

**DEPOSIT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UP TO 2021
STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT/SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL**

Part 2 Document 4

The Assessment of the Detailed LDP

Supplementary Paper

The Assessment of Focused Changes to the Deposit LDP

September 2009

**CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL HYD AT 2021
ASESIAD AMGYLCHEDDOL
STRATEGOL/GWERTHUSIAD CYNALADWYEDD**

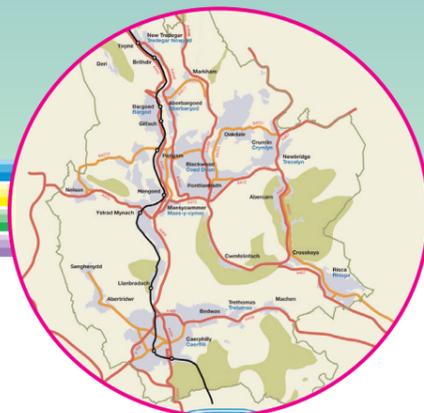
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Introduction

The SEA/SA process informs the production of the LDP by assessing the content of the plan and identifying what effects are likely to result from the implementation of its policies. The realisation of a sustainable development plan is not the purpose of the SEA/SA process, nor is it a means of identifying what should be included in the plan and what should not. The primary aim of the process is to ensure environmental issues and sustainability considerations are prominent in decision-making in respect of the LDP

The development plan does not start with a blank canvas. The plan needs to address existing unsustainable development patterns and lifestyles and it would be foolish to believe that a landuse plan, on its own, could resolve the issues within the plan period. The SEA/SA, through its iterative relationship with the LDP, makes the LDP more sustainable by identifying potential adverse effects of policy implementation and affording the LDP the opportunity of modification to mitigate or remove the adverse effects.

However, once the Deposit LDP was published there is no statutory provision allowing the council to actually amend the LDP. As a result the LDP remains unchanged from Deposit Stage to its submission to WAG for examination. Without any amendments being made to the LDP the SEA process effectively ceases as no further decisions upon the content of the LDP are formally taken. In essence the SEA/SA process stops having a useful function once the plan has been placed upon Deposit.

As a result of representations received in respect of the Deposit LDP consultation and the Alternative Sites consultation, a number of changes to the Deposit LDP are being recommended to the Inspector, who will chair the examination into the plan. As outlined above the Council are not in a position to amend the plan itself and consequently recommendations are being put to the Inspector identifying changes that the Council agree should be made, whilst maintaining the Soundness of the LDP.

These changes have been proposed as council responses to representations raised in respect of the Deposit LDP and the Alternative Sites consultation. Any changes being proposed to the LDP will need to be subject to the same considerations in respect of SEA/SA as the original Deposit LDP.

It should be noted that the changes considered in this document are Focused Changes, i.e. changes that relate to key pieces of evidence but do not go to the heart of the plan.

There are a number of smaller changes being proposed to the LDP, but these do not constitute Focused Changes, and are considered in Part 2 Document 4 Supplementary Paper "The Assessment of Proposed Changes to the Deposit LDP"

All changes to the Deposit LDP being recommended by the Inspector will need to be considered and assessed through the SEA/SA process. This document sets out SEA/SA consideration of the Focused Changes and, where appropriate, includes the re-assessment of the relevant parts of the Deposit LDP.

Assessment Procedure

The SEA/SA assessment process considers the likely effects that LDP policy may have. Given this, it follows that a re-assessment would be required where a recommended change materially and significantly alters Deposit LDP policy. Matters of factual information or general text changes to the document are not going to manifest any impacts upon the environment, whilst policy changes are likely to directly change the policy content and consequently the effects it will have.

Whilst policy changes will amend LDP policy, consideration must be given to whether the change is significant enough to actually realise different results from the original assessments. It is acknowledged that the consideration of whether recommended changes are significant enough to warrant re-assessment is subjective, but the council has aired on the side of caution in determining whether re-assessments are required.

The results of the consideration of whether re-assessments are required are set out in the tables set out in the Consideration of the Need For Assessment Section below. The table is set out in LDP order.

Assessment Requirement

The consideration of changes identified 8 that were significant enough to warrant the need for assessment. Three related to policy amendments, 1 to a new policy, 1 site deletion, 2 new site allocations and a single alternative use for a site.

Where an existing policy had either been amended or deleted, it was re-assessed and compared against the original assessment of the policy to ascertain whether any significantly different results were identified. For assessments relating to policy amendments, the basis of the assessment was to identify where the results differed from the original, especially where results changed from positive to negative or vice versa. For assessments relating to policy deletions, the basis of the assessment was to consider the plan as a whole without the policy and identify where significant negative results were realised. The results of these assessments are set out and analysed on amended versions of the original assessment so that direct comparisons between the two sets of assessments can be undertaken.

New policies, due to the fact that they have not been the subject to previous assessment, require formal assessment along the same lines as those undertaken in developing the Deposit LDP. Results for these assessments are set out and analysed on a new assessment sheet.

Site deletions, where they are considered to be significant, are considered in the context of their original site assessment. Commentary is given at the end of the assessment giving consideration to the effects that will be realised from the site's deletion, as well as the significance of the loss of the site. The same process is used for amendments to the proposed use on existing allocations.

New sites require new assessments, although only the site questions are addressed, with the policy test responses still applying to all sites.

Consideration of the Need for Assessment

Focused Change Reference	Site / Policy/ Other	Required Change	Reason For Focused Change	Need For SEA/SA Assessment?
FC01	<p>Strategic Policy 17 - Affordable Housing Target</p> <p>Paragraph 1.86</p>	<p>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:</p> <p>“SP17 The Council will seek to deliver 3,800 affordable dwellings between 2006 and 2021 in order to contribute to mixed communities”.</p> <p>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:</p> <p>“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.”</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>The changes to Policy SP 17 and its supporting text should be considered together as they represent a linked package of changes. The main change is the identification of the total number of affordable units to be provided during the plan period. This nearly trebles the figure that was included in the original policy.</p> <p>However the changes to the supporting text identify that the figure relates to the total number of affordable dwellings to be provided by all sources and not just those delivered through the LDP.</p> <p>Given the changes outlined above there is no principle change of policy. However, the change to paragraph 1.86 does identify an LDP affordable housing target that has been revised in respect of the findings of a viability study.</p> <p>The change to paragraph 1.86 identifies a target that is only two thirds that of the original. This is a significant reduction in the target figure and could have significant policy impact, especially upon social factors. The real change in LDP target does warrant re-assessment.</p>
FC02	<p>Policy CW14 and supporting text – Affordable Housing Planning Obligation</p>	<p>It is proposed that Policy CW14 and supporting text should be amended in light of the findings of the Viability Assessment to read:</p> <p>“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:</p> <p>A Accommodate 10 or more dwellings; or</p> <p>B Exceed 0.3 ha in gross site area, or</p> <p>C Where the combined product of adjacent housing site proposals would exceed the thresholds set in A or B above</p> <p>Where there is evidence of need, the Council will seek to negotiate the following affordable housing targets of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>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.</p>	<p>The changes to this policy reflect additional work undertaken in respect of site viability. The targets set in the amended version differ from those in the original policy and this could have significant knock-on effects. An assessment is required to ascertain the significance of the changes.</p>

Focused Change Reference	Site / Policy/ Other	Required Change	Reason For Focused Change	Need For SEA/SA Assessment?
		<p><i>Newbridge but excluding the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area)</i></p> <p>2.28 <i>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.</i></p> <p>2.29 <i>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.</i></p> <p>2.30 <i>Further information on affordable housing requirements is provided in the Council's Supplementary Planning Guidance on Affordable Housing."</i></p> <p>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.</p>		

