



Ein cyf/Our ref: qA1404970

Gareth Denning
Development Planning Team Leader
Bridgend County Borough Council
Civic Offices
Angel Street
Bridgend
CF31 4WB

05/10/20

Bridgend County Borough Council: Delivery Agreement 1st Revision
The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005
(as amended)

Thank you for your e-mail of 18 September requesting agreement to amend your Delivery Agreement (DA) in light of the exceptional circumstances surrounding Covid-19.

The preparation of a Local Development Plan (LDP) is a statutory duty placed on all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in Wales. The plan is a corporate tool and land-use expression of a LPAs priorities in dealing with national and local issues, one of which is the coronavirus pandemic. In the Ministerial letter (dated 7 July 2020), the Minister highlighted the importance of the planning system to help shape a better future for Wales as we move towards recovery. Having an up-to-date development plan in place underpins the very basis of the planning system in Wales and reinforces the Government's commitment to a plan-led system.

Your Council is proposing a formal extension to the currently agreed timetable, which results in a delay of 6 months in consulting on the Deposit plan with submission for examination in September 2021 and adoption anticipated in spring 2022 (Appendix 2). The 6 month delay reflects the national restrictions imposed across Wales in response to the Coronavirus pandemic and specifically, the inability of people and businesses to function as they once did before the crisis. Taking this into account, the Welsh Government considers that a single 3 month slippage period on this DA builds a small amount of flexibility into the timetable before a formal revision is required.

A test of 'soundness' against which the plan will be considered through the examination is whether it adheres to the agreed DA including the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS).

Planning Directorate • Cathays Park • Cardiff • CF10 3NQ Cyfarwyddiaeth Cynllunio • Parc Cathays • Caerdydd • CF10 3NQ

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

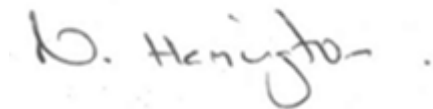
Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi

I note your DA received Council approval during the Coronavirus pandemic and as such, the CIS has been adjusted to reflect the latest Government advice and social distancing requirements. I also note you have identified that community and stakeholder engagement may need to be adapted for the remaining stages of plan preparation (paragraph 3.9.1). This is considered a sensible approach in order to maximise engagement opportunities and adapt to restrictions as and when they are announced in line with Welsh Government regulations and guidance.

After considering your DA submission, I can **confirm agreement** to the amended timetable set out in Appendix 2 as provided for by Section 63(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Regulation 9 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended).

The published version of your DA should now be made publically available in accordance with the requirements set out in Regulation 10.

Yours sincerely,



Neil Hemington
Prif Gynllunydd
Chief Planner

CC:

Richard Matthams, Development Planning Team Leader
Richard.Matthams@bridgend.gov.uk

Adam Provoost, Principal Strategic Planning Officer
Adam.Provoost@bridgend.gov.uk

Jonathan Parsons, Planning and Development Manager
Jonathan.Parsons@bridgend.gov.uk