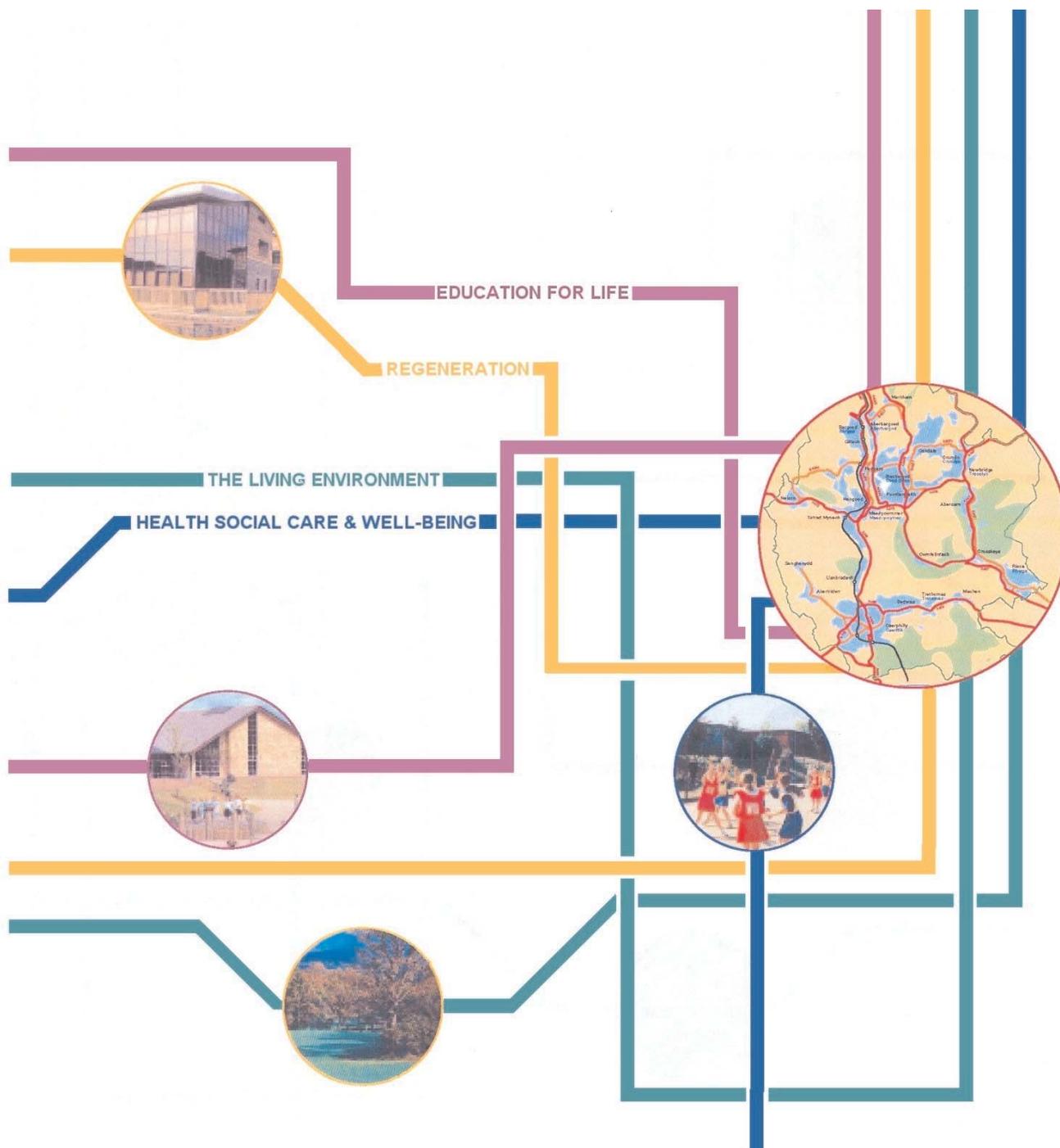


REPORT OF FINDINGS

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN



VISIONING WORKSHOPS - JUNE 2006

P Mears, Chief Planning Officer, Directorate of the Environment,
Civic Offices, Pontllanfraith, NP12 2YW



Report of Findings

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

VISIONING WORKSHOPS

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NP12 2YW

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In November 2004 Caerphilly County Borough Council made the decision to cease work on the Unitary Development Plan and to start work on the Caerphilly County Borough Council Local Development Plan (**LDP**) under the provisions of Part 6 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town and Country Planning (Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005.
- 1.2 In May 2005 the Council issued a public statement to indicate the Council's decision and to outline the existing development plan situation. A formal advertisement to this effect was issued on 4th October 2005 in the local press; the advertisement appeared in the local press for two consecutive weeks.

2.0 The Local Development Plan System

- 2.1 The new development plan system aims to make the LDP more relevant, inclusive and engaging to local communities and to encourage a partnership approach to plan preparation involving the voluntary, public and private sectors, which will result in a development strategy based on wide consensus.

Council Approved Delivery Agreement

- 2.2 In order to ensure the early and continuous involvement of stakeholders throughout the preparation of the plan the Council has prepared a Delivery Agreement (DA). The DA is a public statement that sets out the Council's project plan, comprising a **timetable** and a Community Involvement Scheme (**CIS**). The Council approved the DA for the LDP in April 2006 and it was submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) for agreement at the beginning of April 2006. The DA was formally agreed with WAG on 4th May 2006. Copies of the DA can be obtained from the Planning Division or can be viewed at www.caerphilly.gov.uk

Management Groups

- 2.3 A number of specific groups have been set up by the Council in order to facilitate the plan preparation process and speed up decision making, namely the:
 - LDP Focus Group;
 - Sustainability Group; and
 - Stakeholder Panel

Appendix 1 outlines the role of each of these groups. The Delivery Agreement explains in detail how these groups complement and work with existing groups, in particular the extensive community-planning network in Caerphilly; which includes Caerphilly Standing Conference.