Focused Change Reference	Site / Policy/ Other	Required Change	Reason For Focused Change	Need For SEA/SA Assessment?
FC03	New Policy CWXX – Water Protection Policy	<p>It is proposed that a new Water Protection Policy be included within the plan as follows:</p> <p>“CWXX – Water Protection Policy Development proposals will only be permitted where;</p> <p>A They do not have an adverse impact upon the water environment and</p> <p>B Where they would not pose an unacceptable risk to the quality of controlled waters (including groundwater and surface water).</p> <p>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.”</p>	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.	This is a new policy that has been recommended for inclusion in the plan, as the existing policy context does not adequately cover the issues. An assessment is required.
FC04	HG1.19 - Aberbargoed Plateau, Aberbargoed	It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete housing allocation HG1.19 Aberbargoed Plateau, Aberbargoed	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15 th 2009	The deletion of the housing site is a material change, as the site was identified for 400 units, which represents a quarter of the total housing allocation for the Heads of the Valleys Strategy Area. This is a significant loss in terms of housing and as such a re-assessment is required.
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.	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.	The loss of the allocation will reduce employment provision, although in terms of overall provision it's loss is insignificant. Therefore no assessment is required.

Focused Change Reference	Site / Policy/ Other	Required Change	Reason For Focused Change	Need For SEA/SA Assessment?
FC06	<p>SI1.13 – Pengam, Blackwood and Pontllanfraith Green Wedge</p> <p>SB99.2 – Land within the Curtilage of Valley View Bungalow</p> <p>E193 – Land north of Warne Street and St Francis Street, Pengam</p>	<p>It is proposed that the plan be amended in the following way: The settlement boundary be amended to exclude land at Hillside Bungalow and follow the line of B4254 - Trelyn Lane further to the west</p> <p>The green wedge boundary be amended to correspond with the alignment of the proposed settlement boundary for coherence and consistency</p>	To rectify a drafting error on the Proposals Map	This is a drafting error that does not materially affect the policy content of the plan. Therefore no assessment is required.
FC07	E31- Land at Pendinas Avenue, Croespenmaen	It is proposed that the plan be amended to include site E31 Land at Pendinas Avenue, Croespenmaen as an informal leisure allocation	The Focused Change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009	<p>The inclusion of a new site for any proposed use is a significant change for the SEA/SA unless there are mitigating circumstances.</p> <p>In this instance the site is being retained in its current state and use and therefore no actual change to the land will take place. Consequently no re-assessment is required.</p>
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	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15th 2009	<p>The inclusion of a new site for any proposed use is a significant change for the SEA/SA unless there are mitigating circumstances.</p> <p>The likely use for the site is for playing pitches. In general terms such a use is unlikely to realise significant changes or effects in respect of the SEA/SA assessment and as such no re-assessment is required.</p>
FC09	HG1.32 / LE99. ?? 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.	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15 th 2009	Whilst the deletion of a housing site is a material change, the site was identified for 194 units, which represents just over 10% of the total housing allocation for the Northern Connections Corridor. As this figure is significantly less than the housing over-allocation, it is not significant in housing provision terms and does not require an assessment.
FC10	TR99.1 - Llancaiach View, Nelson	It is proposed that the plan be amended to include TR99.1 Llancaiach View as an allocation for a park and ride facility	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15 th 2009	This change seeks the allocation of part of the site for park & ride use. This is a new use for the site and therefore an assessment is required.
FC11	TR99.2 - Nelson Bypass, Nelson	It is proposed that the plan be amended to include TR99.2 Nelson Bypass as a proposal within the plan	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15 th 2009	This is a new road proposal and therefore an assessment is required.
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 SI1.7 be amended to include the site	The focused change is not substantive but would help to improve clarity as the planning history of land at Haulwen Road has demonstrated that the land is not considered suitable for development due to the open nature of the site and its countryside setting.	The Change relates to the inclusion of land within the green wedge, which will effectively protect the land in its current state and use. Consequently there will be no significant effects, in terms of the SEA/SA, resulting from the change. Therefore no assessment is necessary

Focused Change Reference	Site / Policy/ Other	Required Change	Reason For Focused Change	Need For SEA/SA Assessment?
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	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15 th 2009	The inclusion of a new site for any proposed use is a significant change for the SEA/SA unless there are mitigating circumstances. Even though the site was used as an allotment and no use has taken place on the site since the allotment use ceased, its allocation would require an assessment to be undertaken.
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	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.	The extension of the VILL boundary increases the area of coverage of the policy but does not inherently alter the policy content of the plan. Therefore no assessment is required.
FC15	HG1.68 / CF1.28 / LE4.13 - St Illans Comprehensive, Caerphilly	It is proposed that the plan be amended to delete the above allocations for housing, a school and formal leisure facilities.	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15 th 2009	Whilst the deletion of a housing site is a material change, the site was identified for 200 units, which represents less than 6% of the total housing allocation for the Southern Connections Corridor. As this figure is significantly less than the housing over-allocation, it is not significant in housing provision terms and does not require an assessment.
FC16	HG1.72 Caerphilly Miners Hospital, Caerphilly	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.	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15 th 2009	Whilst the change of allocation from housing to mixed use (housing, leisure and community facilities) is a material change it is likely that the change would realise positive effects, although these are likely to be insignificant in their scale. Consequently a re-assessment is not required.
FC17	SB99.1 - Rear of Islwyn Road, Wattsville (Ynysddu)	It is proposed that the plan be amended to amend the Settlement Boundary of Wattsville, to omit the land to the rear of Islwyn Road.	The site is more appropriately located outside of the settlement boundary	This is a minor settlement boundary amendment that does not materially affect the policy content of the plan. Therefore no assessment is required.
FC18	Policy LE3 Protection of Country Parks	It is proposed that Policy LE3 should be amended to allow tourism related activities in country parks	The focused change is in line with the Council Resolution of September 15 th 2009	The amendment is seeking to introduce tourism uses into country parks. Therefore a re-assessment of Policy LE3 will be undertaken.
FC19	Proposals Map - Minerals safeguarding	It is proposed that all mineral safeguarding areas should extend up to settlement boundaries.	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.	The proposed change extends the minerals safeguarding areas. The purpose of the policy is to prevent proposed development from sterilising existing minerals from future working. The policy places little additional restriction upon proposed development than apply normally outside of settlement boundaries. Consequently there is little effect on the policy content of the LDP and therefore no assessment is required.

