Mawr stretch from the A48 to the sea and draw both local visitors and tourists. It is a unique and beautiful place which should be cherished and protected for the enjoyment of future generations. It's setting should be enhanced rather than compressed by insensitive development. The roads in and out of the village, including New Inn Road are often so busy, the enjoyment of walkers and cyclists, is already severely affected. In order to incorporate the SINC (Site of Importance for Nature Conservation) the housing development will be high density at 40 houses per hectare which will surely impact the rural nature and setting of Merthyr Mawr. - How will the rural setting of Merthyr Mawr and it's attraction for visitors and locals be impacted by 847 new houses at Island Farm? 4. Nature The LDP proposes keeping the majority of the SINC - However the integrity of the SINC will be fractured by the spine road. Rare and vulnerable wildlife inhabit this area including European protected species such as dormice (which need continuous hedgerows) and lesser horseshoe bats (which are extremely sensitive to light pollution). In addition barn owls, lapwing, fieldfares and redwing currently use the greater Island Farm site area. The value of an area for biodiversity is contingent upon what surrounds it and an area only retains it's designation as a SINC</p>	<p>Concerns relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed</p>

<p>for as long as it's value for nature holds. The pressure of a high density housing development (40 houses per hectare) with people, cats, dogs and light pollution may very well reduce the value for wildlife to an extent whereby the SINC designation is lost. Once the designation is gone, it is still within the development boundary and could be ripe for further housing development. - How will wildlife survive here and what is the long term fate of the SINC if the rest of the site is developed with high density housing?</p>		<p>appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm &amp; PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><i>Existing Consent</i>  In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14th March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre,</p>
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			<p>(P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12th June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Eweny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11th October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban</p>
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			<p>extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><i>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</i></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taken into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><i>Proposed mitigation</i></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><i>General habitat – Existing</i>  The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p> <p>As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:</p> <p><u>Dormouse</u>  The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p> <p><u>Riparian mammals</u>  The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.</p>
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Great crested newt

The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.

Birds

There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Bats

The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.

Badgers

The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.

Reptiles

Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.

SINC Review

A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site.

The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.

			<p><u>Overall</u> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC. Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes'</p>
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			<p>ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that "while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p>
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			<p>It must be noted that the proposed development and masterplan does not direct vehicles towards the Dipping Bridge. The Dipping Bridge (New Inn Bridge) is Grade II* listed and is located outside the proposed site boundary. As part of the Candidate Site Assessment and consultations, the Council has also consulted the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust. No adverse impacts are envisaged as a result of the proposed development. However, in considering development proposals, the Council will seek to resist new development that impacts upon listed buildings unless the character of historic buildings and structures will be safeguarded and conserved and changed managed so that their special architectural and historic or archaeological interest and their settings are preserved. (See Policy DNP10).</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that the proposed development with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
896	<p>Proposed site: SP2(2)/PLA2 Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) Proposal for 847 houses etc and Com 1(2) Craig-Y-Parcau, Proposal for 110 houses Nature - Roughly a quarter of the Island Farm site is a SINC and home to European protected species; dormice, Lesser Horseshoe bats and Brown Long Eared bats. Dormice require continuous hedgerow/tree cover. This will be severed by the entrance road. They will also be very vulnerable to domestic cats. Lesser Horseshoe bats are extremely negatively affected by light pollution, added to which they will have to travel further to find suitable feeding areas. The cumulative pressures of a dense housing development on the biodiversity of the SINC will reduce its value for biodiversity which could result in it losing its SINC status. Merthyr Mawr - To take the development boundary up to New Inn Road would irreparably degrade the rural context within which Merthyr Mawr lies. The environs of Merthyr Mawr, without a doubt, extend to the "Dipping Bridge" and arguably include the "Showground Field" which extends to the A48. New Inn Road should be seen as part of the context of this well-loved, unique and nationally regarded historic area. Apart from its function as a rat run, it serves solely as the approach to Merthyr Mawr and it should be valued by BCBC in accordance with their policy, "To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places". Merthyr Mawr is a unique asset for Bridgend and the wider area.</p>	<p>Concerns relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters</p>

<p>Placemaking - The proposed developments at Craig-Y-Parcau and Island Farm will enclose and impinge upon the Ogmore Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLCA018 Ogmore) as well as Merthyr Mawr Registered Historic Landscape area and the grade 2* Park and garden of Merthyr Mawr House. These designations point to a unique and valuable landscape that is placed in trust for the next generation. A place that has already been made and it is the duty of Bridgend Council to pass it on, undegraded, to the next generation.</p>		<p>were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm &amp; PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 and Housing Allocation (COM1(2)) will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>In terms of ecology, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p>
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			<p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><b>Existing Consent</b></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p>
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			<p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><b>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</b></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC are area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed mitigation</b></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>General habitat – Existing</b></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.</p>
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As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:

Dormouse

The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Riparian mammals

The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Great crested newt

The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.

Birds

There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Bats

The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.

Badgers

The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.

Reptiles

Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the

			<p>woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site.</p> <p>The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><b>Overall</b> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC,</p>
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			<p>SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that "while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the</p>
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			<p>level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p>
454	3. Merthyr Mawr Wales Online ranks Merthyr Mawr as the second prettiest village in all Wales, beaten only by Beddgelert in Snowdonia which is more than helped by it's spectacular surroundings. The environs of Merthyr Mawr stretch from the A48 to the sea and draw both local visitors and tourists. It is a unique and beautiful place which should be cherished and protected for the enjoyment of future generations. It's setting	Concerns relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.

<p>should be enhanced rather than compressed by insensitive development. The roads in and out of the village, including New Inn Road are often so busy, the enjoyment of walkers and cyclists, is already severely affected. In order to incorporate the SINC (Site of Importance for Nature Conservation) the housing development will be high density at 40 houses per hectare which will surely impact the rural nature and setting of Merthyr Mawr. - How will the rural setting of Merthyr Mawr and it's attraction for visitors and locals be impacted by 847 new houses at Island Farm? 4. Nature The LDP proposes keeping the majority of the SINC - However the integrity of the SINC will be fractured by the spine road. Rare and vulnerable wildlife inhabit this area including European protected species such as dormice (which need continuous hedgerows) and lesser horseshoe bats (which are extremely sensitive to light pollution). In addition barn owls, lapwing, fieldfares and redwing currently use the greater Island Farm site area. The value of an area for biodiversity is contingent upon what surrounds it and an area only retains it's designation as a SINC for as long as it's value for nature holds. The pressure of a high density housing development (40 houses per hectare) with people, cats, dogs and light pollution may very well reduce the value for wildlife to an extent whereby the SINC designation is lost. Once the designation is gone, it is still within the development boundary and could be ripe for further housing development. - How will wildlife survive here and what is the long term fate of the SINC if the rest of the site is developed with high density housing?</p>		<p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm &amp; PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that</p>
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			<p>biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p> <p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><i>Existing Consent</i></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14th March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12th June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Ewenny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> </ul>
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		<p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><i>Proposed mitigation</i></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><i>General habitat – Existing</i></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p>
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			<p>the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><u>Overall</u> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p>
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			<p>evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future”. A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as “high” and “outstanding” against certain criteria, it also performs as “medium” and “low” for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>It must be noted that the proposed development and masterplan does not direct vehicles towards New Inn Road and the Dipping Bridge.</p>
138 5	Proposed site: SP2(2)/PLA2 Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) Proposal for 847 houses etc and Com 1(2) Craig-Y-Parcau, Proposal for 110 houses Nature - Roughly a quarter of the Island Farm site is a SINC and home to European protected species; dormice, Lesser Horseshoe bats and Brown Long Eared bats. Dormice require continuous hedgerow/tree cover. This will be severed by the entrance road. They will also be very vulnerable to domestic cats. Lesser Horseshoe bats are extremely negatively affected by light pollution, added to which they will have to travel further to find suitable feeding areas. The cumulative pressures of a dense housing development on the biodiversity of the SINC will reduce	Concerns relating to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Island Farm and Housing Allocation COM1(2): Craig y Parcau	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise</p>

<p>its value for biodiversity which could result in it losing its SINC status. Merthyr Mawr - To take the development boundary up to New Inn Road would irreparably degrade the rural context within which Merthyr Mawr lies. The environs of Merthyr Mawr, without a doubt, extend to the "Dipping Bridge" and arguably include the "Showground Field" which extends to the A48. New Inn Road should be seen as part of the context of this well-loved, unique and nationally regarded historic area. Apart from its function as a rat run, it serves solely as the approach to Merthyr Mawr and it should be valued by BCBC in accordance with their policy, "To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places". Merthyr Mawr is a unique asset for Bridgend and the wider area. Placemaking - The proposed developments at Craig-Y-Parcau and Island Farm will enclose and impinge upon the Ogmore Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLCA018 Ogmore) as well as Merthyr Mawr Registered Historic Landscape area and the grade 2* Park and garden of Merthyr Mawr House. These designations point to a unique and valuable landscape that is placed in trust for the next generation. A place that has already been made and it is the duty of Bridgend Council to pass it on, undegraded, to the next generation.</p>		<p>developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate sites PS.1 Island Farm &amp; PS.2 Craig y Parcau were considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health. For development to be sustainable, it needs to be soundly based on good environmental assessments, and to be well planned and controlled with regard to its environmental impact, in order to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in legislation, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.</p> <p>To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough's ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. It is important that biodiversity and resilience considerations are taken into account at an early stage in both development plan preparation and when proposing or considering development proposals. All reasonable steps must be taken to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems and these should be balanced with the wider social needs of local communities. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.</p>
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			<p>The Environment Act (Section 6) sets out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity to provide a net benefit for biodiversity through a proactive and resilient approach. Policies SP17 and DNP6 of the LDP set the framework to deliver on this premise, as set out in Policy 9 (NDF). Policy DNP6 (LDP) will be revised to ensure it is based on a net benefit approach to achieve these outcomes.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) contains a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) (The Island Farm POW Camp) of which covers 14.03 hectares of land within the allocated site. PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites. Paragraph 6.4.20 states that 'Although non-statutory designations carry less weight than statutory designations, they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection in development plans and the development management process.'</p> <p><i>Existing Consent</i></p> <p>In relation to Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development has already lawfully commenced on this site. The Island Farm mixed use development comprising sport/leisure/commercial and office uses was granted Outline planning permission on 14th March 2012 (P/08/1114/OUT). The permission was subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement (Legal File Refr: E40-275) that controlled highway works, land dedication, management plans, contributions and matters relating to travel and management plans associated with the stadia development. A series of reserved matters consents were granted for an indoor tennis centre, (P/14/354/RES refers), landscaping and ecological works, (P/14/823/RES refers), and highway and drainage infrastructure (P/14/824/RES refers). The Outline permission included the standard time limit conditions for the submission of reserved matters and the commencement of development. The final approval of reserved matters was issued on 12th June 2015.</p> <p>The Outline planning permission included approval for the construction of a new traffic light controlled junction on the A48 that would serve as the primary access to the development site. The road construction would however pass through an area of local ecological value – the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Under the Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulation 2010, a conditional European Protected Species Licence was issued. In order to comply with the licence and to prevent the new access road from fragmenting the dormice population, the developer proposed to construct and plant the approved 'Green Bridge'. However, access to the site could not be formed from the A48 until the Green Bridge had been established. Under a non-material amendment to the outline planning permission and application P/17/29/FUL, the Council consented a temporary construction access from Eweny Road/New Inn Road to allow a sequence of 'enabling works' that had been approved under P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. These 'enabling works' are described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of the site facilities via Island Farm Lane and New Inn Road to provide the site facilities and temporary internal roads for the delivery of earth moving plant to the site;</li> <li>• Undertaking earthworks to form a plateau for the Tennis Centre;</li> <li>• Undertaking the earthworks, drainage works and form the sub base to the internal access road working from the boundary adjacent to the interconnecting spur with the adjacent Technology Drive;</li> <li>• Break through the boundary hedgerow and construct the proposed road link between the Island Farm site access road and Technology Drive. Install the incoming services infrastructure that will access the site via Island Farm Lane. Construction access herein to be via Technology Drive;</li> </ul> <p>The aforementioned works were commenced in July 2017 in accordance with the above consents and the details agreed in relation to the pre-commencement planning conditions. Under the definitions within the planning obligation, the aforementioned works constituted a 'commencement of development' triggering a number of obligations in relation to highway works. A deed of variation to the original agreement was signed on 11th October 2018 which reconciled the enabling works (phase 0) with the original obligation. On the basis of the</p>
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			<p>above, the 'enabling works' constituted a material operation and a lawful commencement of reserved matters consents P/14/354/RES and P/14/824/RES. The works have not been completed but the Council's opinion is that the permissions are extant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the extant planning permission, based on the revised mix of uses now proposed on the site, there is considered to be an overriding need for the development. Re-allocation of this site will enable accommodation of sustainable growth enshrined in placemaking principles, deliver affordable housing in the highest need part of the County Borough and enable delivery of two schools on the site, including relocation of Heronsbridge Special School. It will also enrich active travel and green infrastructure networks within Bridgend through creation of a 'green lung' that will connect the site to the Town Centre via Newbridge Fields. Development of this edge of settlement site would accord with the Preferred Strategy, channel growth to the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough and make a significant contribution to the housing need identified in the LHMA. The site promoter has also provided extensive supporting information to evidence the site is both viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Proposed Policy PLA2 prescribes a number of placemaking principles for Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), which are considered instrumental to achieving sustainable places, delivering socially inclusive developments and promoting cohesive communities. A final masterplan must be prepared and agreed with the Council prior to the sites development to demonstrate how these principles will be delivered in an appropriately phased manner. This will need to demonstrate how the development will create a well-connected, sustainable mixed-use urban extension to Bridgend, comprising a number of character areas that integrate positively with the existing landscape, SINC, adjacent Grade II* listed Merthyr Mawr House, existing housing clusters, community facilities, Active Travel Networks and public transport facilities. An illustrative masterplan will also be included in the final version of the Replacement LDP to enable all parties to understand how the site will be developed in broad terms, including proposed land uses, access, infrastructure requirements, constraints and areas of protection. This masterplan will clearly identify the location of the SINC in the context of the wider allocation.</p> <p><i>Ecological mitigation measures already implemented</i></p> <p>As part of the existing consent, a mitigation strategy was produced in 2009 to offset the impacts of the development. It was proposed that the SINC and south west field would become a wildlife conservation area within the new development. Surveys at the site found dormice <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> to be present, both within the woodland and scrub in the SINC and in the hedgerows of the agricultural fields. These areas are also known to be used by bats for foraging and commuting purposes, and the SINC area contains a roost site for lesser horseshoe bats <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> and brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>.</p> <p>As part of the development process some areas of these habitats were to be lost, and modification to the remaining areas due to the impacts of the development, including noise and light spillage. Part of the mitigation strategy to counter these losses included the creation of new habitats suitable for the relevant species. As such, habitat design was guided by the requirements of the protected species of which had the potential to utilise the site. In addition to dormice and bats, a further condition of the existing consent required the habitat requirements of Great Crested Newts <i>Triturus cristatus</i> to be taking into account.</p> <p>The habitat design for the consented scheme included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tree and Scrub Planting:</b> translocation and planting new trees and scrub in the south-west field, providing an alternative for displaced animals, including dormice, bats, and shelter for reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>• <b>Hedgerow Enhancement:</b> enhancement and translocation of hedgerows from the centre of the site to the eastern site boundary has been undertaken, to create continuous hedge lines which help to buffer the expanded SINC site, and to filter out noise and light from development. Additionally, it provides a continuous flight line for bats and allow dormice to disperse more easily along the hedgerows.</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bat Roosting Building:</b> a purpose-built bat roost building has been constructed within the south-west field, providing a suitable roost site for both lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats, which have both been found roosting in the old hut within the SINC. The building was constructed on the lesser horseshoe key flight line to enable them to rapidly locate it, and also be close to good feeding habitats on the Merthyr Mawr and the River Ogmore.</li> <li>• <b>Dormouse Nest Boxes:</b> 35 dormouse nest boxes placed within the field, to provide shelter for dormice that are to be displaced from other areas of the site. Placed within the north-east and south-east hedgerows, at approximately 10m interval.</li> <li>• <b>Pond creation:</b> two new ponds have been created within the south-west field, with the primary aim of providing habitat for Great Crested Newts.</li> <li>• <b>Grassland Creation:</b> rough grassland created around the pond to mitigate loss of existing grassland.</li> </ul> <p><i>Proposed mitigation</i></p> <p>As part of the proposed development of Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), an ecological appraisal of the site has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;</li> <li>• To identify the existing habitats on site;</li> <li>• To identify the potential for protected species;</li> <li>• To identify if any further surveys are required with regards to protected habitats or species; and</li> <li>• To identify any key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/ resources.</li> </ul> <p><i>General habitat – Existing</i></p> <p>The site was found to be comprised predominately of arable land in its winter stubble with very few plant species noted. The arable field margins provide good habitat for a range of species and buffer the existing hedgerows. There were numerous hedgerows across the site which ranged from mature hedgerows with trees and hazel coppice, to intensively managed species-poor hedgerows which dissected the arable fields. Two hedgerows had been translocated recently to the eastern boundary and appeared to show new growth.</p> <p>Two ponds which were created as part of the previous applications' ecological mitigation works were noted; however, neither was holding much water. Whilst there was very limited aquatic vegetation in the pond, vegetation in the immediate area included large swathes of tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial.</p> <p>Part of the site, in the northern section, was designated as a SINC partially due to the mosaic of grassland, woodland and scrub. This area is proposed for retention within the current masterplan, with the exception of an access road. Part of the site had been subject to clearance to enable works from the previous development proposals. The area cleared was not within the SINC identified on site. Detailed surveys will be undertaken to consider the botanical diversity of this area.</p> <p>Part of the area was brownfield land and whilst it was not an appropriate time of year for botany surveys, it was apparent that there were varied nutrient levels and areas of disturbed ground which are likely to result in higher botanical diversity.</p> <p>Built structures were also noted. These included 'Hut 9' a former prisoner of war camp from World War 2 located within the woodland in the north of the site and a dedicated bat roost located in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>A number of sink holes were noted across the site. These ranged from those which had apparently been present for a long period of time and had mature trees growing within them, to those very recently emerging and just comprising of small areas of collapsed earth.</p>
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Natural Resources Wales (NRW) states that consideration will need to be given to protected species (Hazel Dormice, Lesser Horseshoe Bats, Brown Long Eared Bat records on site). Furthermore, NRW states that consideration will need to be given to impacts on the SINC, and habitat – ancient mature hedgerows and woodland.

As such the ecological appraisal also considered the following species:

Dormouse

The site contains hedgerows and woodland of which were assessed to hold high value for dormice. The previous surveys identified the presence of dormice within the SINC located in the north of the site. It was therefore assessed that further surveys would be required to update the status of the site for this species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Riparian mammals

The River Ogmore was present along the eastern edge of the Craig-Y-Parcau, with records of both otter and water vole found south of the site. However, the previous surveys identified no evidence of riparian mammals within the development area. Considering the presence of previous records in the area and suitable habitat directly adjacent to the site, it is recommended surveys are undertaken for these protected species and to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Great crested newt

The previous surveys assessed the ponds to be unsuitable for great crested newt (GCN) and that GCN were absent from the site. Since then, it is understood that the previously surveyed ponds have been removed and new wildlife ponds created in the south-west of the main site area. The two water bodies identified during the walkover had relatively low water levels and limited aquatic vegetation. The current proposals indicate the retention and protection of the ponds. Nevertheless, they could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians and it is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index of each of the ponds within 500m of the development site to inform detailed planning application.

Birds

There was a mix of permanent pasture and arable land providing suitable habitat for farmland birds. Also, the hedgerows and their margins within the fields was assessed to provide potential habitat for ground nesting birds. The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and scattered trees were assessed to have high potential for breeding birds. Evidence of barn owl was found in a stable in the south-east of the site. Further surveys for breeding birds have been recommended within section 5 to inform detailed proposals for the site.

Bats

The previous surveys identified roosting lesser horseshoe and brown long-eared bats within Hut 9 in the woodland in the SINC. Since the previous surveys were undertaken, a dedicated bat roost has been created in the south-west of the main site. Additionally, the built structures within the Craig-Y-Parcau area were in extremely poor structural condition and a wide range of bat roosting features were visible for the external walkover. They were assessed to hold high potential for roosting bats. Therefore, it was assessed that an updated assessment of the structures should be undertaken to assess their status for roosting bats. Additionally, emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended. The habitats within both sites contained woodland and hedgerows, offering potential commuting, foraging and roosting habitats for bats may provide potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats. A number of mature trees were also noted which could have potential roosting features for bats.

			<p><u>Badgers</u> The habitats on site were comprised of woodland, grassland and arable land which have potential to support badgers. However, it should be noted that the previous survey identified badgers to be absent from the site.</p> <p><u>Reptiles</u> Much of the site was comprised of arable land and agriculturally intensified grassland providing negligible potential for reptiles. The key features were assessed to be the sections of grassland and scrub located at the woodland edges. The site was comprised of common and widespread habitats providing low potential habitats for invertebrates. No detailed surveys will be required.</p> <p><u>SINC Review</u> A SINC review undertaken by the Wildlife Trust indicates that the on-site SINC does not appear to have changed significantly since 2011's survey and therefore still qualifies as a SINC. The small section of woodland in the field to the south-east is worth removing from the citation as it is isolated and does not appear to add to the site's value. The woodland varies in quality but appears to offer habitat for dormice and bats and there are numerous woodland indicator species. The grassland is not particularly species-rich but adds to the site as a whole. The site suffers from antisocial behaviour including fly-tipping, frequent drug use and signs of semi-permanent habitation that is detrimental to the biodiversity of the site. The review recommended that dormouse tubes are replaced and monitored and that antisocial activities are reduced where feasible. Although the grassland areas are not very diverse they add to the diversity of the site and some scrub control to stop their loss is recommended though not a priority.</p> <p><u>Overall</u> PPW identifies SINC's as local non-statutory protected sites of which carry less weight than statutory designations, however it is acknowledged that they can make a vital contribution to delivering an ecological network for biodiversity and resilient ecosystems, and they should be given adequate protection. As such, the Masterplan relating to allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) has included a number of measures to address previously identified ecological constraints including the retention of the majority of the SINC and protection of the artificial bat roost and hedgerows. Furthermore, the masterplan for Island Farm has indicated the retention of SINC land within the site boundary, with the exception of the access road from the A48. Areas of ecological value are proposed for retention including existing sink holes; which offer value for a range of invertebrates, and an ecological enhancement area located in the south-western field; previously enhanced for ecology in relation to the 2008 sports village application. The masterplan also indicates retention of continuous green areas to ensure a continued network of green and blue infrastructure.</p> <p>Further work and surveys are to be undertaken from an ecological perspective in line with the recommendations of the ecological report. However, there were no 'show-stoppers' found at this stage, with appropriate mitigation measures available to ensure that the development of the site is acceptable and any related impacts can be minimised.</p> <p>NRW support the commitment for the future development of the site to follow a Green Infrastructure led approach so that the mixture of uses will be fully integrated and designed around the SINC.</p> <p>Overall, the site has an extensive planning history which has demonstrated that the site can be developed in an ecologically sensitive way through careful scheme design and the use of mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure that the proposed uses through outlined development requirements are fully integrated into the future development of site.</p> <p>Policy PLA2 and Housing Allocation (COM1(2)) will also require the enhancement and provision of green infrastructure. The development will be green infrastructure led and will require high quality landscaping and</p>
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			<p>architectural design to capitalise on accessibility to Bridgend Town Centre. A carefully designed green infrastructure network will run through and extend beyond the site to link with Newbridge Fields, thereby providing a continuous 'green lung' that connects the site with both Bridgend Town Centre and Merthyr Mawr. This will complement the improvements to existing and proposed active travel routes that will render walking, cycling and use of public transport viable alternatives to private vehicle use. Linked to this will be the protection and enhancement of the existing biodiversity value of the site, ensuring appropriate provision for, and protection of, existing wildlife in the area. This green infrastructure-led development will therefore provide multi-functional benefits relating to recreation, biodiversity, sustainable drainage and the use of non-car routes to address public health and quality of life issues.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the "Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline" which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the important of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes' ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP's evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape's character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that "while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment</p>
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			<p>period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p>
570	Again, this is all words, in reality it will be the environment that will suffer irreparable damage under this LDP	Concern in relation to the effect on environment.	<p>Comment noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's play space across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites</p>

			<p>retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
995	<p>Yes. Stop building so many new estates and start to protect wild life. You're trying again to ruin a lovely bit of land in Tondu by the primary school. It's just ridiculous!</p>	<p>Concerns in relation to protecting wild life.</p>	<p>Comments noted. Ongoing development in Tondu is an existing commitment with consent under the existing LDP. No further growth is earmarked for the Valley Gateway as documented in the Spatial strategy option's Background paper. The Growth strategy has defended any new development in the Valleys gateway in the proposed LDP.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>