Integration with the Community Strategy

- 2.4 In considering how the LDP for Caerphilly County Borough should guide and manage future development, it is important that a clear vision of what the County Borough should look like in fifteen years time is formulated. This has already been achieved with partners through the development of the Community Strategy, which was formally launched by Standing Conference in November 2004.
- 2.5 The Community Strategy sets out how the partner organisations that form the Standing Conference will work together over the next 10-15 years to make the County Borough a place where people:
- like to live and want to stay and make a home - the **Living Environment** theme
 - can find opportunities for (paid and unpaid) work that they find rewarding - the **Regeneration** theme
 - can develop a range of interests, knowledge and activities – the **Education for Life** theme
 - can lead a full, healthy life and get treatment, support and care as and when required - the **Health, Social Care and Well Being** theme.
- 2.6 The Community Strategy acknowledges that “ *A vitally important part of the community strategy is the spatial dimension: how objectives for the county borough relate to implementation within localities in the county borough.*”
- 2.7 In preparing the LDP there is an opportunity to review what the strategic priorities for development are up to 2021 and an opportunity for stakeholders and the local community to further influence how the County Borough will look in the future. There are many land use issues that the LDP should address and the Council needs to know what issues stakeholders and the local community consider to be a priority. In reviewing strategic priorities, account needs to be taken of all other approved strategies and plans which the Council has prepared generally in consultation with partner organisations and other stakeholders.

3.0 Visioning Workshops

- 3.1 In order to help to develop alternative overarching Vision Statements for the development plan that have been derived from the Community Strategy, three workshop sessions were held as follows:

Meeting:	Date:	Venue:
LDP Focus Group	13 th April 2006	Innovation Centre, Tredomen
Sustainability Group	27 th April 2006	Committee Room 1 & 2 , Tredomen
Standing Conference	5 th May 2006	Oasis Centre, Pontllanfraith

A full list of attendees at these sessions is provided at Appendix 2.

Purpose of the Report

- 3.2 The purpose of this report is: Firstly to record and analyse the information and opinions gathered over the three sessions; and secondly to provide the Council with the views of those that attended the workshops to provide a clear indication of the way in which the Vision Statement for the LDP should be developed.
- 3.3 The final decision on the preferred Vision for the LDP rests with the Council and in this context this Report outlining the work undertaken at all of the visioning sessions was considered by a meeting of the Council on the **27th June** 2006.
- 3.4 Chapter 4 reports in detail the issues arising out of the various workshop sessions.

4.0 VISIONING WORKSHOPS

Identification of Land Use Vision Statements

4.1 In order to understand which elements of the Community Strategy are directly related to land use planning, the LDP Focus Group and the Sustainability Group were asked to work through the 'Vision Statements' contained in the Community Strategy in order to agree which of these:

- Are essentially land use; and / or
- could be directly influenced or implemented by the LDP

4.2 Initially officers of the Planning Division highlighted those Community Strategy vision statements, which they considered to be 'land use' orientated. Then each Group considered whether or not those statements highlighted were indeed appropriate and also whether other vision statements should be added. *Column A of Appendix 3* outlines those statements that the Groups considered to be land use.

4.3 The Groups were then asked to consider what they believed the key land use issues were for the LDP derived from each of the land use statements. The issues identified are listed in *Column B of Appendix 3*

Generating Land Use Vision Statements

4.4 Having regard to the outcomes of these sessions the two groups were asked to undertake different exercises as follows:

LDP Focus Group

4.5 The LDP Focus Group were asked to formulate 'Alternative Draft Vision Statements' that could potentially be used to drive forward Alternative Strategies for the Development Plan. These Vision Statements were to be land use, locally distinctive and capable of delivery.

4.6 In approaching this part of the exercise the LDP Focus Group took their starting point as the example Vision Statements generated by officers attached at Appendix 4. They discussed these three alternative statements and formulated a check list of essential characteristics or key issues that should inform the Vision Statement for the LDP.

4.7 The group felt that the following community characteristics were important:

- Enhancing the vibrancy of communities
- Maintaining sustainability and protecting the environment
- Taking a forward-looking stance with regard to regeneration
- Recognising the need for society to 'thrive & survive'
- Maintaining community diversity.

4.8 Therefore, any vision statement for the LDP should reflect the following key issues:

- Making Caerphilly Borough a pleasant place to live and work with decent public services
- Providing well paid employment in accessible locations to raise community expectations
- Delivering improved education facilities to 'upskill' the population
- Maintaining a clean / green environment
- Designating appropriate locations for community / leisure facilities
- Recognising the importance of transport policies for rail/bus corridors and good site accessibility
- Targeting the deprived communities with appropriate development (the deprivation strategy)
- Recognising market forces
- Integrating of policies & land use

Attached at Appendix 4 are two suggested alternative vision statements that reflect the discussions held by the LDP Focus Group.

Sustainability Group

4.9 The Sustainability Group were asked to consider what the key land use issues were that should inform the Vision Statement for the Local Development Plan. In approaching this part of the exercise the Sustainability Group took their starting point as the Land use issues generated by the LDP Focus Group together with any additional issues that they identified. All issues raised are listed in Appendix 4.

4.10 Further to discussion around the issues the Sustainability Group formulated a check list of key issues that should inform the Vision Statement for the LDP as follows:

- Clean, Green and Safe Environment
- Sustainability
- Health: Impact of development on everyone's health (particularly vulnerable groups) – Health Impact Assessment Tool
- Health and Social Cohesion
- Provision of land to provide a variety of employment opportunities, supported by appropriate housing and ancillary facilities and services (including recreation, leisure etc)
- Regeneration- Making the best use of what we have
- Environmental Protection -environment, landscape, historic environment
- Underpinning all development with good design that is flexible for a diversity of needs
- Green Transport Options
- Re-use of redundant sites/ brownfield land

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- Accessibility – locating development in order to reduce the need to travel
- Minimising waste – provision of adequate recycling and waste management facilities
- Using resources efficiently
- Access to facilities and services to ensure equal opportunities within and outside the County Borough
- Encourage self reliance within communities – ‘eco-communities’
- Safeguarding land for community facilities
- Re-emphasis on the need for mixed use development
- Development Strategy should respect Caerphilly as an area in its own right and not as a suburb of Cardiff
- Spatially Targeted development – not targeted at the South

Standing Conference

- 4.11 Standing Conference (Conference) was presented with all of the visioning work that had been undertaken previously by the LDP Focus Group and the Sustainability Group and asked to undertake two specific exercises.
- 4.12 In the first instance Conference was given the opportunity to consider whether there were any additional land use issues that needed to be addressed in the LDP flowing from the Visions contained in the Community Strategy. *Column C of Appendix 3 outlines the issues that were highlighted by Conference.*
- 4.13 Secondly Conference was given a set of Alternative Vision Statements that had been generated by officers and by the LDP Focus Group, and asked to consider whether any of the statements could be strengthened or enhanced through modification. *Appendix 4* outlines each of the Vision Statements considered and the comments made in respect of each. They were further asked to comment on how they would interpret each of the vision statements.