Re-Assessment of Amendments to Policy SP17 – Affordable Housing Target and Supporting Text

Policy/Proposal No: SP16		Assessing Officers: DL, PG, PC				Date: 11 August 2009				
Assessment Test		Nature of Effect	Predicted Effect						Comments	
			Assessment of Effect							
			Additional Effects	Effect Period						
				S/T		M/T		L/T		
Old	New	Old		New	Old	New				
			Analysis							
			Result changes from assessment							
1	Will it reduce the need to travel?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very site dependant Based upon increase in population from current levels Reduction in reliance upon the car may be realised, but will not reduce the need to travel No Change
2	Will it encourage walking as the mode of travel to local amenities due to the proximity of development to existing services/facilities?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site dependant, but may have beneficial effects if linked to role and function of settlements and the viability of communities. No Change
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant new-build will use resources, although careful design and management should promote sustainable construction and design No Change
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not on its own, but careful design and management should promote sustainable construction and design, so maximising use of recycled materials. No Change
5	Will it help sustain the local community?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site dependant More positive result reflects that local people can be further accommodated through increased affordable housing provision.
6	Does it promote a mix of housing types?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethos and magnitude should realise a mix of types. No Change
7	Does it provide affordable housing?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
8	Does it help protect or improve housing stock?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May help with preserving existing buildings through renovation No Change
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports existing facilities. No Change
11	Will it meet the educational needs of local people?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
12	Will it enable skills progression?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible positive effect on local labour market No Change
13	Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved standard and choice of housing should increase educational attainment New houses will increase numbers

										of pupils in education overall • No Change
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• Not on its own, but could realise positive benefits as secondary impacts with other plan policies. • No Change
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+++	+	+++	+	+++	• Based upon provision of an affordable housing element. • Increased affordable housing levels will help house those most vulnerable in the housing market.
16	Does it provide equality of access to services?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
18	Will it support the role and function of the settlement within which it is located?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	• Will be site dependant • No Change
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	• Housing itself is inward investment and may have secondary spinoffs. • No Change
21	Will it promote business start-ups?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
22	Will it provide a broad range of jobs and employment opportunities?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
23	Will it promote economic growth particularly in the most deprived areas?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	• May realise secondary benefits • No Change
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	• May realise secondary benefits in local building trades •
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	• Housing is the most basic facility • No Change
26	Will The facilities be particularly relevant to young people?			?	?	?	?	?	?	• Dependant upon the sites allocated, but the number of houses would simply possible benefits • No Change
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense of community?	Medium Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	• No Change
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• May realise benefit if related to role and function of settlements or allocated on site basis to bolster local services • No Change
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?	High Moderate Countywide		+	+	+	+	+	+	• Facilitates and safeguards other services.

		Permanent								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
32	Will it help reduce health inequalities in the community?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
33	Will it promote design that discourages crime and helps reduce fear of crime?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design will be important No Change
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗✗	✗✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in population will lead to additional traffic generally which will naturally have an effect upon areas already failing air quality standards. Mitigation is contained in other policies No Change
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in population will lead to additional traffic generally which will naturally have an effect upon general air quality No Change
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sympathetic lighting schemes as part of detailed proposals will help mitigate No Change
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?	High Minor Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
39	Does it promote high standards of design that reflect local character and distinctiveness?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed matter that should be encouraged. No Change
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?			?	?	?	?	?	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site dependant, but general feeling is that negative effects will be realised. No Change
41	Is it likely to adversely affect an area of landscape importance?			?	?	?	?	?	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other policies should protect these. No Change
42	Is it likely to adversely affect a building, structure or area of heritage importance?			?	?	?	?	?	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other policies should protect these. No Change
43	Will it improve the range and quality of cultural, sporting and leisure facilities?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It will facilitate them No Change
44	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
45	Will it support community development?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of general support of role and function of settlements No Change
46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?	High Minor Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careful design will mitigate negative effects. No Change
47	Will it minimise the use of water?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗✗	✗✗	✗✗	✗✗	✗✗	✗✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in house numbers will realise increased water use. Careful design should help minimise increase. No Change
48	Is it likely to have a detrimental impact on the amount and quality of groundwater	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in house numbers will realise increased water use. Careful design should help minimise

	resources?		Secondary							increase. • No Change
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding			○	○	○	○	○	○	• Site Dependant • No Change
50	Where Groundwater conditions allow, does it seek to maximise permeable surfaces and encourage the use of sustainable drainage systems.	High Minor Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	• Additional houses will only increase extent of impermeable surfaces. • Mitigation can be realised through careful detailed design and use of such things as SUDS • No Change
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	• Mitigation can be realised through careful detailed design and use of such things as SUDS • No Change
52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)	Medium Minor Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	• Site dependant • Promoted brownfield over Greenfield development • No Change
53	Will it impact locally on recognised site of geological importance?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• Site dependant • No Change
54	Will it potentially reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated degraded or underused land?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	• No Change
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	• Should seek to promote this through construction • No Change
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	• Other policies in the plan should seek to minimise construction and household waste as mitigation. • No Change
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No but it should! Potential to facilitate provision • No Change
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	• Detailed site design and other protectionist policies should help mitigate • No Change
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	• Potential to facilitate provision • No Change
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	• Detailed site design and other protectionist policies should help mitigate • No Change
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• Potential to facilitate provision • No Change
63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	• Detailed site design and other protectionist policies should help mitigate • No Change
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	✖✖	• Natural consequence of accommodating an increasing population • Detailed design may help minimise increase • No Change

65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗ ✗ ✗ ✗ ✗ ✗					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New dwellings will create new journeys which will increase journey distances overall No Change
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗✗ ✗✗ ✗✗ ✗✗ ✗✗ ✗✗					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to facilitate No Change
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?		Secondary	● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to facilitate provision No Change
68	Does it promote the use of alternative travel other than the car?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
69	Will it deliver services and facilities in locations accessible by modes other than the car?		Secondary	● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to facilitate provision and will help support existing ones. No Change
70	Does it provide safe routes for walking and cycling?			● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design should ensure this No Change
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure		Secondary	● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could realise finance to do so No Change
73	Does it facilitate the generation of energy from renewable sources?			● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should require some element of local generation as part of detailed design No Change
74	Does it encourage the use of energy from renewable sources?			● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should encourage through detailed design No Change
75	Does it facilitate the supply of renewable energy to the national grid?			● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
76	Does it encourage energy efficiency?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗ ✗ ✗ ✗ ✗ ✗					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs to be built into County Wide Policy as well as detailed design. No Change
77	Will it deliver improved communications through the ICT infrastructure?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
78	Does it promote vibrant and attractive town centres?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
79	Does it provide access to open and recreational open spaces within the parameters set by CCW and the Sports Council?			● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change
80	Does it facilitate the upgrading of existing infrastructure?		Secondary	● ● ● ● ● ●					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change

Comment

The policy naturally realises negative effects in respect of transport and energy and resource use issues, due to the need to provide for additional dwellings and an increase in population, in accordance with national and regional trends. This is necessary as part of the remit of the LDP to meet the demands of the county borough for the plan period. By contrast the provision of new housing realises beneficial results in respect of social issues relating to communities and addressing social exclusion, particularly in respect of the provision of affordable housing.

Detailed design of the sites could minimise much of the negative impacts, although overall the accommodation of more people within the county borough will result in negative impacts.

Overall there is little change in the results from the re-assessment. This can be mainly attributed to the fact that affordable housing is provided on allocated housing sites. These sites will be developed for housing and the tenure of the housing will have little impact upon the direct environmental effects that the general development of housing would have. Therefore an increase in affordable housing levels will not change the direct effects of housing development that will take place on the sites.

Despite this increased positive effects have been realised against social consideration in tests 5 and 15, relating to sustaining local communities and protecting vulnerable or minority groups. These improved effects result from the fact that an improved affordable housing figure will enable residents to live in their local community when otherwise they wouldn't have been able to do so.

Surprisingly there are no increases in negative effects.

Changes To The Policy As A Result Of The Assessment

Reference to role and function is required.

Key LDP Implications

Whilst improved positive effects are identified in the assessment it should be noted that the increase in affordable housing target does not represent an increase in actual affordable housing provision across the county borough. The increased figure includes affordable housing that will be delivered by mechanisms outside of the remit of the LDP, i.e. the figure represents all affordable units irrespective of their means of delivery or whether the LDP has any involvement in their delivery.

