

EXAMINATION DOCUMENT 2 (RESPONSE)

DEPOSIT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
UP TO 2021

COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF CHANGES

November 2009

DOGFEN ARCHWILIO 2 (YMATEB)

CYNLLUN ADNEUO DATBLYGU
LLEOL HYD AT 2021

RHESTR GYNHWYSFAWR
O NEWIDIADAU

Tachwedd 2009



FC01 STRATEGIC POLICY 17 & SUPPORTING TEXT – AFFORDABLE HOUSING TARGET

It is proposed that Policy SP17 should be amended to provide an affordable housing target based on all measures being utilised by the Council to deliver affordable housing as follows:

“SP17 The Council will seek to deliver 3,800 affordable dwellings between 2006 and 2021 in order to contribute to mixed communities”.

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change will provide clarity of the scale of affordable housing that can realistically be provided during the plan period by all delivery mechanisms.

It is proposed that the supporting text of Paragraph 1.85 be amended to quantify the level of affordable housing need as follows:

“The Council aims to ensure that everyone in the County Borough has access to a good quality home that meets their housing requirements and the provision of a choice of housing that is affordable to the local population is vital in achieving this. **A shortfall of affordable housing is a significant issue facing residents in the County Borough. Indeed, the Local Housing Market Assessment (2007) indicates that there is a Borough-wide shortfall of 516 affordable units per annum.”**

It is proposed that the supporting text of Paragraph 1.86 should be amended to include an indication of the number of affordable dwellings likely to be delivered through the planning system based on the findings of the Affordable Housing Viability Assessment as follows:

“1.86 The target of 3,800 dwellings to be delivered within the plan period reflects the number of units that can be delivered across the County Borough using a range of delivery mechanisms in response to levels of need. The planning system, through the use of planning obligations, is one method of securing ‘affordable housing’ and it is anticipated that 950 units can realistically be delivered through planning obligations during the lifetime of the plan.”

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change would reflect the findings of the recent Affordable Housing Viability Assessment and would ensure that the plan adheres to national planning guidance, which identifies that viability should be considered when setting affordable housing targets and thresholds.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

One of the key objectives of the LDP is to “ensure an adequate and appropriate range of housing sites are available across the County Borough in the most suitable locations to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population.” This includes ensuring that housing is provided for those in affordable housing need. The affordable housing target set out in SP17 reflects the Council’s commitment to achieving this, both through the planning system and through other measures. The proposed change means that the affordable housing target is reflective of what can realistically be provided having regard to viability and, alongside Policy CW14, will ensure that housing development is not stifled by requirements for affordable housing that are not viable, therefore promoting a balanced approach to future growth.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Reduce health inequalities by tackling deprivation and the wider determinants of health
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well being
- Enable independent living in local communities through appropriate support mechanisms for individuals, families and carers

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Specifically, the change ensures compliance with Technical Advice Note 2: Planning and Affordable Housing, which requires affordable housing targets to take account of the anticipated levels of finance available for affordable housing, including public subsidy, and the level of developer contribution that can realistically be sought.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The target set out within Policy SP17 has been derived from the findings of the Affordable Housing Viability Assessment and also has regard to the Local Housing Market Assessment and Local Housing Strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper "The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP".

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC02 POLICY CW14 AND SUPPORTING TEST – AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLANNING OBLIGATION

It is proposed that Policy CW14 and supporting text should be amended in light of the findings of the Viability Assessment to read:

“Legal agreements will be required to ensure that there is provision of an element of affordable housing, in accordance with an assessment of local need, for all allocated and windfall housing sites that:

- A Accommodate 10 or more dwellings; or*
- B Exceed 0.3 ha in gross site area, or*
- C Where the combined product of adjacent housing site proposals would exceed the thresholds set in A or B above*

Where there is evidence of need, the Council will seek to negotiate the following affordable housing targets of:

- 40% of the total number of dwellings proposed on sites within the Caerphilly Basin (excluding Aber Valley);*
- 25% in the Northern Connections Corridor (excluding Newbridge); and*
- 10% in the Rest of Caerphilly County Borough (including Newbridge but excluding the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area)*

2.28 *There is a significant need for affordable housing in the County Borough and therefore seeking appropriate levels of affordable housing is justified as a means of contributing to mixed, balanced and sustainable communities through the provision of housing for all sectors of the population.*

2.29 *These targets should be treated as indicative as, at planning application stage, site-specific requirements will depend on the current market conditions having regard for the most up to date Local Housing Market Assessment, recent Viability Assessments and information from the Council’s Housing Division. The targets assume that no grant or public subsidy will be used. Should grant funding be available, a higher level of affordable housing may be sought.*

2.30 Further information on affordable housing requirements is provided in the Council's Supplementary Planning Guidance on Affordable Housing."

The recommended amendment to this Policy would also require associated changes to Paragraphs 1.6, 1.11 and 1.17 of the Strategy section of the LDP.

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change would reflect the findings of the recent Affordable Housing Viability Assessment and would ensure that the plan adheres to national planning guidance, which identifies that viability should be considered when setting affordable housing targets and thresholds.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

One of the key objectives of the LDP is to "ensure an adequate and appropriate range of housing sites are available across the County Borough in the most suitable locations to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population." This includes ensuring that housing is provided for those in affordable housing need. The proposed change means that the area-specific affordable housing targets are reflective of what can realistically be provided having regard to viability and will ensure that housing development is not stifled by requirements for affordable housing that are not viable, therefore promoting a balanced approach to future growth.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Reduce health inequalities by tackling deprivation and the wider determinants of health
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well being
- Enable independent living in local communities through appropriate support mechanisms for individuals, families and carers

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Specifically, the change ensures compliance with Technical Advice Note 2: Planning and Affordable Housing, which requires affordable housing targets to take account of the anticipated levels of finance available for affordable housing, including public subsidy, and the level of developer contribution that can realistically be sought.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The target set out within Policy SP17 has been derived from the findings of the Affordable Housing Viability Assessment and also has regard to the Local Housing Market Assessment and Local Housing Strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC03 NEW CW POLICY – WATER PROTECTION

It is proposed that a new Water Protection Policy be included within the plan as follows:

“CWXX – Water Protection Policy

Development proposals will only be permitted where;

- A They do not have an adverse impact upon the water environment and**
- B Where they would not pose an unacceptable risk to the quality of controlled waters (including groundwater and surface water).**

Climate change, increases in populations and changes in lifestyle have all had an impact upon the water environment and the pressures upon it. Climate change will affect the amount of rain that falls, it will impact upon river flows, replenishing of groundwater, the quality of water available and incidents of flooding, particularly localised, flash flooding. The demands and pressures on water resources will also change, with the scale and nature of the problem differing across Wales, as will the approach to dealing with the problems. The approach to the protection of the water environment will need to take into account the quality and quantity of the local water resource, and how this impacts upon the wider environment in terms of preventing further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems, associated habitats, fisheries, promoting the sustainable use of water, and controlling water abstractions.”

Reason for Focused Change: It is considered that there is a legislative requirement to protect the quality of the water environment that is not adequately covered in national planning guidance. The plan makes reference to the management, protection and enhancement of the water environment, but no policy has been written into the plan. The new policy is necessary as it reflects the need and requirement of national legislation and reflects the key objectives in the plan.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

One of the key objectives of the plan is to protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption. This is further enforced through the components of the strategy, one of which is to seek to promote a balanced approach to maintaining future growth, a fundamental part of which is environmental protection. Another component of the strategy is to reduce the impact of development upon the countryside. The water environment forms part of the natural environment where regard should be given for the need

to protect and/or conserve those aspects valued for their landscape, biodiversity or agricultural interest. FC03 adheres to this aspect of the strategy by ensuring that future developments have regard to water protection and the water environment.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment.
- Improve energy, waste and water efficiency and promote environmentally acceptable renewable energy to maintain a cleaner environment and help reduce our impact on climate change.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Planning Policy Wales identifies that development plans are important vehicles for environmental protection and should enable consideration of the effects that proposed developments might have on water quality. The inclusion of the new policy as identified in the Focused Change will therefore ensure that the issue of water protection is given due consideration as required by national planning guidance.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The proposed change has had regard to and would accord with, other plans and strategies, most notably the Living Environment Strategy 2007-2012, where the protection and enhancement of the water environment is a key objective.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete housing allocation HG1.19 Aberbargoed Plateau, Aberbargoed

Reason for Focused Change: The decision to recommend removal of the site as a housing allocation was made at the Council meeting on the 15th September after the ward member, as a long-standing objector to this site, raised concerns about the scale of development proposed in Aberbargoed. The Deposit LDP makes provision for approximately 687 dwellings in an area with only 1,500 existing dwellings. Particular concerns were raised in respect of Aberbargoed Plateau where 413 dwellings were proposed. As a consequence of the concerns of the ward member, members voted to recommend removal of Aberbargoed Plateau as a housing site.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

As it is a significant brownfield site in the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area, where there is a need to exploit development opportunities and diversify housing, the inclusion of Aberbargoed Plateau as a housing allocation in the Deposit LDP accorded with plan's strategy.