1206	It should be borne in mind that we need to protect green spaces in developed areas, where they may be in short supply, as much if not more than less developed places. A parcel of green land in a generally built-up area can be hugely beneficial to the wellbeing of its community.	Comment in relation to protecting green areas.	<p>In regard to green spaces, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>In terms of green spaces, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
760	The Scrap yard in Pontycymer which should be an Engine Shed, should be demolished. It is an eye sore and a waste of land.	Concern in relation to a scrap yard.	Comment noted. Beyond the scope of the LDP.
945	<p>I would like to see stone tower on Bear Mountain in Nantymoel (like Glastonbury Tor), with a roof of photovoltaic panels, so it can be lit up at night. And a story attached, that it was the birthplace of Merlin.</p> <p>I would also like Nantymoel to become a stage of the Tour De France (Bridgend to Brecon , maybe?), it might inspire Geraint to great things again.</p> <p>I would have prisoners in chain gangs, litter picking and if they refuse, don't feed them until they change their minds.</p> <p>Don't get me started on what I'd do to fly tippers...</p>	Suggestions in relation to tourism.	<p>Comment noted. The issue raised in relation to prisoners is out of the scope of LDP.</p> <p>In terms of tourism, Comment noted. The Replacement Development plan will seek to ensure that it contributes to the aims and priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-22) by providing the framework for the provision and protection of well located, good quality, tourism, sports, recreation and leisure facilities and further diversifying tourism in the county.</p> <p>The Plan in its strategic policy SP16, promotes tourism development linked to regeneration initiatives and will encourage any proposed development for tourism, sport and recreation uses located on previously used land. The policy also considers that there might be some negative impacts of tourism, as a result of visitor pressure, in terms of traffic congestion, harm to sensitive natural environments and to local communities. To avoid this impact over the local communities, the LDP will ensure that proposals for new tourism are located in sustainable and accessible locations.</p>

	<p>Could some holiday cottages be built in the mountains and hills to rent out to rich people looking for a rustic holiday...log burners, shepherds huts etc, for cyclists and walkers, a space for willow weavers, woodworkers, potters and painters, and then a gallery to show and sell the work, and art students and environmental workers could stay in the cottages when the rich folk had gone.</p> <p>Also, if there was a local sawmill, the value to the timber could be added locally and provide employment locally, or doesn't it work like that. I'm also really keen on highland cattle, so some of those would be appreciated So nice chatting Bye for now.</p>		<p>In relation to preservation of culture, the strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208).</p> <p>Furthermore, the Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
645	<p>If in the vicinity have a look at the Mosaic on the washeries site in Ogmere, proposed to be a site of interest. Promotion of tourism in Wales has been poor for years and in South Wales where is the preservation of culture?</p>	<p>Concern in relation to tourism.</p>	<p>Comment noted. The Replacement Development plan will seek to ensure that it contributes to the aims and priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-22) by providing the framework for the provision and protection of well located, good quality, tourism, sports, recreation and leisure facilities and further diversifying tourism in the county.</p> <p>The Plan in its strategic policy SP16, promotes tourism development linked to regeneration initiatives and will encourage any proposed development for tourism, sport and recreation uses located on previously used land. The policy also considers that there might be some negative impacts of tourism, as a result of visitor pressure, in terms of traffic congestion, harm to sensitive natural environments and to local communities. To avoid this impact over the local communities, the LDP will ensure that proposals for new tourism are located in sustainable and accessible locations.</p> <p>In relation to preservation of culture, the strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208).</p> <p>Furthermore, the Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
127 1	<p>Natural areas need to be changed to 'naturalised areas' the wording used could be seen as something as simple as just a grassed area which has little positive impact compared to naturalized areas that have an important part to play.</p>	<p>Comment in relation to natural areas.</p>	<p>Comment noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of</p>



			<p>justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
564	In the built environment empty buildings-many of which have been neglected for many years- need to be addressed urgently	Empty buildings need to be addressed urgently	<p>Comments noted. Whilst it is beyond the scope of the LDP to directly address empty properties, the plan provides the framework for the redevelopment or change of use of empty properties subject to assessment against relevant policies within the plan.</p> <p>The Council has identified empty homes as a potential source of capacity as set out in an Urban Capacity Study 2020 (See Appendix 29). Its recognised that such sites make an important contribution to the overall housing land supply, as such, have contributed to windfall provision as set out in the Deposit Plan (See Table 7).</p> <p>In terms of empty units/properties within Town, District and Local Centres, Strategic Policy SP12 of the Replacement Plan will promote Town, District and Local Centres throughout the County Borough as hubs of socio-economic activity and the focal points for a diverse range of services which support the needs of the communities they serve.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base the Council have prepared a Retail Study (See Appendix 16) of which sets out evidence-based recommendations on retail need, the distribution of need and the definition of primary shopping areas to inform policies and site allocations. Additionally, the Council have also undertaken a sense check of the evidence base in light of the pandemic (See Appendix 51 – Background Paper 11: Covid-19 Policy Review). The 2019 Retail Study already identified a shift in commuter spending habits and online shopping, which the pandemic has accelerated. The LDP recognises that high streets will continue to change especially in the short-term, hence it contains more flexible planning policies and retail boundaries within town centres, recognising their changing roles and functions. It will be increasingly important for them to accommodate a wider array of uses than just retail, including community, health, leisure, residential and flexible co-working spaces alongside areas of open space.</p> <p>Furthermore, Policy ENT8 also recognises that, in some older centres, the prospects of attracting new commercial development (A1, A2 and A3 uses) are limited. This is particularly so in some of the valley settlements. Under these circumstances, there is a need to adopt a more flexible and pragmatic approach whilst also promoting the benefit of brining empty units and upper floors back into active use.</p>

577	Places like our beautiful wilderness area on Heol y Goedwig need to be untouched for future generations to enjoy, no buildings houses or otherwise or skateparks should even be considered for that area, it needs to be kept as a wildlife haven where people walk & sit relax & de stress each dy	Places like our beautiful wilderness area on Heol y Goedwig need to be untouched	Comments noted. The area is currently designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). As such, developments which would have an adverse impact on such a site would not be permitted unless the benefits associated with the development can be demonstrated to outweigh the harm and/or the harm can be reduced or removed by appropriate mitigation and/or compensation measures in line with Deposit Policy DNP5: Local and Regional Nature Conservation Sites (See Page 193).
585	Do not build on current green belt land	Do not build on current green belt land	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p>
589	History and maintaining history is imprtNts but not at the expense of development and protecting resource. For instance it appears the sea decencies or some of them in porthcawl are listed. Simply put why would	Why would you list something and make it difficult to maintain something as	Comments noted. Such matters are beyond the scope of the LDP. However, any application affecting a listed building will be subject to Strategic Policy 18: Conservation of the Historic Environment and DNP10: Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings in addition to other relevant policies. Care for the Built and Historic Environment is fundamental to the LDP Strategy and to achieving sustainable development.

	you list something and make it difficult to maintain something as important as a sea defence.	important as a sea defence	
590	You are seeking to land grab green areas all around Porthcawl and develop housing on them. This is removing spaces for exercise and recreation which visitors and residents enjoy and use, also losing valuable wildlife habitats and bio diversity of the area.	You are seeking to land grab green areas all around Porthcawl and develop housing on them	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl’s role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>Porthcawl is defined as an area of growth – but which can predominately be served within the existing settlement boundary. A more flexible approach to defining the settlement boundary around this settlement would mean the inclusion of greenfield sites that could be ‘cherry-picked’ by developers and undermine the delivery of the brownfield regeneration site that is crucial for the success of the plan (See Appendix 38 - Settlement Boundary Review).</p>

596	How you can talk about this whilst planning to decimate our local woodlands with housing is beyond me.	Concerns regarding local woodlands due to proposed housing	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
656	All new buildings including housing should be examples of sustainable design and construction, maximising opportunities for nature based solutions such as such as green roofs, green walls, rain gardens, trees	All new buildings including housing should be examples of sustainable	Comments noted. All development will be required to comply with Strategic Policy 3: Good Design and Sustainable Place Making (See Page 60), whereby development must contribute to creating high quality, attractive, sustainable places that support active and healthy lives and enhance the community in which they are located, whilst having full regard to the natural, historic and built environment. As such future planning applications will be required to be supported through the submission of appropriate design and technical

	and other green infrastructure to generate a wide range of benefits.	design and construction maximising opportunities for nature based solutions such as such as green roofs, green walls, rain gardens, trees and other green infrastructure	<p>information to demonstrate compliance with the criteria set out by Policy SP3. Such criteria includes responding to the climate emergency by reducing energy demands and maximising opportunities for renewable or low carbon energy generation, incorporating resource efficient/adaptable buildings and layouts using sustainable design and construction techniques. Criteria will also ensure that development safeguards and enhances biodiversity and integrated multi-functional green infrastructure networks.</p> <p>Strategic Allocations must be developed in line with site specific policies and associated masterplan development principles set out by Policies PLA1-5 (See Page 62).</p>
665	Don't think building a supermarket and housing on our sea front will encourage tourism. People want to be able to park in porthcawl otherwise they won't visit.	Concerns regarding proposed food store on Salt Lake	<p>Comments noted. Evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as 'gateway buildings' as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to "place-making", taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p> <p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site. Subject to a planning application, the foodstore will be constructed alongside all-new residential, leisure, retail development at Salt Lake as well as new areas of green open space, bus terminus, active travel facilities and more.</p> <p>Car parking as part of the plans for the proposed regeneration area will continue to be provided at the Hillsboro car park to the west of the regeneration area. Some visitor parking could be introduced as part of the enhancement of the Eastern Promenade. Additionally, the proposed regeneration will open up a number of opportunities for improving public transport. A new 'bus terminus' may also be located along the Portway where visitors and locals could arrive at, and depart from the regeneration site and town centre.</p>
675	if this is a primary asset, why do the goals need to be balanced.	why do the goals need to be balanced	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p>

			<p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of allocated Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements, all of which seek to contribute and address the identified key issues and drivers identified through the Replacement LDP preparation process. This will be facilitated through the provision of affordable housing, on-site education provision, public open space and active travel provision.</p>
679	Conservation and green spaces are vital	Conservation and green spaces are vital	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment</p>

			<p>summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Strategy also recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy DNP10 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Development Management Policy DNP11 (See Page 213) ensures that development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting.</p>
694	no	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
695	None of this applies to Porthcawl	None of this applies to Porthcawl	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the</p>

			<p>Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Strategy also recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy DNP10 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Development Management Policy DNP11 (See Page 213) ensures that development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting.</p>
701	<p>how on earth does more building of houses enhance and promote tourism? our beautiful old buildings have already been replaced by ugly flats i.e what we call the bottle bank on the seafront</p>	<p>How does more building of houses enhance and promote tourism</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl's role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led</p>



			<p>growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper. The Land-Use Framework details and sets out appropriate design guidance for the proposed regeneration.</p> <p>In terms of Salt Lake, development will include a new food store, residential (including affordable housing), supporting commercial uses and leisure. With regards to leisure, an area north of the harbour within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction. Furthermore, the comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere.</p> <p>Mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p> <p>Sandy Bay will accommodate public open space, residential, education provision and commercial. In terms of open space and recreation, it's acknowledged that such provision is considered important for health and well-being, therefore the development should aim for standards in excess of the minimum. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters.</p>
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702	How could BCBC give up the tenure of Kenfig nature reserve if this is deemed so important to the natural environment?	How could BCBC give up the tenure of Kenfig nature reserve if this is deemed so important to the natural environment	Comments noted. Such matters are beyond the scope of the LDP.
705	I support the aim to conserve and enhance the natural and historic environment and feel much could be done to enhance the Eastern prom to provide visitor facilities especially for children	Much could be done to enhance the Eastern prom to provide visitor facilities especially for children	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>The comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere. An area north of the marina within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction.</p> <p>In terms of open space and recreation, it's acknowledged that such provision is considered important for health and well-being, therefore the development should aim for standards in excess of the minimum. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
710	Yes, retain the natural environment as much as possible without sacrificing to housing.	Retain the natural environment as much as possible without sacrificing to housing	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.

			<p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
713	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
715	Any development is in keeping with the surroundings	Development should be in keeping with the surroundings	<p>Comments noted. Strategic Policy 3 and other relevant development management policies will ensure that development has full regard to the natural, historic and built environment.</p> <p>In terms allocated Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Such requirements also ensure design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features.</p>
718	At every site, I would like you the council to consider the planting of a community orchard. People visit say 'Merthyr Mawr and on the leaving the site - can pick some fresh	At every site, I would like you the council to consider the	Comments noted. Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements include supporting a range of opportunities including community-led food growing.

	apples or plums at the community orchard. What a feel good win! Go to Bryngarw, park calon lan, griffin park, ewenny priory, cefn cribwr, maesteg park or ogmore vale and where ever you go - you can pick fresh seasonal fruit. It says Bridgend cares and its easy.....	planting of a community orchard	
518	It is right the the natural environment is protected as part of theplans	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
726	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
766	The public toilets in John street should be fully renovated and restored	The public toilets in John street should be fully renovated and restored	Comments noted. Such matters are beyond the scope of the LDP, however, the plan provides the framework for such proposals to come forward subject to the relevant policies contained within the plan.
767	Build a leisure centre not housing. Look at aberavon for inspiration.	Build a leisure centre not housing	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl’s role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s</p>

			<p>deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>An area north of the marina within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction.</p>
772	<p>If this is so important why is the area of salt lake car park, right on the seafront being used for supermarket and housing? It's ridiculous. This area should be used to show off the location. Houses and supermarket should go inland</p>	<p>Concerns regarding location of food store and housing on Salt Lake</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl's role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy</p>

			<p>PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>In terms of the proposed foodstore, evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as ‘gateway buildings’ as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to “place-making”, taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p> <p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site.</p>
781	<p>Your plans and this statement are a contradiction. You cannot build over 1,000 houses of differing sizes etc., and sustain natural and historic beauty. The number of houses you are aspiring to build, is not conducive to happy and healthy communities.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated</p>

			<p>development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms allocated Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance. Such requirements also ensure design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features.</p>
791	I'm all for the council making out town look better I'm with BCBC	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
794	I do not think the plan follows the policies referenced above as per my previous comments around Porthcawl Seafront development.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes</li> </ul>

			<p>and schools;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul> <p>In terms of the built environment, Policy PLA1 will ensure that development provides a positive integration between the development and the historic core of the town by preserving and enhancing the character and setting of Porthcawl Conservation Areas and associated Grade II Listed Buildings.</p> <p>The Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that development of Porthcawl Waterfront with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
803	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
804	These goals should facilitate sustainable economic growth but not at detriment of the natural environment and for pure economic benefits to the council.	These goals should facilitate sustainable economic growth but not at detriment of the natural environment	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p>



			<p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
881	'Attract investment and promote tourism' - see earlier comments.	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
884	sounds good but when put into practice, based on past works, it does not bode well for the future	Sounds good but when put into practice, based on past works, it does not bode well for the future	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Strategy also recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy DNP10 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal</p>

			affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Development Management Policy DNP11 (See Page 213) ensures that development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting.
894	We do not need more houses. This will bring about more people and more vehicles. These people will cause problems with hospitals, surgery's which is already overstretched. It will impact on the environment which I hold very close to my heart such as disturbance of small animals and birds and their habitat along with the disturbance of the relic dunes. Sandy bay is a favourite place to go as i can use my scooter alongside walk my dog. It is safe and lots to see, peaceful and life enhancing. I am extremely concerned that the elderly and the young have not been considered when this space could be used to bring young and elderly together to enjoy be it participating in activities or observing.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of allocated Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements, all of which seek to contribute and address the identified key issues and drivers identified through the Replacement LDP preparation process. This will be facilitated through the provision of affordable housing, on-site education provision, public open space and active travel provision.</p>

			<p>In terms of GP surgeries the Council has been engaging with Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board from the outset of the Replacement LDP process. Early meetings were held to ensure the level and spatial distribution of growth proposed was clarified to help facilitate alignment of service provision. As part of Stage 3 of the Candidate Site Assessment, the health board amongst other consultation bodies were invited to provide comments in respect of those sites identified as suitable for future development and possible allocation in the Deposit LDP. Whilst the Council cannot ultimately control provision of primary healthcare services, close working relationships will continue and be maintained with Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. This will be key to service provision planning as site allocations within the Deposit Plan progress.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>The comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere. An area north of the marina within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction.</p> <p>In terms of open space and recreation, it's acknowledged that such provision is considered important for health and well-being, therefore the development should aim for standards in excess of the minimum. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
928	Oh yeah a load of ugly brick houses on what is now a natural haven for birds and plant life great way to support the environment!!	Concerns regarding proposed housing	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required</p>

			to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.
939	Please do not do anything to destroy the look of Porthcawl s beautiful beaches and commons. The wildlife is diverse and will continue to be so if left alone.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul>
972	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
978	Yes. Destruction should not take place to give way to housing or commercial developments	Destruction should not take place to give way to housing or commercial developments	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl,</p>

			<p>Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
457	<p>One of the areas I believe is earmarked for housing is Sandy Bay, Porthcawl. The remaining sand dunes are surely protected and the surrounding hedgerows which are full of wildlife should not be destroyed in my opinion.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront / environment</p>	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul>
982	<p>Again how are the plans going to enhance Porthcawl? Tidy up the seafront by all means. Continue with cafes and bars which is what a seaside town should have. But keep the development to support Porthcawl as an upmarket tourist attraction</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl’s role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p>

			<p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>Mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p> <p>The comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere. An area north of the marina within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction.</p> <p>In terms of open space and recreation, it's acknowledged that such provision is considered important for health and well-being, therefore the development should aim for standards in excess of the minimum. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
985	Reduction in traffic, speed and noise.	Reduction in traffic, speed and noise	<p>Comments noted. The Replacement LDP identifies and differentiates between the sustainability of places by defining a settlement hierarchy. This has been informed by the conclusions of the Bridgend County Borough Settlement Assessment (2019, updated in 2021) (See Appendix 19), which reflects Bridgend's historical and functional settlement pattern and seeks to achieve more sustainable places in a number of ways. The scale and type of growth apportioned to settlements is dependent upon their individual roles, functions and positions within the settlement hierarchy. This is to ensure the Replacement LDP and spatial strategy (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3: Spatial Strategy Options) directs the majority of growth towards areas that already benefit from good infrastructure including transport networks, services and facilities, or where additional capacity can be provided.</p> <p>Whilst developments should be encouraged in locations which reduce the need to travel and promote the use of sustainable transport, the Council recognises that any development growth will likely result in greater travel demand, and that increased traffic levels and congestion is likely to occur if appropriate mitigating transport measures and infrastructure are not delivered. Therefore a Strategic Transport Assessment (See Appendix 36) has been undertaken to consider the impact of plan proposals and help guide and inform the process of delivering land allocations by means of modelling and quantifying the transport impact of these proposals. The technical notes accompanying this assessment demonstrate that the proposed level of development detailed within the LDP can be accommodated within the BCBC Highway Network with suitable mitigation.</p>

			<p>Furthermore Strategic Policy 5: Sustainable Transport and Accessibility will ensure that development must be located and designed in a way that minimises the need to travel, reduces dependency on the private car and enables sustainable access to employment, education, local services and community facilities. Development will be required to deliver, or contribute towards the provision of, active travel scheme, public transport measures, road infrastructure, and other transport measures, in accordance with the Bridgend Local Transport Plan and the Bridgend Integrated Network Plan (See Appendix 29).</p> <p>Strategic site allocations identified by policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements include pursuing transit-orientated development that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport use, whilst reducing private motor vehicle dependency. Well-designed, safe walking and cycling routes must be incorporated throughout the site to foster community orientated, healthy walkable neighbourhoods.</p>
989	Promoting tourism by building a supermarket on a key waterfront location is not keeping in line with the environment and its aesthetics.	Concerns regarding proposed food store on Salt Lake	<p>Comments noted. Evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as ‘gateway buildings’ as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to “place-making”, taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p> <p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site. Subject to a planning application, the foodstore will be constructed alongside all-new residential, leisure, retail development at Salt Lake as well as new areas of green open space, bus terminus, active travel facilities and more.</p>
993	Very often the council doesn't think things through and the future look of buildings and surrounding areas and impacts of their actions and developments has left our towns looking unkempt and sad	Lack of thought regarding the future look of buildings and surrounding areas and impacts of developments	<p>Comments noted. Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p>



			<p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Strategy also recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy DNP10 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Development Management Policy DNP11 (See Page 213) ensures that development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting.</p>
1003	Yes.	No proposed changes	Limited information has been provided in order to offer a response.
1008	Continuing to protect our historic and natural environments are very important, we must continue to conserve these so that we can still connect with our past. The natural environment needs to be protected and not built on.	The natural environment needs to be protected and not built on	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required</p>

			<p>to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Strategy also recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy DNP10 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Development Management Policy DNP11 (See Page 213) ensures that development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting.</p>
101 1	BCBC is paying lip service to natural and built environment policies. Their only policy is build, build, build!	Concerns regarding proposed housing and impact upon natural and built environment	<p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Strategy also recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy DNP10 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Development</p>

			Management Policy DNP11 (See Page 213) ensures that development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting.
101 4	to promote tourism there is a need to include the infrastructure to accommodate this industry, not to encourage people to travel elsewhere, with better facilities	Porthcawl requires infrastructure to promote tourism	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl’s role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p>

			<p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>In terms of Salt Lake, development will include a new food store, residential (including affordable housing), supporting commercial uses and leisure. With regards to leisure, an area north of the harbour within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction. Furthermore, the comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere.</p> <p>Mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p> <p>Sandy Bay will accommodate public open space, residential, education provision and commercial. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, there are plans for creating new facilities at Cosy Corner, including community facilities whilst also creating employment opportunities. The plans for Cosy Corner include an all-new stone and glass-clad building which will feature new premises suitable for retail and start-up enterprises. The council also wants to create new meeting space for community use, a parade square for the Sea Cadets and an office for the harbour master as well as changing facilities for users of the nearby marina. If funding allows, plans are in place that will further enhance the scheme with new landscaping, public seating, a children's play area and a canopy structure capable of providing comfortable outdoor shelter from rain and the sun.</p> <p>Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and supporting development management policies will promote tourism development. The LDP will also provide the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County including Porthcawl, thereby contributing to the Aims and Priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-2022) (See Appendix 30).</p>
104 4	The diversity of landscape - promote the county as a tourist location - please do not build a supermarket and accommodation in a place of such beauty, use the area to promote a healthier lifestyle and facilitate leisure facilities and enhance our wonderful coastline!	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>In terms of the proposed foodstore, evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main</p>

			<p>food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as ‘gateway buildings’ as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to “place-making”, taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p> <p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site.</p> <p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>Mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p> <p>The comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere. An area north of the marina within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction.</p> <p>In terms of open space and recreation, it’s acknowledged that such provision is considered important for health and well-being, therefore the development should aim for standards in excess of the minimum. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and supporting development management policies will promote tourism development. The LDP will also provide the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County including Porthcawl, thereby contributing to the Aims and Priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-2022) (See Appendix 30).</p>
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<p>105 4</p>	<p>Building housing and retail on an open leisure site right on the sea front is ludicrous.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl’s role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>In terms of the proposed foodstore, evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p>
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1056	Building houses on a waterfront location will most definitely NOT conserve or enhance the seascape at Porthcawl	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront / seascape impact	<p>Comments noted. The Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p>
1058	You will be building right by the coast. I would not contemplate buying a house/flat without the confirmation of protection from erosion from the sea.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront / risk of coastal erosion	<p>Comments noted. The majority of the site is susceptible to tidal flooding and requires coastal protection works in order to be considered suitable for residential development. Welsh Government Coastal Risk Management Programme funding has been secured for major flood defence works, which will enable the site to be delivered comprehensively. The site will be developed in phases, linked to the phasing for the coastal defences. The west of the site (incorporating parts of the existing Salt Lake Car Park) is not entirely reliant upon the delivery of improved sea defences and is therefore expected to come forward initially. Later development phases along the Eastern Promenade (rear of Sandy Bay) rely on coastal defences and will therefore be delivered in succession to coincide with completion of the flood defence works.</p> <p>A terraced revetment across the Coney Beach frontage, ending to the west of Mackworth Road represents the preferred option for the regeneration area. Such a revetment will provide flood and erosion protection for the development area whilst also allowing for improved connectivity between the frontage and the adjoining beach.</p>
1062	Development of Sandy bay and Salt Lake has to be carefully balanced - don;t over deveop it, think about what makes it unique and celebrate that natural heritage. Similarly the most iconic building in Porthcawl is The Pavilion - it is regionally significant both in terms of its cultural offer and its heritage - invest in it to ensure its maximising its potential	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront / invest in the Pavilion	<p>Comments noted. The Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p> <p>Whilst it is beyond the scope of the LDP to invest in the Pavilion, Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and supporting development management policies will promote tourism development. The LDP will also provide the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County including Porthcawl, thereby contributing to the Aims and Priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-2022) (See Appendix 30).</p>