The new affordable housing figure actually represents a reduced level of affordable housing derived through the LDP, due to recent work on viability of housing sites. This has not been addressed in this assessment as this change relates to the overall figure being increased. The actual LDP derived figure is considered in the re-assessment of policy CW14.

Given the above there is little in terms of implications of the change in respect of the SEA/SA of the Deposit Plan. As such there are no objections to the recommended change in respect of the SEA/SA

Re-Assessment of the Amendments to Policy CW14 – Affordable Housing Planning Obligation

Policy/Proposal No: CW12		Assessing Officers: DL, PG, PC				Date: 11 August 2009				
Assessment Test	Nature of Effect	Additional Effects	Predicted Effect						Comments	
			Assessment of Effect							
			Effect Period							
			S/T		M/T		L/T			
			Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	Analysis	
			Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	Result changes from assessment	
1	Will it reduce the need to travel?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
2	Will it encourage walking as the mode of travel to local amenities due to the proximity of development to existing services/facilities?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
5	Will it help sustain the local community?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+	+++	+	+++	+	• Reduction in targets for certain areas, and a reduction in overall numbers will reduce the positive effects.
6	Does it promote a mix of housing types?		●	+	●	+	●	+	●	•
7	Does it provide affordable housing?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	• No Change
8	Does it help protect or improve housing stock?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• Facilities should be referenced. • No Change
11	Will it meet the educational needs of local people?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
12	Will it enable skills progression?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
13	Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	• Although the policy still addresses vulnerable groups, it does so to a lesser extent.
16	Does it provide equality of access to services?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
18	Will it support the role and function of the settlement within which it is located?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	• Although the policy still addresses the role and function of settlements, it does so to a lesser extent.
19	Will it contribute		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change

	towards a balanced range of employment sites?									
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
21	Will it promote business start-ups?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
22	Will it provide a broad range of jobs and employment opportunities?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
23	Will it promote economic growth particularly in the most deprived areas?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+	+++	+	+++	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although the policy still encourages residents to remain in the county borough, it does not to a lesser extent. Areas suffering highest outmigration have least affordable housing provision making it less effective in the areas of greatest need.
26	Will The facilities be particularly relevant to young people?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	• No Change
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense of community?	High Moderate Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	• No Change
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools, health, recreation No Change
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	●	+	●	+	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The original result related to the wider scope of the policy in Version 3 of the LDP. This scope has been removed and so the effects are now neutral.
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	●	+++	●	+++	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The original result related to the wider scope of the policy in Version 3 of the LDP. This scope has been removed and so the effects are now neutral.
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implication Housing is a fundamental element of the quality of life.
32	Will it help reduce health inequalities in the community?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
33	Will it promote design that discourages crime and helps reduce fear of crime?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change

39	Does it promote high standards of design that reflect local character and distinctiveness?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should include ecological and landscape • The original comments reflected the wider scope of the policy in Version 3 of the LDP. This scope has been removed and so the comments are no longer applicable.
41	Is it likely to adversely affect an area of landscape importance?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
42	Is it likely to adversely affect a building, structure or area of heritage importance?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
43	Will it improve the range and quality of cultural, sporting and leisure facilities?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	●	+	●	+	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X 2 positive if sport is included • The original result related to the wider scope of the policy in Version 3 of the LDP. This scope has been removed and so the effects are now neutral.
44	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
45	Will it support community development?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
47	Will it minimise the use of water?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
48	Is it likely to have a detrimental impact on the amount and quality of groundwater resources?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
50	Where Groundwater conditions allow, does it seek to maximise permeable surfaces and encourage the use of sustainable drainage systems.			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
53	Will it impact locally on recognised site of geological importance?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
54	Will it potentially reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated degraded or underused land?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change

57	Will it minimise the production of waste?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should include • No Change
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should include • No Change
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P C to mitigate • Positive if included • No Change
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
68	Does it promote the use of alternative travel other than the car?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
69	Will it deliver services and facilities in locations accessible by modes other than the car?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
70	Does it provide safe routes for walking and cycling?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
73	Does it facilitate the generation of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
74	Does it encourage the use of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
75	Does it facilitate the supply of renewable energy to the national grid?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
76	Does it encourage energy efficiency?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
77	Will it deliver improved			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change

	communications through the ICT infrastructure?									
78	Does it promote vibrant and attractive town centres?			●	●	●	●	●	●	• No Change
79	Does it provide access to open and recreational open spaces within the parameters set by CCW and the Sports Council?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	●	+++	●	+++	●	• The original result related to the wider scope of the policy in Version 3 of the LDP. This scope has been removed and so the effects are now neutral.
80	Does it facilitate the upgrading of existing infrastructure?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	●	+++	●	+++	●	• The original result related to the wider scope of the policy in Version 3 of the LDP. This scope has been removed and so the effects are now neutral.

Comment

The policy produces notable impacts on a countywide scale, through the requirement of legal agreements that ensure necessary elements are undertaken as part of development proposals.

The deliverance of facilities and works that ensure development proposals are acceptable does not produce any negative outcomes, and it is noted that neutral outcomes are unlikely to produce negative outcomes; either dependent on site or in balanced against positive attributes.

The policy realises a significant number of positive effects through the provision of facilities, all contributing to social/sporting attributes; including the provision of facilities for young people, encourages active and healthy lifestyle and protects quality of life and can help sustain local communities. The latter is also noted for its connection to the provision of affordable housing.

The policy is overall positive, through the high number of double positive benefits provided.

The changes to the policy relate to a reduced overall affordable housing figure and reduced or no targets in specific areas of the county borough. Whilst the policy still seeks to provide affordable housing, it does so at a reduced rate and the results of the assessment reflect this. The lack or reduced level of targets could result in outmigration from those areas that can least afford it and as such there could be some adverse effects in respect of the change.

However the changes are based upon an assessment of the financial viability of the sites to be able to provide the required level of provision and the changes reflect the fact that the original figure was unachievable economically. The figure and targets, identified as a result of the changes to the policy, relate to what could actually be provided and therefore the affordable housing level has not changed in real terms.

A secondary benefit of the changes to the policy and the viability work is that it has provided a framework for grant assistance for affordable housing, which can be targeted to those areas that cannot provide it through normal development.

Changes to the Policy as a result of the assessment

None

Key LDP Implications

Whilst the changes could realise adverse effects in theory, the reality is that only a set amount of affordable housing is viable in certain areas, which did not equate to the original levels identified in the Deposit LDP. The changes to the LDP make the plan more realistic as well as providing a framework for RSLs to focus grant assistance as an added benefit.

Given the above there is no objection to the deletion of the policy in respect of the SEA/SA

Assessment of New Policy on Water Quality and Quantity

Policy/Proposal No: CW XX		Assessing Officers: DL, PG, PC				Date: 11 August 2009	
Assessment Test	Nature of Effect	Predicted Effect				Comments	
		Additional Effects	Assessment of Effect				
			Effect Period				
S/T	M/T	L/T	Analysis Any Mitigation Measures Assumptions				
1	Will it reduce the need to travel?		●	●	●	.	
2	Will it encourage walking as the mode of travel to local amenities due to the proximity of development to existing services/facilities?		●	●	●	.	
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	Potential through reduced water use.
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?		●	●	●	.	
5	Will it help sustain the local community?		●	●	●	.	
6	Does it promote a mix of housing types?		●	●	●	.	
7	Does it provide affordable housing?		●	●	●	.	
8	Does it help protect or improve housing stock?		●	●	●	.	
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)		●	●	●	.	
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?		●	●	●	.	
11	Will it meet the educational needs of local people?		●	●	●	.	
12	Will it enable skills progression?		●	●	●	.	
13	Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?		●	●	●	.	
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?		●	●	●	.	
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?		●	●	●	.	
16	Does it provide equality of access to services?		●	●	●	.	
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?		●	●	●	.	
18	Will it support the role and function of the settlement within which it is located?		●	●	●	.	
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?		●	●	●	.	
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?		●	●	●	.	
21	Will it promote business start-ups?		●	●	●	.	