However, given the Council decision to recommend removal of the site on the grounds that there is over-development in the area, it is necessary to consider whether this undermines the strategy. It is considered that the loss of the largest site in the strategy area will have an impact on the land available in the HOVRA. However, there remains a sufficient range of sites to ensure that there is a diversity of sites available to attract inward investment. Six sites remain allocated in the Greater Bargoed area, which vary in size and also in type, offering both brownfield and greenfield opportunities. Furthermore, there are 15 other sites outside of Greater Bargoed to allow for new housing development in the HOVRA. There is no adverse effect therefore on the strategy based on this recommendation.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

There is no direct link to the community strategy.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

'Turning Heads - A Strategy for the Heads of the Valleys (2006)' and the Bargoed Town Centre Action Plan promote the delivery of new housing in the Heads of the Valleys area. Whilst the deletion of the Aberbargoed Plateau will reduce the amount of land available in the Heads of the Valleys, it is considered that there is still a sufficient range of sites available to ensure the plan is in accordance with these strategies.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC05 EM1.7 SOUTH EXTENSION, PENYFAN

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete EM1.7 as an employment allocation and that the site be removed from the settlement boundary.

Reason for Focused Change: The deletion of the site for employment use and the removal of the land from the settlement boundary would better enable existing residential and employment uses to co-exist at this location.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

It is not considered that the proposal to delete this 2.4-hectare site would undermine the ability of the plan to ensure economic growth, nor would it impact on the objective of providing and protecting a diverse portfolio for a variety of employment uses, as there are already significant employment opportunities in the area. Notably there are 44.9 hectares of undeveloped employment land on Plateaus 1 to 4 of Oakdale as identified in policy EM1, with significant land also being protected for employment use under Policy EM2 at Plateau 2 of Oakdale and Penyfan Industrial Estate. There has been a significant over-allocation of land for employment to ensure choice and flexibility and therefore, it is considered that sufficient land for employment will remain available to accommodate future growth.

A key component of the strategy is to promote a balanced approach to managing future growth. Whilst the economic growth is clearly a part of this, it is important that this is balanced against other considerations including that of residential amenity, as this site currently forms a buffer between the existing employment at Penyfan Industrial Estate and the settlement of Croespenmaen.

Furthermore, the site is greenfield and, although its original inclusion in the Deposit LDP conformed with other elements of the plan’s strategy, the deletion of the site would mean that future development for employment uses in this area would be directed to the allocated and protected brownfield sites of Oakdale and Penyfan.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs

- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The Focused Change would still accord with the Council's regeneration strategy, 'The Smart Alternative.'

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC06

**SI1.13 – PENGAM, BLACKWOOD AND PONTLLANFRAITH GREEN WEDGE
SB99.2 – LAND WITHIN THE CURTILAGE OF VALLEY VIEW BUNGALOW
E193 – LAND NORTH OF WARNE STREET AND ST FRANCIS STREET, PENGAM**

It is proposed that the plan be amended in the following way:

- The settlement boundary is amended to exclude land at Hillside Bungalow and follow the line of B4254 – Trelyn Lane further to the west
- The green wedge boundary is amended to correspond with the alignment of the proposed settlement boundary for coherence and consistency

Reason for Focused Change: To rectify a minor drafting error on the Proposals Map

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

The delineation of settlement boundaries is an important element of promoting resource efficient settlement patterns and reducing the impact of development on the countryside. The Focused Change to rectify a drafting error on the proposals map will ensure that the settlement boundary and green wedge follow the logical and defensible boundary of the B4254 Trelyn Lane, therefore conforming to the strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The proposed change has regard for the Living Environment Strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that the Plan be amended to include site E31 Land at Pendinas Avenue, Croespenmaen as an informal leisure allocation.

Reason for Focused Change: The Focused Change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009 and was sought to strengthen the level of protection given to the site by formalising its status as a leisure site within the Plan, in light of the site's significant amenity value.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

An increase in the population will place additional pressure on the network of facilities necessary to support sustainable communities (waste, education, leisure renewable etc). The strategy recognises this pressure and seeks to promote a balanced approach to managing future growth. Integral to this approach is a need to ensure that a network of community facilities will be developed in parallel with new housing. FC07 adheres to this approach and safeguards land for informal leisure use.

In addition, the strategy seeks to target development to reflect the role and function of individual settlements. Croespenmaen is one of the predominantly residential areas in the East of the Northern Connections Corridor supporting the Principal Town of Blackwood and the key settlement of Newbridge. In terms of the area's residential role, it is important that the plan ensures that the area has the community facilities that it needs to serve the resident population. The site is suitable for housing and/or informal leisure use, and its identification for an informal leisure use accords with the need to serve the Croespenmaen area in this regard.

The strategy also seeks to promote resource efficient settlement patterns. In this context, care has been taken to ensure that vulnerable land uses such as open space, leisure land and community uses have sufficient protection to avoid their loss to more profitable development such as housing. FC07 adheres to this aspect of the strategy and proactively seeks to allocate land, which might otherwise be developed for housing for informal leisure use.

How does the proposed change relate to the Community Strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development of high quality, well designed and efficient sustainable homes and environments that can meet all needs.

- Promote a culture of community self-help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision-making.
- Increase awareness of opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces.
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus of community pride, accessible facilities and activities.
- Develop and promote local and accessible community based services and activities for all.
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well-being.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Work is underway in respect of the development of Supplementary Planning Guidance on Open Space requirements for the County Borough, but in the meantime the allocation of sufficient land for informal leisure activities must be achieved by utilising national guidance alone.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6 week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC08

LE99.16 - OLD LANDFILL SITE, HAFODYRYNYS HILL, CRUMLIN

It is proposed that the plan be amended to include site LE99.16 Old Landfill Site, Hafodyrynys Hill, Crumlin as a leisure allocation.

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009 and there is a reasonable planning rationale for the proposal insofar as there is a demonstrable need for leisure facilities within the Crumlin ward. There is a shortfall of approximately 6 acres of pitch, play provision and recreational land in the Crumlin ward when existing provision is considered against the NPFA Six Acre Standard. There has been a long-standing aspiration that the site should be developed for leisure purposes and in this context planning permission for the development of a playing pitch on this site was granted as far back as 1981. There is now a real prospect that the proposal can be realised over the plan period in conjunction with the local Community Partnership.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

An increase in the population will place additional pressure on the network of facilities necessary to support sustainable communities (waste, education, leisure renewable etc). The strategy recognises this pressure and seeks to promote a balanced approach to managing future growth. Integral to this approach is a need to ensure that a network of community facilities will be developed in parallel with new housing. FC08 adheres to this approach and safeguards land for leisure use.

In addition, the strategy seeks to target development to reflect the role and function of individual settlements. Hafodyrynys is one of the predominantly residential areas in the East of the Northern Connections Corridor supporting the Principal Town of Blackwood and the key settlement of Newbridge. In terms of the area's residential role, it is important that the plan ensures that the area has the community facilities that it needs to serve the resident population. The site is suitable for leisure use and its identification accords with the need to serve the Hafodyrynys area in this regard.

The strategy also seeks to promote resource efficient settlement patterns. In this context, care has been taken to ensure that vulnerable land uses such as open space, leisure land and community uses have sufficient protection to avoid their loss to more profitable development such as housing. FC08 adheres to this aspect of the strategy and proactively seeks to allocate land.

How does the proposed change relate to the Community Strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development of high quality, well designed and efficient sustainable homes and environments that can meet all needs.
- Promote a culture of community self-help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making.
- Increase awareness of opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces.
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus of community pride, accessible facilities and activities.
- Develop and promote local and accessible community based services and activities for all.
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well-being.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The allocation of sufficient land for formal leisure use must be achieved by utilising national guidance.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6 week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC09 HG1.32 - LAND AT HAWTIN PARK, PONTLLANFRAITH

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete housing allocation HG1.32 Land at Hawtin Park and instead include the site as a leisure allocation.

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009. The land at Hawtin Park was considered originally through the UDP, where the council sought to allocate the site for leisure use and to resist any housing development. The council adopted this view due to the fact that the site was identified as a SINC and formed an important area of open space, providing a buffer between existing housing and the employment uses on the employment site. However, the Inspector at the UDP Inquiry concluded that the site did not have the characteristics of a significant and valuable area of open space and therefore, was inappropriately allocated as such, and concluded that residential use and the SINC were not incompatible and recommended that the site be also allocated for housing. Further to consideration of representations to the housing allocation and the remaining tension with the SINC designation, the Council resolved to delete the housing allocation on this site and allocate the land for leisure use.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

An increase in the population will place additional pressure on the network of facilities necessary to support sustainable communities (waste, education, leisure renewable etc). The strategy recognises this pressure and seeks to promote a balanced approach to managing future growth. Integral to this approach is a need to ensure that a network of community facilities will be developed in parallel with new housing. FC09 adheres to this approach and safeguards land for leisure use.

In addition, the strategy seeks to target development to reflect the role and function of individual settlements. Hawtin Park is primarily an factory employment location but lies next to predominantly residential areas in the centre of the Northern Connections Corridor supporting the Principal Towns of Blackwood and Ystrad Mynach. In terms of the wider area's residential role, it is important that the plan ensures that the area has the community facilities that it needs to serve the resident population. The site is suitable for housing and/or leisure use and its identification for leisure use accords with the need to serve the wider residential area in this regard.