5.0 **Conclusions**

- 5.1 The Visioning exercises have provided a valuable insight into the land use issues facing the County Borough that are of importance to the stakeholders who attended these events.
- 5.2 The analysis of the workshops clearly illustrates that the Local Development Plan is a key mechanism for realising the spatial expression of the Visions and Objectives contained within the Community Strategy. It is vitally important therefore that the LDP is continued to be developed in partnership with key stakeholders and that work undertaken to develop the LDP informs any subsequent review of the Community Strategy.
- 5.3 Whilst the issues raised at these sessions span across service areas and organisations, there was a general consensus in terms of the key land use issues that need to be considered as an integral part of plan preparation. There was also a general recognition that many of these issues are inter-related and that many have implications beyond the boundaries of Caerphilly County Borough for neighbouring local authorities and other partner organisations.
- 5.4 There were a number of key issues that reoccurred throughout each of the workshop sessions and it is recommended that these are the issues that should serve to shape and inform the vision statement for the LDP. Taken together they express the need to develop a vision for Caerphilly County Borough which promotes:
- Sustainability - protecting the environment as a whole whilst balancing the need for development with the need to conserve valuable resources
 - Good Design – underpinning all development with good design that meets a diversity of needs; which uses resources efficiently; and which makes adequate provision for recycling and waste management
 - A Clean, Green and Safe Environment - making Caerphilly Borough a pleasant place to live and work with decent public services
 - Health and Social Cohesion -enhancing the vibrancy and diversity of communities
 - Equal opportunities for all to proposed and existing facilities and services within and outside the County Borough
 - Green transport policies – including the provision of an integrated public transport system in close proximity to new and existing development
 - Provision of land to provide for employment opportunities, supported by appropriate housing and ancillary facilities and services (Including community facilities, recreation, leisure etc) – promoting a mix of uses where appropriate

- Regeneration - Using resources efficiently and making the best use of our assets
- Improved education facilities to 'up skill' the population
- Caerphilly County Borough as an area in its own right.

6.0 Preferred Vision Statement

6.1 There is a need to ensure that the preferred vision statement for the LDP:

- Is derived from the Community Strategy and that there is a transparency in its development; the Visioning Workshops seek to ensure that this is the case;
- Sets out a clear vision for the County Borough over the plan period;
- Is distinctive to Caerphilly County Borough; and
- Informs the development of alternative spatial strategies for consideration at subsequent stages of plan preparation.

6.2 A number of vision statements have been generated as a result of the LDP Visioning Workshops (attached at Appendix 4). However there is a need to reconsider these both in light of comments made at Standing Conference and in light of the issues highlighted in Section 5 by the LDP Focus Group and the Sustainability Group.

6.3 Outlined below is a brief comment in respect of the appropriateness, or otherwise, of each of the vision statements generated:

6.3.1 **VS1:** Is overly prescriptive, and if it were to be amended to include additional prescription as the comments suggest it would be too detailed.

6.3.2 **VS2:** Does not present a clear vision for the County Borough, is overly complex, is difficult to understand and was generally not favoured.

6.3.3 **VS3:** This statement was generally understood. It should be noted that concern was expressed that it could be constraining in terms of its explicit reference to sites being defined by their proximity to the transport system.

6.3.4 **VS4:** This statement was generally understood but was considered to be utopian.

6.3.5 **VS5:** No adverse comments received in respect of this option, it should be noted that the final part of the vision, that is "*delivered in a balanced and sustainable manner*" is all encompassing and removes the need to specify in detail the long list of considerations, such as good design, energy efficiency, good public transport that need to be met to deliver sustainable communities.

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- 6.4 In developing the Vision for the LDP it is vitally important that the Proposed Vision Statement does not constrain any future discussion in terms of the Strategic Development Options for the plan. Council therefore resolved on the **27th June 2006** that the following Draft Vision Statement be approved as a working Vision for the early stages of plan preparation:

The Development Strategy for Caerphilly County Borough will ensure that the needs of all the county borough's residents and visitors are met and the regeneration of our towns, villages and employment centres and the surrounding countryside is delivered in a well-balanced and sustainable manner.

- 6.5 It is important to recognise that as the preparation of the LDP progresses through the various stages, there will be a need to review the Vision as an integral part of the process to ensure that the Vision reflects the preferred strategy for the Development of the County Borough. This is a legitimate part of plan preparation and it recognises that it is an iterative process. Council therefore further resolved that *“the Vision Statement, as an integral part of the plan preparation process, be reviewed and refined as and when necessary throughout the progress of the plan;”*.

7.0 Next Stage

- 7.1 This document was made publicly available on the Council's web site www.Caerphilly.gov.uk on the **30th June 2006**.
- 7.2 Comments on the Vision Statement outlined in this document will be invited as an integral part of the public participation work that will be undertaken in August 2006 in respect of the development of Strategic Options. The consultation document will be made available on the Council web site on **31st July 2006** and comments should be submitted by **5.00 pm** on the **14th August 2006**.

Appendix 1

LDP Focus Group

The LDP Focus Group is an internal working group of key individuals (Elected Members and Senior Council Officers of the Council). The LDP Focus Group is an active working group that meets at key stages of plan preparation to help to generate options and alternatives for inclusion in draft policy papers and documents that can subsequently be tested by key stakeholders and the general public, through formal public consultation mechanisms that are outlined in detail in the DA.

Sustainability Group

The Sustainability Group is an expert panel of key individuals who have expertise in respect of environmental issues. Its membership is drawn from officers within the local authority e.g. the Council Ecologist, Landscape Architect, Chief Engineer and from outside partner organisations such as the Environment Agency, the Countryside Council for Wales and the Forestry Commission.

The Group also meets at key stages of plan preparation to help to inform the preparation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal work that is an integral part of the plan preparation process. Their work by necessity informs the work of the LDP Focus Group.

Stakeholder Panel

As an integral part of the CIS the Council is required to identify all sections of the community, especially under-represented groups and consider how they would best be involved in the process. In Caerphilly we have a number of mechanisms already available to reach a diversity of interests and partner organisation through the Community Planning Network. The DA sets out how these existing mechanisms are involved in the process.

In addition however the Council has also set up a Stakeholder Panel specifically to deal with the LDP process. This Panel acts as a sounding board for emerging policies and proposals and is the forum for structured discussions to ensure that a cross section of views can be debated as part of the public participation into the plan.