22	Will it provide a broad range of jobs and employment opportunities?			●	●	●	▪
23	Will it promote economic growth particularly in the most deprived areas?			●	●	●	▪
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?			●	●	●	▪
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?		Secondary	●	●	●	▪ Protect existing water based facilities.
26	Will The facilities be particularly relevant to young people?			●	●	●	▪
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense of community?			●	●	●	▪
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	▪
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?		Secondary	●	●	●	▪ Relating to water based facilities.
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?		Secondary	●	●	●	▪ Relating to water based facilities.
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?	Medium Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	▪
32	Will it help reduce health inequalities in the community?			●	●	●	▪
33	Will it promote design that discourages crime and helps reduce fear of crime?			●	●	●	▪
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?			●	●	●	▪
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?			●	●	●	▪
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?			●	●	●	▪
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?			●	●	●	▪
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?			●	●	●	▪
39	Does it promote high standards of design that reflect local character and distinctiveness?			●	●	●	▪
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?	Medium Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	▪ In respect of water features in the landscape
41	Is it likely to adversely affect an area of landscape importance?			●	●	●	▪
42	Is it likely to adversely affect a building, structure or area of heritage importance?			●	●	●	▪

43	Will it improve the range and quality of cultural, sporting and leisure facilities?			●	●	●	.
44	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?			●	●	●	.
45	Will it support community development?			●	●	●	.
46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	.
47	Will it minimise the use of water?	Medium Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	.
48	Is it likely to have a detrimental impact on the amount and quality of groundwater resources?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	.
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding			●	●	●	.
50	Where Groundwater conditions allow, does it seek to maximise permeable surfaces and encourage the use of sustainable drainage systems.	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	.
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	.
52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)			●	●	●	.
53	Will it impact locally on recognised site of geological importance?			●	●	●	.
54	Will it potentially reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated degraded or underused land?			●	●	●	.
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	.
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?			●	●	●	.
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?			●	●	●	.
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	.
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?	High Major Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	. Specifically in respect of water based sites.
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?			●	●	●	. It will protect existing habitat rather than provide opportunity to create new ones.
61	Does it protect woodlands,	High Major	Cumulative	+	+	+	. Specifically in respect of watercourses.

	hedgerows, trees and watercourses?	Countywide Permanent	Synergistic Secondary				
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?			●	●	●	.
63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?	Medium Moderate Countywide Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	Specifically in respect of water based sites.
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?			●	●	●	.
65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?			●	●	●	.
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?			●	●	●	.
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?		Secondary	●	●	●	Through protection of existing watercourse and water based features
68	Does it promote the use of alternative travel other than the car?			●	●	●	.
69	Will it deliver services and facilities in locations accessible by modes other than the car?			●	●	●	.
70	Does it provide safe routes for walking and cycling?			●	●	●	.
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	.
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	.
73	Does it facilitate the generation of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	.
74	Does it encourage the use of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	.
75	Does it facilitate the supply of renewable energy to the national grid?			●	●	●	.
76	Does it encourage energy efficiency?			●	●	●	.
77	Will it deliver improved communications through the ICT infrastructure?			●	●	●	.
78	Does it promote vibrant and attractive town centres?			●	●	●	.
79	Does it provide access to open and recreational open spaces within the parameters set by CCW and the Sports Council?			●	●	●	.

80	Does it facilitate the upgrading of existing infrastructure?			●	●	●	
<p>Comment The policy is focussed solely on the protection of water quality and quantity and as such realises a very high percentage of neutral scores against Tests that the policy is not applicable to. It also realises positive responses in respect of water related tests, whilst realising no adverse impacts.</p> <p>Overall the policy is positive, though this should be tempered by the fact that it is issue specific.</p>							
<p>Recommended Changes To The Plan None</p> <p>Key LDP Implications There is no objection to the new policy in respect of the SEA/SA</p>							

Re-Assessment of the Deletion of Site HG1.19 - Aberbargoed Plateau, Aberbargoed

HG1.19 - Aberbargoed Plateau, Aberbargoed			Assessing Officers: DL, PG, PC						Date: 11 August 2009		
Assessment Test	Nature of Effect	Additional Effects	Predicted Effect						Comments		
			Assessment of Effect						Analysis		
			Effect Period								
			S/T		M/T		L/T				
Old		New		Old		New		Old		New	
Result changes from assessment											
1	Will it reduce the need to travel?	High Major Local Permanent	+	●	+	●	+	●	+	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is within close proximity to the Principal Town of Bargoed
2	Will it encourage walking as the mode of travel to local amenities due to the proximity of development to existing services/facilities?	High Major Local Permanent	+	●	+	●	+	●	+	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is within walking distance of the Principal town of Bargoed that is undergoing major regeneration and contains services and facilities
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site specific
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site Specific
5	Will it help sustain the local community?		●	×	●	×	●	×	●	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy should be a statement 'all sites will have an element of affordable housing' Losing the site will reduce affordable housing and ancillary facilities
6	Does it promote a mix of housing types?		●	×	●	×	●	×	●	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make clear existing housing stock & encourage people to improve Loss of very large site to broaden housing types.
7	Does it provide affordable housing?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	×××	+	×××	+	×××	×××	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of housing potential
8	Does it help protect or improve housing stock?		Secondary	●	×××	●	×××	●	×××	×××	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of Housing potential
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)	High Major Local Permanent		++	×××	++	×××	++	×××	×××	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is on a 11.8 hectares of brownfield, reclaimed land Site will remain a reclaimed brownfield site
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	-
11	Will it meet the educational needs of local people?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	-
12	Will it enable skills progression?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	-
13	Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	-
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?	High Major Local Permanent		++	×	++	×	++	×	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site does help reduce the disparities between the north and south as it is promoting development in the north and helping to sustain the population of an existing community Loss of the site is lost opportunity to attract much needed development to the HoV.
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	-

16	Does it provide equality of access to services?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
18	Will it support the role and function of the settlement within which it is located?	High Major Moderate Local Permanent		++	×	++	×	++	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site will support the role and function of the settlement as it will sustain the population and ensure that existing services remain viable Will work against the impetus to strengthen the community by losing housing to keep people in the area
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Secondary	●	×	●	×	●	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment in south of the county borough may move further north Loss of housing and population likely to realise economic disbenefit
21	Will it promote business start-ups?	High Moderate Local Permanent		●	×	●	×	●	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of housing and population likely to realise economic disbenefit
22	Will it provide a broad range of jobs and employment opportunities?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
23	Will it promote economic growth particularly in the most deprived areas?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Secondary	●	×	●	×	●	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of housing and population likely to realise economic disbenefit
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?			++	××	++	××	++	××	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will be site dependent and site specific Loss of site removes essential housing
26	Will The facilities be particularly relevant to young people?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense of community?	High Moderate County Permanent		+	×	+	×	+	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It should but a design brief is required to ensure that new development fits with the existing settlement and local vernacular Will facilitate movement out of the settlement
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site specific
32	Will it help reduce health inequalities in the community?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
33	Will it promote design that discourages crime and helps reduce fear of crime?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A design brief is required to encourage development that reduces crime
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development will not improve the air quality and will generate traffic although the effect of the development is likely to be negligible
35	Will it maintain or improve local air		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site specific but could potentially have a negative effect however a S106