The strategy also seeks to promote resource efficient settlement patterns. In this context, care has been taken to ensure that vulnerable land uses such as open space, leisure land and community uses have sufficient protection to avoid their loss to more profitable development such

as housing. FC09 adheres to this aspect of the strategy and proactively seeks to allocate land, which might otherwise be developed for housing for leisure use.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development of high quality, well designed and efficient sustainable homes and environments that can meet all needs.
- Promote a culture of community self-help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making.
- Increase awareness of opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces.
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus of community pride, accessible facilities and activities.
- Develop and promote local and accessible community based services and activities for all.
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well-being.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The allocation of sufficient land for formal leisure use must be achieved by utilising national guidance.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper "The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP."

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6 week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that the plan be amended to include TR99.1 Llancaiach View as an allocation for a park and ride facility.

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009, and whilst the Regional Transport Plan does not include the introduction of passenger services as part of its programmed schemes to 2018, the SEWTA rail strategy considers the proposal, and specifically the location for a station at Nelson. The SEWTA Rail Strategy 2006 also considers this site as the location for the associated park and ride facilities to the former station site that lies adjacent to the site. Consequently a credible, published regional strategy provides the background to the allocation of the site.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

A key assumption in the Plan is that future population growth has the potential to increase road congestion. However, a more sustainable approach to Transportation is adopted aiming to encourage reduced greenhouse gas emissions through modal shift to walking, cycling and public transport, particularly utilising the rail links through the Ebbw and Rhymney Valleys, as well as more efficient use of the existing road network. The provision of an efficient transport system through both a modal shift towards a more sustainable form of transport and improvements to the strategic road network is an important part of moving towards a more sustainable, resource-efficient settlement pattern across the whole County Borough allowing further improvements to the strategic road network where appropriate to address issues of accessibility and regeneration. In the longer term a significant switch from car to public transport is planned and therefore settlements with good access to existing rail services along the Rhymney Valley and Ebbw lines, with regular links to Cardiff, will be favoured, particularly for high-density development. A balance will need to be struck between safeguarding key sites close to transportation nodes for facilities such as park and ride and redeveloping them to accommodate public transport friendly development opportunities. The Focused Change is in accord with these aims.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Develop integrated, efficient local and regional transport systems, including public transport, cycling and walking networks.
- Encourage the development of high quality, well designed and efficient sustainable homes and environments that can meet all needs.
- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making.

- Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces.
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus of community pride, accessible facilities and activities.
- Develop and promote local and accessible community based services and activities for all.
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well being.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

It has regard to the SEWTA Rail Strategy 2006.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6 week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that the plan be amended to include TR99.2 Nelson Bypass as a proposal within the plan.

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009. It is considered a legitimate planning aim to reduce the level of traffic going through the town centre by providing a more commodious route via an improved Bwl Lane, irrespective of whether there is an identified traffic problem in the centre. It is not expected that a local improvement such as this would be a matter for the RTP and the improvement would therefore need to be funded by alternative mechanisms. Therefore, there is a planning rationale behind the Focused Change although its importance is not as high as other identified schemes.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

A key assumption in the Plan is that future population growth has the potential to increase road congestion. However, a more sustainable approach to Transportation is adopted aiming to encourage reduced greenhouse gas emissions through modal shift to walking, cycling and public transport, particularly utilising the rail links through the Ebbw and Rhymney Valleys, as well as more efficient use of the existing road network. The provision of an efficient transport system through both a modal shift towards a more sustainable form of transport and improvements to the strategic road network is an important part of moving towards a more sustainable, resource-efficient settlement pattern across the whole County Borough allowing further improvements to the strategic road network where appropriate to address issues of accessibility and regeneration. The Focused Change is in accord with these aims.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Regeneration Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Develop integrated, efficient local and regional transport systems, including public transport, cycling and walking networks.
- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

To the extent that the Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, in turn it meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

This local improvement is not expected to be a matter for the RTP to consider and the improvement would therefore need to be funded by alternative mechanisms.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper "The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP".

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6 week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC12

LE99.5 / SB99.55 / S199.2 - HAULWEN ROAD, PENPEDAIRHEOL

It is proposed that the settlement boundary be amended to exclude land at Haulwen Road and that the green wedge boundary S11.7 be amended to include the site.

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009 and this land is more appropriately located outside of the settlement boundary and inside an adjacent green wedge designation. The focused change is not substantive but would help to improve clarity as the planning history of this land at Haulwen Road has demonstrated that it is not considered suitable for development due to the open nature of the site and its countryside setting.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

A key part of the strategy is to promote efficient settlement patterns of development across the whole county borough. A crucial mechanism for achieving this is the designation of settlement boundaries. Amongst other functions the settlement boundary defines the area within which development would normally be allowed and also it prevents inappropriate development in the countryside. In this instance an area of land has been included within the settlement boundary of the Deposit LDP, which is more appropriately located outside the settlement boundary due to its open aspect and its countryside setting.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability outlined in the Community Strategy and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Recognises the potential effect of insensitive land use on a range of issues in this instance on the landscape and responds accordingly.
- Ensures the protection and enhancement of the natural environment, specifically in this instance, the landscape.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The delineation of settlement boundaries across the county borough are determined by the functional analysis of each of the strategy areas and by the specific role and function of individual settlements, which are informed in turn by the various strategies that impact on land use of all partner organisations.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper "The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP".

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6 week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC13

D61 LAND OFF PENALLTA ROAD, YSTRAD MYNACH

It is proposed that the plan be amended to include site D61 Land off Penallta Road, Ystrad Mynach as a leisure allocation for use as allotments.

Reason for Focused Change:

Investigative work required for the preparation of an allotment strategy for the county borough was progressed after the publication of the Deposit LDP. This work has identified that Ystrad Mynach as an area of high need and, with this site being a former allotment site, it was considered appropriate to allocate the site to help meet this need.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

An increase in the population will place additional pressure on the network of facilities necessary to support sustainable communities (waste, education, leisure renewable etc). The strategy recognises this pressure and seeks to promote a balanced approach to managing future growth. Integral to this approach is a need to ensure that a network of community facilities will be developed in parallel with new housing, FC13 adheres to this approach and safeguards land for the development of allotments.

In addition the strategy seeks to target development to reflect the role and function of individual settlements. Ystrad Mynach is one of the 5 Principal Towns in the county borough. The town is recognised within the strategy as area of significance in terms of providing employment opportunities within the Northern Connections Corridor. It is also important in terms of its residential role and it is important that the plan ensures that the area has the community facilities that it needs to serve the resident population. The site is suitable for housing and/or allotment use and its identification for allotment use, whilst premature to the emergence of the Allotment Strategy, accords with the identified need for allotments to serve the Ystrad Mynach area.

The strategy also seeks to promote resource efficient settlement patterns. In this context care has been taken to ensure that vulnerable land uses such as open space, leisure land and community uses have sufficient protection to avoid their loss to more profitable development such as housing. FC13 adheres to this aspect of the strategy and proactively seeks to allocate land, which might otherwise be developed for housing for allotment use.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care & Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development of high quality, well designed and efficient sustainable homes and environments that can meet all needs.
- Promote a culture of community self-help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making.
- Increase awareness of opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces.
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus of community pride, accessible facilities and activities.
- Develop and promote local and accessible community based services and activities for all.
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well-being.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Work is ongoing in respect of the development of an Allotment Strategy for the county borough, preliminary work has identified that Ystrad Mynach is an area of high demand for allotments and this strengthens the case for allotment use on this site, although further work is required before the Strategy will be completed.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC14

**MN1.2 – HAFOD QUARRY BUFFER ZONE
MN99.3 - HAFOD QUARRY MINERAL SAFEGUARDING AREA
NH2.3 – VILL ABERCARN**

It is proposed that the VILL designation should be extended to cover the quarry and that the permission boundary should not be shown. Also that this should be consistently applied to other mineral working sites within the county borough, including Machen Quarry

Reason for Focused Change:

The Plan accepts that mineral working is not necessarily inconsistent with the aims of SLAs and VILLs and because quarrying is a temporary activity (albeit long term) the VILL designation should encompass the quarry. This would also give weight to achieving the best possible restoration of the site once quarrying ceases. Since none of the proposals or policies relates specifically to the permission boundary there is no reason to show the quarry boundary on the proposals map.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

The Focused change is consistent with the strategy, which balances the need for the safeguarding of the nationally important minerals resource against the potential impact of such development on the landscape.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability outlined in the Community Strategy and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Recognises the potential effect of insensitive land use on a range of issues in this instance on the landscape and responds accordingly.
- Ensures the protection and enhancement of the natural environment specifically in this instance the landscape.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The extension of the VILL designation to cover the quarry recognises the need identified in the Regional Technical Statement to have regard for the environmental capacity of the county borough when considering the future potential for any quarrying operations.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete the above allocations for housing, a school and formal leisure facilities.