The Panel is made up of up to 40 representatives drawn from statutory bodies, general consultation bodies, Caerphilly Standing Conference, the Viewpoint Panel and the general public (including 'Hard to Reach' groups). In order to establish membership the Council has targeted appropriate organisations, partners and individuals to obtain a representative selection of interested people and organisations.

List of Attendees at Visioning Workshops

LDP Focus Group – 13th April 2006

Elected Members	Officers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Harry Andrews Leader • Cllr Keith Griffiths Cabinet Member for Transportation & Planning • Cllr Stan Jenkins Chair of Planning Committee • Cllr Les Rees Vice Chair of Planning Committee • Cllr Lindsay Whittle Leader of the Opposition • Cllr John Taylor (Deputising for Cllr. Geoffrey Hibert as the Member of the Majority Opposition) • Cllr Graham Simmonds Member representing both Independent Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat Mears Chief Planning Officer • Rhian Kyte Strategic and Development Planning • Mark Rees-Williams Chief Engineer • Cris Davies Chief Housing Officer • Phil Davy Head of Economic Development, Tourism and European Affairs • Bleddyn Hopkins Head of Planning and Strategy, Education & Leisure • Steve Delahaye Head of Public Protection • Mark Williams Head of Public Services • Sian Brace Living Environment Co-ordinator

Sustainability Group - 27th April 2006

External Partners	Council Officers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Jones Countryside Council For Wales • Caroline Drayton Environment Agency • Steve Spode Welsh Development Agency • Neil Maylan Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust • Lorraine Howells Farmers Union of Wales • Mererid Bowley Local Public Health Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phil Griffiths Caerphilly CBC (Countryside) • Dave Lucas Caerphilly CBC (Strategic & Development Planning) • Neil Daniels Caerphilly CBC (Landscape) • Alison Jones Caerphilly CBC (Ecology) • Paul Cooke Caerphilly CBC (Sustainability)

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Gifford Gwent Police 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melanie Davies Caerphilly CBC (Economic Development) • Heddwyn Evans Caerphilly CBC (Environmental Health – Pollution) • Mark Rees-Williams Caerphilly CBC (Highways) • Chris Francis Caerphilly CBC (Housing) • Stuart Newland Caerphilly CBC (Waste Strategy) • Steve Lawrence Caerphilly CBC (Education) • Ralph Bourke Caerphilly CBC (Research) • Maura Matthews Caerphilly CBC (Health Improvement) • Rhodri Lloyd Caerphilly CBC (Waste Management) • Kevin Fortey Caerphilly CBC (Housing) • John Ridgewell Caerphilly CBC (Leisure)
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Standing Conference – 5th May 2006

Name:	Organisation:	Name:	Organisation:
Alun Thomas	Gwent Police	Alan Royle	Coleg Gwent
Allen Williams	GAVO	Bob Cooke	Voluntary Sector Representative
Cathryn Saunders	Ystrad Mynach College	Chris Hodson	Caerphilly Local Health Board
Christine Williams	Caerphilly County Borough Crossroads	Cllr Colin Mann	Caerphilly CBC
Cllr Gerald Jones	Caerphilly CBC	Cllr Harry Andrews	Caerphilly CBC
Cllr Judith Pritchard	Caerphilly CBC	Cllr Keith Griffiths	Caerphilly CBC
Cllr Lindsay Whittle	Caerphilly CBC	Corrine Williams	British Red Cross

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David Finch	Ystrad Mynach College	David Napier	Caerphilly Local Health Board
Ginny Fancourt	Caerphilly County Borough Crossroads	Gregory Byrne	Venture Wales
Ivan Hill	Bargoed Chamber of Trade	Jack Evans	South Wales Fire Service
Jackie Dix	Caerphilly CBC	James Cooper	Caerphilly County Borough Access Group
James Eades	Glamorgan & Gwent Housing Assoc	Jan Bennett	Caerphilly CBC
Jill Phillips	Voluntary Sector Representative	Joe Howsam	Caerphilly CBC
Judith Paget	Caerphilly Local Health Board	June Davies	Caerphilly CBC
Lesley Dobson	Groundwork Caerphilly	Lesley Thomas	Voluntary Sector Representative
Lowri Pugh	Menter Iaith Sirol Bwrdeistref Caerffili	Margaret Hunt	CPRW
Marj Edwards	Community Partnerships Representative	Mary Snook	Wales & West Housing Assoc
Michele Harris	Careers Wales Gwent	Neil Barber	Seren Group
Nigel Forster	Groundwork Caerphilly	Pat Worlock	Gwent Health Authority
Paul Jenkins	ELWa	Rebecca Thomas	National Public Health Service
Reena Pasotra	Environment Agency Wales	Rhoslyn Griffiths	Ystrad Mynach College
Richard Jones	Countryside Council for Wales	Rob Gough	GAVO
Roger Bassett-Jones	Business in the Community Cymru	Sandra Cooper	Caerphilly County Borough Access Group
Sandra Davies	GAVO	Simon Ellington	Citizens Advice Service
Stephen Gibbons	Careers Wales Mid Glam	Stuart Rosser	Caerphilly CBC
Sue Maberley	Countryside Council for Wales	Tony Sheehan	Caerphilly Business Forum
Tony Whittaker	United Welsh Housing Assoc		

NOTE: Support Staff , Facilitators and Scribes at the above events are not listed.

Appendix 3

COMMUNITY STRATEGY VISION STATEMENTS AND LAND USE ISSUES IDENTIFIED

(A) LIVING ENVIRONMENT

	<i>A: Land use vision statements from the Community Strategy</i>	<i>B: Key land use issues arising from each statement as identified by the LDP Focus Group and the Sustainability Group</i>	<i>C: Additional issues arising from Standing Conference</i>
A1	<i>There is a wide choice of well-designed, high quality, affordable and efficient housing to purchase or to rent to suit all lifestyles and aspirations. People are able to choose where they want to live in the county borough, regardless of their needs or choice of tenure.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing allocations and nature of housing • Allocating appropriate land for housing use for a diverse range of housing - including affordable housing, gypsy site provision • Policy for new build in relation to the DDAct • Design policies • Travel plans & employment • The Sub regional context • Demographic changes • CCW toolkit for green space • <i>Goes to the heart of the LDP</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More 1 person household dwellings should be given consideration under the DDA regulations. • All housing should have regard for environmental /sustainability issues • Consider the allocation of sites for high-rise housing – flats/apartments due to the shortage of land e.g. Cardiff Bay. • Need to provide for good quality housing for rent • Housing for rent/single people/housing association is likely to be unpopular next to privately owned housing. Promote the positive aspects of affordable housing i.e. providing affordable housing for future generations • Support required to enable people to purchase affordable housing • Change current policy so that developments of under 35s also have to include affordable housing