475	<p>Don't spoil Merthyr Mawr, by building developments too close to the surrounding area. Leave a space between Laleston and Pen y Fai, and don't lose the ancient by-way at Laleston or the circus field.</p>	<p>Don't spoil Merthyr Mawr. Leave a space between Laleston and Penyfai. Don't lose the ancient by-way at Laleston or the circus field</p>	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA2 – Page 67). Such requirements will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments will also be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>With regards to landscape matters, a Landscape Character Assessment for Bridgend County Borough was prepared by LUC and published in 2013. The document provides guidance on landscape character and, following the adoption of the Local Development Plan, supplements the Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Assessment categorises undeveloped land into 15 Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with the site in question being located within the “Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline” which runs north-eastwards up from the coast to the southwestern fringe of Bridgend. The Assessment emphasises that the majority of the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline LCA falls within the Merthyr Mawr Special Landscape Area, recognising designations such as Merthyr Mawr Warren SAC, SSSI and NNR, Newton Fault RIGS, several Scheduled Monuments, Merthyr Mawr village Conservation Area and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Merthyr Mawr House. Much of the landscape is designated as of Outstanding Historic Importance and all of the coastal area lies within the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. The Assessment also identifies key landscape sensitivities to development-led to change, stressing the importance of protecting the nationally important archaeological and cultural heritage of the landscape as an integral part of the wider Landscape of Outstanding Historic Importance, including prehistoric and medieval remains, the dunes’ ancient buried archaeology and the Grade II* Merthyr Mawr Estate. The Assessment recommends implementing management strategies for their continued survival and visibility in the landscape, including through appropriate land management practices and recreation management. As such, the importance of this landscape, and the need for landscape mitigation measures for any local development proposal, is clearly recognised within the Replacement LDP’s evidence base and this will be further emphasised within the supporting text to PLA2(2) for completeness.</p> <p>In particular, the southern boundary of the Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) proposed allocation is important as it lies adjacent to a historic landscape as identified by the LCA. The Replacement LDP will seek to protect and conserve this landscape’s character and features by appropriate development mitigation measures. Policy PLA2 will ensure the design and layout of the site has regard to the surrounding landscape, minimising visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures that provide links with the existing landscape and access features. Appropriate landscaping treatments must be utilised along the southern fringes of the site in order to minimise visual impacts on adjacent uses.</p> <p>There will, undoubtedly, be an element of landscape change, although, as aforementioned, the existing permissions (P/08/1114/OUT, P/14/354/RES, P/14/823/RES and P/14/824/RES refer) on the site are considered extant. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement submitted alongside the 2008 outline application for the sports village at Island Farm. The LVIA evaluated the significance of landscape and visual impacts by assessing the sensitivity of the existing baseline landscape and visual resources of the application site and wider area and the magnitude of the change that would occur to the site and surroundings during the various phases of the development. The LVIA was prepared on the basis of proposals for a sports village which included buildings of close to 20m in height as well as, in the cases of the proposed stadia elements, a high level of massing. The LVIA concluded that “while there will be permanent residual views of buildings, these will be predominantly negligible, minor or moderate significance following the implementation of the comprehensive mitigation measures at the end of the 15 year assessment period. Views are a subjective matter and have been assessed as being adverse because of the scale of change in the appearance of an undeveloped landscape. It is anticipated that the majority of receptors will embrace these community led proposals and be stimulated by the quality and appearance of this development. The loss</p>
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			<p>of landscape features will be significantly compensated by the scale of proposed planting and through improved landscape management, will give rise to beneficial landscape and ecology effects in the medium and long term future". A series of mitigation measures were recommended. Broadly, the same means of mitigation are proposed as part of the newly proposed development and will include strong boundary planting, the creation of an undulating roofscape, the use of muted recessive colours, the use of horizontal and vertical bands of colour and texture, and using cut and fill techniques to reduce perceived scale and mass of buildings. It should also be noted that the proposed mixed-use development at Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) will result in significantly reduced building heights and a reduced feeling of massing when compared to the previously permitted sports village scheme.</p> <p>The site promoter has equally considered the landscape effects in addition to mitigation measures. The site is not subject to any local or national, statutory or non-statutory landscape designations, albeit there are listed buildings and TPOs on the edge of the site (neither are directly affected by the proposed development). LANDMAP analysis reflects that the sites are not subject to any designations. Whilst scoring as "high" and "outstanding" against certain criteria, it also performs as "medium" and "low" for other criteria and overall the level of sensitivity is comparable to similar parcels of land on the urban fringe of Bridgend. Further, the development of the site is not considered to undermine any of the six landscape sensitivities that are identified as typifying the Merthyr Mawr Farmland, Warren and Coastline Landscape Character Area. A detailed, updated LVIA will be required to inform and accompany further masterplanning work (as part of a future planning application). This more detailed assessment will include finer details relating to roofscapes and landscaping.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71). Such requirements include incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way and realigned Public Right of Way. The site is 36.86 hectares in size and leaves significant space between the settlements of Laleston and Pen y Fai.</p>
1099	The LDP does not support any of the above statements, in fact the planned changes to Porthcawl is in total opposition to the natural and built policies	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront / natural environment	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the</p>

			<p>Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl's role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul>
111 4	Building on green spaces will destroy much of the natural environment e.g. the Circus field in Laleston	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered

		<p>Bridgend / natural environment</p>	<p>how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>In relation to Land West of Bridgend (Policy PLA3) and the natural environment, an ecological desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey has been undertaken by EDP. The desk study has noted that within the Study Site's zone of influence there are a number of statutorily and non-statutory designated sites present, most notably Laleston Meadows SINC which overlaps with the site itself.</p> <p>Given the combination of designated sites, it is concluded that any future planning submission will need to consider the potential for direct and indirect impacts to arise upon qualifying features, including the Laleston Meadows SINC. However, it is inherent within the emerging masterplan that the Laleston Meadows SINC and its associated designated features will be retained. Furthermore, such retained features will be further</p>
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			<p>protected from potential harm, damage and disturbance through the sensitive design of built development away from SINC boundaries and inclusion of suitable buffers.</p> <p>The desk study confirms that the inclusion of Laleston Meadows SINC within the Study's Site boundary will provide substantial potential for a balanced provision of areas of informal public open space and wildlife zones. When linked with proposed POS and play areas across the developable site this will provide a significant benefit to both visual and recreational amenity, conservation and biodiversity enhancement. In respect of the latter, the SINC provides a potential space to accommodate ecological mitigation and biodiversity enhancements and thus offset ecological impacts that may arise during the development of adjacent land.</p> <p>An Extended Phase 1 survey was undertaken in February 2020, supplemented by further roosting bat works in March 2020. The Phase 1 survey concluded that the site is dominated by agriculturally improved grassland of limited botanical interest and thus of low inherent ecological value. Habitats of greatest ecological importance include the native hedgerows delineating the northern boundary and internal field boundaries in addition to woodland habitat and marshy grassland associated with Laleston Meadows SINC. The roosting bats surveys identified several trees with low to high potential to support a bat roost whilst onsite ponds have been considered for their potential to support great crested newt.</p> <p>The results of the desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey have influenced the masterplan which has sought to locate development across those habitats of predominantly limited ecological value whilst retaining boundary habitats as far as possible. Where retained, such features have been accommodated within proposed informal green space and sustainable transport links, which ultimately enhances connectivity throughout the Site and contributes to the wider green infrastructure resource.</p> <p>Where avoidance is not possible, however, and will result in the loss of internal field boundaries (albeit predominantly species-poor or defunct), the site is considered to be of sufficient size and extent to enable future development proposals to flexibly avoid and/or mitigate for any significant ecological constraints and compensate where necessary. This will be in addition to the sensitive positioning of built development away from retained boundary features to minimise damage.</p> <p>The report also highlights further detailed habitat and species surveys which are recommended to inform a planning application and ensure proposed mitigation is appropriate and proportional. These include a Dormouse survey, which was raised in comments received from NRW. Policy PLA3 will require the development to retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland) and Laleston Meadows SINC, which includes the green space bordering the northern and north-western boundaries of the site. PLA3 will also require the developer to submit and agree ecological management plans including proposals for mitigation, enhancement and maintenance for retained habitats and protected species (including for bats and dormouse) and provide appropriate compensatory and replacement habitat.</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will require development to incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way. Additionally, PLA3 requires 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space across the site comprising seven key areas of formal open space (including 0.5ha of equipped play provision), informal spaces and linkages, green streets, and explore the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland.</p>
111 5	Conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment is therefore a key function of the Replacement LDP. Appropriate development will need to	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1:	Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not

	<p>conserve and enhance valued countryside, landscapes, seascapes and significant geological sites. The Deposit Replacement LDP also seeks to minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide, where possible, net gains in biodiversity whilst protecting or enhancing green infrastructure provision in recognition of its wide ranging benefits. What you have planned for Porthcawl is none of what you have quoted above.</p>	<p>Porthcawl Waterfront / natural environment</p>	<p>have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>The Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul>
<p>112 5</p>	<p>Supermarket on salt lake will impact wildlife habitats build as high as you like on the fun fair with no impact on anyone Hotels apartments abd restaurants would serve as a alternative to salt lake</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront / natural environment</p>	<p>Comments noted. A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues.</p> <p>In terms of the proposed land uses on Salt Lake, development will include a new food store, residential (including affordable housing), supporting commercial uses and leisure. With regards to leisure, an area north of the marina within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction. Furthermore, the comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere.</p>

			<p>The Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p>
1128	<p>We should continue to invest in these areas the council should also look to build and support community/voluntary groups to assist the council in its plans for future development.</p>	<p>The council should look to build and support community/voluntary groups to assist the council in its plans for future development</p>	<p>Comments noted. Such matters are beyond the scope of the LDP.</p>
1141	<p>If parking space is reduced in Porthcawl town centre, there will likely be increased congestion in residential areas and on the remaining open spaces, as was the case with parking on Locks Common in the recent spell of hot weather; this is clearly contradictory to SOBJ4, particularly with regard to the wildlife that inhabits the grassland. Past planning decisions for Porthcawl town have made me very sceptical of the BCBC planning department. Take for example the hideous "Bottle Bank" which replaced the Esplanade Hotel, and the awful and incongruous extension to "The Rest". I am concerned that there will be an influx of flat roofed apartment blocks that will completely change the character of the town. The policing of tree felling and wildlife conservation needs to be more rigorous as has been recently highlighted by the felling of trees on the old St John's School site and the old funeral home in South Road, as well as the burning of a building containing a colony of bats. Construction should not be at the expense of protecting the environment. In terms of Future Generations the environment is paramount.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront</p>	<p>Comments noted. Its acknowledged that a sound and robust Parking Strategy will be critical to the success of the regeneration of Porthcawl Waterfront. That strategy will be set in the context of Planning Policy Wales 11 (2021), which states that a design-led approach to the provision of car parking should be taken, which ensures an appropriate level of car parking is integrated in a way which does not dominate the development. It will also recognise that there are a limited number of peak days each year when demand is particularly high and that it would be unrealistic to provide for this demand within the core of the development. To do so would sterilise valuable development land to provide parking that might only be needed on approximately 10 days each year.</p> <p>Nevertheless, car parking as part of the plans for the proposed regeneration area will continue to be provided at the Hillsboro car park to the west of the regeneration area. Some visitor parking could be introduced as part of the enhancement of the Eastern Promenade. Additionally, the proposed regeneration will open up a number of opportunities for improving public transport. A new 'bus terminus' may also be located along the Portway where visitors and locals could arrive at, and depart from the regeneration site and town centre.</p> <p>Policing of tree felling and wildlife conservation is beyond the scope of LDP. However, The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p>

			<p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
116 1	This is all we have please do not touch our 'natural environment'	Please do not touch our natural environment	<p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
125 5	Porthcawl regeneration should not just be focussed on housing but enhancing the natural coastal beauty	Porthcawl regeneration should not just be focussed on housing, but enhancing the natural coastal beauty	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate 3.51 hectares of public open space comprising of Local Areas for Play (LAPs), Local Equipped Areas for Play (LEAPs) and Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs) within these areas of open space. It is envisaged that significant public spaces will be created within the Sandy Bay element of the development, predominately within the Griffin Park Area (incorporating and extending the existing Griffin Park). This extension of Griffin Park could be utilised for events and activities, potentially including the fair. A significant expansion of Griffin Park, to provide amenities for the</p>

			<p>residential area, is key to the development framework. The expanded Griffin Park, in turn, leads to the Relic Dunes on the site's south-eastern edge. A large linear tapered public open space/residential square is proposed to spring from the Relic Dunes and provide a "grand" setting for the residential development around the space. Elsewhere on Sandy Bay, smaller "pocket" open spaces will be provided. LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs will also be incorporated within these areas of open space. However, exact locations of open space will be determined at the formal planning application stage. The seafront will also be clearly defined by the introduction of a potential recreational route along Sandy Bay that links seamlessly with the Eastern Promenade.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul> <p>The Council have also commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p>
126 3	Agree	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
126 6	Nothing built above 2 stories high	Nothing built above 2 storeys high in Porthcawl	Comments noted. The development should incorporate buildings between 2 to 3 storeys, rising to 4 storeys for keynote buildings. It is anticipated that the highest buildings would be located adjacent to the seafront in order to make the most of attractive views and provide a sense of enclosure along the Eastern Promenade and potential new Recreational Route. The Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses



			being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.
1268	<p>If you wanted to conserve the natural and historic environment you would not have granted permission for all the houses to be built on the former ST. John's school site. The damage to the environment to those living near the site is bad enough but the damage to the area, the destruction of so many trees/ animals habitat. It won't ever come back. You can't reverse it. And so I don't believe that your plans will consider historic environment and the impact. What investment?? What evidence do you have for all the claims of investment? What about investment in the future of the town? The future generations. If we (the residents) don't try to stop this, wilful destruction, our children won't forgive us. Again, most people don't know about this survey. And it's not the best means to get feedback. We deserve to have a say in the future of our town, our home, our lives.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl's role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>In terms of the environment, a Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not</p>

			<p>unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>Furthermore, Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul> <p>In terms of the historic environment, Policy PLA1 will ensure that development provides a positive integration between the development and the historic core of the town by preserving and enhancing the character and setting of Porthcawl Conservation Areas and associated Grade II Listed Buildings.</p> <p>In terms of the consultation, a number of methods were used to ensure efficient and effective consultation and participation, in accordance with the CIS. These methods included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Legal Notice was placed within the Glamorgan Gazette on 3rd June 2021</li> <li>• The package of consultation documents were been made available online via Bridgend County Borough Council's Website (<a href="http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/ldpconsultation">www.bridgend.gov.uk/ldpconsultation</a>). Respondents were able to complete an electronic survey online to make a formal representation.</li> <li>• Printed reference copies were placed within public facing Council buildings, including every library in the County Borough (fixed and mobile), subject to social distancing guidelines. The reference copies were also available to view at the Council's Civic Offices in Angel Street, Bridgend, although by appointment only as the offices had not re-opened to the public due to the pandemic. Hard copies of the survey form were also been made available at these locations for members of the public to complete by hand.</li> <li>• Dissemination of hard copies of information to individuals. Members of the public were able request a copy of the survey by post to complete by hand (free of charge). There was a £25 charge for a hard copy of the whole Deposit Plan to cover printing and postage costs for such a large document.</li> <li>• Every individual and organisation on the LDP Consultation Database was notified by letter or email (depending on their preference) to inform them of the availability of the Deposit Consultation. Approximately 500 representors were contacted, provided with details of how to access the package of</li> </ul>
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1269	Why is the quarry area behind Cefn Cribwr not developed as a recreation area? Garw valley lakes are becoming overgrown and need dredging to remain attractive for visitors and locals.	Why is the quarry area behind Cefn Cribwr not developed as a recreation area	Comments noted. The quarry is currently in private ownership. Such suggestions are beyond the scope of the LDP.
1498	Please retain and enhance our essential green spaces. Do not build on wildlife habitats in Sandy Bay (hares, larks, bumble bees, lizards, rare flowers) which are vulnerable. And do not allow the town to begin to sprawl over into zig zag lane. Greenspaces are more important than 'progress and growth' as we depend on them for our existence whether you like it or not.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate 3.51 hectares of public open space comprising of Local Areas for Play (LAPs), Local Equipped Areas for Play (LEAPs) and Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs) within these areas of open space. It is envisaged that significant public spaces will be created within the Sandy Bay element of the development, predominately within the Griffin Park Area (incorporating and extending the existing Griffin Park). This extension of Griffin Park could be utilised for events and activities, potentially including the fair. A significant expansion of Griffin Park, to provide amenities for the residential area, is key to the development framework. The expanded Griffin Park, in turn, leads to the Relic Dunes on the site's south-eastern edge. A large linear tapered public open space/residential square is proposed to spring from the Relic Dunes and provide a “grand” setting for the residential development around the space. Elsewhere on Sandy Bay, smaller “pocket” open spaces will be provided. LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs will also be incorporated within these areas of open space. However, exact locations of open space will be determined at the formal planning application stage. The seafront will also be clearly defined by the introduction of a potential recreational route along Sandy Bay that links seamlessly with the Eastern Promenade.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul> <p>In terms of potential sprawl, Porthcawl is defined as an area of growth – but which can predominately be served within the existing settlement boundary. A more flexible approach to defining the settlement boundary around this settlement would mean the inclusion of greenfield sites that could be ‘cherry-picked’ by developers and undermine the delivery of the brownfield regeneration site that is crucial for the success of the plan (See Appendix 38 - Settlement Boundary Review).</p>
1499	Just because a site is identified as being 'brownfield' doesn't mean that it is without value - it may be better than a greenfield site in terms of biodiversity.	Brownfield doesn't mean that it is without value - it may be better than a greenfield site in terms of biodiversity	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues. Ecological constraints will be mitigated by retaining and providing suitable buffers to habitats, particularly the relict dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, of which are a nationally protected habitat for which BCBC are obliged to protect and enhance.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 will also ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul>
150 1	Important to look to future needs for environmental standards & enhance and inform history etc.	Important to look to future needs for environmental standards & enhance and inform history	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance</p> <p>The Strategy also recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy DNP10 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Development Management Policy DNP11 (See Page 213) ensures that development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting.</p>
150 2	The more I read this document, the more it appears to have been written by a Donald Trump Clone. Adding 1,115 homes on a beautiful sea front will enhance the aesthetic appeal of the town? What planet are you living on? 'Promote tourism' by taking away at least 1,000 parking spaces (1 new home footprint). 'Provide cultural experience' I thought irony was dead. Have you actually read this document?? Please explain where & how the addition of 1115	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate</p>

<p>homes and a superstore will 'provide culture'? I understand the housing element is split between Salt Lake (324 units) &amp; Sandy Bay (900) that's 1224 units? can you please advise density ratios. Also, the school will be alongside Newton Primary. Are you aware of the reported underground fuel storage in that general area?</p>		<p>response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl's role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>In terms of the proposed foodstore, evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main</p>
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			<p>food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as ‘gateway buildings’ as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to “place-making”, taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p> <p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site.</p> <p>In terms of density, the design philosophy ensures that development will be higher (and therefore denser) closer to the seafront (particularly toward the west) with lower/less dense development toward the middle, northern and eastern peripheries of the site. The rationale for this is that the seaside frontages of the development are far more capable of accommodating taller structures. Densities of parcels of land on the seaside frontage are anticipated to be around 90 dwellings per hectare whereas those parcels of land further inland will be lower between 70-40 dwellings per hectare.</p> <p>The Council have also commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p> <p>In terms of ground conditions, further investigation will take place at the detailed planning application stage.</p>
150 6	Trees are important in any landscape and should be preserved at all costs. Build around trees not through them.	Trees are important in any landscape and should be preserved at all costs	<p>Comments noted. In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs.</p> <p>Furthermore, Development Management Policy DNP7: Trees, Hedgerows and Development will ensure that development that would not adversely affect trees, ‘special trees’, woodlands and hedgerows of public amenity or natural/cultural heritage value, or that provide important ecosystem services, will not normally be permitted.</p>
150 8	You are not going to attract business to Porthcawl when the town is inaccessible due to gridlocked roads and no parking facilities which will only be aggravated by building more houses. Pyle park and ride will only help the people that already have	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p>

	<p>transport anyway. You need to deal with the longstanding problems which neglect has caused and bring the town up to modern standards. There are no bus services to take people who work in town to and from work. Inadequate toilet facilities despite PT Councils heroic efforts. Professional planners served by people specialising in seaside resorts. Aberavon and Swansea ideas are great and really show that care and planning have been at the forefront of council thinking NOT money making for them.</p>		<p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>A Strategic Transport Assessment (See Appendix 36) has been undertaken to consider the impact of plan proposals and help guide and inform the process of delivering land allocations by means of modelling and quantifying the transport impact of these proposals. The technical notes accompanying this assessment demonstrate that the proposed level of development detailed within the LDP can be accommodated within the BCBC Highway Network with suitable mitigation.</p> <p>Policy PLA1 ensures that development of the site will require a new roundabout and link road to enable access to the Sandy Bay development parcels. Highway improvements will also be required to ensure that the principal point of vehicular access for a foodstore is off the Portway roundabout. Off-site highway improvements will also be required of which they must have regard to the requirements arising from the Transport Assessment and as identified in the Transport Measures Priority Schedule.</p> <p>In terms of car parking, it's acknowledged that a sound and robust parking strategy will be critical to the success of the regeneration. As part of the strategy, the site will accommodate a new multi storey car park on the existing Hillsboro car park enabling more ground floor space to be given over to public realm and development. Consideration should be given to alternative future uses as, overtime, the aspiration is that travel to Porthcawl Waterfront will be principally by public transport including park and ride schemes, greatly reducing the number of private vehicles requiring parking facilities. Consultations confirmed widespread support for the concept of a multi storey car park whilst recognising it will change the immediate outlook of properties on Hillsboro Place.</p> <p>Whilst it is beyond the scope of the LDP to provide/organise bus services, the authority has a strong desire to facilitate and actively encourage a modal shift towards increased use of public transport and the provision of a new bus terminus is integral to this as well as being part of the wider Future Wales Plan. As such, a new 'bus terminus' may also be located along the Portway of which will function as a boulevard where visitors and locals could arrive at, and depart from the regeneration site and town centre. The location of the bus terminus will enable access towards the waterfront and also the town centre. The Council has also undertaken feasibility work to explore proposals to deliver a bus terminus within the Porthcawl regeneration area. The bus terminus project is being brought forward in connection with Cardiff Capital Region Metro Plus project and is seen as a key element of the wider regeneration plans.</p>
438	<p>park rangers for parks to stop littering and a voice for re education for the community.</p>	<p>Park rangers for parks to stop littering and a voice for re education for the community</p>	<p>Comments noted. Such matters are beyond the scope of the LDP.</p>
441	<p>See previous comment.</p>	<p>No changes proposed</p>	<p>Comments noted.</p>
444	<p>Having travelers won't encourage people to visit the village and surrounding areas</p>	<p>Concerns regarding travellers</p>	<p>The Council has a statutory duty to carry out an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers under Part 3 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and to meet any identified need for additional pitches under section 56 of the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013. PPW also clarifies that "where a Gypsy and Traveller</p>



			Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) identifies an unmet need, a planning authority should allocate sufficient sites in their development plan to ensure that the identified pitch requirements for residential and/or transit use can be met” (para 4.2.35). When the GTAA was completed, the total estimated pitch provision needed for Gypsies and Travellers was 7 pitches up until 2033. Since then, one family has met their accommodation needs on an existing authorised site, leaving a remaining need for six pitches over the Plan period. This need stems from two families (i.e., three pitches per family). One of these families has recently received planning consent to intensify their existing site and meet their accommodation needs (planning application P/21/677/FUL refers). This leaves a remaining need for 3 pitches, which the Council considers can be appropriately accommodated by the original proposed allocation at Court Colman (SP7(1)), which is already in the family’s ownership. As such, the other proposed allocation at Bryncethin (SP7(2)) is no longer considered necessary and has been removed from the Replacement LDP. Refer to the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options Background Paper.
446	The new developments are counter productive to the environment, but I understand the obligation of having to increase housing stock.	Concerns regarding the environment and proposed housing developments	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend’s green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
447	Definitely. Often said but not often done	No changes proposed	Support noted.
448	As mentioned previously, the natural habitat will be destroyed by this project. The ecosystem of the area will be demolished.	Concerns regarding the environment and proposed housing developments	Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.