Reason for Focused Change:

The report of representation for the St Ilan site was considered by the LDP Focus Group in advance of the Council meeting, which concluded that the housing allocation could constrain the Council's emerging education strategy. Consequently, to retain flexibility, the Focus Group resolved, "to recommend to Special Council that the Deposit Plan allocations for the site be removed and the site be designated within the LDP as 'white land'". At the meeting of Council on 15th September 2009, it was resolved to accept the Focus Group's recommendation to delete the allocations on the site.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

An increase in the population will place additional pressure on the network of facilities necessary to support sustainable communities (waste, education, leisure renewable etc). The strategy recognises this pressure and seeks to promote a balanced approach to managing future growth. Integral to this approach is a need to ensure that a network of community facilities will be developed in parallel with new housing. The removal of the housing allocation from the site provides the Council the flexibility it needs to explore the possibility of reinstating an educational use on the site.

The strategy seeks to target development to reflect the role and function of individual settlements. Caerphilly is one of the 5 Principal Towns in the county borough. The town is recognised within the strategy as area of significance in terms of providing retail facilities within the Southern Connections Corridor. It is also important in terms of its residential role and it is important that the plan ensures that the area has the necessary community facilities that it needs in the form of appropriate education provision to serve the resident population. The site is suitable for housing, leisure and education use and the removal of the existing allocations from the site provides the Council with the flexibility it needs to explore the most suitable location for additional welsh medium education places as part of the preparation of a new education strategy for the county borough.

The strategy seeks to exploit the redevelopment of brownfield sites for the most appropriate uses. The Southern Connections Corridor is particularly well provided for in terms of large brownfield sites, St Ilan being one such site. During the preparation of the Deposit LDP consideration was given to the need to reserve land for all urban uses including education. However at that time the Council had resolved to develop the site for replacement primary education facilities and housing. Since the publication of the Deposit Plan the Council has identified the need to prepare a new education strategy to examine the need for additional welsh medium education places throughout the county

borough. St Ilan is an existing school complex that comprises listed buildings, which clearly the Council wishes to preserve and bring back into beneficial use. The reinstatement of an education use into these buildings would safeguard their long-term future and would be a sustainable use of the land.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus for community pride, with accessible services and activities for all

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The Council is in the process of reviewing its education strategy and as a part of this work concerns have been raised there is a need for extra Welsh Medium school places in the near future. The re-use of St Ilan for Welsh Medium education would be a sustainable option to address this need as the school complex remains. Therefore in order to provide the Council with the necessary flexibility to pursue this option it was considered appropriate to remove the allocations from the Deposit Plan.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that the plan be amended to identify HG1.72 Caerphilly Miners Hospital, Caerphilly for mixed-use development, specifically for community facilities and leisure use and not solely for housing.

Reason for Focused Change:

The decision to recommend the re-designation of the site from a housing allocation to a mixed-use was made at the Council meeting on the 15th September after Members discussed the representation of the then named “Caerphilly Miners’ Steering Group” group in reference to provision of a community facility on part of the site. Members concurred with the representation of the Group and voted to recommend the housing site be changed to a mixed-use development.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

An increase in the population will place additional pressure on the network of facilities necessary to support sustainable communities (waste, education, leisure renewable etc). The strategy recognises this pressure and seeks to promote a balanced approach to managing future growth. Integral to this approach is a need to ensure that a network of community facilities will be developed in parallel with new housing. FC16 adheres to this approach and allocates the site for a mixed-use scheme comprising housing, community facilities and ancillary leisure development.

In addition the strategy seeks to target development to reflect the role and function of individual settlements. Caerphilly is one of the 5 Principal Towns in the county borough. The town is recognised within the strategy as area of significance in terms of providing important retail facilities within the Southern Connections Corridor. It is also important in terms of its residential role and it is important that the plan ensures that the area has the community facilities that it needs to serve the resident population. The site is suitable for housing and community use and its identification for a mixed-used use scheme reflects the desire of the Council and the local community to maintain an element of community use on this culturally important site.

It is considered that the Council’s decision on 15th September to alter the allocation of the site to a mixed-use development does not undermine the compliance of the proposal with the development strategy nor does it undermine the soundness of the plan due to the minimal overall change to development outcome.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development of high quality, well designed and efficient sustainable homes and environments that can meet all needs.
- Promote a culture of community self-help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making.
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus of community pride, accessible facilities and activities.
- Develop and promote local and accessible community based services and activities for all.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The Caerphilly Miners Hospital has been allocated for redevelopment as a result of the reconfiguration of health service provision across the county borough. The existing hospital will close when the new general hospital in Ystrad Mynach opens in 2010.

The existing landowners (Gwent Health Board) have been working closely with the Welsh Assembly Government, the Council and a Registered Social Landlord under the protocol for the release of public land to facilitate the delivery of affordable housing on the site in line with the aspirations of One Wales.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that the plan be changed to amend the Settlement Boundary of Wattsville, to omit the land to the rear of Islwyn Road.

Reason for Focused Change:

The site is more appropriately located outside of the settlement boundary.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

A key part of the strategy is to promote efficient settlement patterns of development across the whole county borough. A crucial mechanism for achieving this is the designation of settlement boundaries. Amongst other functions the settlement boundary defines the area within which development would normally be allowed and also it prevents inappropriate development in the countryside. In this instance an area of land has been included within the settlement boundary of the Deposit LDP that is more appropriately located outside the settlement boundary due to its open aspect. The inclusion of this land within the settlement boundary and the subsequent development of the land as a result would have significant impacts in landscape terms.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability outlined in the Community Strategy and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Recognises the potential effect of insensitive land use on a range of issues in this instance on the landscape and responds accordingly.
- Ensures the protection and enhancement of the natural environment specifically in this instance the landscape.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The delineation of settlement boundaries across the county borough are determined by the functional analysis of each of the strategy areas and by the specific role and function of individual settlements, which are informed in turn by the various strategies that impact on land use of all partner organisations.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that Policy LE3 should be amended to allow tourism related activities in country parks

Reason for Focused Change:

Parc Bryn Bach has been established as a country park integrating elements of tourism related developments. The policy as originally written seeks to restrict future development in the country parks to leisure uses only. The change seeks to amend the policy to allow appropriate tourism related developments commensurate with their standing as country parks.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

A key part of the strategy is to promote efficient settlement patterns of development across the whole county borough. In addition the strategy seeks to provide and protect a diverse portfolio of employment land and to develop appropriate tourist related facilities. Whilst it is accepted that major tourism related development is unlikely to be appropriate in these countryside areas, appropriate tourism proposals can provide low key employment in rural areas, as well as diversifying and making best and most efficient use of the country park resource.

The Focused Change directly accords with two of the LDP aims, namely "To use resources efficiently and making the best use of our assets" and "To enhance the vibrancy and diversity of local communities, in order to ensure good health and social cohesion." In addition the Change accords with a number of the LDP Key Objectives 18 and 19.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability outlined in the Community Strategy and contributes to the Living Environment, Regeneration, Education for Life and Health, Social Care and Well-Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces
- Generate sustainable, accessible and varied, well-paid employment opportunities locally, to encourage economic prosperity whilst reducing the need for travel
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well being
- Increase appreciation of environmental assets and utilise their potential for enhanced quality of life and sustainable tourism opportunities

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The Caerphilly Rural Development Partnership: Local Development Strategy acknowledges country parks form part of an exciting leisure and tourism set of venues and events that, collaboratively, provide a significant backdrop to economic regeneration, with the countryside providing major opportunities for tourism and leisure, which should continue to be a major element of the County Borough's economic regeneration effort

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

It is proposed that all mineral safeguarding areas should extend up to settlement boundaries.

Reason for Focused Change:

This will ensure that the implications of new development on safeguarding areas will be fully considered and that the resource is not incrementally sterilised by new development.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

The Focused Change seeks to ensure that the impacts of proposed development are fully considered in respect of sterilisation of existing resources which accords with LDP Key Objective 3. Taking safeguarding boundaries up to settlement boundaries, the current limit of sterilising development, means that the consideration of underlying resources becomes a consideration in all proposals outside existing settlement limits, which would not be the case in the published Deposit Plan.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Recognises the potential effect of insensitive land use on a range of issues in this instance on the landscape and responds accordingly.
- Ensures the protection and enhancement of the natural environment specifically in this instance the landscape.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The extension of the minerals safeguarding areas up to the settlement boundaries accords with the Regional Technical Statement that seeks to ensure that resources are not unnecessarily sterilised.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper "The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP".

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The Focused Change has been subject to a statutory 6- week consultation period (23rd September – 4th November) in accordance with guidance contained in Circular CL-01-2009.

FC20 PARAGRAPH 0.47

It is proposed that Paragraph 0.47 be amended to read:

“The Wales Spatial Plan 2008 Update divides South East Wales functionally into three zones. The City and Coast zone includes the M4 corridor and the cities of Cardiff and Newport, just south of Caerphilly County Borough. The central zone, termed the Connections Corridor, links the prosperous City and Coast zone to deprived communities in the Heads of the Valleys Plus zone.”