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCBC to use compulsory purchase orders to buy land for affordable housing as part of regeneration schemes. • Appropriate scale of development should be a consideration. • Target luxury developments to the more deprived areas to bring economically active people in to boost the local economy • New housing should be energy efficient – should be specified in the development plan • Need to facilitate the use of public transport. • Need to recognise the changes to the socio-economic profile of the residents of the county borough- more single people and retired people on low incomes.
A2	<p>Housing and economic development have been carefully managed to minimise their impact on the environment and have been combined with road transport planning to ensure ease of access to employment and services within the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocations within appropriate sites taking account of topography • Priority for sites close to public transport links • Policies should conform to regional transport plans • Implications for transport infrastructure improvements & protection for such • Promotion of mixed use development • Increased permeability in neighbourhood design and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to focus development on rail not road links • Promote Caerphilly as a shopping centre • Too much focus on the A470-there are other roads too. • Sustainability issues should be considered such as energy efficiency in new business development • Plan industry around good transport links • Examine the potential of brownfield sites-reclaim to provide an attractive place for new uses e.g. Tredomen Business Park. Penrhos – also offers the opportunity to utilise planning gain. • Lack of welsh medium schools in certain parts of the county borough and the associated transport problems that results in.

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	county borough and in Cardiff and Newport.	<p>layout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation schemes need to have regard for the impact they will have on the environment • Consider the potential adverse impact of traffic management schemes on air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All communities must be able to thrive with additional new housing - consideration of visual impact, topography, permeability and good access (including road) necessary.
A3	People living in towns and villages value the large areas of countryside, the large variety of wildlife in the county borough and high quality of the air and rivers. People and businesses take responsibility for enhancing their local environment (both urban and rural), preventing pollution and fly-tipping and minimising waste/litter and use of water and energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEW regional waste plan - designation and construction of waste facilities • Prudent use of resources, waste facilities / recycling • Housing design needs to reflect waste issues / collection / recycling • Protection of national / local conservation area LBAP • Promote access to the countryside and wildlife – include interpretation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good opportunities for Caerphilly CBC due to the amount of countryside, resulting in an attractive environment to attract tourism and business • Allocation of sites for controlled tourism • Exploit the benefits afforded by the cycle-path network • Sensitive siting of waste disposal facilities – away from houses • Adapting new and existing homes to accommodate recycling and energy efficiency measures. • The Regional Waste Plan does not specifically combat fly tipping. Needs an Environment Agency initiative to examine the problems
A4	Local people and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to all facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for Caerphilly CBC due to the amount of

	visitors alike have easy, low cost access to the rural areas of the county and local heritage attractions via a good rights of way network and a choice of low impact transport.	<p>& allocate land uses so that they are accessible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designation & protection of green space • Designation, protection & safeguarding rights of way network • Provision of appropriate safeguarding of land and facilities for the development of local tourist attractions and related tourism accommodation 	<p>countryside, resulting in an attractive environment to attract tourism and business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of sites for controlled tourism • Exploit the benefits afforded by the cycle-path network • Sensitive siting of waste disposal facilities – away from houses • Adapting new and existing homes to accommodate recycling and energy efficiency measures • New development should have regard for the DDA – Rights of way should also be compliant. • Need to undertake a stock take of existing tourist accommodation – need for more good quality facilities
A5	People of all ages take an interest in community life and helping others to find activities to engage in, particularly in areas where anti-social behaviour and fear of crime were once a problem		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage children to involve and excite them in innovative ways • Good quality and well managed community facilities designed into new housing developments as an example of planning gain-in particular places to meet and socialise • Facilities need to be supervised by CCTV, be of a good quality and provide something for all ages. • The need for late night transport to service cultural and entertainment facilities. • No cultural facilities in Caerphilly Town Centre • Develop pride in ownership of the local community to help people feel safe in their own homes.
A6	People feel safe in their own homes,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing out crime • Managing the evening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective design of estates • Educating young people

	neighbourhoods and town centres. A well-known network of local wardens exists to provide advice and help on environmental, community safety and housing issues. - <i>Links to Design</i>	<p>economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood security 	
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(B) REGENERATION

	<i>A: Land use vision statements from the Community Strategy</i>	<i>B: Key land use issues arising from each statement as identified by the LDP Focus Group and the Sustainability Group</i>	<i>C: Additional issues arising from Standing Conference</i>
B1	There has been a successful response to loss of manufacturing jobs, taking advantage of broadband communications and other opportunities to diversify the local economy.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues associated with the development of mobile phone masts, particularly in the Upper Rhymney Valley • Brownfield sites should be developed for employment (e.g. call centres to provide jobs) • Reuse of derelict buildings – affects quality of life where buildings are left in disrepair
B2	New opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment allocations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is possible to attract employment and protect the

