

# LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOCUS GROUP FOURTH MEETING

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2007, 10:00am  
Committee Room 2, Dyffryn House, Ystrad Mynach

### Meeting Minutes

#### Present

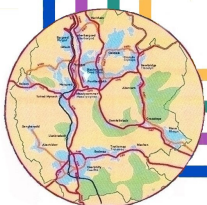
Cllr Keith Griffiths	Cabinet Member for Transportation and Planning
Cllr David Hardacre	Cabinet Member for Education and Leisure
Cllr David Poole	Cabinet Member for Living Environment and Housing
Cllr Stan Jenkins	Chair of Planning Committee
Cllr Geoffrey Hibert	Member of the Majority Opposition
Cllr Judith Pritchard	Member of the Majority Opposition
Roger Morgan	Acting Team Leader for Strategic & Development Plans
Pat Mears	Chief Planning Officer
Steve Delahaye	Head of Public Protection
Peter Gomer	Head of Lifelong Learning and Leisure
John Rogers	Principal Solicitor for Planning, Land and Highways
Paul Cooke	Sustainable Development Co-ordinator
Sian Lewis	Living Environment Co-ordinator

#### 1 Welcome

Cllr. Griffiths welcomed all to the fourth meeting of the LDP Focus Group and highlighted the importance of the group's task to debate and guide the Preferred Strategy for the Caerphilly LDP.

#### 2 Apologies were received from:

Cllr Harry Andrews	Leader
Cllr Tudor Davies	Cabinet Member for Regeneration
Cllr Les Rees	Vice Chair of Planning Committee
Stuart Bates	Chief Property Officer
Phil Davy	Head of Economic Development, Tourism and European Affairs
Adrian Williams	Assistant Director, Resourcing and Performance, Social Services
Mark S Williams	Head of Public Services



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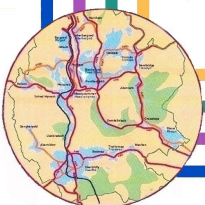
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## PROCEDURAL SESSION

- 3 The Chairman welcomed Cllr David Poole to the Group as the new Cabinet Member for Living Environment and Housing.
- 4 The minutes of the third meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006 were agreed.
- 5 The Group confirmed that it had agreed the SEA/SA scoping report on 16<sup>th</sup> October via emails. Agreement from the following Group Members provided the necessary quorum at that time: Cllr Harry Andrews, Cllr Keith Griffiths, Cllr Stan Jenkins, Cllr Lindsay Whittle, Cris Davies, Steve Delahaye, Rhian Kyte, Mark Williams.

## PLAN STRATEGY SESSION

- 6 **Background:** In considering how the Local Development Plan (LDP) for Caerphilly County Borough should guide and manage future development, it is important that an appropriate land use strategy is adopted to guide future development over the next fifteen years.
- 7 Roger Tanner began the session by delivering a PowerPoint presentation describing the stage reached in the preparation of the LDP strategy. He described the three alternative Strategy Options debated by the LDP working groups last year. The general consensus had been that while none of these alternatives were wholly suitable, they did possess key components which could form the basis of a fourth strategy which officers were then instructed to develop.
- 8 Roger indicated that this fourth strategy had now been prepared. A briefing paper which named it the “Draft Preferred Strategy” had been previously circulated to the Group, whose task in this meeting was to examine its appropriateness. In addition, he introduced a revision to the working Vision Statement for the LDP which was considered better suited to the emerging Preferred Strategy than the original.
- 9 Roger also outlined the new procedure which encourages publishing Candidate Sites in advance of Council assessment and endorsement. He indicated that it was intended that some guidance as the suitability of these sites in relation to the Preferred Strategy would be forthcoming on the publication of the Candidate Sites at the beginning of the Public Consultation Period.
- 10 Next, Dave Lucas gave a PowerPoint presentation on the assessments made by the Sustainability Group on 31<sup>st</sup> January with regard to all four alternative strategies. He went on to describe the recommended changes and mitigation measures from the Sustainability Group which would make the draft Preferred Strategy more acceptable with regard to the SEA/SA requirements.
- 11 The Focus Group asked a wide range of questions in relation to and arising from discussion of the mitigation measures, including issues about Park & Ride facilities,



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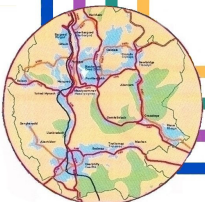
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safeguarding of mineral deposits, water resources and river impact, and affordable housing.

- 12** Finally, Roger Morgan explained that the next stage was to seek Council approval to allow the Preferred Strategy and the LDP Vision Statement to be subject to a public consultation period lasting six weeks during April/May. The Focus Group's approval was sought for the LDP Vision Statement and the Preferred Strategy, suitably revised to take account of the recommended mitigation measures, to be presented to Cabinet and Council to this end.
- 13** The Focus Group duly approved the LDP Vision Statement and the Preferred Strategy, suitably revised to take account of the recommended mitigation measures.
- 14** The LDP Vision Statement, the Components of the Preferred Strategy and the recommended changes and mitigation measures are attached as Appendix A.



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