Reason for Focused Change: To reflect the changed status of the update of the Wales Spatial Plan

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

This minor change of wording to reflect the change in status of the Wales Spatial Plan will improve the clarity of the strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

As it is a minor change of wording to reflect the updated WSP, there would be no direct impact on the community strategy.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The change is linked to the update of the Wales Spatial Plan.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

It has regard to the updated Wales Spatial Plan.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper ‘The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP’.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting

errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC21 STRATEGIC POLICY 6 – PLACE MAKING

It is proposed that the principal part of Policy SP6 be amended to read as follows:

- i Development proposals should contribute to creating sustainable places by having full regard to the context of the local, natural, historic and built environment and its special features through:*

Reason for Focused Change: The proposed change is not substantive but would improve the clarity of /remove any ambiguity in the LDP

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

One of the objectives of the LDP is to “protect and enhance the overall quality of the historic, natural and built environment of the County Borough.” As the ‘historic environment’ is given particular reference in the strategy, the proposed change to include ‘historic’ in Policy SP6 would be appropriate as it would ensure that the Policy is capable of meeting the plans stated objective and will also assist in defining local character and providing local distinctiveness.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The proposed change has regard for the Living Environment Strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete Policy SP8

Reason for Focused Change: The proposed change is not substantive but would remove an unnecessary administrative action from the LDP whose rewording would only replicate national guidance.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

One of the objectives of the LDP is to reduce the impact of flooding by ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of risk wherever possible. The precautionary principle is also promoted in the plan strategy as part of the key component of promoting resource efficient settlement patterns.

Policy SP8 is considered to be an administrative action as opposed to a policy, it is not considered that there will be any real policy omission by the deletion of SP8. The objective of the plan still remains laudable, although it is not considered that the deletion of the policy will undermine the strategy as flood risk is covered appropriately within national planning guidance (Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk).

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

One of the objectives of the Community Strategy is to “ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment.” The Focused Change proposing the deletion of SP8 will mean that the LDP does not address flood prevention specifically. However, it is addressed in national planning guidance, ensuring that it continues to be a consideration at planning application stage.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The national planning policy on flooding, as set out within TAN 15, provides a strong framework for the consideration of flood risk in respect to planning applications. Policy SP8 was considered to replicate national planning guidance and therefore, it is considered that the deletion of the policy will comply with WAG guidance, which identifies that national planning guidance should not be repeated within the local development plan. As such, national policy will continue to address the issue of flooding.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Flood risk is a consideration in a number of other documents including the Living Environment Strategy. However, as the issue is covered appropriately in national planning guidance, it is not considered that the deletion of this policy undermines the objectives of this strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

It is proposed that Policy SP9 be amended as follows (As discussed in the Statement of Common Ground on minerals):

“The council will contribute to the regional demand for a continuous supply of minerals by:

A Safeguarding known resources of coal, sand and gravel and hard rock

B Maintaining a minimum 10-year land bank of permitted aggregate reserves in line with national guidance.”

Reason for Focused Change: The clarity of SP9 would be improved if it were redrafted to refer to “resources” rather than “reserves”. In the planning context “reserves” tends to refer to resources that have planning permission.

“Taking into account relevant environmental, planning and transportation consideration” has been deleted from criterion A, as the safeguarding of the mineral should be unconditional. Planning, environmental and transportation considerations would be considered when an application for planning permission was made or an allocation for development of the resource.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

A key objective of the plan is to “ensure the effective and efficient use of natural and built resources while preventing the unnecessary sterilisation of finite resources through inappropriate development.” As the objective refers to the term ‘resources’ rather than ‘reserves’, the proposed change to the terminology would be consistent with the strategy.

With respect of deletion of part of criterion A, it is considered that as the issues identified are covered by other countywide policies there will be no adverse effect on the strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The Focused Change complies with the Regional Technical Statement that requires the LDP to safeguard known mineral resources.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC24 POLICY CW1 – SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete policy CW1

Reason for Focused Change: As a result of the publication of MIPPS 01/2009, Policy CW1 Sustainable Buildings now directly repeats what is contained within National Policy and guidance. The continued inclusion of the policy in the plan would result in the plan becoming unsound.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

Sustainability permeates through the strategy of the LDP. There is particular reference in the plan's objectives to the minimisation of the environmental impacts of development and delivering sustainable buildings is a key element of this. The inclusion of a policy on sustainable buildings in the Deposit LDP was clearly related to the plan strategy. However, the deletion of the policy is not considered to undermine the strategy in relation to the delivery of sustainable buildings as this topic is now covered appropriately by national planning guidance.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

One of the objectives of the Community Strategy is to "encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs." The Focused Change proposing the deletion of CW1 will mean that the LDP does not address sustainable buildings specifically. However, it is addressed in national planning guidance, ensuring that it continues to be a consideration at planning application stage.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

National planning policy on Planning for Sustainable Buildings, as set out within the Ministerial Interim Planning Policy Statement and Technical Advice Note 22: Planning for Climate Change, identifies sustainable building standards. Due to the publication of the MIPPS, Policy CW1 now replicates national planning guidance and therefore, it is considered that the deletion of the policy will comply with WAG guidance, which identifies that national planning guidance should not be repeated within the development plan.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The sustainability of buildings is a consideration in a number of other documents including the Living Environment Strategy and the Sustainable Development Strategy. However, as the issue is covered appropriately in national planning guidance, it is not considered that the deletion of this policy will undermine the objectives of these strategies.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC25 POLICY CW4 – GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete policy CW4

Reason for Focused Change: Recent legislative and guidance changes mean that the LDP repeats national guidance

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

One of the plan's key objectives of the LDP is to "ensure that all new development is well designed and has regard for the surroundings in order to reduce the opportunity for crime to occur". The inclusion of a policy on design statements in the Deposit LDP was therefore related to the plan strategy. However, the deletion of the policy is not considered to undermine the strategy in relation to design, as the requirement to submit a Design and Access Statement is now a statutory requirement and therefore must be submitted as part of any planning application except material changes of use, engineering/mining operations and household development.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

One of the objectives of the Community Strategy is to "encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs." The submission of Design and Access Statements as part of planning applications will contribute to achieving this. The Focused Change proposing the deletion of CW4 will not negate the requirement for design and access statements. Rather, the requirement will be set out by legislation instead of the development plan policy.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The statutory requirement to submit Design and Access Statements is set out in the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2009 and referenced in Technical Advice Note 12: Design. Policy CW4 now replicates legislation and national planning guidance and therefore it is considered that the deletion of the policy will comply with WAG guidance, which identifies that national planning guidance should not be repeated within local development plans.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Design is a consideration in a number of other documents including the Living Environment Strategy. However, as the issue is covered appropriately in legislation and national planning guidance, it is not considered that the deletion of this policy undermines the objectives of this strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC26 POLICY CW5 – GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete policy CW5

Reason for Focused Change: The policy repeats national guidance

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

One of the plan's key objectives of the LDP is to "ensure that all new development is well designed and has regard for the surroundings in order to reduce the opportunity for crime to occur". The inclusion of a policy on design in the Deposit LDP was therefore related to the plan strategy. However, the deletion of the policy is not considered to undermine the strategy in relation to design, as national planning guidance as set out within Technical Advice Note 12: Design provides appropriate guidance against which planning applications will be determined.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

One of the objectives of the Community Strategy is to "encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs." The consideration of design in respect of planning applications will contribute to achieving this. The Focused Change proposing the deletion of CW4 will not negate the requirement for design to be considered. Rather, it is addressed in national planning guidance (TAN 12), ensuring that it continues to be a consideration at planning application stage.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

National planning policy on design as set out within TAN 12 provides a strong framework for the consideration of design in respect to planning applications. Policy CW5 was considered to replicate national planning guidance and therefore it is considered that the deletion of the policy will comply with WAG guidance, which identifies that national planning guidance should not be repeated within the local development plan.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Design is a consideration in a number of other documents including the Living Environment Strategy. However, as the issue is covered appropriately in national planning guidance, it is not considered that the deletion of this policy undermines the objectives of this strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

It is proposed that the wording of Policy CW9 be amended to read:

“Trees, Woodland and Hedgerow Protection

Development proposals on sites containing trees, woodlands, hedgerows and ancient woodland, or which are bordered by one of more trees or hedgerows, will only be permitted provided that:

- A Where arboricultural surveys are required, they are received and approved, and any mitigation, compensation and/or management requirements are submitted as part of the planning application, and*
- B The trees, woodland and/or hedgerows and their root systems will be retained and adequately protected prior to, during and after, development takes place, or*
- C Where trees, woodland and/or hedgerows are proposed to be removed the developer can demonstrate that the need for the development outweighs the importance of the trees, woodland and/or the hedgerow, and*
- D Where trees, woodlands and/or hedgerows are removed, suitable replacements are planted within the development, and*
- E Ancient trees and woodland sites are protected from development that would result in significant damage.”*

Reason for Focused Change: As a result of a number of omissions, it is recommended that the wording of CW9 be amended. The rewording of the policy would address all of the necessary issues that need to be referred to as highlighted in the Planning Policy Wales and the Natural Heritage Background Paper.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

One of the components of the LDP strategy is to reduce the impact of development upon the countryside, which includes the need to protect and/or conserve those aspects of the natural environment that are valued for their landscape, biodiversity or agricultural interest. This would include trees, woodlands and hedgerows. Furthermore, a key objective of the plan is to identify, protect and, where appropriate, enhance valuable landscape features and protect them from unacceptable development.