	<p>for work of a rewarding nature in a variety of settings have been developed <u>within</u> the county borough without damaging the local environment (e.g. office-based jobs in accessible locations, home-working, small local businesses, community run enterprises, 'green-based' initiatives such as bio-fuels).</p>	<p>versus environmental protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity of employment sites made available • Availability of technology & infrastructure • Integrated transport links with employment sites • Policies for Home-working • Promotion of community enterprises • Appropriate geographical spread of opportunities • Appropriate provision for childcare facilities – requirement for employers to make provision as part of new development 	<p>environment. A quality environment will attract inward investment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home working: provides excellent opportunities for carers; - broadband essential to enable this to occur; good for the environment-reduce the need to travel; risk of isolation-use community buildings as meeting place • Need for infrastructure to support home-working • Need for adequate day care facilities for vulnerable groups (such as the elderly) to help carers • May have an impact on the neighbourhood depending on the types of business. • Community Schools could have a bigger role to play in childcare • Urban and <u>rural</u> economy should be considered
<p>B3</p>	<p>Fewer people have to commute out of the county borough to find employment because of the increase in local opportunities and improved access to them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create employment opportunities locally • Diversity of employment sites made available • Availability of technology & infrastructure • Integrated transport links with employment sites • Sustainable transport options supporting employment sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to be suitable quality of employment to encourage people to work locally-links with housing provision • Community Schools could have a bigger role to play in childcare • Encourage self-employment/entrepreneurship • Need to define 'local' and 'deliverability' • Need to consider and include other land uses not only employment, in particular training facilities -this will make communities attractive by reducing the need to travel.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of suitable housing sites linked closely to employment sites • Broad reduction in the need to travel 	
B4	<p>Regeneration opportunities have been created and enhanced throughout the county borough by substantial improvements to the rail and road network (including Bargoed by-pass, Sirhowy Enterprise Way). There are ongoing discussions about further improvements to the Rhymney and Ebbw Valley lines.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify new priorities for transport infrastructure • Public transportation infrastructure improvements • Integrated transport system- regard also has to be given to the needs of residents in the rural parts of the county borough • Sustainable transport options supporting employment sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant impact on the environment • Where east/west and north /south corridors meet is where the hospital will be located – need therefore for car park provision and park and park and ride facilities. • The older road networks could present more problems than the new. • Need for more dualling of major roads – implications of B1, B2, and B3 on B4. • East / west links not good. • Improve existing infrastructure networks –identify sites close to existing networks to avoid the need to develop additional roads for example.
B5	<p>Pressure for development in the south has been successfully channelled northwards creating</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of strategy considered within the sub regional context • Allocation of land for employment uses • Ensure that there is not too 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New job opportunities could arise in the north from initiatives such as WAG staff decentralisation. • Potential impact of the dualling of the Heads of the Valley Road on surrounding area i.e. housing, schools etc • Potential for a Conference Centre just off the Heads

	<p>several thousand new jobs in a mid valley growth corridor, with good transport links (private, public, community transport) for job seekers <u>from all communities</u>.</p>	<p>much reliance on Cardiff and Newport to sustain the economic well being of the County Borough</p>	<p>of the Valley Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition that commuters not only leave the County Borough in the voluntary and public sector significant numbers commute into the county borough. Recognition that travelling time critical to attracting staff.
B6	<p>Our town centres have been revitalised through increased office employment (in some cases with 24-hour operations), greater variety of retail and leisure outlets accessible to all and increased prosperity within communities – all feeding off of each other.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regeneration of our town and village centres • Identify sites for offices - town centre expansion – use of sustainability tools • Allocation of sites within towns and villages for employment • Provision of mixed use facilities in town centres • 24 hour transport system to match 24 hour employment facilities- catering for shift workers • Suitable transport links to services need to be provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 hour licensing – potential impact on town centres • Tensions between the need to meet parking standards and the need to encourage the use of public transport. • Car parking should be provided selectively according to the quality of the infrastructure. • Clarify the term ‘mixed use’ • Recognition that the 24-hour vision is not realistic in the majority of our towns.
B7	<p>A substantial tourism industry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of sites for tourism industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for more camping, hotel and bed and breakfast facilities

	<p>with an 'outdoor pursuits' focus is creating opportunities for jobs directly and in related activities (such as catering, bed and breakfast, retail, crafts, bike hire, stables)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of land for leisure • Revisit countryside policies • Formal provision of sites for outdoor pursuits that do not have a negative impact on communities • Promotion of the Valleys Regional Park 	
B8	<p>The environment is valued as a vital part of regeneration, providing both the backdrop and a range of opportunities for economic activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlighting concerns of economic development versus the Environment & Conservation • Protection and promotion of the wider landscape to increase tourism potential • Recognition of the quality of the urban environment • The need to make green space accessible – for visual amenity purposes. urban design purposes and leisure purposes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider issues such as materials, design, power sources etc when developing green space. • Opportunities for partnership working with neighbouring authorities and others in respect of landscape projects
B9	<p>There are increased opportunities for work - paid and unpaid - and support for those in work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making opportunities available, e.g. policies for home-working 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Sector opportunities as a road back into paid employment should be promoted and exploited. • Impact on waste management/recycling

	<p>(e.g. childcare, other caring responsibilities) resulting in a steady increase in economic activity rates to the point where they are on a par with or above national averages.</p>		
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(C) EDUCATION FOR LIFE

	<i>A: Land use vision statements from the Community Strategy</i>	<i>B: Key land use issues arising from each statement as identified by the LDP Focus Group and the Sustainability Group</i>	<i>C: Additional issues arising from Standing Conference</i>
C1	Local communities value education and young people are encouraged to reach their full potential through appropriate academic and vocational learning opportunities.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Schools initiative (partnership between Caerphilly CBC and Blaenau Gwent) utilising existing landscapes as 'outdoor classrooms'. Need to identify opportunities for using the landscape as an educational resource when preparing the LDP. • The need to allocate land for Rhymney College. • Examine the need for new centres for training or the reuse or existing buildings. • Consideration of the impact of new housing development on educational facilities.

C2	<p>Formal education in schools is of a high quality and instils confidence and high aspirations in children and young people. Outside school young people are able to pursue leisure and cultural activities that are designed to meet their interests.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of land for a range of leisure / vocational facilities • Appropriate S106 policies • Embed the leisure strategy in the LDP • Include issues such as Canals • Safeguarding of community facilities • Lifelong Learning agenda – suitability of sites • Provision of land for community and educational purposes – encompassing lifelong learning provision and welsh medium education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth in vocational training needs to be recognised • Need to utilise Section 106 agreements fully. • Need to allocate land for playing fields –potential in Crosskeys to re-locate the Cricket Ground; Markham land allocated for Leisure • Canals – only one element of infrastructure – identify others and/or clarify links and corridors for recreational; purposes • Change wording of ‘issues’ to ‘opportunities’ • The educational needs of different groups will require different levels of resources and facilities. • Cefn Fforest Ecopark is a good example of how the process could work • The DDA requires that equal access to all is provided and planned for • Colleges need to be included in plan preparation • New land should only be provided for after consideration has been given to existing facilities
C3	<p>Education and training continue after formal education has finished and residents are able to access suitable courses and activities to enhance their lives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of community & leisure facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the Education Department are fully consulted in proposals • Ensure that funding is available to maintain facilities. • Sufficient areas are allocated for leisure and community facilities • Existing facilities should be upgraded to ensure their continued usefulness and improve their use e.g. provision of new changing rooms • Ensure that there are opportunities to up skill the population and that there are sufficient employment

			opportunities to exploit these skills.
C4	The importance of pre-school lives of children (and support for their parents) is recognised and activities and support for children, parents and carers are available in all communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of community & leisure facilities 	
C7	Welsh medium education is complemented by increasing opportunities for the use of Welsh in the wider community, resulting in an ongoing increase in the use of the Welsh language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential sites for Welsh Medium education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty in making land use links

