Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan 2018-2033









Background Paper 10:

Compatibility Assessment of LDP Vision, Objectives & Strategic Policies Against Well Being of Future Generations Act

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BRIDGEND REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) 2018-2033

BACKGROUND PAPER 10: COMPATIBILITY ASSESSMENT OF THE LDP VISION, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIC POLICIES AGAINST THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

1. Background

- 1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations Act places a duty on public bodies to carry out sustainable development. This is not a new concept for the planning system as the principles of sustainable development have been at the heart of planning policy since Planning Policy Wales (PPW) was first published in 2002. However, the concept has been expanded under the Well-being Act and it requires an improvement in the delivery of all four aspects of well-being: social, economic, environmental and cultural.
- 1.2 The Well-being Act has established seven well-being goals which are intended to shape the work of all public bodies in Wales. In order to demonstrate that appropriate consideration has been given to the Well-being goals and sustainable development principle in the decision making process, public bodies are required to have regard to the 'five ways of working' contained in the Well-being Act. These require consideration of: involvement; collaboration; integration; prevention; and long term factors.

Goal	Description of the Goal
A Prosperous Wales	An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.
A Resilient Wales	A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).

A Healthier Wales	A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.
A More Equal Wales	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).
A Wales of Cohesive Communities	Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.
A Wales of Vibrant Culture	A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and
and Thriving Welsh Language	which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.
A Globally Responsible Wales	A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.

1.3 The Planning Act introduced a statutory purpose for the planning system. Any statutory body carrying out a planning function must exercise those functions in accordance with the principles of sustainable development as defined in the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The planning system is central to achieving sustainable development in Wales. It provides the legislative and policy framework to manage the use and development of land in the public interest so that it contributes positively to the achievement of the well-being goals.

2. Purpose of Assessment

2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to demonstrate that the Replacement LDP assists in the delivery of the 7 Well-being Goals. Due consideration to these goals and the broader Sustainable Development Principle will be demonstrated at each stage of Plan preparation through the 'Five Ways of Working' contained in the Act. These require consideration of involvement, collaboration, integration, prevention and long term balancing factors in the decision making process, all of which have formed and will continue to form an intrinsic part of the LDP's development. Each strategic policy will closely link with and reference the goal(s) which relate most to its purpose and implementation, with emphasis on maximising social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits to ensure that the Council has carried out its sustainable development duty. The vision and objectives will continually be refined during the review process based on stakeholder engagement and the outcomes of a refreshed evidence base.

3. Vision and Objectives

- 3.1 Does the Replacement LDPs Vision, Strategic and Specific Objectives help deliver the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – Well-being Goals?
- 3.2 This section sets out the LDP Vision for the 2033 (what the LDP is working towards). The LDP Vision has been developed to take into account the 7 Well-being Goals and Bridgend's Local Well-being Plan with the specific characteristics and key issues affecting the County Borough:

Vision for 2033

Since the turn of the millennium, Bridgend and the wider County Borough has been on a journey to expand access to key services, enhance physical environmental quality and improve quality of life for residents, workers and visitors. This transformation will continue throughout the LDP period, resulting in the continued development of a safe, healthy and inclusive network of communities that connect more widely with the regions to enable sustainable economic growth.

Council Priorities

The County Borough is already a major regional employment hub, with specific strengths in advanced manufacturing. These socio-economic assets will be enhanced to progressively improve the County Borough's economic competitiveness whilst significantly contributing to the success of the Cardiff Capital Region and Swansea Bay Region. Encouraging inward investment to improve infrastructure, employment provision and lifelong learning opportunities will attract and retain skilled workers that will in turn encourage businesses to bring further skilled employment into the area. Bridgend County Borough Council also has a vision to make Bridgend a decarbonised, digitally connected smart County Borough. In doing so it will transition to a low carbon, decentralised energy system that works for its individuals, communities and businesses. In achieving its vision of a decarbonised, digitally connected smart county borough, the Council aims to:

- decarbonise the energy sector and seek to deliver net zero carbon homes,
- stimulate economic growth,
- provide new job opportunities, and