	quality?									could improve traffic issues
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent		×	●	×	●	×	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to increase pollution by virtue of use however a brief could be used to help mitigate No development will maintain current position
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site specific although it is anticipated that any form of development would result in noise
39	Does it promote high standards of design that reflect local character and distinctiveness?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A design brief is required to ensure this
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?	High Major County Permanent		×	●	×	●	×	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is site specific however overall it is felt that it will be detrimental to the landscape but good design can help mitigate
41	Is it likely to adversely affect an area of landscape importance?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development will not adversely affect an area of landscape importance
42	Is it likely to adversely affect a building, structure or area of heritage importance?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development will not affect a building structure or area of heritage importance
43	Will it improve the range and quality of cultural, sporting and leisure facilities?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
44	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
45	Will it support community development?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design will help to influence whether development helps support community development
46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dependent on design of water course for development
47	Will it minimise the use of water?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All housing will use water, therefore this would be an effect
48	Is it likely to have a detrimental impact on the amount and quality of groundwater resources?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is site specific and influenced by design, sustainable drainage and permeable surfaces should be considered
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding	High Major Local Permanent		●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is located outside an area at risk of flooding
50	Where Groundwater conditions allow, does it seek to maximise permeable surfaces and encourage the use of sustainable drainage systems.			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is dependent on design
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not relevant as the site is not located in an area of flood risk
52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site specific – there is an emphasis on developing brownfield land so to some extent it does protect high quality agricultural land
53	Will it impact locally on recognised site of geological importance?	High Major Local Permanent		+	●	+	●	+	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development will not impact on a recognised site of geological importance
54	Will it potentially reduce the amount of	High Major		++	×	++	×	++	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site will make a major contribution to reducing the amount of degraded,

	derelict, contaminated degraded or underused land?	Local Permanent								underused land	
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• The policy should encourage the use of recycled and secondary material
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• Has potential to minimise waste
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• There are no areas of importance for biodiversity identified on or adjacent to this site
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• Requires a brief to encourage opportunities for habitat creation or enhancement
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• There are no hedgerows, woodland, trees or watercourses on this site
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• Could help to clear as part of development and brownfield sites often have invasive plant species
63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• There are no areas of importance identified for biodiversity, therefore the development of this site would have no impact on habitat fragmentation
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?	Medium Moderate County Permanent		✗	●	✗	●	✗	●	●	• Could apply to all developments
65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?	High Major Local Permanent		+	●	+	●	+	●	●	• The site will promote reduced journey length as it is within close proximity to the principal town of Bargoed, which is home to many services and facilities.
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• Site dependent
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
68	Does it promote the use of alternative travel other than the car?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• The site itself does not promote alternative travel, however it is located very near to a full complement of services in Bargoed which could promote walking
69	Will it deliver services and facilities in locations accessible by modes other than the car?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	• By virtue of the site's proximity to the principal town of Bargoed, services and facilities will be in an accessible location. In addition to the proposed housing, the site itself will only provide a children's play facility, with a fire station proposed on the southern part of the site
70	Does it provide safe routes for walking and cycling?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
73	Does it facilitate the			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	•

	generation of energy from renewable sources?								
74	Does it encourage the use of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	●	●	●
75	Does it facilitate the supply of renewable energy to the national grid?			●	●	●	●	●	●
76	Does it encourage energy efficiency?			●	●	●	●	●	●
77	Will it deliver improved communications through the ICT infrastructure?			●	●	●	●	●	●
78	Does it promote vibrant and attractive town centres?			●	●	●	●	●	●
79	Does it provide access to open and recreational open spaces within the parameters set by CCW and the Sports Council?	High Moderate County Permanent		+	●	+	●	+	●
80	Does it facilitate the upgrading of existing infrastructure?	High Moderate County Permanent		+	●	+	●	+	●

Comment

In terms of effects for this policy, all effects have been considered as local due to the fact that the strategy area is a locationally specific and as a result primary effects will only be realised within this area.

The policy realises negative effects as a result of the natural effects of new development, particularly in respect of the impact upon climate change factors. These effects can be mitigated through careful design and construction techniques as well as through site specific mitigation measures. The purpose of the policy is to target appropriate development to this strategy area and as such it is not appropriate to include references to design and mitigation which should logically be located elsewhere in the LDP

The policy realises a significant number of double positive results, primarily in the social and community tests, although it also, surprisingly, scores highly on direct economic growth factors that fit in well with the aspiration of regenerating the area.

Overall the policy is positive, although balance between the effects on community and the local environment will need to be carefully balanced.

This development will support the role and function of the settlement and help reduce disparities between northern and southern wards

The loss of the site deletes the positive regeneration that a large housing development can promote. Spin off economic activity as well as facilities provided through the development are all lost. This has a significant effect upon the role and function of the settlement as well as the effect on the community of not stemming out-migration or promoting population increase. These negatives can be mitigated by alternative site provision, but this is not being advocated and as such in SEA/SA terms the loss of the site is adverse in its effects.

Changes to the Policy as a result of the assessment

None

Key LDP Implications

Overall the change is negative and has implications in terms of strategy delivery, particularly the regeneration of the HoV and the aim of attracting development further to the north of the county borough. The loss of the HoV largest site is critical and it is not proposed that alternative provision is made. Key issues remain in respect of whether this move makes the LDP more sound, or causes significant impediments to realising the HoV Strategy.

Assessment of TR99.1 - Llancaiach View, Nelson for Park & Ride Provision (TR4)

TR99.1 - Llancaiach View, Nelson		Assessing Officers: DL, PG, PC			Date: 17 September 2009		
Assessment Test	Nature of Effect	Predicted Effect					Comments
		Additional Effects	Assessment of Effect			Analysis Any Mitigation Measures Assumptions	
			Effect Period				
S/T	M/T	L/T					
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)	High Major Local Permanent		+	+	+	•
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?	High Major Local Permanent		+	+	+	•
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?		Secondary	●	●	●	• Could remove some traffic that would affect the AQMA in Caerphilly.
41	Is it likely to adversely affect an area of landscape importance?	High Minor Local Permanent		×	×	×	• Will affect the edges of a SLA
42	Is it likely to adversely affect a building, structure or area of heritage importance?			●	●	●	•
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding			●	●	●	•
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property			●	●	●	•
53	Will it impact locally on recognised site of geological importance?			●	●	●	•
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?			●	●	●	•
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?			●	●	●	•
63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?			●	●	●	•
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?	High Moderate Countywide Permanent	Secondary	+	+	+	• Park and Ride provision will reduce car borne emissions

Comment

The allocation of the site provides an alternative use for a brownfield site and will have benefits associated with sustainable transport. It is likely that limited landscape impact may occur. Overall the proposal is positive in terms of the SEA/SA

Issues/Factors For Detailed Design or SPG

None

Key LDP Implications

There are questions over deliverability and whether other uses can be resisted. But the allocation has no implications for LDP in the context of the SEA/SA.