(D) HEALTH SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING

	<i>A: Land use vision statements from the Community</i>	<i>B: Key land use issues arising from each statement as identified by the LDP Focus</i>	<i>C: Additional issues arising from Standing Conference</i>
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	Strategy	Group and the Sustainability Group	
D1	<p>People are living longer, healthier lives. - <i>Link to population /housing projections</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention / primary care • Demographic changes key / future trends / differentiate policies spatially • Linked to population / housing • Allocation of appropriate housing to meet demand, i.e. household size and tenure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure provision of safe accessible green spaces and environment • Address the problem of derelict and underused land • Endorse the value of allotments – no allotments in Markham, Argoed and Manmoel • The need for a diversity in the housing stock • Recognition that the population is decreasing and that there is an ageing population in some areas. • Need for a population profile of the area to ensure an appropriate mix. Of housing e.g. own homes to nursing care, independent living, sheltered housing, care homes
D2	<p>When people are unwell they are able to access the services they need, as locally as possible, within a reasonable time scale. - <i>Links to safeguarding land for community facilities.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation and safeguarding of community and leisure facilities (including formal and informal facilities such as allotments, Play areas, Green Space and cultural activities) • People access services outside the borough • Ensure sufficient local facilities • Link to regional health policies • Primary health care facilities • Other bodies will need to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of the land use issues associated with mental health issues- the need for purpose built facilities incorporate adequate green space. • Recognition of the cross boundary issues associated with health care provision.

		<p>feed into the LDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to health care provision – surgeries / health centres locally • Need to designate land for cemetery/crematorium purposes 	
D4	<p>Services are expanded and reoriented in anticipation of the rising proportion of older people and independence is fostered whenever it is desired.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental protection and conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remodel existing services for the elderly to reflect independent living • Extra Care Schemes required.
D5	<p>Everyone recognises they have responsibility for their own health and have the information and understanding to make informed healthy lifestyle choices, in the context of wider environmental influences on their</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of community and leisure facilities • Need for good residential care in local communities with good access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand recreation network • Address the break up of recreational routes • Healthy eating – Safeguarding and allocating allotment land

	health and well-being.		
D6	The incidence of poor mental health and substance misuse is declining year on year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of community and leisure facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land should be allocated for Special need housing

(E) SUSTAINABILITY

	<i>A: Land use vision statements from the Community Strategy</i>	<i>B: Key land use issues arising from each statement as identified by the LDP Focus Group and the Sustainability Group</i>	<i>C: Additional issues arising from Standing Conference</i>
E1	Value our clean environment, where there is prudent use of all natural resources, no fly tipping or litter, and our waste is recycled and composted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prudent management of resources • Waste management – civic amenity sites, recycling facilities • Examination of alternative energy sources including hydro • Proactive use of policies to promote the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement of fly tipping and measures to prevent it occurring • Removal of fly tipping • Measures to increase kerbside recycling-impact on service provision in the allocation of sites for development. • Effective control in respect of packaging at source (takeaways). • Litter/fly tipping – big cultural issue, needs to be address through education • Facilitate recycling – redesigning homes and kitchens (recycling chutes etc)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design of all new development to encourage energy efficiency and promote the use of renewable sources for energy • Design of all new development should make adequate provision to incorporate recycling facilities. • Encourage the development of non-polluting industry • Safeguarding groundwater – regard for Catchment Area Management Schemes • Safeguarding mineral reserves 	
E2	<p>Recognise the potential of our strong communities where everyone plays their full part in society and volunteering and unpaid work are valued. Community partnerships and</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing facilities to ensure social inclusion • Community facilities need to be designed to accommodate the needs of all • Provision of new skills • Foster pride in local environment • Promotion of mixed tenures to avoid ghettos

	local voluntary organisations are thriving.		
E3	Can get to jobs, services and facilities by walking, cycling or using public transport and don't have to use a car or travel long distances.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement for integrated transport • Transport infrastructure improvement & minimising journeys by car • Allocation of facilities in a sustainable way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and evaluate integrated transport • Security at Park and Ride facilities • Integration is key
E4	Value our unique environment and mining heritage and take advantage of the easy access to the countryside for recreation and tourism and enjoyment of plants and wildlife.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of opportunities for leisure and tourism • Relates to the Herian strategy • Question of sustainability of tourism • Conflict / Coordination between tourism and congestion • Protection of mining heritage sites – interpretation of sites 	
E5	Recognise the effects of climate change and insensitive land use on a range of issues (e.g. flooding;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In making allocations regard should be given to flood risk, and managing impact on wider river basins • Ensure appropriate Development Control 	

	<p>landslips; diversity of plants and animals) and respond accordingly (e.g. minimising use of energy/non-renewable resources; preventing inappropriate development in areas of flood risk and on flood plains; giving due regard to water catchment management and agricultural practice).</p>	<p>criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of Sustainable drainage principles – SUDs • Protection of environmentally sensitive areas-such as SSSIs, SINCs, LNRs, NNRs SACs etc • Protection and enhancement for biodiversity 	
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E6	Maximise the benefits of being close to Cardiff and Newport and other areas without becoming dependent or losing our own distinct identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key issue – link to strategies regarding Newport / Cardiff out-commuting / out-migration • Sufficient employment land allocations necessary to address this issue • Acceptance that Cardiff and Newport provide opportunities that cannot be delivered within the borough • Protection of the identity of distinct towns and villages • Reserve land for stations and park and ride facilities • Routes to support transport plans • Bus corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This vision conflicts with E3 in respect of minimising car journeys.
E8	Feel safe in our homes and communities - <i>links to Design</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implications for design policies 	
E10	Enjoy economic well being in a way that doesn't jeopardise our environment and allows us to do everything set out above.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to balance employment developments arising from regeneration opportunities with protection of the environment • The need to ensure that all new development is 	

		sustainable and well designed	
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(F) EQUALITIES