• attract new and existing businesses to trial initiatives and grow within the county borough

Spatial Vision

Bridgend will remain the principal town, and supplementary growth will build on its success as a regional employment, commercial and service centre. Additional employment, commercial and residential development will be focussed around other established towns to achieve sustainable patterns of growth that support existing local services and facilities. Regeneration-led growth will also be channelled towards Porthcawl through redevelopment of its waterfront to capitalise on the town's role as a premier seaside and tourist destination. In addition, the valley settlements will be earmarked for sustainable regeneration, with a recognition that Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley has the largest potential capacity and infrastructure to accommodate future growth. This vision will be achieved through maintaining and developing strong, interdependent, connected and cohesive settlements, whilst also protecting and enhancing the County Borough's environmental and heritage assets. This will offer people:

- the best start in life by providing effective learning environments to secure the best possible outcomes for learners;
- opportunities to reduce social and economic inequalities; and
- an improved quality of life and a healthy environment for all people living, working, visiting and relaxing in the area.
- 3.3 The Strategic Policies form the framework for implementing and delivering the Council's Preferred Strategy. It is imperative that 'sustainable development' principles are embed into the LDP (including strategic policies) in order to help achieve the delivery of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Goals. A high level assessment to determine if the LDPs Strategic Policies are helping to deliver the Well-being goals is set out below:
- 3.4 The LDP Vision shall be delivered through 4 Strategic Objectives which seek to reflect updated national policy and legislation and address the issues facing the County Borough. The development of the Objectives has been informed by the SA/SEA process, particularly the succinct set of key sustainable issues which should be addressed in the Replacement LDP. These identified issues have been carried forward to underpin the SA process, thereby shaping the following four_-draft strategic objectives, which are central to the LDP:

- SOBJ1: To Create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)
- SOBJ2: To Create Active, Healthy, Cohesive, Inclusive and Social Communities
- SOBJ3: To Create Productive and Enterprising Places
- SOBJ4: To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places
- 3.5 One of the key challenges of producing a sustainable Plan is to ensure that a reasonable balance is achieved between these elements of sustainability. This will need to minimise the potential conflicts that will arise from such a broad ranging set of Plan objectives. This process has been aided by consideration of the objectives via the SA/SEA process, the outcome of which has been used to refine the objectives and reduce the areas of potential conflict. The objectives will also form part of the basis for monitoring the implementation of the Plan, once adopted and operational.
- 3.6 In addition 43 specific objectives (set out below) have been formulated to create the right conditions to address the various social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being outcomes. It is also important to note that LDP policies will be cross-cutting in their nature and cross-reference to the goals and objectives of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and Bridgend Local Well-being Plan (LWBP).

+	Objective makes a significant positive contribution towards the Well-being goals
0	Objective is considered to make a neutral contribution to the Well-being objectives
-	Objective is considered to have a significant negative impact upon the Well-being goals

The following section assesses the strategic and specific objectives against the 7 Well-being Goals.

To Create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)

		A Prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
SOBJ 1	<i>To Create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ 1a	To promote Bridgend as the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough where major employment, commercial and residential development is focused.	+	+	+	+	+	0	0
OBJ 1b	Develop a strategic hub in the northern part of the County Borough of Bridgend, focusing on employments sites, energy projects, residential developments, tourism and culture.	+	+	+	+	+	0	0
OBJ 1c	To revitalise Maesteg by recognising its role as the principal settlement serving the Llynfi Valley which has the potential capacity and infrastructure to accommodate future growth.	÷	+	+	+	+	0	0

		A Prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
OBJ 1d	To realise the potential of Porthcawl as a premier seaside and tourist destination by prioritising the regeneration of its waterfront and investing in key infrastructure. This will also improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, whilst enhancing the vibrancy of the Town Centre	+	+	+	+	0	+	0
OBJ 1e	To promote sustainable and attractive valley settlements with improved access to jobs and services.	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
OBJ 1f	To recognise the strategic potential of Pencoed within the wider Cardiff Capital Region.	+	+	+	+	0	0	+

