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**Chief Planning
Officer
Mr P Mears**

**Prif Swyddog Cynllunio
Mr P Mears**

Mrs. Barbara Prosser
LDP Programme Officer
Ty Penallta
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Date/Dyddiad: 2nd December 2009

Dear Mrs Prosser

Council Consideration of Representations on Focused Changes – Special Council Meeting 1st December 2009

On 15th September 2009 the Council resolved to make a series of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP for the purposes of a formal six-week public consultation process that was carried out from 23rd September up to 4th November 2009.

In order to keep members informed of public opinion in respect of the Focused Changes and in line with previous good practice, officers provided a written response to the issues raised by all of the representations received during the Focused Changes public consultation exercises and these were considered at a Special Meeting of Council on the 1st December 2009. Two copies of the report are attached, one for inclusion in the core document library and one for the Inspector.

REPRESENTATIONS TO THE FOCUSED CHANGES TO THE DEPOSIT LDP

Altogether 122 representations were received to the Focused Changes from organisations, bodies and individuals, comprising 8 representations of support, 36 representations of objection, and 66 representations containing comments. 12 representations were not duly made as they were submitted after the consultation deadline or did not relate to a focused change.

CONSIDERATION OF REPRESENTATIONS

In light of the representations made during the six-week public consultation exercise, Members were asked to consider whether to maintain or withdraw the Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP. In doing so regard has been had to paragraph 5.25 of the procedural guidance produced by the Planning Inspectorate for Wales in November 2009 which states that: "*Changes after submission should be at the instigation of the Inspector in response to concerns that he/she raises with the LPA.*" Given that the Inspector has formally raised concerns with the Council regarding certain focused changes (*Programme Officers Letter 19th November 09 - reference ED.5*) it was considered appropriate that the Council reconsiders its position in respect of these changes prior to the Exploratory Meeting on the 8th December 2009. Advice has been taken from the Welsh Assembly Government regarding this approach and they agreed that this is in keeping with the spirit of the guidance.

COUNCIL DECISIONS

As a consequence of the Council's deliberations on the 1st December 2009, the following Focused Changes are **hereby formally withdrawn**:

FC04 Aberbargoed Plateau, Aberbargoed;
FC07 Land at Pendinas Avenue, Croespenmaen;
FC08 Old Landfill Site, Hafodyrynys Hill, Crumlin;
FC09 Land at Hawtin Park, Pontllanfraith;
FC10 Llancaiach View, Nelson;
FC11 Nelson Bypass, Nelson;
FC16 Caerphilly Miners Hospital, Caerphilly.

All other Focused Changes considered by the Council were maintained as there is a clear planning rationale for them.

As a consequence of the decisions taken by the Council, the Inspector is respectfully requested to consider the original **deposit position** as being the Council's final view in respect of the aforementioned sites in his deliberations on the soundness of the plan.

Given that the Deposit Plan was the subject of a six-week public consultation exercise and subject to Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment, in the Council's view there is no need to undertake any further consultation or assessment work regarding these changes.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Rhian Kyte". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Regards
Rhian Kyte (Team Leader)
Strategic & Development Plans Team