The expansion of the policy to incorporate hedgerows, ancient trees and woodland sites will help ensure that all valuable landscape features would be subject to appropriate protection, thus according with the strategy

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets the objectives of the Community Strategy to ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The proposed change would accord with a number of strategies including the Living Environment Strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC28 POLICY CW17 –GENERAL LOCATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

It is proposed that Policy CW17 be amended in reference to the inclusion of tourism under criterion C (iii) of policy CW17. Criterion C (iii) of the policy should be amended to read:

“For recreation, leisure and tourism proposals that are suitable in a countryside location”

Reason for Focused Change: The inclusion of the reference to tourism within policy CW17 is in line with the guidance in PPW which recognises tourism as a “major element in the Welsh economy, particularly in rural areas” (Para 11.1.1) and states that “in rural areas, tourist development is an essential element in providing for a healthy, diverse, local and national economy...development should be well designed and sympathetic in scale and nature to the local environment and the needs of the local community” (Para 11.1.6).

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

The strategy of the plan seeks to reduce the impact of development upon the countryside, only allowing for ‘appropriate development’ in countryside locations, which would not cause undue harm to areas that are valued for their intrinsic value in terms of biodiversity, landscape, historic or conservation interest. The strategy identifies that the countryside, which makes up nearly 80% of the land area of the County Borough as a positive asset that can strengthen regeneration strategies and maximise tourism opportunities that provide an enhanced quality of life for all, including providing benefits to people’s health and well-being.

In addition, the strategy seeks to allow for development opportunities in the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area, one of the major development proposals within this area is the concept of ‘The Valleys Regional Park’ – a network of countryside recreation areas linked by strategic footpaths and cycleways. The proposed change to Policy CW17 will allow for suitable tourism development, which could complement such project and in turn could contribute to the local economy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces

- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment
- Develop integrated, efficient local and regional transport systems, including public transport, cycling and walking networks.
- Generate sustainable, accessible and varied, well-paid employment opportunities locally, to encourage economic prosperity whilst reducing the need for travel

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Tourist attraction is a significant part of the Valleys Regional Park (VRP) concept that has been derived from the Heads of the Valleys initiative. Whilst the VRP only covers the HoV Strategy Area and hence only includes part of Parc Bryn Bach and Parc Cwm Darren, broadening this out to all country parks within the borough would only strengthen asset base for this strategy. In addition to this the Caerphilly Rural Development Partnership: Local Development Strategy acknowledges country parks form part of an exciting leisure and tourism set of venues and events that, collaboratively, provide a significant backdrop to economic regeneration, with the countryside providing major opportunities for tourism and leisure, which should continue to be a major element of the County Borough's economic regeneration effort.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC29 POLICY CW22 (SUPPORTING TEXT, PARAGRAPH 2.42)– LOCATIONAL CONSTRAINTS FOR CONVERSION, EXTENSION & REPLACEMENT OF BUILDINGS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

It is proposed that paragraph 2.42 be amended to read:

“The conversion of industrial, commercial or agricultural buildings, that have become redundant, into residential use, will not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that every reasonable attempt has been made to continue the building’s use as an economic or business asset. Residential conversion is likely to be acceptable where it forms part of the business or economic use of the complex.”

Reason for Focused Change: The amendment to paragraph 2.42 would be beneficial for the purpose of clarity

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

The strategy of the plan seeks to reduce the impact of development on the countryside, only allowing for ‘appropriate development’ in countryside locations, which would not cause undue harm to areas that are valued for their intrinsic value in terms of biodiversity, landscape, historic or conservation interest. The proposed change to paragraph 2.42 provides greater clarity in respect of the conversion, extension and replacement of buildings in the countryside and seeks to reduce the impact on the countryside by restricting inappropriate conversions to residential development. In doing so, this promotes more resource efficient settlement patterns, which is also a key component of the strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment
- Develop integrated, efficient local and regional transport systems, including public transport, cycling and walking networks.
- Generate sustainable, accessible and varied, well-paid employment opportunities locally, to encourage economic prosperity whilst reducing the need for travel

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The protection and enhancement of the countryside is a key objective of the Living Environment Strategy

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC30 POLICY CW23 (SUPPORTING TEXT PARAGRAPHS 2.45 & 2.47)– LOCATIONAL CONSTRAINTS GYPSY & TRAVELLER CARAVAN SITES

It is proposed that Paragraphs 2.45 & 2.47 of the supporting text be amended to read:

Paragraph 2.45:

“For this reason, the preferred location for sites is inside or on the outskirts of built-up areas, although suitable sites in rural or semi-rural settings would also be acceptable.”

Paragraph 2.47:

“Proposals for Gypsy and Traveller caravan sites must also generally comply with other policies identified in the Plan, including design considerations.”

Reason for Focused Change: To ensure that the Plan is consistent with Circular 30/2007.

Paragraph 2.25: The final sentence was inconsistent with Circular 30/2007, resulting in the proposed change

Paragraph 2.47: Circular 30/2007 advises that local landscape and local nature conservation designations should not, in themselves, be used as a reason to refuse proposals for Gypsy and Traveller sites, resulting in the proposed change to amend this paragraph by deleting reference to natural heritage designations

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

One of the key objectives of the LDP is to “ensure an adequate and appropriate range of housing sites are available across the County Borough in the most suitable locations to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population. The proposed changes to Paragraphs 2.25 and 2.47, removes potential barriers to the provision of sites for gypsy accommodation from the policy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making
- Reduce health inequalities by tackling deprivation and the wider determinants of health
- Enable independent living in local communities through appropriate support mechanisms for individuals, families and carers
- Develop and strengthen preventative work and service provision for vulnerable children and adults

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

In preparing the Deposit LDP the Council has followed WAG Planning Guidance, in particular that requiring authorities to prepare a Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA), which includes the needs of Gypsies & Travellers. Fordham carried out the study on behalf of the Council; Chapter 19 contains information in respect of Gypsies & Travellers.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC31 PROPOSALS MAP – CF1.9 SOUTH OF ABERBARGOED PALATEAU, LE3.3 BARGOED COUNTRY PARK

It is proposed that in respect of the settlement boundary that an amendment be made to include CF1.9 within the settlement boundary and that in respect of allocation LE3.3 that an amendment be made to the boundary of the allocation to exclude CF1.9

Reason for Focused Change: To amend mapping errors on the proposals map.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy? The delineation of settlement boundaries is important for achieving resource efficient settlements and indicating where development would be allowed taking account of all other material considerations. The Focused Change to rectify a drafting error on the proposals map will ensure that the boundary of allocations CF1.9 and LE3.3 are correct and therefore conforms to this element of the strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Not applicable

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies? Not Applicable

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC32 PROPOSALS MAP – LE2.1 FORMER MARKHAM COLLIERY, MARKHAM

It is proposed that a minor amendment be made to the boundary of LE2.1 to exclude the land to which site E21 relates.

Reason for Focused Change: The inclusion of site E21 within the boundary of LE2.1 is a drafting error

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy? The delineation of settlement boundaries is an important element of promoting resource efficient settlement patterns and reducing the impact of development on the countryside. The Focused Change to rectify a drafting error on the proposals map will ensure that boundary of allocation LE2.1 is correct and therefore conforms to this element of the strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
-

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area? The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?
Not applicable.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC33 HG1.14 - LAND FRONTING SOUTH VIEW TERRACE, NEW TREDEGAR

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete HG1.14 Land fronting South View Terrace as a housing site.

Reason for Focused Change: The value of the informal open space outweighs the need for residential development in this area. The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009, and in light of further analysis of housing land provision, it is considered that sufficient land remains available to meet LDP requirements, and therefore the recommendation will not have an adverse effect on the soundness of the LDP.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

An increase in the population will place additional pressure on the network of facilities necessary to support sustainable communities (waste, education, leisure renewable etc). The strategy recognises this pressure and seeks to promote a balanced approach to managing future growth. Integral to this approach is a need to ensure that a network of community facilities will be developed in parallel with new housing. FC33 adheres to this approach and safeguards land for leisure use.

In addition, the strategy seeks to target development to reflect the role and function of individual settlements. New Tredegar is one of the predominantly residential areas in the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area supporting the Principal Town of Bargoed and the key settlement of Rhymney. In terms of the area's residential role, it is important that the plan ensures that the area has the community facilities that it needs to serve the resident population. The site is suitable for housing and/or leisure use, and its identification for leisure use accords with the need to serve the wider residential area in this regard.

The strategy also seeks to promote resource efficient settlement patterns. In this context, care has been taken to ensure that vulnerable land uses such as open space, leisure land and community uses have sufficient protection to avoid their loss to more profitable development such as housing. FC33 adheres to this aspect of the strategy and proactively seeks to allocate land, which might otherwise be developed for housing for leisure use.

How does the proposed change relate to the Community Strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development of high quality, well designed and efficient sustainable homes and environments that can meet all needs.
- Promote a culture of community self-help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision-making.
- Increase awareness of opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces.
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus of community pride, accessible facilities and activities.
- Develop and promote local and accessible community based services and activities for all.
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well-being.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Work is underway in respect of the development of Supplementary Planning Guidance on Open Space requirements for the County Borough, but in the meantime the allocation of sufficient land for informal leisure activities must be achieved by utilising national guidance alone.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

It is proposed that a minor amendment be made to the boundary of allocation EM2.3.