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
SOBJ 2	To Create Active, Healthy, Cohesive, Inclusive and Social Communities	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ 2a	To provide a land use framework that recognises the needs of deprived areas within the County Borough, which affords those communities the opportunities to tackle the sources of their deprivation.	+	+	+	+	+	0	0
OBJ 2b	To ensure that there is equality of access to community services for all sectors of the community, addressing the particular needs of younger people, families, older people and those with disabilities.	+	+	+	+	+	0	0
OBJ 2c	To deliver the level and type of residential development to meet the identified needs of the County Borough ensuring that a	+	+	÷	+	+	0	+

To Create Active, Healthy, Cohesive and Social Communities

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
	significant proportion is affordable and accessible to all.							
OBJ 2d	To enable Bridgend Town to become an attractive and successful regional retail and commercial destination within the Cardiff Capital Region which also meets the needs of its catchment, supported by a network of viable town, district and local centres that serve their local communities.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ 2e	To provide for the required quantity and range of accessible education, leisure, recreational, health, social and community facilities throughout the County Borough.	÷	+	+	+	+	+	0
OBJ 2f	Promote accessibility for all by supporting the transport hierarchy (set out in PPW) that prioritises walking and cycling (active travel), then public transport and finally motor vehicles. New development should be located	0	+	+	+	+	+	0

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
	and designed in accordance with this hierarchy to prioritise the use of sustainable transport, reduce related airborne pollution, reduce the need to travel and reduce the dependency on private vehicles.							
OBJ 2g	To ensure that new development helps deliver active travel routes in the County Borough.	0	+	+	+	+	+	0
OBJ 2h	Create walkable neighbourhoods, where a range of facilities are within walking distance of most residents, and the streets are safe, comfortable and enjoyable to walk and cycle.	0	+	+	+	+	+	0
OBJ 2i	Resolve localised junction capacity issues at Junction 36 of the M4 and the Penprysg Road Railway Bridge, Pencoed to improve extant traffic flow issues and enhance sustainable growth opportunities within the respective settlements in the future.	÷	+	+	+	+	0	+

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
OBJ 2j	Promote new development that is designed to minimise the impact of transport emissions.	+	+	+	+	+	0	+

To Create Productive and Enterprising Places

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
SOBJ3	To create Productive and Enterprising Places	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ 3a	To build a more diverse, dynamic and self-reliant economy and business environment.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ 3b	To provide a realistic level and variety of employment land to facilitate the delivery of high quality workspaces and job opportunities.	+	+	+	+	+	0	0
OBJ 3c	Deliver a balanced portfolio of new and modern employment buildings with a focus on small to medium enterprises and start-up businesses.	+	+	+	+	+	0	0
OBJ 3d	Provide effective learning environments to secure the best possible outcomes for learners.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ 3e	Promote and support the refurbishment of existing employment floor space.	+	+	+	+	+	0	0

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
OBJ 3f	Develop a commercial and education cluster around Bridgend train station with a focus on commerce and education.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ 3g	To bring the benefits of regeneration to the valley communities by directing new development to those areas at a scale which acknowledges their geographical constraints and infrastructure capacity.	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
OBJ 3h	Develop a strong rural economy to support sustainable and vibrant rural communities, recognising the role of leisure and tourism.	+	+	+	+	0	+	0
OBJ 3i	Support transport infrastructure and fast communication networks to facilitate necessary improvements and development to support the growth aspirations of the Cardiff Capital Region.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ 3j	Promote developments that are well located and designed to assist in meeting energy demand	+	+	+	+	+	0	+

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
	with renewable and low carbon sources in accordance with the energy hierarchy for planning' (set out in PPW), including delivery of net zero carbon homes in the first instance, thereby helping to both mitigate the causes of climate change and tackle the 'climate emergency' declared by Welsh Government and the Council.							
OBJ 3k	To meet the Council's regional and local commitments for mineral resources, waste management and waste disposal.	+	+	+	+	0	0	+
OBJ 3I	Promote the circular economy and make the best use of material resources for the benefit of both the built and natural environments.	+	+	+	+	0	0	+
OBJ 3m	Follow the priority order of the waste hierarchy in waste prevention and management – prevention, re-use, recycling, treatment, recovery and disposal.	+	+	+	+	0	0	+