Assessment of TR99.2 - Nelson Bypass, Nelson

TR99.2 - Nelson Bypass, Nelson		Assessing Officers: DL, PG, PC			Date: 17 September 2009		
Assessment Test	Nature of Effect	Predicted Effect				Comments	
		Additional Effects	Assessment of Effect				
			Effect Period				
S/T	M/T	L/T	Analysis Any Mitigation Measures Assumptions				
1	Will it reduce the need to travel?		●	●	●	• The provision of improved road facilities increases traffic not the need to travel.	
2	Will it encourage walking as the mode of travel to local amenities due to the proximity of development to existing services/facilities?	High Moderate Local Permanent	××	××	××	• Provision of an improved road promotes traffic.	
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?	High Major Countywide Permanent	××	××	××	• Promotes car use.	
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?		●	●	●	•	
5	Will it help sustain the local community?		●	●	●	•	
6	Does it promote a mix of housing types?		●	●	●	•	
7	Does it provide affordable housing?		●	●	●	•	
8	Does it help protect or improve housing stock?		●	●	●	•	
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)		●	●	●	•	
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?		●	●	●	•	
11	Will it meet the educational needs of local people?		●	●	●	•	
12	Will it enable skills progression?		●	●	●	•	
13	Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?		●	●	●	•	
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?		●	●	●	•	
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?		●	●	●	•	
16	Does it provide equality of access to services?		●	●	●	•	
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?		●	●	●	•	
18	Will it support the role and function of the settlement within which it is located?		●	●	●	•	
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?		●	●	●	•	
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?		●	●	●	•	
21	Will it promote business start-ups?		●	●	●	•	
22	Will it provide a broad range of jobs and employment opportunities?		●	●	●	•	
23	Will it promote economic growth particularly in the most deprived areas?		●	●	●	•	
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?		●	●	●	•	
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?		●	●	●	•	
26	Will The facilities be particularly relevant to young people?		●	●	●	•	
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense		●	●	●	•	

	of community?						
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	•
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?	High Moderate Local Permanent		✗	✗	✗	• Promotes car use.
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?			●	●	●	•
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?	High Minor Local Permanent	Secondary Cumulative Synergistic	+ ✗	+ ✗	+ ✗	• Benefit residents on central routes • Disbenefit residents on road to be improved
32	Will it help reduce health inequalities in the community?			●	●	●	•
33	Will it promote design that discourages crime and helps reduce fear of crime?			●	●	●	•
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?			●	●	●	•
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?			●	●	●	•
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?			●	●	●	•
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?	High Minor Local Permanent		✗	✗	✗	• Increase in traffic likely to result in increased noise.
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?			●	●	●	•
39	Does it promote high standards of design that reflect local character and distinctiveness?			●	●	●	•
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?	High Major Local Permanent	Secondary Cumulative Synergistic	✗ ✗	✗ ✗	✗ ✗	• Adversely affects a SLA.
41	Is it likely to adversely affect an area of landscape importance?	High Major Local Permanent	Secondary Cumulative Synergistic	✗ ✗	✗ ✗	✗ ✗	• Adversely affects a SLA.
42	Is it likely to adversely affect a building, structure or area of heritage importance?			●	●	●	•
43	Will it improve the range and quality of cultural, sporting and leisure facilities?			●	●	●	•
44	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?			●	●	●	•
45	Will it support community development?			●	●	●	•
46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?		Secondary	●	●	●	• Potential effects from surface water
47	Will it minimise the use of water?			●	●	●	•
48	Is it likely to have a detrimental impact on the amount and quality of groundwater resources?			●	●	●	•
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding			●	●	●	•
50	Where Groundwater conditions allow, does it seek to maximise permeable surfaces and encourage the use of sustainable drainage systems.			●	●	●	•
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property			●	●	●	•

52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)			●	●	●	•
53	Will it impact locally on recognised site of geological importance?			●	●	●	•
54	Will it potentially reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated degraded or underused land?			●	●	●	•
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	•
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?			●	●	●	•
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?			●	●	●	•
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	•
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	• Will affect land comprising part of a SINC
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	•
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	• Will adversely affect hedgerow to the side of the existing road.
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?			●	●	●	•
63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	• Will affect land comprising part of a SINC
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	• Likely to promote car use.
65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	• Likely to promote car use.
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	•
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	•
68	Does it promote the use of alternative travel other than the car?	High Major Local Permanent		×	×	×	• Likely to promote car use.
69	Will it deliver services and facilities in locations accessible by modes other than the car?			●	●	●	•
70	Does it provide safe routes for walking and cycling?			●	●	●	•
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure	High Minor Local Permanent		×	×	×	•
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	•
73	Does it facilitate the generation of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	•
74	Does it encourage the use of energy from renewable	High Moderate		×	×	×	• Likely to promote car use.

	sources?	Local Permanent					
75	Does it facilitate the supply of renewable energy to the national grid?			●	●	●	•
76	Does it encourage energy efficiency?			●	●	●	•
77	Will it deliver improved communications through the ICT infrastructure?			●	●	●	•
78	Does it promote vibrant and attractive town centres?			●	●	●	•
79	Does it provide access to open and recreational open spaces within the parameters set by CCW and the Sports Council?			●	●	●	•
80	Does it facilitate the upgrading of existing infrastructure?			●	●	●	•

Comment

The Assessment has realised predominantly negative effects, particularly in respect of sustainable transport and adverse impact upon landscape and ecology. However this would be expected from any road proposal, which will have the effect of promoting car use. This proposal fails, however, as it realises no significant benefit for alleviating any identified problem. Whilst careful design and layout can reduce the negative impacts they cannot be totally mitigated or removed. Consequently the proposal raises issues in respect of the SEA/SA that cannot be overcome.

Issues/Factors For Detailed Design or SPG

Design will need to minimise the ecological and landscape impact as far as possible.

Key LDP Implications

In SEA/SA terms the proposal is unsustainable, its negative impacts cannot be mitigated or overcome, and consequently the inclusion of this proposal in the LDP should be reconsidered.

Assessment of New Site D61 - Land off Penallta Road, Ystrad Mynach - Allotments

D61 - Land off Penallta Road, Ystrad Mynach - Allotments		Assessing Officers: PG, DL, PC				Date: 11 August 2009	
Assessment Test	Nature of Effect	Predicted Effect					Comments
		Additional Effects	Assessment of Effect			Analysis Any Mitigation Measures Assumptions	
			Effect Period				
S/T	M/T	L/T					
1	Will it reduce the need to travel?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Provision in this area will mean local residents do not have to travel to other facilities
2	Will it encourage walking as the mode of travel to local amenities due to the proximity of development to existing services/facilities?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Provision in this area will mean local residents have provision within walking distance
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?			●	●	●	•
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
5	Will it help sustain the local community?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
6	Does it promote a mix of housing types?			●	●	●	•
7	Does it provide affordable housing?			●	●	●	•
8	Does it help protect or improve housing stock?			●	●	●	•
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	•
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?			●	●	●	•
11	Will it meet the educational needs of local people?			●	●	●	•
12	Will it enable skills progression?			●	●	●	•
13	Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?			●	●	●	•
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?	Medium Minor Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• Located in the Northern Connections Corridor
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?			●	●	●	•