			<p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
396	See earlier comments	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
450	As stated funding available to remove pebble dash and other render.	Funding should be made available to remove pebble dash and other render	Comments noted. Such matters are beyond the scope of the LDP.
453	Yes. Why are so many properties planned for the green field between Laleston and bryntirion? Can't they go in brownfield sites instead? We will be joined with Cowbridge soon in the other direction. Those areas will never be returned back to green fields.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: West of Bridgend	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and</p>

			<p>deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>Additional brownfield long-term Regeneration Sites are also proposed for allocation (See Policy COM1(R1-R3)), located within parts of the County Borough that will benefit the most and also those that exhibit opportunities to deliver the greatest positive impacts of such growth. However, as referenced in Planning Policy Wales, the housing land supply will not be dependent on these additional long-term Regeneration Sites, as they require longer lead-in times, preparatory remediation-based enabling works and more detailed strategies to enable their delivery.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. Furthermore, the proposed allocation will be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p>
454	If our historic environment is so important why has the Council done nothing to preserve it.	Concerns regarding historic environment	<p>Comments noted. The LDP Strategy recognises that the County Borough has a rich and diverse built heritage and historic environment of which will be protected, conserved and where appropriate enhanced through the SP18: Conservation of the Historic Environment and associated development management policies DNP10: Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings &amp; DNP11: Conservation Areas.</p> <p>As part of the Candidate Site Assessment all Stage 2 sites were considered to ascertain whether they had the potential to cause an adverse impact upon the historic environment. To facilitate this assessment, the Council consulted with the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) early on in the process for their views on the likely range of impacts on the historic environment along with recommendations for mitigation. Any identified impacts were required to be mitigated by site promoters. Whilst further assessments will be required to be undertaken, the proposed allocations are not likely to impact upon the historic environment.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended</p>

			<p>changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p>
455	<p>Leave the area alone, with it's beauty and history, more housing will take all this away.</p>	<p>Objection to Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. Furthermore, the proposed allocation will be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p>

			<p>The Replacement LDP is accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>All Stage 2 Candidate Site Sites were considered to ascertain whether they had the potential to cause an adverse impact upon the historic environment. To facilitate this assessment, the Council consulted with the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) early on in the process for their views on the likely range of impacts on the historic environment along with recommendations for mitigation. Any identified impacts were required to be mitigated by site promoters.</p> <p>For Land West of Bridgend the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and important archaeological sites. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA3 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA3 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>Further to this, the site promoter commissioned EDP to undertake an Archaeological and Heritage Assessment. The assessment establishes that the site does not contain any World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens or historic landscapes, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in-situ and against development. In terms of archaeological remains, the site is identified as having moderate to high potential to contain remains from the medieval period, particularly in its northern extremity, which is adjacent to the site of the former Llangewydd Church. However, the land is a SINC and will not be developed. Policy PLA3 will require development to positively integrate with the remains of Llangewydd Church and Churchyard Scheduled Ancient Monument in a manner that preserves and enhances the remains as part of the wider site.</p>
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456	How will you be conserving nature etc., when you will be destroying so much.	Concerns regarding impacts upon natural environment	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>

459	How can yet another 850 houses enhance countryside valued landscape,its destroying the beautiful landscape	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. Furthermore, the proposed allocation will be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p> <p>The site promoter commissioned EDP to undertake a Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA). The purpose of the appraisal was firstly to inform the design evolution of the scheme which enabled an integrated approach to potential landscape and visual opportunities and constraints.</p>
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460	<p>We need to keep our green spaces so that these areas are able to produce oxygen from plants for us to breathe thereby helping the environment not hindering it with more concrete and the increase in carbon footprint from these new housing developments</p>	<p>Need to protect green spaces</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
461	<p>the natural and built environment should be regulated to maintain a stable environment. not developed to achieve a tick box exercise to meet annual development figures</p>	<p>Natural and built environment should not be developed</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p>

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			<p>is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p>
462	<p>This is SO important!!! How can building 850 houses and the infrastructure that will have to go with them on green sites be compatible with that aim?!!!</p>	<p>Concerns regarding proposed housing developments / infrastructure / environment</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>In terms of supporting infrastructure, an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) has been produced (See Appendix 37). The IDP provides a single schedule of all necessary infrastructure without which the development of</p>

			allocated sites for the anticipated quantum of proposed housing/employment uses within the plan period could not proceed. Such infrastructure includes transport, education, health, environmental management, utilities in addition to community and cultural infrastructure.
463	This would be a disgraceful use of this greenfield land. The recent pandemic had demonstrated how important such land is - for many it was the only place to escape their homes during the lockdowns. Please do not allow one of the last fee pieces of natural beauty around Laleston to be lost.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. Furthermore, the proposed allocation will be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p>

464	All of the above is important, but it feels like this proposed site is so huge these items will be lost.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. Furthermore, the proposed allocation will be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p>
466	If you keep your word it's a good thing. Sadly money is involved so once green light given the eyes are on the pounds	No changes proposed	Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the

			<p>countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend’s green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
467	Need to “conserve and enhance natural environment “ This policy is being ignored through the development proposed	Concerns regarding environment and proposed development	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p>

			<p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
468	Yes. The proposed gypsy traveller site in bryncethin. I think this is going to have a significant affect on my newly build house resulting in the deflation in the cost of our home that we have worked hard for.	Concerns relating to Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople allocation SP7(2) Land adjacent to Bryncethin Depot	<p>The Council has a statutory duty to carry out an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers under Part 3 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and to meet any identified need for additional pitches under section 56 of the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013. PPW also clarifies that “where a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) identifies an unmet need, a planning authority should allocate sufficient sites in their development plan to ensure that the identified pitch requirements for residential and/or transit use can be met” (para 4.2.35). When the GTAA was completed, the total estimated pitch provision needed for Gypsies and Travellers was 7 pitches up until 2033. Since then, one family has met their accommodation needs on an existing authorised site, leaving a remaining need for six pitches over the Plan period. This need stems from two families (i.e., three pitches per family). One of these families has recently received planning consent to intensify their existing site and meet their accommodation needs (planning application P/21/677/FUL refers). This leaves a remaining need for 3 pitches, which the Council considers can be appropriately accommodated by the original proposed allocation at Court Colman (SP7(1)), which is already in the family’s ownership. As such, the other proposed allocation at Bryncethin (SP7(2)) is no longer considered necessary and has been removed from the Replacement LDP. Refer to the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options Background Paper.</p>
469	The pandemic has prompted residents to explore the areas around Bridgend. Every effort must be made to conserve these areas	Environment should be conserved	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p>

			<p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
470	If this was true you wouldn't allow over 800 houses to built between Laston and bryntrion. Destroying the local environment.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix</p>



			<p>13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, an ecological desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey has been undertaken by EDP. The desk study has noted that within the Study Site's zone of influence there are a number of statutorily and non-statutory designated sites present, most notably Laleston Meadows SINC which overlaps with the site itself.</p> <p>Given the combination of designated sites, it is concluded that any future planning submission will need to consider the potential for direct and indirect impacts to arise upon qualifying features, including the Laleston Meadows SINC. However, it is inherent within the emerging masterplan that the Laleston Meadows SINC and its associated designated features will be retained. Furthermore, such retained features will be further protected from potential harm, damage and disturbance through the sensitive design of built development away from SINC boundaries and inclusion of suitable buffers.</p> <p>The desk study confirms that the inclusion of Laleston Meadows SINC within the Study's Site boundary will provide substantial potential for a balanced provision of areas of informal public open space and wildlife zones. When linked with proposed POS and play areas across the developable site this will provide a significant benefit to both visual and recreational amenity, conservation and biodiversity enhancement. In respect of the latter, the SINC provides a potential space to accommodate ecological mitigation and biodiversity enhancements and thus offset ecological impacts that may arise during the development of adjacent land.</p> <p>An Extended Phase 1 survey was undertaken in February 2020, supplemented by further roosting bat works in March 2020. The Phase 1 survey concluded that the site is dominated by agriculturally improved grassland of limited botanical interest and thus of low inherent ecological value. Habitats of greatest ecological importance include the native hedgerows delineating the northern boundary and internal field boundaries in addition to woodland habitat and marshy grassland associated with Laleston Meadows SINC. The roosting bats surveys identified several trees with low to high potential to support a bat roost whilst onsite ponds have been considered for their potential to support great crested newt.</p> <p>The results of the desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey have influenced the masterplan which has sought to locate development across those habitats of predominantly limited ecological value whilst retaining boundary habitats as far as possible. Where retained, such features have been accommodated within proposed informal green space and sustainable transport links, which ultimately enhances connectivity throughout the Site and contributes to the wider green infrastructure resource.</p> <p>Where avoidance is not possible, however, and will result in the loss of internal field boundaries (albeit predominantly species-poor or defunct), the site is considered to be of sufficient size and extent to enable future development proposals to flexibly avoid and/or mitigate for any significant ecological constraints and compensate where necessary. This will be in addition to the sensitive positioning of built development away from retained boundary features to minimise damage.</p> <p>The report also highlights further detailed habitat and species surveys which are recommended to inform a planning application and ensure proposed mitigation is appropriate and proportional. These include a Dormouse survey, which was raised in comments received from NRW. Policy PLA3 will require the development to retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including</p>
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			<p>Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland) and Laleston Meadows SINC, which includes the green space bordering the northern and north-western boundaries of the site. PLA3 will also require the developer to submit and agree ecological management plans including proposals for mitigation, enhancement and maintenance for retained habitats and protected species (including for bats and dormouse) and provide appropriate compensatory and replacement habitat.</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will require development to incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way. Additionally, PLA3 requires 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space across the site comprising seven key areas of formal open space (including 0.5ha of equipped play provision), informal spaces and linkages, green streets, and explore the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland.</p>
474	Using green area would impact wildlife	Using green area would impact wildlife	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance</p>
475	The last sentence should not be used to justify the proposed 850 homes on greenfield land between Bryntirion and Laleston village. Stick with your policies.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan</p>

			<p>requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. Furthermore, the proposed allocation will be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p>
476	By building where planned on the edge of bryntirion you are reserving absolutely nothing!!!	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the</p>

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			<p>latter, the SINC provides a potential space to accommodate ecological mitigation and biodiversity enhancements and thus offset ecological impacts that may arise during the development of adjacent land.</p> <p>An Extended Phase 1 survey was undertaken in February 2020, supplemented by further roosting bat works in March 2020. The Phase 1 survey concluded that the site is dominated by agriculturally improved grassland of limited botanical interest and thus of low inherent ecological value. Habitats of greatest ecological importance include the native hedgerows delineating the northern boundary and internal field boundaries in addition to woodland habitat and marshy grassland associated with Laleston Meadows SINC. The roosting bats surveys identified several trees with low to high potential to support a bat roost whilst onsite ponds have been considered for their potential to support great crested newt.</p> <p>The results of the desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey have influenced the masterplan which has sought to locate development across those habitats of predominantly limited ecological value whilst retaining boundary habitats as far as possible. Where retained, such features have been accommodated within proposed informal green space and sustainable transport links, which ultimately enhances connectivity throughout the Site and contributes to the wider green infrastructure resource.</p> <p>Where avoidance is not possible, however, and will result in the loss of internal field boundaries (albeit predominantly species-poor or defunct), the site is considered to be of sufficient size and extent to enable future development proposals to flexibly avoid and/or mitigate for any significant ecological constraints and compensate where necessary. This will be in addition to the sensitive positioning of built development away from retained boundary features to minimise damage.</p> <p>The report also highlights further detailed habitat and species surveys which are recommended to inform a planning application and ensure proposed mitigation is appropriate and proportional. These include a Dormouse survey, which was raised in comments received from NRW. Policy PLA3 will require the development to retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland) and Laleston Meadows SINC, which includes the green space bordering the northern and north-western boundaries of the site. PLA3 will also require the developer to submit and agree ecological management plans including proposals for mitigation, enhancement and maintenance for retained habitats and protected species (including for bats and dormouse) and provide appropriate compensatory and replacement habitat.</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will require development to incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way. Additionally, PLA3 requires 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space across the site comprising seven key areas of formal open space (including 0.5ha of equipped play provision), informal spaces and linkages, green streets, and explore the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland.</p>
477	The protection of greenfield sitespecially is of vital importance.	The protection of greenfield sites is of vital importance	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.

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481	Do not destroy what we have	Do not destroy what we have	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment</p>

			<p>summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The LDP Strategy also recognises that the County Borough has a rich and diverse built heritage and historic environment of which will be protected, conserved and where appropriate enhanced through the SP18: Conservation of the Historic Environment and associated development management policies DNP10: Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings &amp; DNP11: Conservation Areas.</p>
482	<p>Prioritising brown-field development and minimal green-field development would support this policy</p>	<p>Prioritising brown-field development and minimal green-field development would support this policy</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p>

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485	<p>We have very few natural areas left around Bryntirion and Laleston. It has been eaten up by development continually over the last 25 years. The field in Laleston is one that is used and loved by the community. What about all the horrendously ugly and dangerous phone masts that have sprung up all around the area during lockdown, done o</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables</p>



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489	<p>Leave what we already have people walk and cycle everyday there. We dont need natural built environments.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend</p>	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix</p>

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493	brownfield sites have to be used before any others	Brownfield sites should be prioritised	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s</p>

			<p>deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>Additional long-term brownfield Regeneration Sites are also proposed for allocation (See Policy COM1(R1-R3)), located within parts of the County Borough that will benefit the most and also those that exhibit opportunities to deliver the greatest positive impacts of such growth. However, as referenced in Planning Policy Wales, the housing land supply will not be dependent on these additional long-term Regeneration Sites, as they require longer lead-in times, preparatory remediation-based enabling works and more detailed strategies to enable their delivery.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
494	It is important to retain the history of our community	It is important to retain the history of our community	<p>The LDP Strategy recognises that the County Borough has a rich and diverse built heritage and historic environment of which will be protected, conserved and where appropriate enhanced through the SP18: Conservation of the Historic Environment and associated development management policies DNP10: Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings &amp; DNP11: Conservation Areas.</p> <p>As part of the Candidate Site Assessment all Stage 2 sites were considered to ascertain whether they had the potential to cause an adverse impact upon the historic environment. To facilitate this assessment, the Council consulted with the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) early on in the process for their views on the likely range of impacts on the historic environment along with recommendations for mitigation. Any identified impacts were required to be mitigated by site promoters. Whilst further assessments will be required to be undertaken, the proposed allocations are not likely to impact upon the historic environment.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p>

495	refund the Visitor Centre at Kenfig nature reserve - it has become a disgrace to the environment	Concerns regarding Kenfig Nature Reserve	Comments noted. Such matters are beyond the scope of the LDP. Kenfig National Nature Reserve is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SP17), Local Nature Reserve (DNP5) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (DNP4). Strategic Policy 17: Conservation and Enhancement of the Natural Environment and supporting development management policies will ensure that any future development proposal will not be permitted where they will have an adverse impact.
496	Introduce green spaces around the buildings to encourage wildlife corridors	Introduce green spaces around the buildings to encourage wildlife corridors	<p>Comments noted. The Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>It's acknowledged that green infrastructure can provide important refuges for wildlife. It can also improve connectivity between existing areas of nature, reducing habitat fragmentation and loss and increasing ecological resilience. Linear green infrastructure features have been shown to benefit the movement of some UK species. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
499	This is probably the most ironic aspect. In what way does an Aldi on the coastline promote the natural beauty of the area? In what way is it sympathising with the 'historic environment', which used to be a lake! In what way is it not simply a short sighted money making capitalist land grab?	Concerns regarding proposed foodstore	<p>Comments noted. Evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as 'gateway buildings' as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to "place-making", taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p> <p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site. Subject to a planning application, the foodstore will be constructed alongside</p>

			<p>all-new residential, leisure, retail development at Salt Lake as well as new areas of green open space, bus terminus, active travel facilities and more.</p> <p>As well as providing residents with greater choice and more flexibility, the development is intended to unlock funds that will be reinvested into local infrastructure improvements within Porthcawl and further stages of the regeneration plans.</p>
501	How does a supermarket fit into a seafront location naturally. It will be hideous .	Concerns regarding proposed foodstore	<p>Comments noted. Evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as ‘gateway buildings’ as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to “place-making”, taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p> <p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site. Subject to a planning application, the foodstore will be constructed alongside all-new residential, leisure, retail development at Salt Lake as well as new areas of green open space, bus terminus, active travel facilities and more.</p> <p>As well as providing residents with greater choice and more flexibility, the development is intended to unlock funds that will be reinvested into local infrastructure improvements within Porthcawl and further stages of the regeneration plans.</p>
502	Restriction on land use needs to be enforced to ensure the natural environment is protected along with land protected for recreational use.	Natural environment and recreational use should be protected	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach</p>

			<p>to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
503	The danger of encroachment into SSSI areas and Newton Burrows especially worrying. The possibility of boundary changes should be strongly resisted or small local green buffer areas will be lost.	Concerns regarding encroachment into SSSI areas and Newton Burrows	<p>Comments noted. As indicated by the Settlement Boundary Review (See Appendix 38), no change to the settlement boundary of Porthcawl is proposed. Porthcawl is defined as an area of growth – but which can predominately be served within the existing settlement boundary. A more flexible approach to defining settlement boundaries around this settlement would mean the inclusion of greenfield sites that could be 'cherry-picked' by developers and undermine the delivery of key regeneration sites within the settlements that are crucial for the success of the Plan.</p> <p>The Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Area site does not contain, or lie immediately adjacent to, any sites of nature conservation interest such as SACs or SSSIs. The site does contain a non-statutory site of nature conservation interest, Rhych Point SINC, designated for its unmodified semi-natural intertidal rock. The site will remain unaffected by the current proposed allocation.</p> <p>Furthermore Strategic Policy 17: Conservation and Enhancement of the Natural Environment will ensure that proposals within or affecting a SSSI must demonstrate how they safeguard, support or where possible enhance identified special features of the designation.</p>
506	How are you going to conserve habitats and wild life and maintain historic environment when a proposal for 850 houses on a historic drovers lane and wild habitat has been made?	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and</p>

			<p>deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71). The provision of new residential dwellings, including affordable units, will be incorporated alongside a new one and a half form entry Primary School, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities all set within distinct character areas.</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will ensure development positively integrate the remains of Llangewydd Church and Churchyard Scheduled Ancient Monument in a manner that preserves and enhances the remains as part of the wider site. Development must also incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way. Furthermore, the enclosed byway with the existing hedgerow corridor will be retained as the Y Berth cross link. In terms of active travel, Policy PLA3 requires on-site and off-site measures to provide good quality, attractive, legible, safe and accessible pedestrian and cycle linkages in accordance with Active Travel design. Improved linkages must be provided along the A473, with Bryntirion Comprehensive School and Bridgend Town Centre (including the bus station and train station). New connections will be provided to accord with the proposed routes within the Council's ATNM: INM-BR-52, INM-BR-55, INM-BR-57, INM-BR-58, INM-BR-127 and 2120.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a</p>
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			<p>general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>All Stage 2 Candidate Site Sites were considered to ascertain whether they had the potential to cause an adverse impact upon the historic environment. To facilitate this assessment, the Council consulted with the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) early on in the process for their views on the likely range of impacts on the historic environment along with recommendations for mitigation. Any identified impacts were required to be mitigated by site promoters.</p> <p>For Land West of Bridgend the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and important archaeological sites. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA3 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA3 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>Further to this, the site promoter commissioned EDP to undertake an Archaeological and Heritage Assessment. The assessment establishes that the site does not contain any World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens or historic landscapes, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in-situ and against development. In terms of archaeological remains, the site is identified as having moderate to high potential to contain remains from the medieval period, particularly in its northern extremity, which is adjacent to the site of the former Llangewydd Church. However, the land is a SINC and will not be developed. Policy PLA3 will require development to positively integrate with the remains of Llangewydd Church and Churchyard Scheduled Ancient Monument in a manner that preserves and enhances the remains as part of the wider site.</p> <p>While there is a small amount of evidence for late prehistoric and Roman activity in the surrounding 1km study area, the potential for archaeology of these periods within the site is deemed low. Post-medieval settlement was focused elsewhere in the locality and any archaeology of this period within the site is most likely to relate to agriculture. Overall, the baseline data indicate that the probability of significant archaeology being present is low. Any further archaeological investigation can reasonably be secured through an appropriately worded planning condition appended to a planning permission.</p> <p>Potential impacts upon the setting of historic assets in the locality have focused on the 1km study area. No significant effects arising from changes to setting have been identified for scheduled monuments, listed buildings and registered parks and gardens. In respect of the Laleston Conservation Area, there will also not be any significant changes to its visual setting. It is acknowledged that development in the southern part of the Site will remove a part of the agricultural landscape around Laleston which forms a buffer from Bryntirion to the east. However, agricultural land will remain on all sides around Laleston, which will retain its character as a discrete settlement, while landscaping measures associated with the development will mitigate any</p>
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			<p>impression of coalescence. This is assessed as an impact of a minor order, with the special interest of the conservation area being retained. Policy PLA3 will require development to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p> <p>In terms of biodiversity/ecology, an ecological desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey has been undertaken by EDP. The desk study has noted that within the Study Site's zone of influence there are a number of statutorily and non-statutory designated sites present, most notably Laleston Meadows SINC which overlaps with the site itself.</p> <p>Given the combination of designated sites, it is concluded that any future planning submission will need to consider the potential for direct and indirect impacts to arise upon qualifying features, including the Laleston Meadows SINC. However, it is inherent within the emerging masterplan that the Laleston Meadows SINC and its associated designated features will be retained. Furthermore, such retained features will be further protected from potential harm, damage and disturbance through the sensitive design of built development away from SINC boundaries and inclusion of suitable buffers.</p> <p>The desk study confirms that the inclusion of Laleston Meadows SINC within the Study's Site boundary will provide substantial potential for a balanced provision of areas of informal public open space and wildlife zones. When linked with proposed POS and play areas across the developable site this will provide a significant benefit to both visual and recreational amenity, conservation and biodiversity enhancement. In respect of the latter, the SINC provides a potential space to accommodate ecological mitigation and biodiversity enhancements and thus offset ecological impacts that may arise during the development of adjacent land.</p> <p>An Extended Phase 1 survey was undertaken in February 2020, supplemented by further roosting bat works in March 2020. The Phase 1 survey concluded that the site is dominated by agriculturally improved grassland of limited botanical interest and thus of low inherent ecological value. Habitats of greatest ecological importance include the native hedgerows delineating the northern boundary and internal field boundaries in addition to woodland habitat and marshy grassland associated with Laleston Meadows SINC. The roosting bats surveys identified several trees with low to high potential to support a bat roost whilst onsite ponds have been considered for their potential to support great crested newt.</p> <p>The results of the desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey have influenced the masterplan which has sought to locate development across those habitats of predominantly limited ecological value whilst retaining boundary habitats as far as possible. Where retained, such features have been accommodated within proposed informal green space and sustainable transport links, which ultimately enhances connectivity throughout the Site and contributes to the wider green infrastructure resource.</p> <p>Where avoidance is not possible, however, and will result in the loss of internal field boundaries (albeit predominantly species-poor or defunct), the site is considered to be of sufficient size and extent to enable future development proposals to flexibly avoid and/or mitigate for any significant ecological constraints and compensate where necessary. This will be in addition to the sensitive positioning of built development away from retained boundary features to minimise damage.</p> <p>The report also highlights further detailed habitat and species surveys which are recommended to inform a planning application and ensure proposed mitigation is appropriate and proportional. These include a Dormouse survey, which was raised in comments received from NRW. Policy PLA3 will require the development to retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland) and Laleston Meadows SINC, which includes the green space bordering the northern and north-western boundaries of the site. PLA3 will also require the developer to submit</p>
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			<p>and agree ecological management plans including proposals for mitigation, enhancement and maintenance for retained habitats and protected species (including for bats and dormouse) and provide appropriate compensatory and replacement habitat.</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will require development to incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way. Additionally, PLA3 requires 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space across the site comprising seven key areas of formal open space (including 0.5ha of equipped play provision), informal spaces and linkages, green streets, and explore the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland.</p>
507	<p>Sustainable travel needs to be carefully considered with cycle tracks between major centres, currently it feels unsafe to cycle out of porthcawl due to traffic speed. With increased residents planned, management of coastal areas and sand dunes is a priority</p>	<p>Sustainable travel needs to be considered in Porthcawl. Management of coastal areas and sund dunes is a priority</p>	<p>Comments noted. Please refer to Bridgend's Integrated Network Maps (INMs) (<a href="https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/roads-transport-and-parking/active-travel-routes/">https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/roads-transport-and-parking/active-travel-routes/</a>) of which details plans for a network of Active Travel routes and facilities over the next 15 years.</p> <p>As set out by Policy PLA1 (See Page 63), Porthcawl Waterfront details the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements to enable its implementation, in accordance with the Growth (See Appendix 42) and Spatial Strategy (See Appendix 43) identified within SP1 and allocation identified within SP2. One such requirement includes on-site and off-site measures to provide good quality, attractive, legible, safe and accessible pedestrian and cycle linkages in accordance with Active Travel design. Improved linkages must be provided along the waterfront, to connect with the Eastern Promenade, Porthcawl Town Centre and Porthcawl Comprehensive School. Connections must be made to the existing active travel route 4084 and new routes should be provided to accord with the proposed routes within the Council's ATNM: INM-POR-01, INM-POR-12, INM-POR-13, INM-POR-14, INM-POR-15, INM-POR-17, INM-POR-18, INM-POR-22, INM-POR-23, INM-POR-24, INM-POR-25, INM-POR-26 and INM-POR-28.</p> <p>The Relic Dunes are a nationally protected habitat and the council will continue to conserve and enhance this habitat, whilst also recognising that the dunes act as a natural coastal risk management asset. No significant effects are deemed likely as a result of development.</p> <p>Additionally, A Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues.</p>
508	<p>Aldi on salt lake porthcawl is not sustainable economic growth and would destroy a landscape that hasn't changed in years which means it provides childhood memories for thousands of people who continue to bring children to recreate such memories any change on salt lake should add to the history, culture and possibly update recreational activities</p>	<p>Concerns regarding proposed foodstore in Porthcawl</p>	<p>Comments noted. Evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as 'gateway buildings' as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to "place-making", taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p>

			<p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site. Subject to a planning application, the foodstore will be constructed alongside all-new residential, leisure, retail development at Salt Lake as well as new areas of green open space, bus terminus, active travel facilities and more.</p> <p>As well as providing residents with greater choice and more flexibility, the development is intended to unlock funds that will be reinvested into local infrastructure improvements within Porthcawl and further stages of the regeneration plans.</p>
509	<p>As a new resident it appears that compared with its neighbouring tourist and coastal areas the natural environment (especially coastal) has been neglected over a period of time. Being valleys to coast could be a massive tourist draw but it appears little is done to maintain and promote this. Doing this could not only bring much needed financial benefit to the area but also increase employment and wellbeing for local residents. Am surprised how few leisure facilities (outdoor and indoor) are available in the authority.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront / leisure facilities</p>	<p>Comments noted. As set out by Policy PLA1 (See Page 63), Porthcawl Waterfront is an underutilised brownfield site occupying a prominent seafront position. The regeneration site is allocated for a residential-led, mixed use scheme that will deliver up to 1,115 dwellings with associated facilities, including tourism, open space, leisure, retail, a bus terminus and community provision. Policy PLA1 details the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements to enable its implementation, in accordance with the Growth (See Appendix 42) and Spatial Strategy (See Appendix 43) identified within SP1 and allocation identified within SP2. Delivery of the site will prove fundamental in achieving the Replacement LDP's Vision and Objectives for the County Borough.</p> <p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>In terms of Salt Lake, development will include a new food store, residential (including affordable housing), supporting commercial uses and leisure. With regards to leisure, an area north of the harbour within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction. Furthermore, the comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere.</p> <p>Mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p> <p>Sandy Bay will accommodate public open space, residential, education provision and commercial. In terms of open space and recreation, it's acknowledged that such provision is considered important for health and well-being, therefore the development should aim for standards in excess of the minimum. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, there are plans for creating new facilities at Cosy Corner, including community facilities whilst also creating employment opportunities. The plans for Cosy Corner include an all-new stone and glass-clad building</p>

			<p>which will feature new premises suitable for retail and start-up enterprises. The council also wants to create new meeting space for community use, a parade square for the Sea Cadets and an office for the harbour master as well as changing facilities for users of the nearby marina. If funding allows, plans are in place that will further enhance the scheme with new landscaping, public seating, a children's play area and a canopy structure capable of providing comfortable outdoor shelter from rain and the sun.</p> <p>Furthermore, Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and supporting development management policies will promote tourism development. The LDP will also provide the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County, thereby contributing to the Aims and Priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-2022) (See Appendix 30).</p> <p>In terms of the potential environmental impact, a Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues.</p>
510	It destroys the environment	It destroys the environment	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
512	The wrong type of growth kills communities .. our beautiful cultural and green areas attract visitors .. try not to destroy and build on it all .. to your detriment	Protect the green areas	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the</p>

			<p>countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend’s green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The LDP Strategy also recognises that the County Borough has a rich and diverse built heritage and historic environment of which will be protected, conserved and where appropriate enhanced through the SP18: Conservation of the Historic Environment and associated development management policies DNP10: Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings &amp; DNP11: Conservation Areas.</p>
513	BCBC's planned regeneration of Porthcawl in no way preserves or enhances the local seascape. More natural enhancement of the Salt Lake area with high quality tourist and leisure facilities is required	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. A Land-Use Framework has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>In terms of Salt Lake, development will include a new food store, residential (including affordable housing), supporting commercial uses and leisure. With regards to leisure, an area north of the harbour within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction. Furthermore, the comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere.</p>

			<p>Mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p> <p>Sandy Bay will accommodate public open space, residential, education provision and commercial. In terms of open space and recreation, it's acknowledged that such provision is considered important for health and well-being, therefore the development should aim for standards in excess of the minimum. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, there are plans for creating new facilities at Cosy Corner, including community facilities whilst also creating employment opportunities. The plans for Cosy Corner include an all-new stone and glass-clad building which will feature new premises suitable for retail and start-up enterprises. The council also wants to create new meeting space for community use, a parade square for the Sea Cadets and an office for the harbour master as well as changing facilities for users of the nearby marina. If funding allows, plans are in place that will further enhance the scheme with new landscaping, public seating, a children's play area and a canopy structure capable of providing comfortable outdoor shelter from rain and the sun.</p> <p>Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and supporting development management policies will promote tourism development. The LDP will also provide the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County including Porthcawl, thereby contributing to the Aims and Priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-2022) (See Appendix 30).</p> <p>The Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that development of Porthcawl Waterfront with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
514	It is important to maintain the environment . Green areas are important and maintaining a rubbish free sea is paramount.	Green areas are important	Comments noted. Whilst it is beyond the scope of the LDP to prevent rubbish within the sea, the Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.