	<i>A: Land use vision statements from the Community Strategy</i>	<i>B: Key land use issues arising from each statement as identified by the LDP Focus Group and the Sustainability Group</i>	<i>C: Additional issues arising from Standing Conference</i>
F2	All organisations and businesses operating within the area prioritise equality, thereby ensuring that all discriminatory and physical barriers, which prevent equal access to goods, service and employment, have been identified and removed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implications for spatial allocations • Accessibility for all to every land use allocation • Improvements to transport infrastructure • Links to design policy – ease of access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More suitable access provision to buildings e.g. ramps • Better public transport / less car parks • The need for improved facilities to tackle cultural issues such as the need for prayer rooms etc in some developments
F4	There is equal opportunity in employment so that everyone is confident that all jobs within the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure sufficient integration of land use and transportation 	

	are equally accessible to all, regardless of colour, ethnic origin, age, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, religion, language, or nationality.		
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Appendix 4

Officer generated example Vision Statements:

VS1: The Development Strategy for Caerphilly County Borough will maintain and enhance the quality of life by:

- Providing infrastructure for economic development (sustainable transport networks, employment premises) that meet the needs of modern business and reduce the need to out commute;
- Encouraging jobs and service within town centres;
- Providing the facilities and education and training opportunities to enhance skills;
- Promoting a healthy lifestyle through walking, cycling networks and increased leisure facilities and opportunities for access to the countryside;
- Encourage the development of cross valley links

.....etc

Comments and suggested amendments

- Should also include reference to attracting tourism.
- This vision is too narrow – “infrastructure for economic developmentthat meets the needs for modern business...” what does this mean?
- May wish to add community and environmental enhancement to business.
- Needs to reflect the need for cross boundary and partnership / joint working
- Provision of quality office accommodation within town centres for the private and voluntary sectors
- Rationale queried for ‘town centres’- inherent component of town centres – tension between out of town facilities and town centres.
- Secure more social facilities from new developments (eg offices) ie workshops for social events
- Integrated transport
- Many entrepreneurs operate from home
- Needs to reflect the rural as well as urban areas
- Query the appropriateness of existing footpaths to encourage walking and cycling
- Need to expand the said networks to encourage more generic use –integration of walking and cycling routes

- 'Cross Valley' not just physical issues

VS2: Provide a range of quality housing and environments across the county borough for people who want to benefit from the rural and natural heritage, as a sustainable option for supporting areas in decline.

Provide sustainable transport networks for people to get to jobs within and beyond the county borough.

Group 1: Comments and suggested amendments

Proposed rewrite: "Provide a range of quality **affordable** housing and environments across the county borough in **proximity to good quality countryside** as a sustainable option for supporting areas in decline.

Provide sustainable transport networks for people to get to jobs within and beyond the county borough."

- Complex statement
- Add 'for all' after 'quality housing'
- Generally not favoured. Not very positive
- Design out congestion e.g. school run
- Do you build a vision on a legacy?
- Rationale queried for living in borough
- Residential versus service areas.
- Focus on work and home and the links between them, without good transport system you will not achieve this.

VS3: We will ensure that every community within the County Borough is sustained by the provision of all appropriate land uses to service its needs. All land uses will be defined by their proximity to sustainable transport options whilst having regard for the need to conserve the natural and built environment, local heritage and the need to conserve finite resources.

(Note: 'Community' –communities of interest, place, employment,.... Etc.; Dispersal = individual settlements)

Group 1: Comments and suggested amendments

Proposed rewrite: "We will **endeavour to ensure that the allocation of land will reflect the needs of the** community whilst having regard for the need to conserve the natural and built environment, local heritage and the need to conserve finite resources. All land **allocations** will be **guided** by their proximity to **all modes of transport.**"

- Preferred vision
- Amend to read 'whilst having regard for **our responsibilities** to conserve **and enhance....**'
- This could be too constraining in relation to proximity to transport
- Development should be on brownfield sites where possible
- Transport follows need e.g buses altering routes to make more money
- About conserving a balancing use of land and the beauty of the countryside
- Suggest adding in 'balanced provision..'

Vision Statements generated by the LDP Focus Group 13th April 2006

VS4: The Development Strategy will seek to allocate sufficient land for Economic Development, Education, Housing, Community Facilities, Leisure Provision and an Integrated Transport Network, while maintaining equality of opportunity, community networks and a good environment

Group 5: Comments and suggested amendments

Proposed rewrite: "The Development Strategy will allocate sufficient land for Economic Development, Housing, Community Facilities with an Integrated Transport Network, while maintaining equality of opportunity, community networks and a good environment."

- Delete 'uses' for 'development needs'

- Utopianism, all embracing
- Community networks – everybody in the community making better use of facilities and owning them i.e. old and young – intergenerational projects.
- Using schools/centres can isolate certain sectors in relation to the DDA-improving existing facilities should therefore be a priority.

VS5: The Development Strategy will seek to ensure that the needs of all the borough's residents and the regeneration of our towns and employment centres are delivered in a sound and sustainable manner while protecting and enhancing the built and natural environment.

Group 5: Comments and suggested amendments

Proposed rewrite: "The Development Strategy will ensure that the needs of all the borough's residents **and visitors are met and** the regeneration of our towns and employment centres are delivered in **a balanced** and sustainable manner."

What would it mean for us:

- Needs of the borough's residents
- Well insulated houses to reduce fuel poverty
- People living in towns as opposed to shopping / visiting
- Regeneration of towns and employment centres and limiting out of town development to an extent
- More diverse town centres, with unique/speciality shops e.g. arts and crafts, diverse cultural facilities
- 'Café quarter' type developments
- Good quality public realm
- Enhancing the night time economy to suit all sectors and ages
- Sustainable and sound employment centres – near to transport and networks, attractive facilities, more flexible working

General comments in respect of issues that need to be included in Vision Statement:

- Pride in the area – key
- Use existing brownfield sites before greenfield
- Be forward thinking on terms of sustainability
- Social/economic /environmental context intrinsically linked
- Recognise what we have and preserve it
- Mix of facilities available for each community
- Design of new developments important
- Need to meet basic needs before other things can happen
- Need to change mindset in relation to sustainability issues – education, recycling, energy
- If villages are more sustainable in themselves they will create better community cohesion – land use must create sustainable living
- Land use policies should be enablers rather than barrier
- Must take advantage of fantastic environment / landscape – recognise the value of what we have – our assets
- Transport is key -enable people to live in a more sustainable manner
- Quality of life – balance between economic/environment/education
- Quality Business- recycle, manage waste, provision of renewable energy
- Links to Community Strategies – individual visions for each area
- Links with and consideration of the wider context – Cardiff/Newport, Wales Spatial Plan