Reason for Focused Change: The amendment to the boundary of EM2.3 is considered to be a minor amendment that would more accurately define the extent of the employment allocation in light of planning consent P08/1044 Full.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

It is important to support the employment allocations in every way in the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area (HOVRA). There are three large industrial estates - Heads of the Valleys, Capital Valley and Maerdy - located near the settlements of Rhymney and Pontlottyn (a total of 45.4 Ha of land). These industrial sites emphasise the role of the Upper Rhymney Valley for employment uses, especially as only 4% of land in this area is currently vacant (Caerphilly Employment Sites Supply and Market Appraisal Study, 2006). In the past, it has proved difficult to attract private investment into the northern part of the County Borough, but recently there are indications that this is changing. The Welsh Assembly Government has prioritised this part of the County Borough as an area for regeneration by including it in the Heads of the Valleys Programme area. This Programme supports the Council's own priorities for regeneration. The HOV programme forms one facet of the Welsh Assembly Government's future development aspirations for the South East Wales Region. At the heart of the vision for SE Wales is a network of strong, sustainable communities spreading prosperity from the two major centres of Cardiff and Newport to valleys across the region.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Regeneration Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making.
- Generate sustainable, accessible and varied, well-paid employment opportunities locally, to encourage economic prosperity whilst reducing the need for travel.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

It has regard to the Council's "The Smart Alternative" (it's Regeneration Strategy) and "Turning Heads - A Strategy for the Heads of the Valleys (2006)".

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC35

HG1.07 - FORMER DEPOT SOUTH OF PONTLOTTYN LINK ROAD

It is proposed that a minor amendment be made to the boundary of allocation HG1.07

Reason for Focused Change: The amendment to the boundary of HG1.07 is considered to be a minor amendment that would serve to improve the sites relationship with housing site HG1.08 (which is immediately south) by addressing the topography.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

The Heads of the Valley Regeneration Area is characterised by the highest levels of unemployment, social deprivation and population loss in the County Borough and has difficulty in attracting private sector employment. It is therefore recognised by the Welsh Assembly Government and the Council as a regeneration priority area. The Heads of the Valley Regeneration Area (HOVRA) is the subject of comprehensive community regeneration initiatives by the Council including, social and economic measures as well as the land-based measure contained in the LDP's development strategy.

In recent years the HOVRA has experienced unprecedented levels of public investment in its infrastructure, in particular in the transportation network, which to date has not been accompanied by significant private sector investment. The Development Strategy of the Plan seeks to direct development to this area and exploit and build on this investment. It therefore designates land for a wide variety of land uses across the HOVRA to not only meet the role and function of individual settlements but also to positively regenerate those areas over the plan period.

The choice of housing in this area is particularly limited and is some villages up to 90% of housing is pre-1914 terraced housing and generally where this figure is lower, most of the remainder is public sector housing. It is likely that the lack of choice of modern housing is a major factor in the continued out-migration of younger and more affluent families from this area. In order to address this issue approximately 24% of all new housing sites allocated in the plan are located in the HOVRA. This reflects the strategic desire to allow for development opportunities that will diversify the housing stock and help to retain and attract people to the north of the County Borough.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs

- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

It has regard to "Turning Heads - A Strategy for the Heads of the Valleys (2006)".

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC36 APPENDICES - CM4.1 & CF1.2

It is proposed that changes should be made to the LDP site descriptions for allocations CM4.1 and CF1.2 in the relevant appendices to identify the need for full ecological surveys.

Reason for Focused Change: The desired change would encourage best practice in protecting ecologically important features as far as possible in implementation of development.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

Where settlements are identified for growth in line with their role and function, the strategy recognises that care has to be taken to ensure that the environment has the capacity to accommodate it whilst having regard for the need to protect and/or conserve those aspects of the natural environment that are valued for their landscape, biodiversity or agricultural interest.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The Focused Change has had regard for the Council's Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC37

LE5.7 - REAR OF PENCOED AVENUE, CEFN FOREST

It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete Land Rear of Pencoed Avenue, Cefn Fforest, as an area of protection for informal open space.

Reason for Focused Change: The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009. It is not substantive but would remove an allocation from the LDP that may prove difficult to realise due to its private landownership and difficulty in obtaining access.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

A key part of the strategy is to promote efficient settlement patterns of development across the county borough, and this Focused Change seeks an achievable level of leisure provision in this particular area.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs.
- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Work is underway in respect of the development of Supplementary Planning Guidance on Open Space requirements for the County Borough, but in the meantime the allocation of sufficient land for informal leisure activities must be achieved by utilising national guidance alone.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

It is proposed that the Plan and its Appendices be amended to delete Navigation Colliery as a housing site.

Reason for Focused Change: The proposed change is not substantive but would remove an allocation from the LDP that may prove difficult to realise due to the known risk associated with flooding. Therefore, the concern over flood risk outweighs the need for residential development in this area. The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009, and in light of further analysis of housing land provision, it is considered that sufficient land remains available to meet LDP requirements, and therefore the recommendation will not have an adverse affect on the soundness of the LDP.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

In line with Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk, a key objective of the Plan is to reduce the impact of flooding by ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of risk wherever possible.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Not applicable.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The reassessment of the Change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

Propose that Appendix 12 be amended as follows:

“ LE 5.15 Adjacent to River Rhymney, Hengoed.

This flat area of land provides an opportunity to create a recreational area incorporating the Riverside Walk and additional informal facilities such as picnic sites.”

Reason for Focused Change: The allocation should be retained in the LDP but the appendices should be amended to remove the reference to car parking.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

Not applicable.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making
- Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well being

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Not applicable.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?
No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC40

PROPOSALS MAP

**EM2.7 – DWR CYMRU WELSH WATER OFFICES, NELSON
SB99.50 – DWR CYMRU WELSH WATER OFFICES, NELSON
SI1.11 – WEST OF NELSON**

Propose that a drafting error is rectified to exclude the allotment gardens and properties 1 & 2 Greenhill Cottages from the boundary of EM2.7, and that the consequential changes to the Settlement Boundary and Green Wedge are also made

Reason for Focused Change: The recommended changes result from an initial drafting error

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

The focused change is in accord with ensuring that the County Borough is well served by accessible public open space and accessible natural green space, and with the effective and efficient use of natural and built resources while preventing the unnecessary sterilisation of finite resources through inappropriate development. The focused change is also in accord with the aim to identify, protect and, where appropriate enhance, valuable landscapes and landscape features and protect them from unacceptable development.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Not applicable.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC41

SI1.6 - ABERBARGOED, CEFN FFOREST AND PENGAM

Propose that the LDP be amended to correct the drafting error to move the allocation of Green Wedge SI1.6 Aberbargoed, Cefn Fforest and Pengam from the HOVRA area specific policies section to the Northern Connections Corridor area specific policies section of the plan.

Reason for Focused Change: The proposed change would correct a drafting error.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

Not applicable.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Not applicable.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC42

**PROPOSALS MAP
LE1.15 - TRELYN PARK, FLEUR DE LYS**

Propose that the boundary of allocation LE1.15 be amended to exclude the land in private ownership from the leisure allocation.

Reason for Focused Change: The proposed change would rectify a minor drafting error on the Proposals Map.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?
Not applicable.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Not applicable.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC43

**HG99.17 - LAND AT LLWYN ONN CRESCENT, OAKDALE
SB99.29 - SITE AT LLWYN ONN CRESCENT, OAKDALE**

Propose that the settlement be amended to incorporate land granted planning consent for 2 bungalows in 2006 (P/06/0392) and the dwelling known as Ty Gynnes, as shown on the map.

Reason for Focused Change: The proposed change is not substantive but would ensure consistency in the alignment of the settlement boundary in the LDP. The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009 and this land is more appropriately located outside of the settlement boundary and inside an adjacent green wedge designation. The focused change is not substantive but would help to improve clarity as the planning history of this land has demonstrated that it is considered suitable for development due the granting of planning consent for 2 bungalows.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

Not applicable.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Not applicable.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC44

CF1.16 - OAKFIELD STREET, YSTRAD MYNACH

Propose that the site boundary of CF1.16 be amended to remove the eastern segment of the existing car park from the proposed community facility allocation to more properly reflect the land required to accommodate this development.

Reason for Focused Change: The proposed change is not substantive but would more accurately reflect the land necessary to accommodate this development.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

Not applicable.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Promote a culture of community self help, cohesion and citizenship and involvement in decision making
- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus for community pride, with accessible services and activities for all
- Expand and develop community based health and social care services

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn meets National Policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPA strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

Not applicable.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No.

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6 week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC45 SECTION C – STRATEGY AREA – INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH 3.187

Propose that the LDP be amended to include the following at the end of Paragraph 3.187:

“In addition to this the council will investigate the feasibility of new passenger rail links from Caerphilly to Taffs Well and from Trehir to Machen and Newport, with a view to promoting their inclusion in the first review of the RTP if appropriate.”

Reason for Focused Change:

An appropriate amendment to the wording of the strategy section of the SCC, is required to identify the council’s intention to investigate the feasibility of the rail schemes

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

The LDP Strategy seeks to make the settlement patterns in the county borough more sustainable and a key factor in achieving this is the development of a sustainable public transport system to support the settlements. The Focused Change relates solely to the investigation of the feasibility of realising additional rail passenger services, which would broaden the sustainable public transport provision for the county borough, also providing a rail service to Newport, which the county borough does not have.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability and contributes to the Regeneration Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Develop integrated, efficient local and regional transport systems, including public transport, cycling and walking networks.