			<p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
515	I would love to see us developing lovely tourist spots that are great places for residents too. Without being extortionate!	Would like to see new tourist spots	Comments noted. Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and supporting development management policies will promote tourism development. The LDP will also provide the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County, thereby contributing to the Aims and Priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-2022) (See Appendix 30).
518	I support this. We have strong visual heritage across the county- this should be built upon.	No changes proposed	Support noted.
519	You're destroying the environment by putting such a travesty in the middle of a seaside town. We are not Bridgend	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p>

			<p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl's role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>As set out by Policy PLA1 (See Page 63), Porthcawl Waterfront is an underutilised brownfield site occupying a prominent seafront position. The regeneration site is allocated for a residential-led, mixed use scheme that will deliver up to 1,115 dwellings with associated facilities, including tourism, open space, leisure, retail, a bus terminus and community provision. Policy PLA1 details the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements to enable its implementation, in accordance with the Growth (See Appendix 42) and Spatial Strategy (See Appendix 43) identified within SP1 and allocation identified within SP2. Delivery of the site will prove fundamental in achieving the Replacement LDP's Vision and Objectives for the County Borough.</p> <p>terms of the potential environmental impact, a Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues.</p> <p>Furthermore, the land-use plan will ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development</li> <li>• which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around</li> <li>• existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enhanced for biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul> <p>The Council have also commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that development of Porthcawl Waterfront with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
521	as long as you stick to it sounds okay	No changes proposed	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p>

			<p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The LDP Strategy also recognises that the County Borough has a rich and diverse built heritage and historic environment of which will be protected, conserved and where appropriate enhanced through the SP18: Conservation of the Historic Environment and associated development management policies DNP10: Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings &amp; DNP11: Conservation Areas.</p>
524	How is building on green land, and destroying ancient woods retaining a natural environment?	Concerns regarding greenfield development	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters</p>

			<p>were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
526	<p>Aldi stores do not fit with the character of Porthcawl. Being twixt the beach and town centre, the area lends itself more to "hack type" units, keeping low level and low key so as to retain the views currently enjoyed.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding proposed foodstore in Porthcawl / landscape</p>	<p>Comments noted. Evidence confirms (See Appendix 16 – Retail Study) that the centre fulfils its function as a town centre and performs well against most indicators of vitality and viability. However, the centre has a limited convenience offer which is significantly below the UK average. Although the centre contains a range of smaller food stores suitable for top-up shopping, there is only one large supermarket suitable for main food shopping. This provides limited consumer choice and means that most residents must travel to other centres to meet their needs.</p> <p>Marketing for a new foodstore was carried out in autumn 2020 whereby numerous bids (five in total) were received and appraised. A robust selection process in which each bid was carefully assessed against a planning development brief resulted in Aldi Stores Ltd being identified as the preferred bidder. The planning development brief required bidders to submit high-quality, bespoke designs for premises that could act as 'gateway buildings' as well as incorporating appropriate access and active travel arrangements. The development brief for the food store site does not prescribe a particular architectural approach, but it does require clear attention to "place-making", taking in account the historic urban form and scale of the surrounding area. This will enable a development designed for human interaction and enjoyment whilst responding to and celebrating the maritime setting, cultural and heritage of Porthcawl. The development brief restricts the food store building to be no greater than 3 storeys (residential equivalent) in height. Cabinet members approved the disposal of the site to Aldi Stores Ltd, and delegated authority to officers to approve the terms of the disposal agreement.</p> <p>The food store site forms a key element of the wider masterplan that has been worked up for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Scheme and is intended to act as a precursor to, and catalyst for, future phases of development across the wider site. Subject to a planning application, the foodstore will be constructed alongside all-new residential, leisure, retail development at Salt Lake as well as new areas of green open space, bus terminus, active travel facilities and more.</p> <p>As well as providing residents with greater choice and more flexibility, the development is intended to unlock funds that will be reinvested into local infrastructure improvements within Porthcawl and further stages of the regeneration plans.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Council have commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters.</p> <p>The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p>

527	sounds rational and good, proposition on laleston/bryntirion seems not	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of Bridgend	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. Furthermore, the proposed allocation will be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p>
530	Llangewydd should remain a conservation area	Llangewydd should remain a conservation area	Comments noted. As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend (Policy PLA3 – Page 71, the proposed development does not overlap or conflict with an existing designated conservation area.
532	Provision of Accessible Natural Greenspace (including public open space) I	Concerns regarding Strategic	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains guidance on how to prepare, monitor and revise a development plan,

<p>accept that in Porthcawl we have some of the best beaches in Wales. We do not have parks except the wilderness, or natural greenspace other than Sandy Bay. This is proposed for housing development as is Salt Lake and other locations within Porthcawl. As shared previously, Sandy Bay is not waste land, it is used by residents, and could be developed with minimal cost to support the increase in tourism. Sandy Bay has a covenant from 1946 which has prevented development in this area. There is a lot of history concerning this land, and a lot of debates, arguments, that are documented in the national archives and the historical newspapers archives. Historical, deeds, newspaper articles, covenants are available and can be produced if required. It is my opinion that building on the little green space that we have in Porthcawl would be detrimental to current and future generations. Once the land is gone, it is gone for ever. The proposal in my opinion is short sighted and does not consider the up and coming generations and of support health and wellbeing. I understand professional expertise is to be engaged with regard to natural habitat. This is good however from living within the town for the past 70 years I know the land well and have witnessed protected species. I would like to see evidence and reports from the appropriate professionals engaged in carrying out the assessment to enable me to comment. It is mentioned that the dunes will be protected and monitored but as a living entity now three metres higher than 20 years ago, needing constant clearing from the roadway which is only sustainable with at least thrice yearly attention, one operation removed over 600 tons of sand (fact). This requires consideration.</p>	<p>Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront</p>	<p>underpinned by robust evidence to ensure that plans are effective and deliverable and contribute to placemaking, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables the Replacement LDP will maintain Porthcawl’s role as a Main Settlement capable of supporting regeneration-led growth, demonstrating capacity for sustainable growth based on its accessibility, availability of amenities and employment provision in the context of its existing population base.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented</p>
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		<p>with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>In terms of Salt Lake, development will include a new food store, residential (including affordable housing), supporting commercial uses and leisure. With regards to leisure, an area north of the harbour within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction. Furthermore, the comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere. Mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p> <p>Sandy Bay will accommodate public open space, residential, education provision and commercial. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, there are plans for creating new facilities at Cosy Corner, including community facilities whilst also creating employment opportunities. The plans for Cosy Corner include an all-new stone and glass-clad building which will feature new premises suitable for retail and start-up enterprises. The council also wants to create new meeting space for community use, a parade square for the Sea Cadets and an office for the harbour master as well as changing facilities for users of the nearby marina. If funding allows, plans are in place that will further enhance the scheme with new landscaping, public seating, a children's play area and a canopy structure capable of providing comfortable outdoor shelter from rain and the sun.</p> <p>Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and supporting development management policies will promote tourism development. The LDP will also provide the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County including Porthcawl, thereby contributing to the Aims and Priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-2022) (See Appendix 30).</p> <p>With regards to the potential environmental impact, a Phase 1 Habitat Survey has been undertaken, of which robustly determines what ecology constraints may exist within the site. The findings indicate that the proposed development would not have any adverse impact. Whilst further surveys will be undertaken, the proposed development of the site is not unacceptably constrained by biodiversity and nature conservation issues.</p> <p>There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> </ul>
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533	<p>LDP must protect historic nature of towns &amp; villages by ensuring areas do not "merge". Equally space must be preserved around fixed environments ie seafront at PLA1. Easily achieved with buffer zones that continue to be owned &amp; managed by the Authority. Sandy Bay development must be in accordance with PUDC land acquisition in 1947 and 1933 Physical Training &amp; Recreation Act and covenants established by the land owner at the time of the sale.</p>	<p>Ensure no coalescence of settlements. Space must be preserved as part of Strategic Allocation PLA1: Porthcawl Waterfront</p>	<p>Comments noted. A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>In terms of Salt Lake, development will include a new food store, residential (including affordable housing), supporting commercial uses and leisure. With regards to leisure, an area north of the harbour within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction. Furthermore, the comprehensive enhancement of the Eastern Promenade with new buildings, facilities and better landscaping provides an exciting opportunity to create an area that will not only enhance the frontage but also act, with others, to set a quality benchmark which will also need to be achieved elsewhere.</p> <p>Mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p> <p>Sandy Bay will accommodate public open space, residential, education provision and commercial. In terms of open space and recreation, it's acknowledged that such provision is considered important for health and well-being, therefore the development should aim for standards in excess of the minimum. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, there are plans for creating new facilities at Cosy Corner, including community facilities whilst also creating employment opportunities. The plans for Cosy Corner include an all-new stone and glass-clad building which will feature new premises suitable for retail and start-up enterprises. The council also wants to create new meeting space for community use, a parade square for the Sea Cadets and an office for the harbour master as well as changing facilities for users of the nearby marina. If funding allows, plans are in place that will further enhance the scheme with new landscaping, public seating, a children's play area and a canopy structure capable of providing comfortable outdoor shelter from rain and the sun.</p>



		<p>Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and supporting development management policies will promote tourism development. The LDP will also provide the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County including Porthcawl, thereby contributing to the Aims and Priorities of the Bridgend County Destination Management Plan (2018-2022) (See Appendix 30).</p> <p>Proposals for the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration site are currently being developed further as part of a 'Placemaking Strategy' that represents a form of sub area masterplanning supported by illustrative design material. This will provide a coherent basis for guiding development, securing future funding, attracting investors and delivering a comprehensive range of regeneration projects. I urge you to participate in the public engagement events being facilitated by Austin-Smith: Lord. In addition, any future development proposals for this site will be subject to a formal planning application where you can also have your say.</p> <p>The Council have also commissioned consultants to undertake a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Appraisal of the proposed regeneration. The appraisal assesses the proposed land use, storey height and density parameters. The assessment concludes that the development would not have an adverse impact on the Landscape/Seascape of Porthcawl, subject to appropriate design responses being incorporated at detailed design stage. The assessment recognises that the development offers to impose a dramatic and positive change across an extensive area, replacing areas of dereliction with new or enhanced accessible open spaces and high-quality buildings and facilities. Further detailed assessments and considerations will be undertaken, in order to influence the design of the development, including a detailed landscape and visual assessment that will assist in identifying detailed mitigation of adverse effects.</p> <p>The following factors have also been considered in determining the appropriate density level for the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The capacity of existing and proposed roads and junctions;</li> <li>• The provision of parking in the area and in the town as a whole;</li> <li>• The impact upon local services and schools;</li> <li>• Especially the changes that any increased numbers of properties would have on the character of the town; and</li> <li>• The key Government objective to optimise housing densities on brownfield sites.</li> </ul> <p>This careful examination of all relevant factors suggests that the proposed number of units could be provided within the regeneration area, while ensuring that appropriate and useful areas of open space established; and there is comprehensive regeneration involving numerous other activities and uses within the waterfront area.</p> <p>The Council is the freehold owner of most of the land to be used in the development. Much of the land is unoccupied and derelict. The local authority has entered into an Agreement with the owner of another substantial areas of land to be used in the development. The Agreement requires the joint marketing and disposal of all of the larger area of land to be used for the development to either a single or to multiple developers. The Council therefore aims to work jointly with those developers to improve the quality of life of those living, working or otherwise involved in the community life of their area.</p> <p>The former Sandy Bay Caravan Park which forms the majority of the land owned by the Council in the area intended for development was acquired by the Council for the purposes of public walks, being purposes set out in section 164 of the Public Health Act 1875, and section 4 of the Physical Training and Recreation Act 1937. The acquisition took place following the confirmation of the Porthcawl Urban (Newton) Recreation Ground Confirmation Order 1948 which authorised compulsory purchase acquisition of the land for those purposes. The land is accordingly held pursuant to a statutory trust imposed by section 10 of the Open Spaces Act 1906 to</p>
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493	2nd that makes some sense	No changes proposed	Support noted.
378	So why are you planning on building all over it.	Concerns regarding proposed housing developments	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a</p>

			<p>sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend’s green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC’s. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
535	do not build on any green land	Do not build on green land	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus</p>

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538	<p>I don't see how potentially building 850 houses near a beautiful landscape with rare habitats, species and geology is helping to protect anything stated above. Wales wants a fitter population but removing attractive walking routes (seeing rare birds and animals) and replacing them with houses is definitely a negative choice</p>	<p>Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3:Land West of Bridgend</p>	<p>The Deposit Plan has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Government Development Plans Manual (Edition 3). It contains 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, as defined in national policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW).</p> <p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. 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Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan. As such, candidate site 308.C1 Bridgend (West of) was considered appropriate for allocation.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71). The provision of new residential dwellings, including affordable units, will be incorporated alongside a new one and a half form entry Primary School, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities all set within distinct character areas.</p>
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539	<p>Plz save our green lands save our woodlands green spaces just for a few houses why cut them down don't you think we owe it to our future generations, build houses but stop pulling up hedge rows and killing our wild life they struggle for food ever wonder why foxes roam around cats go missing no wild rabbits birds dying no food ,let's not make it about money all the time. I get it we need houses but save our woodlands ty.</p>	<p>Protect green spaces</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p>



			<p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
541	You are building 700 houses on countryside that is used by the community. You are completely ignoring your own policy	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA4: Land East of Pencoed	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p>



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543	'PLA3: Land West of Bridgend, Bridgend Sustainable Growth Area' is not in keeping with these goals given the amount of natural environment that would be built on. All that	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA3: Land West of	Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period

<p>I have spoken to regarding this plan do not want this land to be built on.</p>	<p>Bridgend / environment</p>	<p>have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71). The provision of new residential dwellings, including affordable units, will be incorporated alongside a new one and a half form entry Primary School, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities all set within distinct character areas.</p> <p>In terms of biodiversity/ecology, an ecological desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey has been undertaken by EDP. The desk study has noted that within the Study Site's zone of influence there are a number of statutory and non-statutory designated sites present, most notably Laleston Meadows SINC which overlaps with the site itself.</p> <p>Given the combination of designated sites, it is concluded that any future planning submission will need to consider the potential for direct and indirect impacts to arise upon qualifying features, including the Laleston Meadows SINC. However, it is inherent within the emerging masterplan that the Laleston Meadows SINC and its associated designated features will be retained. Furthermore, such retained features will be further</p>
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			<p>protected from potential harm, damage and disturbance through the sensitive design of built development away from SINC boundaries and inclusion of suitable buffers.</p> <p>The desk study confirms that the inclusion of Laleston Meadows SINC within the Study's Site boundary will provide substantial potential for a balanced provision of areas of informal public open space and wildlife zones. When linked with proposed POS and play areas across the developable site this will provide a significant benefit to both visual and recreational amenity, conservation and biodiversity enhancement. In respect of the latter, the SINC provides a potential space to accommodate ecological mitigation and biodiversity enhancements and thus offset ecological impacts that may arise during the development of adjacent land.</p> <p>An Extended Phase 1 survey was undertaken in February 2020, supplemented by further roosting bat works in March 2020. The Phase 1 survey concluded that the site is dominated by agriculturally improved grassland of limited botanical interest and thus of low inherent ecological value. Habitats of greatest ecological importance include the native hedgerows delineating the northern boundary and internal field boundaries in addition to woodland habitat and marshy grassland associated with Laleston Meadows SINC. The roosting bats surveys identified several trees with low to high potential to support a bat roost whilst onsite ponds have been considered for their potential to support great crested newt.</p> <p>The results of the desk study and Extended Phase 1 survey have influenced the masterplan which has sought to locate development across those habitats of predominantly limited ecological value whilst retaining boundary habitats as far as possible. Where retained, such features have been accommodated within proposed informal green space and sustainable transport links, which ultimately enhances connectivity throughout the Site and contributes to the wider green infrastructure resource.</p> <p>Where avoidance is not possible, however, and will result in the loss of internal field boundaries (albeit predominantly species-poor or defunct), the site is considered to be of sufficient size and extent to enable future development proposals to flexibly avoid and/or mitigate for any significant ecological constraints and compensate where necessary. This will be in addition to the sensitive positioning of built development away from retained boundary features to minimise damage.</p> <p>The report also highlights further detailed habitat and species surveys which are recommended to inform a planning application and ensure proposed mitigation is appropriate and proportional. These include a Dormouse survey, which was raised in comments received from NRW. Policy PLA3 will require the development to retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland) and Laleston Meadows SINC, which includes the green space bordering the northern and north-western boundaries of the site. PLA3 will also require the developer to submit and agree ecological management plans including proposals for mitigation, enhancement and maintenance for retained habitats and protected species (including for bats and dormouse) and provide appropriate compensatory and replacement habitat.</p> <p>Policy PLA3 will require development to incorporate the Laleston Trail within the central part of the site, providing access to the Bridgend Circular Walk and realigned Public Right of Way. Additionally, PLA3 requires 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space across the site comprising seven key areas of formal open space (including 0.5ha of equipped play provision), informal spaces and linkages, green streets, and explore the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland.</p>
623	<p>"These goals need to be balanced alongside the need to facilitate sustainable economic growth." SOMEONE SHOULD COME BACK AND READ THESE WORDS</p>		<p>Comments noted. This representation is not considered appropriate for response</p>

	IN FIFTY YEARS AND ASK WHAT THE F*** HAPPENED.		
636	<p>This is very true. The natural environment around Bridgend is relatively untouched, flourishing in plant and animal life. This has to be protected at all costs. Sites around Bridgend remain of key historical and ecological interest and should not be built on simply to achieve a glossy strategy.</p>	<p>Comments regarding the natural environment and protection of natural assets.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>In terms of the historical environment, the strategy recognises it's importance and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
638	<p>I am pleased to see how the LDP speaks of the County's natural and built environments as assets - they are indeed incredibly important to every aspect of life in the Borough, whether its citizens realise it or not. The prioritising of natural spaces can not be placed highly enough. Likewise with</p>	<p>Comments regarding the protection of the natural and historic environment within the borough.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p>

	<p>historic environments. As I mentioned earlier, if the placement of this portion of the LDP at the end is any reflection of its importance to the Borough, I believe it should be moved higher.</p>		<p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
438	<p>Internet nationalised nationwide.</p>	<p>Comments regarding the provision of nationalised internet access.</p>	<p>Comments noted. This would be beyond the scope of the Local Development Plan. Although, the LDP supports the NDF 2040 outcomes which address the provision of world-class digital infrastructure. Better digital communication will enable economic and social progress and ensure Wales can lead and keep pace with the latest global technological advancements. In this regard, the LDP will incorporate Policy 13 (Supporting Digital Communications) of the NDF 2040, which stipulates that Planning authorities must engage with digital infrastructure providers to identify the future needs of their area and set out policies in Strategic and Local Development Plans to help deliver this. New developments should include the provision of Gigabit capable broadband infrastructure from the outset.</p>
640	<p>Agree, the natural beauty needs enhancing and tidying up. Let's start by removing all the rubble off Porthcawl point and Trecco, clearing all the rusted twisted metal off our beaches, rebuilding broken steps, removing old posts and concrete and making our beachfronts world class. Porthcawl take aways need to be plastic free. Let's have bigger bins, more signage for reaching points, proper bike lanes, nice cafes, beach huts, litter wardens, etc.</p>	<p>Comments regarding the maintenance of public infrastructure within PLA1.</p>	<p>The Replacement LDP will seek to promote connectivity for all by maximising opportunities for active travel routes, including those contained within Existing Route Maps and future proposals detailed within the Active Travel Network Maps (See Appendix 29). Well connected developments will assist in promoting the improvement of health and wellbeing by encouraging people to adopt healthier and active lifestyles, whilst also contributing to the creation of a successful place. Policy PLA1 of the Deposit Plan sets out the masterplan development principles of Porthcawl Waterfront, which seeks on-site and off-site measures to provide good quality, attractive, legible, safe and accessible pedestrian and cycle linkages in accordance with Active Travel design. Improved linkages will be required along the waterfront, to connect with the Eastern Promenade, Porthcawl Town Centre and Porthcawl Comprehensive School.</p> <p>Additionally, the Replacement LDP primarily through Policy PLA12 will ensure that new development has regard to Active Travel routes and proposals to ensure that new development delivers sustainable means of travel for everyday activities.</p> <p>An appropriate level of housing is envisaged for the Porthcawl Waterfront allocation (PLA1) including the Salt Lake area. Proposed density of the site has and will continue to be informed by a Landscape/Seascape and Visual Impact Assessment in order to ensure an appropriate level of housing is provided to maximise the placemaking opportunities of the site. Further assessments will be undertaken to inform such matters.</p>

641	<p>As per responses to previous questions, promoting urban sprawl that destroys the distinctive character of the Borough's historic villages is not consistent with protecting the existing natural and built environment. Any developments around historic villages should maintain a reasonable degree of 'green belt' separation. With an abundance of land in the Borough - especially brown-field and regeneration-priority sites - there is no excuse for destroying character and promoting urban sprawl.</p>	<p>Comments regarding the protection of the natural and historic environment and retention of character.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p>
643	<p>Laudable, but what are the goals? How does joining up Bryntirion to Laleston, and Pyle to Stormy Down improve the environment? Bryntirion Broadlands Llangewydd Court Cefn Glas are already oversubscribed. Where are the environmental improvements in these areas? Llangewydd /Bryntirion fields to Laleston are going to be developed - not enhancing green areas.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding the character of local settlements and the impact of development on the local environment.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence-based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus</p>

		<p>on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland.</p> <p>The Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See</p>
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			<p>Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend’s green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
644	Embrace and make the most of the fantastic coastal environment. Promote water sports and activities. Have a bike pump track. Have a skate park/ramp... all these things draw people to an area	Comments regarding the protection and enhancement of the natural environment.	<p>Comments noted. The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable and regeneration growth will be appropriately directed, of which the main settlement of Porthcawl is considered to be appropriate.</p> <p>As set out by Policy PLA1 (See Page 63), Porthcawl Waterfront is an underutilised brownfield site occupying a prominent seafront position. The regeneration site is allocated for a residential-led, mixed use scheme that will deliver up to 1,115 dwellings with associated facilities, including tourism, open space, leisure, retail, a bus terminus and community provision. Policy PLA1 details the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements to enable its implementation, in accordance with the Growth (See Appendix 42) and Spatial Strategy (See Appendix 43) identified within SP1 and allocation identified within SP2. Delivery of the site will prove fundamental in achieving the Replacement LDP’s Vision and Objectives for the County Borough.</p> <p>A Porthcawl Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper</p> <p>The Council has undertaken feasibility work to explore proposals to deliver a bus terminus within the Porthcawl regeneration area. The bus terminus project is being brought forward in connection with Cardiff Capital Region</p>