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
OBJ 3n	To counter-balance the locally ageing population by accommodating sustainable levels of growth to attract and retain economically active households, ensuring the County Borough remains an attractive prospect for employers to expand within and move into.	+	+	÷	+	+	+	+

To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places

		A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
SOBJ 4	To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ4a	To promote, conserve and enhance the natural, historic and built environment of the County Borough.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
OBJ4b	To safeguard the quality of water, air and soil and tackle all sources of pollution, including noise pollution.	0	+	+	+	+	0	+
OBJ4c	Ensure adequate water supply, sewerage and drainage infrastructure (including sustainable drainage systems).	0	+	+	+	0	0	+
OBJ4d	Promote multi-functional green infrastructure with an emphasis on its integration with existing and new development.	0	+	+	+	+	0	+
OBJ4e	To manage development in order to avoid or minimise the risk and fear of flooding and enable and improve the functionality of floodplains.	+	+	+	+	+	0	+

4. Does the Replacement LDPs Preferred Strategy (including Strategic Policies) help deliver the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – Well-being Goals?

- 4.1 The overall aim of the Replacement LDP is to prioritise the development of land within or on the periphery of urban areas, especially on previously developed 'brownfield' sites. Porthcawl, Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley will therefore continue to remain regeneration priorities through their designation as Regeneration Growth Areas. This will enable delivery of a range of mixed-use developments and facilities, accompanied by more community based Regeneration Areas within the Ogmore and Garw Valleys. However, given the existing LDP's success in delivering development on brownfield land in other settlements, further regeneration opportunities are now somewhat limited. Additional viable and deliverable sites (including some greenfield sites) will therefore be required to ensure the County Borough's future housing requirements can be delivered. For these reasons, accompanying growth will be channelled towards Bridgend, Pencoed and Pyle/Kenfig Hill/North Cornelly in recognition of their positions in the Settlement Hierarchy and capacity to accommodate growth in a sustainable manner. Designation of these settlements as Sustainable Growth Areas will provide a means of supporting their existing services and facilities, enabling delivery of associated infrastructure and capitalising upon their location on the strategic road and rail network to deliver transit orientated development.
- 4.2 The Replacement LDP essentially provides a framework to help realise the regeneration priorities of the Council, whilst also apportioning sustainable growth towards existing settlements that demonstrate strong employment, service and transportation functions. This dual faceted approach seeks to broadly balance housing need, economic development and environmental protection and enhancement to allow the County Borough to prosper, simultaneously contributing to the success of the Cardiff Capital City Region and Swansea Bay Region, whilst delivering against each of the well-being goals of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act. Facilitating prosperous, resilient, cohesive communities is at the fundamental heart of this Strategy, which can only be delivered through globally responsible construction techniques that capitalise upon local supply chains and strive to deliver healthier places to live.
- 4.3 The Strategic Policies form the framework for implementing and delivering the Replacement LDP. It is imperative that 'sustainable development' principles are embed into the LDP (including strategic policies) in order to help achieve the delivery of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Goals. A high level assessment to determine if the LDPs Strategic Policies are helping to deliver the Well-being goals is set out below.

+	Strategic Policy makes a significant positive contribution towards the Well-being goals
0	Strategic Policy is considered to make a neutral contribution to the Well-being objectives.
-	Strategic Policy is considered to have a significant negative impact upon the Well-being goals

Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan: Strategic Policies	A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wales	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
LDP Strategic Framework							
SP1: Regeneration and Sustainable Growth Strategy	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
SP2: Regeneration Growth Area and Sustainable Growth Area Strategic Allocations	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
Creating High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)							
SP3: Good Design and Sustainable Place Making	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
SP4: Mitigating the Impact of Climate Change	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
SP5: Sustainable Transport and Accessibility	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
To Create Active, Healthy, Cohesive and Social Communities							
SP6 Housing Strategy	+	+	+	+	+	0	+

Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan: Strategic Policies	A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A more equal Wates	A healthier Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
SP7 Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople Sites	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
SP8 Health and Well-being	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
SP9 Social and Community Infrastructure	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SP10 Infrastructure	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
To Create Productive and Enterprising Places							
SP11 Employment Land Strategy	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SP12 Retailing, Commercial and Service Centres	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SP13 Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Development	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
SP14 Sustainable Development of Mineral Resources	+	+	+	+	0	0	+
SP15 Sustainable Waste Management	+	+	+	+	0	0	+
SP16 Tourism	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
To Protect and Enhance our Distinctive and Natural Places							
SP16 Conservation and Enhancement of the Natural Environment	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
SP17 Conservation of the Historic Environment	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

5. Five Ways of Working

5.1 In order to demonstrate due consideration to these goals and the Sustainable Development Principle, each stage of Plan preparation will have strong regard to the 'Five Ways of Working' contained in the Act. These require consideration of involvement, collaboration, integration, prevention and long term balancing factors in the decision making process, all of which have formed and will continue to form an intrinsic part of the LDP's development. Each strategic policy will closely link with and reference the Goal(s) which relate most to its purpose and implementation, with emphasis on maximising social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits to ensure that the Council has carried out its sustainable development duty.

F	ive Ways of Working	How the LDP Meets the Five Ways of Working	
Long Term	The importance of balancing short- term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs	sustainable development in the County Borough over the 2018-2033	+
Prevention	How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives	The Replacement LDP will make provision for economic growth and local investment to meet the needs of the County Borough by increasing housing supply, whilst securing investment in infrastructure, facilities and additional benefits for local communities. Planning for such levels of development will also act as a key driver of economic growth across Bridgend and the wider region, simultaneously helping other public bodies to meet their objectives in a co-ordinated manner.	+
		The LDP is prepared in conjunction with a plethora of key stakeholders, thereby ensuring a wide array of cross-cutting strategic objectives are incorporated into the Strategy from the outset. Significant consultation at key stages and ongoing partnership working with public bodies will ensure delivery of the Replacement LDP's Strategy in accordance with the Well-Being of Future	

Generations Act and Placemaking objectives of Planning Policy Wales. Delivery of new homes helps to ease some of the pressure on the housing market by boosting supply and preventing house prices rising uncontrollably in an otherwise constrained housing market. This helps to improve general market affordability and provide sufficient properties for **future generations** to live in Bridgend County Borough. In addition, housing growth provides scope to deliver additional affordable housing to offer safety and security for local families unable to meet their needs in the housing market. Planned economic growth has a huge impact on the labour market by generating **new employment opportunities**. Longer term economic growth then becomes sustainable as investors, a skilled workforce and major employers are attracted into the area, leading to further revenue being recycled throughout the local economy. This can improve community job prospects and reduce the need for residents to commute out of the County Borough for employment purposes. Growth through planned, sustainable development also brings new opportunities to secure accompanying infrastructure such as improved education provision, leisure facilities, health facilities and transport links. The occupiers of the new homes ultimately place more demand on existing infrastructure, which is already at capacity in some areas. Planning for growth therefore provides a key opportunity to appraise the impacts on existing infrastructure, identify delivery requirements and then address deficiencies through planning obligations.

Integration	Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies	Refer to the above assessment.	+
Collaboration	Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives	As per the requirements of the Delivery Agreement, a wide range of stakeholders have been consulted when formulating the Preferred Strategy. Ongoing partnership working with key bodies will ensure sustainable development is delivered in a collaborative manner to meet the well-being objectives.	+
Involvement	The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves	The Community Involvement Scheme sets out how the Council proposes to proactively involve the community and stakeholders in the preparation of the replacement LDP. The Council is committed to improving the quality of stakeholder and community involvement in plan-making. Early and continued community involvement should help in addressing contentious issues, and assist in resolving conflicts throughout plan preparation. It can also help in identifying common ground, and shared goals. Ongoing political involvement, public consultation events and workshops facilitated by Planning Aid Wales will ensure the diverse views and needs of all members of the community are duly considered.	+