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The Focused Change accords with the Wales Transport Strategy that seeks to improve the efficient, reliable and sustainable movement of people and to increase accessibility to employment opportunities. Whilst a passenger service for these lines has not been considered through either the SEWTA Rail Strategy or the Final Draft RTP, if investigative work identifies the schemes as feasible then they will be promoted through the review of the RTP toward the end of the LDP period.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

Propose that a minor amendment be made to the boundary of HG1.77

Reason for Focused Change:

There is currently an outline planning application submitted for this site P09/0243 for residential development and associated recreational space. The area to which this application refers incorporates the land to the west of HG1.77. The amendment to the boundary of HG1.77 to include this land is considered to be a minor amendment and would allow for the comprehensive development of this site.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

Whilst the Focused Change has no real relationship to the LDP strategy, as the change rationalises the boundary to the reality of a planning permission, in delivering the appropriate site development it helps deliver the LDP strategy, particularly helping meet the overall LDP housing requirement,

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

By enabling the appropriate development of the site the Focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Encourages the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

As a factual boundary amendment the Focused Change does not relate to other strategies, other than the LDP strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC47 LE2.2 (SUPPORTING TEXT, PARAGRAPH 3.229) BEDWAS COMMUNITY PARK, BEDWAS

Propose that Paragraph 3.229 be amended to read:

“3.229 Country parks are large scale, less formal facilities that offer a valuable resource for recreation activities near enough to the county borough’s main centres of population but completely rural in character. In this case provision is to be made initially for a ‘pocket park’ serving the wider Caerphilly Basin area and in particular the proposed mixed use development on the adjacent Bedwas colliery site. The colliery spoil tips to the north of the pocket park are proposed for a country park in the longer term.”

Reason for Focused Change:

The proposed change is not substantive but would improve the clarity of the LDP.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

The Focused Change is consistent with the LDP Vision and specifically accords with LDP aims of protecting the environment, whilst balancing the need for development and it seeks to enhance community vibrancy and diversity to ensure good health and social cohesion.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment and Health Social Care & Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- o Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces
- o Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well being

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The Caerphilly Rural Development Partnership: Local Development Strategy acknowledges country parks form part of an exciting leisure and tourism set of venues. The Focused Change will make provision for a Country Park where currently there are none.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC48 PROPOSALS MAP LE1.32 LAND ADJACENT TO THE WAR MEMEORIAL MACHEN

Propose that the boundary of the designated Leisure Site LE1.32 – Land adjacent to the War Memorial, Machen should be amended to exclude the churchyard and church.

Reason for Focused Change:

To achieve the aims of Policy LE 1 Protection of Formal Open Spaces, it is unnecessary and inappropriate to designate churches and churchyards.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

Whilst the Focused Change has no real relationship to the LDP strategy, as the change rationalises the boundary of a leisure allocation by excluding land occupied by a church and its grounds, it rationalises the site and therefore helps deliver the LDP strategy appropriately.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

By rationalising the leisure allocation the Focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

As a factual boundary amendment the Focused Change does not relate to other strategies, other than the LDP strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC49

LE1.27 LLANBRADACH PARK, LLANBRADACH

Propose that the site boundary be amended at Llanbradach Park to reflect the land ownership boundary.

Reason for Focused Change:

For consistency purposes, the River Rhymney would represent a more defensible boundary as not only is the river a natural boundary, but it also forms the line of the settlement boundary and the boundary of land in Council ownership. This minor change is therefore considered logical in line with general good practice.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

Whilst the Focused Change has no real relationship to the LDP strategy, as the change rationalises the boundary of a leisure allocation by reflecting land ownership and defensible boundaries, it rationalises the site and therefore helps deliver the LDP strategy appropriately.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

By rationalising the leisure allocation the Focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

As a factual boundary amendment the Focused Change does not relate to other strategies, other than the LDP strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

Propose that Appendix 7 be amended to insert a paragraph in relation to HG1.68 stating:

“A site development brief will be produced to identify the ways in which constraints to development can be overcome and the principal design requirements.”

Reason for Focused Change:

The proposed change is not substantive but would improve the clarity the LDP.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan’s Strategy?

The Focused Change identifies that there are constraints that could affect the detailed layout and design of a development scheme on the site without affecting the principle of the development of the site for mixed-use development. Therefore the Focused Change ensures the appropriate development of the site. Whilst the change itself has little relationship with the LDP Strategy, in ensuring the appropriate development of the site it helps realise the LDP Strategy, most notably providing housing to meet the LDP housing requirement.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

By ensuring the appropriate development of the site the Focused Change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

As a detailed design issue the Focused Change does not relate to other strategies, other than the LDP strategy.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

Note: If the Inspector upholds the deletion of the St Ilan Site, this change is no longer required.

FC51

**HG1.57 BROOK LAND ROAD COUNCIL SERVICES SITE
CF1.38 BROOKLAND RISCA ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE**

Propose that the plan be amended to delete allocations HG1.57 and CF1.38

Reason for Focused Change:

Circumstances have changed considerably since the original decision was taken to relocate the youth facility into the library building, and a great degree of uncertainty in terms of asset management issues remain. The required changes effectively deals with the unresolved issues surrounding the current plan proposals.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

The Focused Change reflects the position following a recent revision of the asset base of the Risca Buildings. The change, therefore, ensures the appropriate use of the building, supporting the LDP strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

By ensuring the appropriate use of building in the centre of Risca, the Focused Change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability and contributes to the Living Environment Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Encourage the improvement of town and village centres as a focus for community pride, with accessible services and activities for all

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

Yes. The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The situation in respect of community facilities in Risca is currently being investigated and this work will reflect necessary strategy requirements as it is progressed.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A?

No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

Propose that in respect of the canal being allocated as a leisure allocation, that an amendment be made to the LDP to include the Monmouthshire/ Brecon Canal as a tourism site within the Southern Connections Corridor

Reason for Focused Change:

The allocation of the Monmouthshire/ Brecon Canal as a tourism allocation is considered to make a positive contribution to not only the tourism opportunities within the County Borough but would also seek to attract additional visitors to the area and further enhance the natural heritage interests of the area.

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy?

The Focused Change directly accords with the key objective of the plan to encourage the development of high quality, all season tourist attractions and tourist accommodation that complements the natural and built environment of the County Borough. Furthermore, with regards to the component of the strategy, which seeks to reduce the impact of development upon the countryside, the importance of maximising tourism opportunities in the countryside is recognised. The proposed allocation of the Crumlin Arm of the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal would therefore accord with the strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change contributes to the Vision for Sustainability outlined in the Community Strategy and contributes to the Living Environment, Regeneration, Education for Life and Health, Social Care and Well-Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it:

- Increase awareness and opportunities for safe access to the countryside and open spaces
- Improve public health by promoting factors that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well being
- Increase appreciation of environmental assets and utilise their potential for enhanced quality of life and sustainable tourism opportunities

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area?

The Focused Change meets the development strategy that underpins the LDP, which in turn accords with national policy, the Wales Spatial Plan and has regard to adjoining LPAs strategies.

In particular, draft Technical Advice Note 13: Tourism recognises inland waterways as having a role in enhancing tourism, and this allocation would therefore accord with this.

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies?

The change would accord with the aim of increasing the tourism offer as set out within the Council's regeneration strategy, 'The Smart Alternative'.

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal?

The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken?

The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

FC53 PROPOSALS MAP HG1.64, CF1.34 AND LE4.11

Propose that the boundary of the Bedwas Colliery Site be amended to exclude a small area of land at the western extent of the site

Reason for Focused Change: The amendment to the proposals map is required to rectify a drafting error

How does the proposed change relate to the Plan's Strategy? The delineation of settlement boundaries is important for achieving resource efficient settlements and indicating where development would be allowed taking account of all other material considerations. The Focused Change to rectify a drafting error on the proposals map will ensure that the boundary of allocations HG1.64, CF1.34 and LE4.11 are correct and therefore conforms to this element of the strategy.

How does the proposed change relate to the community strategy?

The focused change meets a number of the Living Environment, Regeneration and Health Social Care and Well Being Objectives of the Community Strategy. Specifically it will:

- Encourage the development and maintenance of high quality, well designed and efficient, sustainable homes and residential environments that can meet all needs
- Ensure the protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the natural environment, including the quality of air, rivers and watercourses, flood prevention, landscape and biodiversity, and our historic environment

Does it have regard for National Policy / the WSP & the adjoining area? Not applicable

Has it had regard to other relevant plans and strategies? Not applicable

Does the change have any environmental / social / economic implications that are not covered in the S/A? No

Does the proposed change require the preparation of a revised sustainability appraisal? The Change has been considered in respect of the SEA/SA and the Change is not likely to have significant effects that require reassessment. The Consideration of the change is included in the SEA/SA Supplementary Paper 'The Assessment of Council Recommended Changes to the Deposit LDP'.

What further consultation has the Authority undertaken? The proposed amendment was contained within a document listing all the changes that the Council considers should be made to the Deposit LDP for reasons of clarity, conformity and in order to correct minor drafting errors. Comments relating to this document were also invited during the 6-week consultation period for Focused Changes (23rd September – 4th November). This document was published on the Council's website and made available alongside the Statement of Focused Changes document.