			<p>Metro Plus project and is seen as a key element of the wider regeneration plans. The authority has a strong desire to facilitate and actively encourage a modal shift towards increased use of public transport and the provision of a new bus terminus is integral to this as well as being part of the wider Future Wales Plan.</p>
645	<p>If in the vicinity have a look at the Mosaic on the washeries site in Ogmore, proposed to be a site of interest. Promotion of tourism in Wales has been poor for years and in South Wales where is the preservation of culture?</p>	<p>Comments regarding preservation of culture and sites of interest.</p>	<p>Comments noted. Strategic Policy SP12 of the Replacement Plan will promote Town, District and Local Centres throughout the County Borough as hubs of socio-economic activity and the focal points for a diverse range of services which support the needs of the communities they serve. A number of designations affect Bridgend town centre whereby various policies within the Replacement LDP will seek to protect, conserve and where appropriate enhance.</p> <p>The Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208).</p> <p>Development Management Policy (DNP10 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p> <p>Policy DNP10 also highlights the desirability of preserving a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) and its setting. Furthermore, Policy DNP11: Conservation Areas intends to provide protection from developments, which can harm the character and appearance of a conservation area, including Bridgend Town Centre.</p>
646	<p>Bridgend has already lost so much of its historical heritage. What is left needs to be retained for future enjoyment.</p>	<p>Concerns regarding historical heritage.</p>	<p>Comments noted. Strategic Policy SP12 of the Replacement Plan will promote Town, District and Local Centres throughout the County Borough as hubs of socio-economic activity and the focal points for a diverse range of services which support the needs of the communities they serve. A number of designations affect Bridgend town centre whereby various policies within the Replacement LDP will seek to protect, conserve and where appropriate enhance.</p> <p>The Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208).</p> <p>Development Management Policy (DNP10 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p> <p>Policy DNP10 also highlights the desirability of preserving a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) and its setting. Furthermore, Policy DNP11: Conservation Areas intends to provide protection from developments, which can harm the character and appearance of a conservation area, including Bridgend Town Centre.</p>
647	<p>This should be a key focus for the LDP. Improving access to local open spaces and cultural landmarks will contribute to improved well being in the region.</p>	<p>Comments regarding improved access to green space and cultural landmarks.</p>	<p>Comments noted. Strategic Policy SP12 of the Replacement Plan will promote Town, District and Local Centres throughout the County Borough as hubs of socio-economic activity and the focal points for a diverse range of services which support the needs of the communities they serve. A number of designations affect Bridgend town centre whereby various policies within the Replacement LDP will seek to protect, conserve and where appropriate enhance.</p>

			<p>The Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208).</p> <p>Development Management Policy (DNP10 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p> <p>Policy DNP10 also highlights the desirability of preserving a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) and its setting. Furthermore, Policy DNP11: Conservation Areas intends to provide protection from developments, which can harm the character and appearance of a conservation area, including Bridgend Town Centre.</p>
652	Please see my letter sent by e-mail to ldp@bridgend.gov.uk, consultation@bridgend.gov.uk and planning@bridgend.gov.uk on 02/07/2021.		Comments noted.
649	no	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
651	You state that you want to conserve and enhance the natural and historic environment but by building these 850 houses on this beautiful land you will destroy those very things. You would be encroaching on Llangewydd Road lane which is of great historical importance dating back to pre-historic times and in medieval times as a pilgrims ways providing access to Margam Abbey. The green land and hedgerows are of great importance and is essential to local wildlife and bird population, not to mention the many species of plants and wide flowers. Having lived on the edge of this land for the past 27 years we often walk our dogs along the lane and down to Laleston. If this development was to go ahead this would no longer be possible. The amount of traffic pollution would also increase making the crossing of the lane between the Pen y Bont football club and the adjacent field dangerous for the many children that use this route. It would be interesting to know about how this development will affect the carbon footprint.	Concerns regarding protection of the natural environment and access to green spaces.	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p>

			<p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site’s deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, any development will be required (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71) to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. Furthermore, the proposed allocation will be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals. Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend’s green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
547	No	No changes	Comment Noted
565	I can only repeat some of the things already said previously- but given the tipping point	Concerns about protection of	The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and

<p>of two adjoining high density populated housing estates having reached tipping point in my opinion-over many years.of living in the area. Covid has amplified what we have to cherish- there is dilapidated history which should be restored not destroyed. Lungs of woods / greenbelt areas once gone are gone forever. Quality of life can only be reduced. Crime can only go up.Its short sighted.not to see the future.This is most definitely not NIMBY. Houses have to be built its a difficult equation. The value of protecting these spaces - Llangewydd road etc cannot not be understated-indeed improved ie a path, pleasant walks etc. All building in excess has a tipping point.-People are less happy, lower tolerance, crime goes up among many other things In short look at Brackla. at one point it was classed as the biggest housing estate in Europe. There was a crime wave and part of it is known even today as Beirut with all its escape allyways etc for criminals. There are now protected green spaces and I believe crime has reduced in general the tipping point may have been averted. Im sure the powers that be know this. Other building areas have to be spread out in a careful way. crucially with permanent inbuilt green spaces, walks. The best example in Bridgend and there's always room for improvement.is Broadlands.with good paths cycling strips.and inbuilt parks tree lines etc. It was a pristine site that enabled this of course. Llangewydd court ,cefn glas is an old but very large densely populated site.lacking in what broadlands has to offer in green spaces. So the Llangewydd court lanes etc are far more important to preserve and improve. Cefn Glas - Llangewydd court, West house, westward place, ystrad fawr etc are all one estate in effect with little green space between them all. The nearest open spaces being Newbridge fields. But too far for many to walk- without transport etc. How many people are depressed when measured against those living in Broadlands as opposed to cefn glass and Llangewydd court..You wont have to do</p>	<p>natural environment and provision of green spaces</p>	<p>updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
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much research. Im actually only able to type this in a tired state as been up since 5am due to the Cockerel allowed by the council. Im told by a reliable source this would not be allowed on Broadlands. Bridgend does has different rules for different areas why is that.? Ill leave with one example- dogs and fouling are allowed in the Barnes avenue Swing park, gates open ( reported nothing done)- dogs freely roam the area.Due to no signage ie NO DOGS ALLOWED, NO SMOKING..The dog waste bin is even inside the park. how stupid is that. Dogs foul the park. danger of toxocara canis among other things.. Whereas DOGS are definatly not allowed in the enclosed Newbridge fields swing park -Self closing gates have worked every time ive used the park, Plenty of signage NO DOGS permitted except blind dogs. Signs are allways obeyed as far as ive seen. No smoking also.. Maybe its the CCTV as is close by. . I have to take the grandchildren to Newbridge Fields due to smoking of others and the fouling. Some men bring in Alsations. I believe a councillor brought one in with another owner of an Alsation.while this particular observation was quite some time ago. Many dogs brought in are off the leash- and poop while the owners are chatting unaware. Some women have fun allowing dogs to climb up the slide and go down it - but actually have no regard for the children. It is a purpose made park and supposedly safe area for children but it is not. Luckily I have a car to take my grandchildren elsewhere safer ie Newbridge fields. Perhaps im coming across as cranky I make no appologies this is what lack of sleep does to people ( the cockeral). But I am giving facts. I would definatly move if was in a position to- Remember always that vaste majority of most people do not complain for fear of repercussions, or will just be ignored etc. I could go on with many more examples. his is all a snap shot of the Bridgend the environment we live in. More building = Tipping Point exceeded = more overall problems= increaed crime = more long term

	<p>drain on council revenue. More housing ( cram it in philosophy ) may bring in more council tax but that will evaporate in the long term- ie police budget has to go up, other agency costs etc. I said in short awhile back - ill leave with one shocking recent example - I and others have been affected-But ill only give my example.- While im not against hafod housing principle - its not working-apart from the screaming and shouting with the hafod house opposite me-several visits by the police over a period of time, people coming and going, man without helmet doing a one wheel wheely with very young child no helmet sitting on the handle bars. neighbour having to invest in CCTV. unkempt garden rubbish not taken in etc. I went to to pick up my wife recently who works at the Princess of wales hospital she works a long day with covid. Of course she left tired in the first place ( the cockeral) She cant sleep with the window closed.nor can i for that matter on hot nights. I have to carefully reverse into my drive- the Hafod children are playing in the area unsupervised. We exit the car and go straight into our house-thats because they keep pressing the door bell on various houses.- the poor children don't appear to be taken anywhere for fun except on a motor bike without a helmet,. the large dog never leaves the front window having no walks..Seconds later entering our house there is a bang on the door. We were still in the hall barely taking off our coats. Upon opening the door the youngest boy who can't be more than five years old holds up his fist waving it back and forth and says to my wife " You fucking bitch ". What can you say or do -I just shut the door. No good complaining as nothing has been done so far.as other nearer nighbours got nowhere. The built environment is not good - can only get worse, the natural what remains is more important than ever. This is a glimpse and just some examples. .</p>		
566	Encourage the residents, businesses and tourists to become stakeholders in the natural environment through a programme of events - tree planting, wildflower areas,	Encourage greater participation in natural environment	Comment noted.

	litter picking and guided/self guided walks. I already see this happening but I think it requires greater promotion, it is overshadowed (in my opinion) with the endless focus on diversity and inclusion. The environment belongs to everyone.		
567	A key part of maintaining natural environment will be the control of invasive non-natural species (INNS). The county has a significant problem with plant species such as the himalayan balsam and japanese knot weed. These plants damage infrastructure, reduce value of land and prevent development. The council should consider investing (more) in the treatment of these plants to ensure prevention of further spread.	Concern over invasive species	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>With reference to new development, Policy DNP9: Natural Resource Protection and Public Health seeks to ensure that proposals will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that they would not cause a new, or exacerbate an existing, unacceptable risk of harm to health, biodiversity and/or local amenity. This includes contamination due to invasive species. Any development proposal in an area where such species are identified will need to demonstrate mitigation measures to reduce the risk of harm to public health, biodiversity and/or local amenity to an acceptable level. Where possible, planning conditions will be used to minimise environmental harm and achieve environmental enhancement.</p>
568	Conservation of natural and historic environment must not be suppressed by economic and development considerations.	Conservation of natural and historic environment should be prioritised	<p>The LDP Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The Deposit LDP recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Policy DNP11 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
569	The whole area has lots of natural and historical value. Top Llan needs to be maintained and developed to support the interest in Welsh history that should come from the new curriculum. Is there space for a local 'look into the history' space that could encompass the mining, the traditions,	Encourage use of historic environment for education	<p>The LDP Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development</p>

	the folk tales? To support local education and perhaps provide a place for tourists to gather		proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.
592	The archaeological site of the John Strret toilets needs to be looked at urgently. Byal means keep the building but make the facilities fit for purpose.	Concerned about state of John St toilets	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>In terms of public toilets, BCBC in 2019 published a Local Toilet Strategy, which is intended to help address the current challenges of public toilet facilities within communities. The Local Toilet Strategy must be reviewed within a year of each ordinary election for its election. The next election date in Wales is Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022, so the latest date for review is 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023.</p>
593	No development should be allowed on green field sites or outside the settlement boundary.	Opposed to green field development	The distribution of growth is evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.
598	Yes	No changes	Comments Noted
600	You only spoiltheland scape	No changes	Comments Noted
606	More native trees and wild flowers in grass verges along with native hedgerows	More native tree, hedgerow and wild flowers	<p>The LDP Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>The Bridgend County Borough Local Biodiversity Action Plan (See Appendix 33) maps the existing ecological network and also identifies locations where ecological connectivity has the potential to be enhanced. Development proposals must achieve biodiversity or ecological enhancement through implementing a range of opportunities as identified within the Action Plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing and maintaining habitat connectivity to maintain flows and mobility of species;</li> <li>• Improving networks of hedgerows and field margins, whilst supporting flowering plants and therefore pollinators;</li> <li>• Promoting recreation linkages, allowing interactions between the population and the open areas;</li> <li>• Planting native species of flowers and trees to increase the pollination resource, promote wildlife diversity, increase vegetation carbon storage and cool and purify the air;</li> <li>• Maintaining gardens with natural soil and vegetation and incorporating green space to help maintain water infiltration and reduce flood risks; and</li> </ul>



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting recreation and enjoyment of nature through green infrastructure networks, active travel, signage and raising awareness of local biodiversity.</li> </ul> <p>This will be achieved through the implementation of Policy DNP6 which seeks to strike a balance between the location, design and layout of development or redevelopment, and the need to conserve that site's biodiversity interest, whilst also taking into account the interests of any adjacent nature conservation resources.</p>
607	There is a lot of history based in Stormy, my own late father Barrie Griffiths researched and wrote about it and there could be potential important historical sites being disturbed by developments. Perhaps, in this day and age of our planet being destroyed by human development, is the environmental impact on wildlife.	Support protection of historic environment	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The LDP Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Policy DNP11 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
609	Don't make me laugh. Anything of historical interest or natural beauty tends to be knocked down or built on in Bridgend Borough. You only have to look on some of the sites showing pictures of old Bridgend, which was once a beautiful market town, and see what we have lost, thanks to modern day thinking. This has not improved the towns, only showed how careless and thoughtless the Town Planners are and have been. Some hideous monstrosities have been built where beautiful structures once stood - The Bottle Bank block of flats in Porthcawl is a classic example, and there are many more. We simply do not appreciate what we have in the area and most certainly do not promote the area to attract tourists. We have some of the most fabulous scenery, beaches, lots of history, eating places and beautiful walks, but BCBC seems to want to trash all of that, and simply ignores tourism, FULL STOP! Porthcawl should be the Jewel in our Crown, instead we have crazy sculptures and stone artifacts to signify what exactly? This could be a Welsh Blackpool attracting thousands of people each year, instead we have nothing. The Elvis Festival does attract many people, but that is no thanks to the LA. If private individuals can think up such schemes and get them off the ground,	Concerned about protection of natural and historic environment	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The LDP Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Policy DNP11 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p> <p>All development will be required to comply with Strategic Policy 3: Good Design and Sustainable Place Making (See Page 60), whereby development must contribute to creating high quality, attractive, sustainable places that support active and healthy lives and enhance the community in which they are located, whilst having full regard to the natural, historic and built environment. As such future planning applications will be required to be supported through the submission of appropriate design and technical information to demonstrate compliance with the criteria set out by Policy SP3.</p> <p>With specific reference to Porthcawl, as part of the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking requirements (See Deposit Policy PLA1 – Page 63). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will enable the delivery of other vital regeneration requirements comprising flood defences, public open space, leisure, enhanced active travel links plus education, retail and community facility provision.</p> <p>A Porthcawl Waterfront has been developed and produced which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl, which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical</p>

	<p>why can't the Local Authority, or is that too much like hard work?</p>		<p>development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>With regards to tourism, an area north of the marina within Salt Lake will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial use resulting in a year round, wet-weather attraction. Furthermore, mixed-use development will be encouraged throughout the development. Commercial units will be considered on the ground floor if there is market demand for such uses. Retail uses, restaurants and cafes will be particularly encouraged. This mix of uses will help bring life and vitality during the day and into the evening.</p>
611	<p>PLA3 and PLA4 do not achieve the goals of the LDP to preserve and enhance the natural and historical environment. The countryside close to Merthyr Mawr should be protected. This small village is unique and provides a beautiful place for residents of Bridgend County to visit. It also brings in tourists to the area. Many people walk and cycle through the village and this has been particularly important during the pandemic and has helped improve wellbeing for many. The surrounding countryside should be preserved. Similarly for the lanes near Laleston which connect to Bryntirion, which have been well used by walkers, runners and cyclists. If the proposed development is adjacent to this lane with no buffer zone, the feeling of being in the countryside whilst walking these lanes will be totally lost. This will have a detrimental impact on both people and wildlife.</p>	<p>Concerned about impact of PLA3 and PLA4, land close to Merthyr Mawr and Laleston should be protected.</p>	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The land surrounding Merthyr Mawr is recognised within the Replacement LDP and is very much protected by various designations and policies (see Appendix 25 – Special Landscape Designations and Appendix 26 – Landscape Character Assessment). As highlighted by Policy SP17 the historic landscape of Merthyr Mawr Warren is a National Nature Reserve. These are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000, the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Policy SP17 specifically seeks to protect statutorily designated sites of national importance and any development proposal which affects such sites will be subject to special scrutiny to establish any potential or indirect effects. The onus will be firmly placed on any potential developer and/or owner to clearly demonstrate the case for the site's development, and why development should not be located elsewhere on a site of less significance to nature conservation. Sensitive design in conjunction with appropriate planning conditions and/or planning obligations/agreements will be pursued by the local planning authority with a view to overcoming potential adverse impacts on the environmental resource, and to ensure protection and enhancement of a site's nature conservation interest.</p> <p>Merthyr Mawr Warren is also designated as a Special Landscape Area (See Policy DNP4 and Appendix 25 – Special Landscape Designations), in recognition of the surrounding character and quality of the landscape. Policy DNP4 protects such designations from inappropriate development. In order to be acceptable, wherever possible, development within a SLA should retain and enhance the positive attributes of its landscape and seek to remove or mitigate any negative influences. In order to achieve this, the design, scale and location of development should respect the special landscape context. In particular, design should reflect the building traditions of the locality in its form, materials and details and aim to assimilate the development into the wider landscape.</p> <p>Merthyr Mawr Village is also designated as a Conservation Area in recognition of the area's special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. In considering development proposals, the Council will seek to resist new development or the demolition of existing buildings unless it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area. (See Policy DNP11).</p> <p>Policy DNP8 seeks to ensure that Bridgend's green infrastructure assets are valued, protected, enhanced and managed through a green infrastructure network. At the landscape scale green infrastructure assets can comprise entire ecosystems such as wetlands, woodlands, heathlands and waterways. At a local scale, it might comprise of parks, fields, footpaths, Public Rights of Way, cycle ways, common land, open access land, allotments, cemeteries, landscaped areas and gardens. At smaller scales, individual urban interventions such as street trees, roadside verges, and green roofs can all contribute to green infrastructure networks. The County supports a wealth of Green Infrastructure assets that together comprise the strategic network, which is set out in the Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23). When appropriately planned, designed and</p>

			<p>managed, green infrastructure has the potential to deliver a wider range of benefits for people and wildlife. By considering the multiple functions that a Green Infrastructure asset can provide simultaneously, it can significantly reduce costs for individuals, businesses and public bodies, whilst enhancing the quality of life and health of residents, workers and visitors to Bridgend.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development. Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
622	Plant lots of trees next to the M4, Compulsory purchase some land next to the M4 and plants trees their. Plant trees in all schools, in all collages, in all library grounds, Plant trees is the answer for a cleaner future and the Mayor car should also go.	Supports Tree planting	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP recognises that the planting of native species of flowers and trees is a means to increase the pollination resource, promote wildlife diversity, increase vegetation carbon storage and to cool and purify the air. (See Appendix 33 - Local Biodiversity Action Plan).</p>
667	The Parc Hospital burial plot on Heol Spencer in coity needs to be removed from any planned settlement boundaries.	Concerns about Parc Hospital burial plot	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>No candidate site submission was received for the land known as Coity Graveyard. The settlement boundary currently passes through the middle of the site so part of the land is considered to be in the countryside. The Settlement Boundary Review (See Appendix 38) undertaken to support the preparation of the Replacement LDP does not propose altering the settlement boundary in this location.</p>
669	Save the Coity graveyard	Concerns about Coity graveyard	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>No candidate site submission was received for the land known as Coity Graveyard. The settlement boundary currently passes through the middle of the site so part of the land is considered to be in the countryside. The Settlement Boundary Review (See Appendix 38) undertaken to support the preparation of the Replacement LDP does not propose altering the settlement boundary in this location.</p>
692	Need to address grass cutting services as these are terrible and look shocking	Concerns about grass cutting	<p>Comments noted.</p>
697	Protect must not get in the way of developing. There needs to be balanced approach	Supports a balanced approach	<p>Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, the Council is required to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems. It is therefore essential that a balance is achieved between the need for development and the need to protect existing habitats and species which contribute to the general biodiversity of the County Borough. It is the aim of Policy DNP6 to achieve that balance between the location, design, and layout of development or redevelopment, and the need to conserve that site's biodiversity interest, whilst also taking into account the interests of any adjacent nature conservation resources. (LDP page 194)</p>
700	Ok.	Supports policies	<p>Comments noted</p>
725	We need to rewild the areas to improve the area. Bringing back trees, flowers we should be pioneering this. Including local	Supports tree and native flower planting	<p>Comments noted.</p>

	schools in the efforts to improve the areas in terms of green spaces.		The Replacement LDP recognises that the planting of native species of flowers and trees is a means to increase the pollination resource, promote wildlife diversity, increase vegetation carbon storage and to cool and purify the air. (See Appendix 33 - Local Biodiversity Action Plan).
727	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	No changes	Comments noted
742	More leisure needed	Concerned about provision of leisure facilities	<p>The replacement LDP recognises the importance of providing more opportunities and facilities to provide access to exercise and leisure. As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's play facilities across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate. Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough as an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Policy SP5 requires all development proposals to consider improving and/or expanding corresponding active travel and public transport networks. This will not only prove fundamental in ensuring the increasing attractiveness of active travel as a credible alternative to the private car, thereby encouraging modal shifts away from unsustainable forms of transportation, but will also help to promote physical activity and reducing the impact of transport based emissions.</p> <p>Finally, the Retail policies of the Replacement LDP have also been formulated in a way that will encourage a wider array of community and leisure uses, alongside areas of open space, in recognition of the changing role and function of town and commercial centres.</p>
645	There is an historical mosaic that has been languishing under the undergrowth in Ogmores Washeries for years which was supposedly going to be resurrected and made a place of interest currently. Not happened yet. Very poor interest in culture or history unless its rugby/sports related.	Concerned about historical mosaic in Ogmores Washeries	The Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.
769	Too high level for comments, public need an appropriate consultation...not this	Concerned about Public Consultation	It is the view of the Council that the overall objectives of the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) as originally set out in the approved Delivery Agreement (See Appendix 5), have been met. It is also considered that the

		<p>LDP has been prepared in accordance with the LDP 'Preparation Requirements' set out in the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3).</p> <p>The Council previously consulted the public on the Preferred Strategy which was held from 30th September to 8th November 2019. Following the public consultation period the Council was required to consider all representations made in accordance with LDP Regulation 16(2) before determining the content of the deposit LDP. As such the Council drafted an initial Consultation Report (See Appendix 8 – Preferred Strategy &amp; Initial Consultation Report) for publishing. This report was subsequently signed off by members of Council.</p> <p>As part of Stage 4 of the Delivery Agreement, the Council was required to undertake Deposit public consultation for a statutory period of 6 weeks, however the Council made an allowance for 8 weeks in order to maximise public participation. This was to ensure a range of views could be considered as part of a process of building a wide consensus on the Replacement LDP's strategy and policies. A number of consultation methods were used to ensure efficient and effective consultation and participation, in accordance with the CIS. These methods included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Legal Notice was placed within the Glamorgan Gazette on 3rd June 2021</li> <li>• The package of consultation documents were made available online via Bridgend County Borough Council's Website. Respondents were able to complete an electronic survey online to make a formal representation.</li> <li>• Printed reference copies were placed within Council buildings, including every library in the County Borough (fixed and mobile), subject to social distancing guidelines. The reference copies were also available to view at the Council's Civic Offices, by appointment only as the offices had not re-opened to the public due to the pandemic. Hard copies of the survey form were also made available at these locations for members of the public to complete by hand.</li> <li>• Dissemination of hard copies of information to individuals. Members of the public were able to request a copy of the survey by post to complete by hand (free of charge). There was a £25 charge for a hard copy of the whole Deposit Plan to cover printing and postage costs for such a large document.</li> <li>• Every individual and organisation on the LDP Consultation Database was notified by letter or email to inform them of the availability of the Deposit Consultation. Approximately 500 representors were contacted, provided with details of how to access the package of consultation documents and how to respond. As the consultation progressed, additional representors were informed of and added to the database upon request.</li> <li>• Planning Aid Wales were commissioned by the Council to run remote engagement events for all Town and Community Councils in the County Borough.</li> <li>• A comprehensive social media plan was devised. A series of social media posts were released periodically on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. They drew attention to different thematic areas / parts of the County Borough throughout the consultation period.</li> <li>• Planning Officers have presented the consultation remotely to established working groups, including the Bridgend Community Cohesion and Equalities Forum and Youth Forum.</li> <li>• In place of face to face public drop-in sessions, representors were able to book one-to-one telephone appointments with planning officers to discuss any queries/concerns they may have had.</li> <li>• Posters were sent to all Town and Community Councils to display on their notice boards.</li> </ul> <p>The Plan has to be prepared in the context of national legislation and guidance and has to be informed by an evidence base comprising of background papers and other technical documents. The written statement has been written with the aim of being understandable and not too technical or jargonistic but its content must reflect the fact that it is a land use plan. The Plan has been accompanied by an easy read summary leaflet, and the opportunity for telephone calls on an appointment basis where Officers were on hand to help talk interested persons through the Plan, its policies and proposals and how to comment. All Local Development Plan</p>
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			documents were available in main libraries throughout the County Borough in addition to the Civic Offices via appointment. Guides on how to comment and register were available online. Additionally, the phone lines were manned between the hours of 9am-5pm weekdays to provide assistance. The Local Development Plan has to be written in a particular style to meet the guidance set out in the LDP regulations manual.
770	Considerable thought should be given to the effect of building on or around the coastline in Porthcawl, given that sea levels are expected to rise. Newton dunes should be preserved as an area of natural beauty and importance	Concerned about impact of development in Porthcawl on coastline and relic dunes	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>With specific reference to the proposed allocation of Porthcawl Waterfront, development will be subject to site-specific requirements and masterplan development principles (See Deposit LDP Policy PLA1 – Page 63). In terms of flood risk, it's acknowledged that the majority of the site is susceptible to tidal flooding and requires coastal protection works in order to be considered for residential development. Welsh Government Coastal Risk Management Programme funding has been secured for major flood defence works, which will enable the site to be delivered comprehensively. The site will be developed in phases, linked to the phasing for the coastal defences. The west of the site (incorporating parts of the existing Salt Lake Car Park) is not entirely reliant upon the delivery of improved sea defences and is therefore expected to come forward initially. Later development phases along the Eastern Promenade (rear of Sandy Bay) rely on coastal defences and will therefore be delivered in succession to coincide with completion of the flood defence works.</p> <p>In terms of the Relic Dunes to the rear of Sandy Bay, they are considered to provide a counterpoint to the generally hard urban edges. It provides a natural environment abutting the Bay to encourage ecosystem resilience. The dunes currently provide protection against coastal flooding. Therefore, the management of this habitat will create resilience in this natural coastal management asset. The Relic Dunes are a nationally protected habitat and the council will to continue to conserve and enhance this habitat, whilst also recognising that the dunes act as a natural coastal risk management asset. No significant effects are deemed likely as a result of development.</p> <p>The Newton Burrows and Merthyr Mawr Sand Dunes to the rear of Newton Beach form part of the Merthyr Mawr Warren and are designated as a National Nature Reserve (NNR) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) (See Appendix 26 – Landscape Character Assessment). As sites of national importance these are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000, the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.</p>
776	Conserving the historic environment is a thing of the past overridden by economic priorities .	Concerned preservation of historic environment is not a priority	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The LDP Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Policy DNP11 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
438	all green technologies must generate green zero carbon cryptocurrency to spend on local services. This will future proof the green local zero carbon economy.	Supports zero carbon economy	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>This is a matter outside the scope of the Local Development Plan.</p>
676	Largely agree	Supports policies	Comments noted.

792	The historical environment is what makes an area attractive to visit and all policies should ask the question ' Does any development(s) detract from this asset. The economic impact of the historical environment can be measured in the same way output from local businesses.	Preservation of historic environment should be prioritised	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The LDP Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Policy DNP11 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
880	I'm afraid this is were I fundamentally disagree with this proposed LDP. Bridgend is taking an easy option and building over valuable and valued green field sites. Fine words above but the LDP will destroy acres of green sites if it goes thorough in it's current form. How is that going to "conserve and enhance valued countryside, landscapes," Little value has been put on sites that need to be protect from overdevelopment and simple greed.	Opposed to development on greenfield sites	<p>The distribution of growth contained within the Replacement LDP is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p>
901	All ready stated	No changes	Comments noted.
960	I agree with the statement, however have no faith or confidence the letter of the LDP will be followed through based on previous experience. The policies seem to be paper based only, for example traveler sites proposed in areas of natural beauty, teeming with biodiversity and next to NRW woodland areas (Penyfai) does not 'fit' with the ambition (rhetoric) in the plan. Historic sites to local communities, the old quarry in Penyfai - and area around Tondy ironworks have all been eroded through the planning process, and community voice ignored in the process. The stones at	Concern that LDP site allocations will not protect historic and natural environment	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>Please see Appendix 58 – Background Paper 18: Gypsy and Traveller Site Options for details of the site search sequence undertaken to identify suitable sites to meet the accommodation needs identified in the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (See Appendix 28). This was carried out in accordance with Circular 005/2018 and other relevant national and local policy. The site identified in Penyfai is not within a nature conservation designation and is not close to any listed or heritage assets.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p>

	<p>Llangewydd/laleston are also at risk with PLA3. the natural environment is important for peoples wellbeing, it is important to encourage tourism, it encourages people to keep active and healthy to be able to spend time in such beautiful environments. I just don't see the plan as evidencing they will be prioritised or protected.</p>		<p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough (See Appendix 22), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps (See Appendix 29). As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development. In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Policy DNP8 seeks to ensure that Bridgend's green infrastructure assets are valued, protected, enhanced and managed through a green infrastructure network. At the landscape scale green infrastructure assets can comprise entire ecosystems such as wetlands, woodlands, heathlands and waterways. At a local scale, it might comprise of parks, fields, footpaths, Public Rights of Way, cycle ways, common land, open access land, allotments, cemeteries, landscaped areas and gardens. At smaller scales, individual urban interventions such as street trees, roadside verges, and green roofs can all contribute to green infrastructure networks. The County supports a wealth of Green Infrastructure assets that together comprise the strategic network, which is set out in the Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23). When appropriately planned, designed and managed, green infrastructure has the potential to deliver a wider range of benefits for people and wildlife. By considering the multiple functions that a Green Infrastructure asset can provide simultaneously, it can significantly reduce costs for individuals, businesses and public bodies, whilst enhancing the quality of life and health of residents, workers and visitors to Bridgend.</p>
594	<p>You are proposing to build on greenfield sites as apposed to grey I suggest you look at your environmental credentials as they are not working.</p>	<p>Opposed to development on greenfield sites</p>	<p>The distribution of growth contained within the Replacement LDP is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special</p>



			landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.
977	Maintain and enhance existing historic areas within community	Supports protection of historic environment	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Policy DNP11 (See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
988	As long as we act like WE are the guests in nature, and that untouched land is THEIR space, then it should be fine.	Supports protection of natural environment	Comments noted.
102 3	Keep the natural.....stop the build	Supports protection of natural environment	Comments noted.
104 2	preserve the existing environment by radially reducing housing investments until you make significant sustainability and infrastructure improvements!!!	Concern about infrastructure delivery	<p>Policies PLA1-PLA5 (See Deposit Plan – Page 62) detail the site-specific requirements for the mixed-use Strategic Development Sites in Regeneration Growth Areas and Sustainable Growth Areas. Such requirements include masterplan development principles and development requirements all of which seek to contribute and address the identified key issues and drivers identified through the Replacement LDP preparation process. This will be facilitated through the provision of affordable housing, on-site education provision, public open space and active travel provision.</p> <p>Development of this scale (sustainable urban extensions) is necessary to create sustainable communities that will incorporate a mix of complementary uses and deliver improvements to existing infrastructure and/or provide new supporting infrastructure. The latter factor is particularly notable given the school capacity issues across the County Borough and the need for new strategic sites to be significant enough in scale to support provision of a new primary school as a minimum.</p> <p>In terms of supporting infrastructure, an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) has been produced (See Appendix 37). The IDP provides a single schedule of all necessary infrastructure without which the development of allocated sites for the anticipated quantum of proposed housing/employment uses within the plan period could not proceed. Such infrastructure includes transport, education, health, environmental management, utilities in addition to community and cultural infrastructure.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be</p>

			required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.
1045	It looks as if you want to develop a lot of wide open, green spaces. Hardly conservation minded.	Concerned about development on greenfield sites	<p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p>
1047	Will destroy natural environments and ecological system	Concerned about impact on natural environment	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p>
1069	I'm glad to see you mention the historic environment as this is something that is really important, should never lose site of the fact that Bridgend was a market town	Historic environment should be prioritised	Comments noted
1070	There is no mention of protecting the natural habitat in its own right. It is not all about how things benefit us, as people, although it does, when we do not protect our fragile ecosystems, then we and future generations will inevitably suffer the consequence. If you place everything else above the natural world which we have done for far too long then there is no way back. "These goals need to be balanced alongside the need to facilitate sustainable economic growth".You talk about the historic environment as being finite, which I	Concerned about protection of natural environment	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>Policy DNP8 seeks to ensure that Bridgend's green infrastructure assets are valued, protected, enhanced and managed through a green infrastructure network. At the landscape scale green infrastructure assets can comprise entire ecosystems such as wetlands, woodlands, heathlands and waterways. At a local scale, it might comprise of parks, fields, footpaths, Public Rights of Way, cycle ways, common land, open access land,</p>

	agree with, however, the natural world is too, this has not been mentioned and I find this highly concerning in a 10 year plan. It seems to me like it is business as usual and ignoring the factual scientific basis. I recognise there needs to be economic growth but we need to be more innovative in how we achieve this so we are not using up our FINITE, irreplaceable ecosystems.		allotments, cemeteries, landscaped areas and gardens. At smaller scales, individual urban interventions such as street trees, roadside verges, and green roofs can all contribute to green infrastructure networks. The County supports a wealth of Green Infrastructure assets that together comprise the strategic network, which is set out in the Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23). When appropriately planned, designed and managed, green infrastructure has the potential to deliver a wider range of benefits for people and wildlife. By considering the multiple functions that a Green Infrastructure asset can provide simultaneously, it can significantly reduce costs for individuals, businesses and public bodies, whilst enhancing the quality of life and health of residents, workers and visitors to Bridgend.
109 5	Appropriate consultations will need to take place	Concerned about consultation	<p>It is the view of the Council that the overall objectives of the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) as set out in the approved Delivery Agreement (See Appendix 5) have been met. It is also considered that the LDP has been prepared in accordance with the LDP 'Preparation Requirements' set out in the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3).</p> <p>As part of Stage 4 of the Delivery Agreement, the Council was required to undertake Deposit public consultation for a statutory period of 6 weeks, however the Council made an allowance for 8 weeks in order to maximise public participation. This was to ensure a range of views could be considered as part of a process of building a wide consensus on the Replacement LDP's strategy and policies. A number of consultation methods were used to ensure efficient and effective consultation and participation, in accordance with the CIS. These methods included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Legal Notice was placed within the Glamorgan Gazette on 3rd June 2021</li> <li>• The package of consultation documents were made available online via Bridgend County Borough Council's Website. Respondents were able to complete an electronic survey online to make a formal representation.</li> <li>• Printed reference copies were placed within Council buildings, including every library in the County Borough (fixed and mobile), subject to social distancing guidelines. The reference copies were also available to view at the Council's Civic Offices, by appointment only as the offices had not re-opened to the public due to the pandemic. Hard copies of the survey form were also made available at these locations for members of the public to complete by hand.</li> <li>• Dissemination of hard copies of information to individuals. Members of the public were able to request a copy of the survey by post to complete by hand (free of charge). There was a £25 charge for a hard copy of the whole Deposit Plan to cover printing and postage costs for such a large document.</li> <li>• Every individual and organisation on the LDP Consultation Database was notified by letter or email to inform them of the availability of the Deposit Consultation. Approximately 500 representors were contacted, provided with details of how to access the package of consultation documents and how to respond. As the consultation progressed, additional representors were informed of and added to the database upon request.</li> <li>• Planning Aid Wales were commissioned by the Council to run remote engagement events for all Town and Community Councils in the County Borough.</li> <li>• A comprehensive social media plan was devised. A series of social media posts were released periodically on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. They drew attention to different thematic areas / parts of the County Borough throughout the consultation period.</li> <li>• Planning Officers have presented the consultation remotely to established working groups, including the Bridgend Community Cohesion and Equalities Forum and Youth Forum.</li> <li>• In place of face to face public drop-in sessions, representors were able to book one-to-one telephone appointments with planning officers to discuss any queries/concerns they may have had.</li> <li>• Posters were sent to all Town and Community Councils to display on their notice boards.</li> </ul>

			<p>The Plan has to be prepared in the context of national legislation and guidance and has to be informed by an evidence base comprising of background papers and other technical documents. The written statement has been written with the aim of being understandable and not too technical or jargonistic but its content must reflect the fact that it is a land use plan. The Plan has been accompanied by an easy read summary leaflet, and the opportunity for telephone calls on an appointment basis where Officers were on hand to help talk interested persons through the Plan, its policies and proposals and how to comment. All Local Development Plan documents were available in main libraries throughout the County Borough in addition to the Civic Offices via appointment. Guides on how to comment and register were available online. Additionally, the phone lines were manned between the hours of 9am-5pm weekdays to provide assistance. The Local Development Plan has to be written in a particular style to meet the guidance set out in the LDP regulations manual.</p>
113 5	No issue	No changes	Comments noted.
121 4	<p>Conserve the natural environment do Porthcawl- do not build shops and housing on Porthcawl Seafront. Do you know of any other seaside resort that has a supermarket right next to the beach? Your decision to seek prime land to ALDI is a poor and lazy one. Where is your imagination? Porthcawl could be so great but you are ruining it. Thousands of people visit here and you are building on the main car park? Where do you expect people to park? Surely you can see the error here. Do not build on Sandy Bay - The Bowl. Leave it as it is. It is enjoyed by locals as a natural reserve. Insect populations are decreasing due to loss of habitat. Do not destroy this habitat. Bees are so important for us - bees are responsible for every third mouthful of our food. Do not destroy their habitat. The benefits of having this habitat far outweigh any gains from development.</p>	<p>Concerned about conservation of natural environment in Porthcawl</p>	<p>Comments noted. As set out by Policy PLA1 (See Page 63), Porthcawl Waterfront is an underutilised brownfield site occupying a prominent seafront position. The regeneration site is allocated for a residential-led, mixed use scheme that will deliver up to 1,115 dwellings with associated facilities, including tourism, open space, leisure, retail, a bus terminus and community provision. Policy PLA1 details the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements to enable its implementation, in accordance with the Growth (See Appendix 42) and Spatial Strategy (See Appendix 43) identified within SP1 and allocation identified within SP2. Delivery of the site will prove fundamental in achieving the Replacement LDP's Vision and Objectives for the County Borough.</p> <p>A Placemaking Strategy has been developed and produced of which provides the framework to deliver the broader vision for Porthcawl; which aims to create a premier seaside resort of regional significance through the comprehensive regeneration of this key waterfront site. It proposes a sustainable distribution and variety of complementary land uses across the area. It also proposed to retain and improve upon areas of attractive open space within Griffin Park, whilst creating significant new areas of open space along the seafront, supplemented with high quality active travel routes that traverse the entire site between the harbour and Trecco Bay. Physical development of the waterfront in this manner will improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, enhance the vibrancy of the Town Centre and deliver wider socio-economic benefits that allow the broader settlement of Porthcawl to thrive and prosper.</p> <p>In terms of leisure, an area north of the marina will be safeguarded for a leisure use, potentially a hotel. In the event that a hotel facility is not delivered then the site could provide an alternative form of leisure/tourism/commercial, year round, wet-weather attraction. In terms of open space, Policy PLA1 requires development of Porthcawl Waterfront to incorporate Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities of which are to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Furthermore, the land-use plan will ensure that green infrastructure can be incorporated as an intrinsic element of future detailed proposals across the regeneration area. There are a number of potential options for green infrastructure design that could be incorporated as part of future development within the regeneration area including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an extensive viable network of green corridors and natural habitat throughout development which connects larger or more expansive open spaces for both people and wildlife designed around existing site assets;</li> <li>• Provide pleasant, safe and linear routes for active travel such as walking and cycling for utility, recreation and health promotion;</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure where possible streets and roads are tree-lined or contain soft landscaping appropriate to local character, habitats and species within the area;</li> <li>• Utilise SUDs to provide additional multi use green space and enhance connectivity between habitats for enhanced biodiversity;</li> <li>• Include bat boxes, bricks or lofts and bird boxes on all housing, to reflect the species within the area;</li> <li>• Harvest, store and re-use rainwater in low carbon systems;</li> <li>• Create natural green spaces and wild or free play areas in the urban setting;</li> <li>• Create a network of streets, open spaces and parks, with safe and legible routes linking them to homes and schools;</li> <li>• Enhance the transport system and help reduce effects of air pollution through the provision of verges of priority habitat, hedgerow, wildflower rich or rough grassland;</li> <li>• Provide public access to green infrastructure assets where appropriate; and</li> <li>• Incorporate insect attracting plants, hedgerows, log piles, loggaries and other places of shelter for wildlife refuge/hibernation within structural landscaping and open spaces.</li> </ul> <p>In terms of car parking, it's acknowledged that a sound and robust parking strategy will be critical to the success of the regeneration. As part of the strategy, the site will accommodate a new multi storey car park on the existing Hillsboro car par enabling more ground floor space to be given over to public realm and development. Consideration should be given to alternative future uses as, overtime, the aspiration is that travel to Porthcawl Waterfront will be principally by public transport including park and ride schemes, greatly reducing the number of private vehicles requiring parking facilities. Consultations confirmed widespread support for the concept of a multi storey car park whilst recognising it will change the immediate outlook of properties on Hillsboro Place.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council have prepared a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to inform the Replacement LDP (See Appendix 9) of which was carried out to identify the likely significant environmental and wider sustainability effects from the Deposit Plan. It also considers whether any mitigation and enhancement measures should be incorporated within the Replacement LDP to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects and to enhance the effectiveness of the plan. The findings of the SA indicate that development of Porthcawl Waterfront with its proposed range of land uses will likely produce a wide range of significant beneficial effects.</p>
1006	in order for the policies to be applied, it is important that all assets, including biodiversity as well as natural/smi natural assets such as the new woodland and cycle track are identified on the plan.	Identify all natural & biodiversity assets on the Proposals Map	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The Spirit of Llynfi Woodland is included as part of the allocated area for provision of Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace under Policy COM11(9) which is shown on the Proposals Map. Cycle routes are identified on the Active Travel Network Map (See Appendix 29) which can be viewed on the Council website. It would not be practical to show all of these on the Proposals Map.</p>
548	Building 850 houses in a green area (Laleston) hardly helps the environment, habitats or anything else	Concerns relating to environmental impact and habitat loss	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p>

			<p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
553	<p>The land West of Bridgend is a beautiful natural space. There are lovely walks to be had, dating back hundreds of years. It houses ancient trees and hedgerows, birds and wildlife with increasingly few places to live safely. If you want to 'conserve and enhance' this area then leave it alone. The 'circus field' is another part of this area. For years it has provided a fun experience for children and their families to attend. It is part of the year in Bridgend. Wouldn't taking away the place that the circus pitches their tent constitute as depriving travelling performers of their livelihood?</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>

557	<p>Conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment is therefore a key function of the Replacement LDP? I cannot see how this is key function when the housing developments proposed around the Laleston, Bryntirion and Cefn Glas areas will directly contravene this key function.</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
558	<p>This should not be done you are taking to much green space away</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the</p>

			<p>Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
559	How can we sustain this policy if we are looking to build new houses on green site eg west of bridgend. This policy says one thing but we still look to build on green sites?	Concerns relating to loss of green space.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
561	New builds in Cefn Glas have meant the loss of a large green space close to the Barnes Avenue / Llangewydd Court area. This is a huge loss, as it was very much used by residents during lockdown as their daily exercise. For residents in Cefn Glas,	Concerns relating to loss of green space and preservation of historic environment.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p>



	<p>this pushes the green spaces further away from our communities and is affecting air quality through additional traffic. I am concerned about the remaining green space which forms a link between Cefn Glas and Laleston which will be the next loss to both our communities. I understand this location has historic roots - There are burial stone ruins at this location, due to neglected signage I know very little. I fear these will also be overlooked in favour of new builds, appearing promising growth to an area that has had significant changes in even more recent years. Our village's proximity to the town centre makes land here an attractive prospect for developers, but comes at a cost to the wellbeing of existing residents.</p>		<p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
563	<p>The natural environmental is vital to the development of our local area. A development on the scale proposed will only serve to harm our natural environment.</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p>

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575	All development proposals should only be granted if these things are a top priority.	Concerns relating to loss of green space.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
578	The development needs to be sympathetic to existing natural habitats and places of public and scientific interest.	Concerns relating to loss of green space and preservation of habitats and natural environment.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p>

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580	No		Comments noted.
602	This will destroy the natural environment around Bryntirion and Laleston.	Concerns relating to loss of green space.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>

604	You cannot preserve any of the above by continually granting permission to build on farm land and country side	Concerns relating to loss of green space.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
446	Building a large housing development next to a village trying to keep its ancient identity and preserving Grade 2 listed buildings etc does not make sense and the increased traffic through the village will only serve to make this even more difficult if not impossible	Concerns relating to loss of green space and preservation of natural environment as well as traffic.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the</p>

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689	<p>You cannot have a policy which states "Conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment is therefore a key function..." and suggest that PLA3 is in keeping with this plan. It clearly is not. It is a destructive plan which will take away 9 centuries of local identity in one catastrophic mistake.</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p>

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868	<p>The proposed Site PLA3 does not met this key function. It contradicts this function because it would destroy ancient woodland, historical rights of way and open spaces, and obliterate the green wedge which maintains Laleston as a village.</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space and natural environment.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>

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912	<p>I am totally against the local development plan to build on greenfield land between Bryntirion and Laleston due to the enormous amount of damage it will do to the natural features of this area and because there is limited infrastructure and public services to support it. Another 850 cars added to the narrow roads around Laleston and Bridgend does not bear thinking, about so it's a definite "NO" from me.</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space and natural environment as well as impact of PLA3 on infrastructure and traffic.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, The Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of</p>

		<p>preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p> <p>Regarding infrastructure, policies PLA1-PLA5 (See Deposit Plan – Page 62) detail the site-specific requirements for the mixed-use Strategic Development Sites in Regeneration Growth Areas and Sustainable Growth Areas. Such requirements include masterplan development principles and development requirements all of which seek to contribute and address the identified key issues and drivers identified through the Replacement LDP preparation process. This will be facilitated through the provision of affordable housing, on-site education provision, public open space and active travel provision.</p> <p>Development of this scale (sustainable urban extensions) is necessary to create sustainable communities that will incorporate a mix of complementary uses and deliver improvements to existing infrastructure and/or provide new supporting infrastructure. The latter factor is particularly notable given the school capacity issues across the County Borough and the need for new strategic sites to be significant enough in scale to support provision of a new primary school as a minimum.</p> <p>In terms of supporting infrastructure, an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) has been produced (See Appendix 37). The IDP provides a single schedule of all necessary infrastructure without which the development of allocated sites for the anticipated quantum of proposed housing/employment uses within the plan period could not proceed. Such infrastructure includes transport, education, health, environmental management, utilities in addition to community and cultural infrastructure.</p> <p>In terms of traffic, The Replacement LDP identifies and differentiates between the sustainability of places by defining a settlement hierarchy. This has been informed by the conclusions of the Bridgend County Borough Settlement Assessment (2019, updated in 2021) (See Appendix 19), which reflects Bridgend’s historical and functional settlement pattern and seeks to achieve more sustainable places in a number of ways. The scale and type of growth apportioned to settlements is dependent upon their individual roles, functions and positions within the settlement hierarchy. This is to ensure the Replacement LDP and spatial strategy (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3: Spatial Strategy Options) directs the majority of growth towards areas that already benefit from good infrastructure including transport networks, services and facilities, or where additional capacity can be provided.</p> <p>Whilst developments should be encouraged in locations which reduce the need to travel and promote the use of sustainable transport, the Council recognises that any development growth will likely result in greater travel demand, and that increased traffic levels and congestion is likely to occur if appropriate mitigating transport measures and infrastructure are not delivered. Therefore a Strategic Transport Assessment (See Appendix 36) has been undertaken to consider the impact of plan proposals and help guide and inform the process of delivering land allocations by means of modelling and quantifying the transport impact of these proposals. The technical notes accompanying this assessment demonstrate that the proposed level of development detailed within the LDP can be accommodated within the BCBC Highway Network with suitable mitigation.</p> <p>Furthermore Strategic Policy 5: Sustainable Transport and Accessibility will ensure that development must be located and designed in a way that minimises the need to travel, reduces dependency on the private car and enables sustainable access to employment, education, local services and community facilities. Development will be required to deliver, or contribute towards the provision of, active travel scheme, public transport measures, road infrastructure, and other transport measures, in accordance with the Bridgend Local Transport Plan and the Bridgend Integrated Network Plan (See Appendix 29).</p> <p>Strategic site allocations identified by policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements include pursuing transit-orientated development that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport use, whilst reducing private motor</p>
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			vehicle dependency. Well-designed, safe walking and cycling routes must be incorporated throughout the site to foster community orientated, healthy walkable neighbourhoods.
947	The proposals in the plan to build on an important area of green wedge located between the communities of Bryntirion and Laleston does not appear to accord with the current policies of the council or indeed those set out above. It also appears completely at odds with national policies set out in Future Wales by the Welsh Government which stress the importance of sense of place and the need for green wedges where appropriate, as in this instance. This development will lead to considerable damage to the natural and historic environment and lead to a coalescence of settlements meaning both communities will be significantly negatively affected.	Concerns relating to loss of green space and natural environment.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Additionally, the Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its's fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
948	Great words, how they get implemented is the worry. If we only focus on the special and unique natural environments, then we risk losing those local places which are still vital for biodiversity as they get nibbled away, bite by bite.	Concerns relating to loss of green space and natural environment.	Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.

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991	<p>If the historic environment is 'an important cultural asset and a finite, irreplaceable source of information about our past' why is the policy relating to the Island farm site still to develop and erase rather than conserve and enhance?</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of historic environment.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough’s environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p>

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100 5	Protect nature don't build on it!	Concerns relating to loss of green space and natural environment.	<p>Comments noted. The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p>

			<p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, tress (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINCs. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
1017	<p>Building on the circus field puts the historic village of Laleston at risk of losing its charm. There will be extra traffic going through the village to get to the site. The a48 is already too busy and cannot cope with the current housing. People will start using the local lanes to bypass traffic and the historic environment is at risk</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of historic environment and traffic.</p>	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites, the vast majority of which are greenfield. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p>

		<p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including a range of placemaking principles and masterplan development principles (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71). The proposed allocation will be required to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. The proposed allocation will also be required to maintain a strategic green corridor between the site and Laleston to retain the separate identities and character of these settlements whilst preventing coalescence.</p> <p>In terms of traffic, the Replacement LDP identifies and differentiates between the sustainability of places by defining a settlement hierarchy. This has been informed by the conclusions of the Bridgend County Borough Settlement Assessment (2019, updated in 2021) (See Appendix 19), which reflects Bridgend’s historical and functional settlement pattern and seeks to achieve more sustainable places in a number of ways. The scale and type of growth apportioned to settlements is dependent upon their individual roles, functions and positions within the settlement hierarchy. This is to ensure the Replacement LDP and spatial strategy (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3: Spatial Strategy Options) directs the majority of growth towards areas that already benefit from good infrastructure including transport networks, services and facilities, or where additional capacity can be provided.</p> <p>Whilst developments should be encouraged in locations which reduce the need to travel and promote the use of sustainable transport, the Council recognises that any development growth will likely result in greater travel demand, and that increased traffic levels and congestion is likely to occur if appropriate mitigating transport measures and infrastructure are not delivered. Therefore a Strategic Transport Assessment (See Appendix 36) has been undertaken to consider the impact of plan proposals and help guide and inform the process of delivering land allocations by means of modelling and quantifying the transport impact of these proposals. The technical notes accompanying this assessment demonstrate that the proposed level of development detailed within the LDP can be accommodated within the BCBC Highway Network with suitable mitigation.</p> <p>Furthermore Strategic Policy 5: Sustainable Transport and Accessibility will ensure that development must be located and designed in a way that minimises the need to travel, reduces dependency on the private car and enables sustainable access to employment, education, local services and community facilities. Development will be required to deliver, or contribute towards the provision of, active travel scheme, public transport measures, road infrastructure, and other transport measures, in accordance with the Bridgend Local Transport Plan and the Bridgend Integrated Network Plan (See Appendix 29).</p> <p>Strategic site allocations identified by policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements include pursuing transit-orientated development that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport use, whilst reducing private motor vehicle dependency. Well-designed, safe walking and cycling routes must be incorporated throughout the site to foster community orientated, healthy walkable neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Regarding heritage, The Strategy recognises the importance of the Historic Environment and its’s fundamental role in distinctive and natural placemaking through the planning system. The historic environment will be protected, conserved and, where appropriate, promoted and enhanced. The impact of any development proposal on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets, their setting and their contribution to local distinctiveness and character will be required to be fully considered by applicants through the preparation of a heritage impact assessment and statement as part of the planning process, as outlined by Strategic Policy 18 (See Page 208). Development Management Policy (DNP11 – See Page 210) seeks to ensure that, where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, special regard must be had to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p>
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<p>102 6</p>	<p>The plan I'd destroying the concept of village life. It links small villages like Laleston to become greater Bridgend town. No thought is given to the road congestion that will occur And subsequent pollution</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of sense of place as well as traffic and pollution issues.</p>	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised. The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites, the vast majority of which are greenfield. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p> <p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land West of Bridgend, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including a range of placemaking principles and masterplan development principles (See Deposit Policy PLA3 – Page 71). The proposed allocation will be required to provide 4.1 hectares of retained green infrastructure and new areas of public open space as well as exploring the provision of enabling sensitive public access to part of Laleston Meadows SINC and woodland. 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688	<p>This is a joke "Conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment is therefore a key function of the Replacement LDP," PLA3 (and other parts of the plan for all I know) fails to do this.</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space and natural environment.</p>	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p>

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105 9	<p>Conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment is therefore a key function of the Replacement LDP.. The Deposit Replacement LDP seeks to conserve and enhance the natural and historic environment of the county borough, recognising that the unique characteristics help attract investment, promote tourism, provide cultural experiences and encourage healthy lifestyles for communities. - the development of housing west of bridgend and by the island farm site</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space and natural environment, as well as employment and tourism.</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables</p>



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111 8	<p>PLA3 if allowed will put a swathe of concrete through an important historical and environmental landscape. Urbanisation heading closer and closer to the historical village of Laleston destroying the village character. The environmental damage to the local flora in the oak woods and damp areas including species of native orchids and the loss of habitat for buzzards, jays, lapwings etc</p>	<p>Concerns relating to loss of green space and natural environment.</p>	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned through the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough’s demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP’s success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough’s future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p>

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774	A traveller site would not enhance or improve the natural and built environment. The development of playing fields/nature park etc would help attract investment, promote tourism, provide cultural experiences and encourage healthy lifestyles for communities.	Concerns regarding Gypsy, Traveller and Showperson Allocation SP7 (2) Land adjacent to Bryncethin Depot	The Council has a statutory duty to carry out an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers under Part 3 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and to meet any identified need for additional pitches under section 56 of the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013. PPW also clarifies that “where a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) identifies an unmet need, a planning authority should allocate sufficient sites in their development plan to ensure that the identified pitch requirements for residential and/or transit use can be met” (para 4.2.35). When the GTAA was completed, the total estimated pitch provision needed for Gypsies and Travellers was 7 pitches up until 2033. Since then, one family has met their accommodation needs on an existing authorised site, leaving a remaining need for six pitches over the Plan period. This need stems from two families (i.e., three pitches per family). One of these families has recently received planning consent to intensify their existing site and meet their accommodation needs (planning application P/21/677/FUL refers). This leaves a remaining need for 3 pitches, which the Council considers can be appropriately accommodated by the original proposed allocation at Court Colman (SP7(1)), which is already in the family’s ownership. As such, the other proposed allocation at Bryncethin (SP7(2)) is no longer considered necessary and has been removed from the Replacement LDP. Refer to the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options Background Paper.
101 2	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
107 9	SOBJ2 The siting of a Gypsy, travellers and showmans site at Bryncethin. We object as we feel that this is an ill considered location in a residential and established community between Blackmill Road and Dennis Place, it will inevitably result negatively in the well being of our community. Also this land was promised to the residents of Bryncethin as recreational land at the time that the clay hole was filled in. In summary, we believe that BCBC have a duty of care to protect the health and welfare of the residents in Bryncethin, establishing this site will undoubtedly cause unnecessary stress and anxiety.	Objection to Gypsy, Traveller and Showperson Allocation SP7 (2) Land adjacent to Bryncethin Depot	The Council has a statutory duty to carry out an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers under Part 3 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and to meet any identified need for additional pitches under section 56 of the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013. PPW also clarifies that “where a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) identifies an unmet need, a planning authority should allocate sufficient sites in their development plan to ensure that the identified pitch requirements for residential and/or transit use can be met” (para 4.2.35). When the GTAA was completed, the total estimated pitch provision needed for Gypsies and Travellers was 7 pitches up until 2033. Since then, one family has met their accommodation needs on an existing authorised site, leaving a remaining need for six pitches over the Plan period. This need stems from two families (i.e., three pitches per family). One of these families has recently received planning consent to intensify their existing site and meet their accommodation needs (planning application P/21/677/FUL refers). This leaves a remaining need for 3 pitches, which the Council considers can be appropriately accommodated by the original proposed allocation at Court Colman (SP7(1)), which is already in the family’s ownership. As such, the other proposed allocation at Bryncethin (SP7(2)) is no longer considered necessary and has been removed from the Replacement LDP. Refer to the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options Background Paper.
125 7	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
552	Keep as natural as possible.	Keep as natural as possible	Comments noted. The County Borough’s natural and built environment is of high quality and represents one of its primary assets. The diversity of landscapes, habitats, species and geology, and their relationship with the urban area, contribute enormously to the County Borough’s distinctive and attractive character. The special and unique characteristics of the natural and built environment help attract investment, promote the County Borough as a tourist location and provide cultural experiences and healthy lifestyles for its communities. Conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment is therefore a key function of the Replacement LDP, although this needs to be balanced with the facilitation of sustainable economic growth in order to contribute to the national placemaking objectives of PPW. To comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Section 6 Duty) the Replacement LDP Strategy will seek to enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the County Borough’s ecosystems through native species landscaping, careful location of development, the creation of green corridors, and open space management. Only in exceptional circumstances, where it is in the public interest, will new development be located where it may have an adverse impact on sites designated for their importance for nature conservation. Robust mitigation and compensation will be provided wherever this situation is unavoidable, in line with considered advice from statutory and advisory organisations.

			The Replacement LDP has very strong policies relating to our environment and all environmental issues have been considered robustly through the Strategic Environmental Assessment.
556	You are planning to build on Greenfield space in the Pencoed college. These sites are used regularly. It is clearly a rushed plan that has been agreed as it is BCBC land! Also they are not attached to Pencoed. There is clearly some plan to improve transport to RCT.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA4: Land East of Pencoed	The site in question is owned by Bridgend College not by Bridgend County Borough Council.
613	N/A	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
658	Pencoed cannot cope with it's current population so it doesn't need further housing. It needs thd small amount of natural beauty safeguarded.	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA4: Land East of Pencoed	<p>The Deposit Plan has been underpinned by the identification of the most appropriate scale of economic growth and housing provision, all of which have been based upon well informed, evidence based judgements regarding need, demand and supply factors (See Appendix 42 – Background Paper 2: Preferred Strategy Strategic Growth Options). A range of growth scenarios across the whole Replacement LDP period have been analysed and discussed within the Strategic Growth Options Background Paper. This has considered how the County Borough's demographic situation is likely to change from 2018-2033 and informed the most appropriate response for the Replacement LDP. As such the Replacement LDP identifies an appropriate plan requirement to enable a balanced level of housing and employment provision that will achieve sustainable patterns of growth, support existing settlements and maximise viable affordable housing delivery.</p> <p>The distribution of growth is further evaluated and justified in the Spatial Strategy Options Background Paper (See Appendix 43 – Background Paper 3). The strategy prioritises the development of land within or on the periphery of sustainable urban areas, primarily on previously developed brownfield sites. It continues to focus on the delivery of the brownfield regeneration allocations identified in the existing LDP, hence, Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley are still denoted as regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. The ongoing commitment to brownfield development opportunities within these settlements accords with the site-search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales and seeks to minimise developmental pressure on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements (notably Bridgend and the Valleys Gateway), there are limited further brownfield regeneration opportunities remaining. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) are therefore required to implement SP1, deliver affordable housing in high need areas and ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be realised.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP apportions sustainable growth towards settlements that already benefit from significant services, facilities and employment opportunities and are most conducive to enabling transit orientated development. As such, a Settlement Assessment has been undertaken (See Appendix 19) to establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy. Based upon the consideration of a comprehensive range of variables sustainable growth will be appropriately directed towards the Main Settlements of Bridgend and Pencoed along with the grouped Main Settlement of Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly.</p> <p>The plan preparation has involved the assessment of 171 sites. Each candidate site has been assessed against the criteria in the Candidate Site Assessment Methodology which was previously consulted upon (See Appendix 13 – Candidate Sites Assessment Report (2020)). During Stage 2 detailed assessment, sites were examined based on any specific issues they raised in terms of their deliverability, general location, neighbouring land uses, existing use(s), accessibility, physical character, environmental constraints and opportunities. Site promoters were asked to prepare and submit a number of technical supporting studies to demonstrate the site's deliverability, sustainability and suitability. Proceeding this detailed assessment, only those sites deemed appropriate were included for allocation in the Deposit Plan.</p>

			<p>As part of the proposed allocation of Land East of Pencoed, development will be subject to site-specific requirements including masterplan development principles and placemaking principles (See Deposit Policy PLA4 – Page 75). The provision of new residential units, including affordable dwellings, will be incorporated alongside a new 1.5 form entry primary school, recreation facilities, public open space, plus appropriate community facilities and commercial uses.</p> <p>An Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) has been produced (See Appendix 37). The IDP provides a single schedule of all necessary infrastructure without which the development of allocated sites for the anticipated quantum of proposed housing/employment uses within the plan period could not proceed. Such infrastructure includes transport, education, health, environmental management, utilities in addition to community and cultural infrastructure.</p>
937	No	No changes proposed	Comments noted.
956	No bcbc are not looking after natural development	Concerns regarding the natural environment	<p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
973	How is the diversity of Pencoed being managed if the proposed development builds on green land currently used for exercise, sporting activities, socialising and by dog walkers?	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA4: Land East of	<p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special</p>

		Pencoed / loss of recreation space	<p>landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children’s playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children’s Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summarises the findings of the detailed ‘audit’ of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children’s Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend’s green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC’s. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>As part of PLA4: Land East of Pencoed, Green Infrastructure and Outdoor Recreation Facilities will be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance. In addition, the site is crossed by a high pressure gas main which runs north to south across the site and a 10m buffer zone must be retained either side of the pipeline. This area will be used to make a significant, positive contribution to the development’s green infrastructure network by creating a linear park that incorporates landscaping areas, nature conservation and pedestrian linkages to avoid unnecessary sterilisation of land. Equally, there are two Listed Buildings within the main college campus (Tregroes House 78 and the bridge located on the driveway leading to the House), which will be protected and incorporated within the site. These factors will ensure delivery of a high quality public realm, with public spaces and streets that are well defined, safe, inclusive, high quality and ecologically diverse making them pleasant places to be. The site will be well connected and integrated into the existing settlement of Pencoed, help promote more active lifestyles, combat social isolation and provide close, sustainable linkages to the key places residents will need to travel to.</p>
1009	The council is proposing to build a significant number of homes (PLA2) on/near the Island Farm Prisoner of War camp, a site of specific historic value to the county and wider Wales. This is abominable. The men and women who gave their lives in the second world war from the Bridgend County would not welcome the Council's attempt to knock down historic	Concerns regarding Strategic Allocation PLA2: Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm) and Hut 9	<p>Bridgend County Borough Council is not knocking down Hut 9.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is also accompanied by a SA Report (incorporating SEA) to assess the likely sustainability and significant environmental effects of all substantive component within the Plan (strategy, policies, site allocations, etc.) and any identified reasonable alternatives. This builds directly upon previous SA reporting including an SA Scoping Report (2018) and an Interim SA Scoping Report (2019) which accompanied the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy. The Deposit Plan SA Report demonstrates how the SA, incorporating SEA, process has informed the development of the Deposit Plan, including the incorporation of recommended changes within the document. As a result, the SA Report concludes that there is good coverage of all key</p>

	buildings that once held (and was the scene of a famous escape of) German Prisoners of War.		<p>sustainability issues in Deposit Plan, with plan components performing well against the SA Framework. It also identifies strong compatibility between the LDP Vision/Objectives and the SA Framework, plus no likely significant adverse effects (taking account of mitigation in all its forms).</p> <p>In accordance with statutory requirements, Planning Policy Wales sets out multiple requirements for development to avoid direct adverse effects on nationally important heritage assets and for the need for any development resulting in adverse effects on the historic environment to be robustly justified. There is also a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and their settings, along with a requirement for development not to result in direct adverse effects on Scheduled Monuments, unless there are exceptional circumstances. These issues are grouped under 'Cultural Heritage', which is one of the 14 Sustainability Objectives considered by the SA. The potential for adverse impacts on Cultural Heritage was and is an important consideration in determining the overall sustainability and thus suitability of candidate site allocations. Any sustainability impacts would also depend on the scale of development proposed.</p> <p>For Land South of Bridgend (Island Farm), the SA identified the potential for adverse impacts due to the proximity of the site to scheduled monuments and listed buildings. However, the requirements under SP2 (for each strategic site allocation to be supported by a detailed masterplan) and PLA2 (for the proposed strategic site allocation to implement specific masterplan development principles) represent forms of mitigation to help address the identified likely significant effects. These requirements also enhance the sustainability performance of the strategic site allocation more generally. The SA identifies relevant masterplan development principles included in these spatial development policies to help ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects which could otherwise occur from this development proposal. Additional masterplan development principles are also included within Policy PLA2 to ensure site applies Good Design principles and a Sustainable Placemaking approach to siting, design, construction and operation in accordance with Planning Policy Wales. These principles were informed by SA findings and have been incorporated into the final Deposit Plan, with SA site assessment scoring updated to reflect their inclusion in the Deposit Plan. The tourism and culture asset of Hut 9 will also be preserved and enhanced through improved linkages and active opportunities.</p> <p>The northern sector of the site immediately to the south of the A48 and formed part of the former Crossways Country Club and Second World War prisoner of war camp. A single storey building, the only surviving building from the camp (Hut 9) has been listed (Grade II) and is located in the northeast part of the site. The Masterplan and Strategic Site Policy (PLA2) seek to ensure that Hut 9 is fully integrated with future development proposals.</p>
108 7	Not possible. We need to preserve quality agricultural land.	Need to preserve quality agricultural land	Background Paper 15: Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land sets out how the Local Planning Authority has considered the location and quality of agricultural land in developing the Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 2018-2033. It demonstrates how the Preferred Strategy and site selection process has sought to minimise the loss of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land when balanced against a range of other material planning considerations.
109 1	With the building of houses etc the countryside and heritage etc will be extinct	Concerns regarding houses and impact upon countryside	<p>The Strategy acknowledges that the County Borough has a rich and varied biodiversity with a broad range of species, habitats and unique, rich landscapes. Policies within the Deposit Plan have been refreshed and updated from the existing LDP and will continue to protect the county borough's environment in line with national planning policy and the Environment Act 2016. These policies cover development in the countryside, special landscape areas, local / regional nature conservation sites, trees, hedgerows and development, green infrastructure, nature conservation and natural resources protection and public health.</p> <p>As part of the technical supporting evidence base accompanying the Deposit Plan, the Council has undertaken an updated detailed audit of existing outdoor sports and children's playspace across the County Borough (See Appendix 22: Outdoor Sport and Children's Play Space Audit (2021)). Its findings can be used as means of justifying the provision of new facilities and/or remedying local deficiencies in provision. It can also be used as means of safeguarding and enhancing existing facilities as appropriate.</p>

			<p>Additionally, the Council has undertaken a Green Infrastructure Assessment (See Appendix 23) to guide and shape the planning and delivery of green infrastructure throughout the County Borough. The assessment summaries the findings of the detailed 'audit' of the provision of Outdoor Sports and Children's Playing Space within the County Borough of which is endorsed by Fields in Trust (FIT), whilst also adopting a holistic approach to include green infrastructure assets (such as allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, broad habitats) and the Integrated Network Maps. As such the assessment will provide a mechanism to ensure green infrastructure forms an integral and significant part of development and wider infrastructure proposals.</p> <p>Development proposals including strategic site allocations will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance Bridgend's green infrastructure network and ensuring that individual green assets are retained wherever possible and integrated into any new development.</p> <p>In terms of Strategic Development Sites, Policies PLA1-PLA5 detail the site specific requirements including masterplan development principles and development requirements. Such requirements will ensure that sites retain and provide suitable buffers to habitats, particularly hedgerows, trees (including Ancient and/or Semi-Ancient Woodland), and SINC's. Additionally, green infrastructure and outdoor recreation facilities will be required to be delivered in accordance with Policy COM10 and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p>
605	This will not happen with a new homes builder. They do what they want and nothing gets done. I've seen it many times before!! They will take away protected hedge lines etc and nothing gets done and it gets replaced with sub par planting.	Concerns regarding new development and environment	The following Thematic Policies (PLA1-PLA5) detail the site-specific requirements for the mixed-use Strategic Development Sites in Regeneration Growth Areas and Sustainable Growth Areas. These detailed Thematic Policies are set within the context of SP3 and will enable its implementation, in accordance with the Growth and Spatial Strategy identified within SP1 and Strategic Allocations identified within SP2.
106 4	I strongly oppose the Local Development Plan (LDP) for the Pyle/Cornelly area (PLA5: Land East of Pyle, Kenfig Hill & North Cornelly) on the following grounds: the lands are of prime agricultural status which are needed for the growing of crops for sustainable human and animal needs; the area in question is of vital importance to the heritage of Kenfig and surrounding areas. I've briefly listed the following that fall within my objections to this proposed plan. STORMY DOWN (a) Prime Agricultural Land (b) Heritage - Stormy Castle, Sturmistown (c) Heritage - Roman Road, Julia Martitima (d) Heritage - Military, RAF Stormy Down (Airfield) WWII (e) Heritage - Military, Air Crash Sites (Controlled sites under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986) (f) Heritage - Stormy Down Settlement (deserted rural settlement) (g) Heritage - Stormy Farmhouse (h) SSSI - Site of Special Scientific Interest (located under Laleston on BCBC "Designation of Special Landscape Areas", March 2010 - <a href="https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/1796/d">https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/1796/d</a>	Objection to Strategic Allocation PLA5: Land East of Pyle	<p>Background Paper 15: Minimising the loss of Best and most versatile agricultural land sets out how the Local Planning Authority has considered the location and quality of agricultural land in developing the Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 2018-2033. It demonstrates how the Preferred Strategy and site selection process has sought to minimise the loss of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land when balanced against a range of other material planning considerations.</p> <p>Evidently, Land East of Pyle is a potential strategic site located at the edge of a Main Settlement (as defined by the Settlement Assessment) in a broadly viable housing market (as detailed within the Plan-Wide Viability Study) with high need for additional affordable housing (as identified by the LHMA). The original site submitted at Candidate Site Stage contains no BMV agricultural land based on Version 2 of the Predictive ALC Map. However, in order to ensure a more holistic and inclusive edge of settlement development opportunity, the site submission was expanded at Preferred Strategy Stage to include an additional significant parcel immediately to the south west. The overall proposal now constitutes two large parcels, the first encompassing 60-hectares of land to the north of the M4 and south-west of the A48, and the second being a 40-hectare parcel of land to the north and east of the A48. This revised submission presents an opportunity for significant sustainable development at the edge of a Main Settlement at a scale not matched by any other Stage 2 Candidate Site. This would enable delivery of a sustainable residential-led mixed-use scheme with approximately 2,300 market and affordable dwellings, provision of educational facilities, a local centre and associated supporting infrastructure. Expansion of the original site does mean that 8.4ha of BMV agricultural land (Grade 2 and 3a) would be lost through allocation of this more holistic sustainable urban extension according to the predicative map. However, detailed survey work undertaken by the site promoter indicates that the areas of Grade 2 and 3a as shown on Version 2 of the Predictive ALC Map are in fact Grade 3b. This has to be considered in the context of other deliverable Stage 2 Candidate Sites that are available. It is important for the Replacement LDP to acknowledge the role of this Main Settlement (as identified within the Settlement Assessment) and its potential to deliver sustainable development at a strategic scale when balanced against the potential loss of BMV agricultural land. Hence, there is considered to be an overriding need for this development to enable</p>



<p>esignation_of_special_landscape_areas.pdf)  f) SSSI includes the quarry's at this location in addition to the geology/mineral wealth and prehistoric value of the area in general. All this would be lost forever if the proposed LDP for this area was to take effect. As I'm responsible for the Kenfig Heritage website project (documenting the heritage of the Kenfig &amp; surrounding areas) - an online educational resource which has been formerly recognised by the National Library of Wales as "an important part of Wales' documentary heritage" which includes this particular area in question, I'm opposing the proposed LDP as outlined as it would decimate the heritage of the area in its entirety - additionally, the new Welsh government schools curriculum now includes local Welsh history; destroying areas of both natural beauty and of which is steeped in Welsh heritage would detract school visits to places of historic Welsh importance and of which goes completely against the proposals of the new Welsh schools curriculum in the main. Rob Bowen Owner/Author Kenfig - The Complete History (e-Resource) www.Kenfig.org.uk  Further Reading  1. Protection of Military Remains Act 1986 (Wikipedia) - <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protection_of_Military_Remains_Act_1986">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protection_of_Military_Remains_Act_1986</a>  2. Protection of Military Remains Act 1986 (The National Archives) - <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1986/35/contents">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1986/35/contents</a>  3. Designation of Special Landscape Areas, March 2010 (BCBC) - <a href="https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/1796/designation_of_special_landscape_areas.pdf">https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/1796/designation_of_special_landscape_areas.pdf</a>  4. Stormy Down (RCAHMW, Coflein) - <a href="https://coflein.gov.uk/en/search/?term=stormy%20down">https://coflein.gov.uk/en/search/?term=stormy%20down</a></p>		<p>sustainable growth in accordance with Planning Policy Wales' placemaking principles, to contribute to affordable housing provision in a high-need area and to deliver a plethora of socio-economic benefits that will support both local employment provision and the local commercial centres. A masterplan for the site has been developed to ensure Planning Policy Wales' sustainable placemaking objectives are integrated from the outset. A suite of detailed supporting technical information has also been provided by the site promoter to evidence the deliverability and viability of the site. This development would make a meaningful contribution in terms of housing provision (affordable and market), education provision, active travel and public open space in a manner that would promote the health and well-being of local residents through 64 encouraging active lifestyles. The Candidate Site Assessment has not identified other land at this scale in lower agricultural grades. Therefore, this site is considered appropriate for allocation on this basis in accordance with the site search sequence outlined in Planning Policy Wales.</p> <p>As acknowledged by Strategic Policy PLA5, the site is open and exposed to views from the north, west and locally to the east as well as views from the M4 to the south. The most sensitive parts are the three high points, upper slopes and associated minor ridges, and the steep slope to the west on the southern edge. The least sensitive area lies to the north and west on the lower slopes/flat areas, which lends itself to be the most appropriate location for the bulk of higher density development. The southern part of Parcel B is within a Special Landscape Area and the development will need to be planned sensitively to take account of this designation.</p> <p>The site itself is not subject to any ecological designations, although further wildlife and habitat surveys will need to be carried out to inform the site's potential development. Additionally, there are two SSSI's located in close proximity to the boundary of the site; the Penycastell SSSI is located to the north east and the Stormy Down SSSI is located to the south east of the site. Both are physically separated from the site by the route of the trainline and the M4 respectively. Given the need to maintain a landscape buffer between major transport routes and any proposed development, neither are considered to be a constraint to development.</p> <p>Archaeology Wales have undertaken a Desktop study which highlights standing and buried remains of potential archaeological interest. A WWII pillbox exists at the north west area of the site and there is believed to be an area of earthworks related to a 19th century (or possibly older) farmstead at the north east of the site. A 19th century tramline is also located along the northern portion of the site. The development will ensure that these remains are preserved or adequately investigated and recorded if they are disturbed or revealed as a direct result of development activities.</p> <p>The site neighbours Stormy Castle, a medieval settlement, which could extend into the site. Further work will need to be conducted to fully investigate any potential impacts and a geophysical survey of the site will need to be carried out to supplement the planning application.</p> <p>Stormy down airfield would not be negatively impacted by proposed development</p>
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