16	Does it provide equality of access to services?	High Minor County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?			●	●	●	•
18	Will it support the role and function of the settlement within which it is located?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Provide facility in an area perceived to have deficiency
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?			●	●	●	•
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?		Secondary	●	●	●	•
21	Will it promote business start-ups?			●	●	●	•
22	Will it provide a broad range of jobs and employment opportunities?			●	●	●	•
23	Will it promote economic growth particularly in the most deprived areas?			●	●	●	•
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?			●	●	●	•
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
26	Will The facilities be particularly relevant to young people?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• By virtue of younger people playing more sport
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense of community?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	•
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	•
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	•
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
32	Will it help reduce health inequalities in the community?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Open to all and provided where there is little provision
33	Will it promote design that discourages crime and helps reduce			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this

	fear of crime?						
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?			●	●	●	•
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?			●	●	●	•
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?			●	●	●	• Brief. Dependent upon floodlighting
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?			●	●	●	•
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?			●	●	●	•
39	Does it promote high standards of design that reflect local character and distinctiveness?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this. Fencing and entrances
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?		Secondary	●	●	●	• Removing eyesores and improve townscape
41	Is it likely to adversely affect an area of landscape importance?	Low Minor Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• It will improve a current derelict site, albeit outside of a designated area of landscape importance.
42	Is it likely to adversely affect a building, structure or area of heritage importance?			●	●	●	•
43	Will it improve the range and quality of cultural, sporting and leisure facilities?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	•
44	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?			●	●	●	•
45	Will it support community development?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this. Management issues
47	Will it minimise the use of water?	Medium Minor Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• Sites need to be watered notably in periods where there may be shortages
48	Is it likely to have a detrimental impact on the amount and quality of groundwater resources?	Medium Minor Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Detailed design should take account of this. Fertilisers may be used hence only one positive
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• A small part of the site is located within the Flood Zone C2, although it is not a sensitive development and will ensure permeable surfaces.
50	Where Groundwater conditions allow, does it seek to maximise permeable surfaces and encourage the use of sustainable	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	• Detailed design should take account of this

	drainage systems.						
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property		Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Detailed design should take account of this
52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)			●	●	●	•
53	Will it impact locally on recognised site of geological importance?			●	●	●	•
54	Will it potentially reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated degraded or underused land?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	•
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	•
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this. Land modelling
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?		Secondary	●	●	●	• The site lies adjacent to a designated SINC so careful design and layout is required to ensure minimal impact.
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?	Low Minor Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• It will adversely affect a number of regenerated trees present on the site.
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?		Secondary	●	●	●	• Regenerated derelict site could have habitat value, although not sufficient to warrant protection through the LDP.
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?			●	●	●	•
65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Provision of facilities in an area of perceived need.
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?			●	●	●	• Brief
68	Does it promote the use of alternative travel other than the car?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Provision of facilities in an area of perceived need.

69	Will it deliver services and facilities in locations accessible by modes other than the car?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	• Provision of facilities within a community where there is a perceived need for the facility.
70	Does it provide safe routes for walking and cycling?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	•
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	•
73	Does it facilitate the generation of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	•
74	Does it encourage the use of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	•
75	Does it facilitate the supply of renewable energy to the national grid?			●	●	●	•
76	Does it encourage energy efficiency?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
77	Will it deliver improved communications through the ICT infrastructure?			●	●	●	•
78	Does it promote vibrant and attractive town centres?			●	●	●	•
79	Does it provide access to open and recreational open spaces within the parameters set by CCW and the Sports Council?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	•
80	Does it facilitate the upgrading of existing infrastructure?			●	●	●	•

Comment

The proposed change seeks to allocate the site for allotment use. The assessment realised only 4 negative effects, relating to loss of landscape features, disparity between north and south, use of water and location in a flood risk zone. By contrast the assessment realised 24 positive effects, 8 of which were double positive. The positive effects related to sustainable transport, provision of a facility in a local area of need, flood prevention, landscape improvement, quality of life and role and function of settlement issues.

Overall the allocation is very positive and would have positive impacts upon the local community and environment. The negative impacts are generally mitigated by the circumstances of the site, e.g. whilst in a flood zone, the site is proposed for a non-sensitive use and provides permeable surfaces reducing risk of flooding.

Key LDP Implications

There is no objection to the proposed site in respect of the SEA/SA

Re-Assessment of Policy LE3 – Protection of Country Parks

Policy/Proposal No: LE2		Assessing Officers: DL, PG, PC				Date: 11 August 2009				
Assessment Test		Nature of Effect	Additional Effects	Predicted Effect						Comments
				Assessment of Effect						
				Effect Period						
				S/T		M/T		L/T		
				Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	Analysis
				Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	Result changes from assessment
1	Will it reduce the need to travel?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	●	✗	●	✗	●	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will help to prevent increase Tourism proposals seek to encourage people into an area and as such will encourage additional travel movements.
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	●	✗	●	✗	●	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based upon increased travelling by car
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
5	Will it help sustain the local community?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The positive effect will be increased due to potential employment and economic spinoffs. However the increase is not sufficient to realise a double positive
6	Does it promote a mix of housing types?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
7	Does it provide affordable housing?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
8	Does it help protect or improve housing stock?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	•
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
11	Will it meet the educational needs of local people?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
12	Will it enable skills progression?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	•
13	Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
16	Does it provide equality of access to services?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential employment and economic spinoffs assist the local area.
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?		Secondary	●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will encourage some investment
21	Will it promote business start-ups?			●	●	●	●	●	●	•

22	Will it provide a broad range of jobs and employment opportunities?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●
23	Will it promote economic growth particularly in the most deprived areas?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	●
26	Will The facilities be particularly relevant to young people?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense of community?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	●
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	++	++	++	●
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	++	++	++	●
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	++	++	++	●
32	Will it help reduce health inequalities in the community?			●	●	●	●	●	●	●
33	Will it promote design that discourages crime and helps reduce fear of crime?			●	●	●	●	●	●	● Detailed design should take account of this
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?			●	●	●	●	●	●	● Standard
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	●	+	●	+	●	● May attract people using non sustainable modes of transport ● The encouragement of tourists to the site would negate any positive effects provided by the provision of the Country Park.
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Secondary Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	●	×	●	×	●	×	● As a result of encouraging tourists to the site
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Secondary Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	●	×	●	×	●	×	● As a result of encouraging tourists to the site
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Secondary Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	●	×	●	×	●	×	● As a result of encouraging tourists to the site
39	Does it promote high standards of design			●	●	●	●	●	●	● Detailed design should take account of this

	that reflect local character and distinctiveness?									
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?	High Major County Permanent Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	+	++	+	++	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a result of encouraging tourists to the site
43	Will it improve the range and quality of cultural, sporting and leisure facilities?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
44	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
45	Will it support community development?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design should take account of this
47	Will it minimise the use of water?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
50	Where Groundwater conditions allow, does it seek to maximise permeable surfaces and encourage the use of sustainable drainage systems.	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	●	+	●	+	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design should take account of this Tourist activities could require buildings and hard surfacing
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?			+	+	+	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design should take account of this
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design should take account of this
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?	Medium Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	●	×	●	×	●	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a result of the traffic associated with tourist traffic
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?			●		●		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design should take account of this
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	++	++	++	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
70	Does it provide safe routes for walking and cycling?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within but not necessarily to
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the			●	●	●	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

	strategic transport infrastructure								
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	●	●	●
73	Does it facilitate the generation of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	●	●	●
74	Does it encourage the use of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	●	●	●
75	Does it facilitate the supply of renewable energy to the national grid?			●	●	●	●	●	●
76	Does it encourage energy efficiency?			●	●	●	●	●	●
77	Will it deliver improved communications through the ICT infrastructure?			●	●	●	●	●	●
78	Does it promote vibrant and attractive town centres?			●	●	●	●	●	●
79	Does it provide access to open and recreational open spaces within the parameters set by CCW and the Sports Council?			●	●	●	●	●	●
80	Does it facilitate the upgrading of existing infrastructure?			●	●	●	●	●	●

Comment

This policy seeks to create additional areas of County Park in proximity to existing settlements. The likelihood of the policy to have an effect is considered high and the significance major, whilst, undoubtedly the majority of benefits will be felt locally it does nevertheless have County Wide importance and will increase in significance as the proposals are developed throughout the plan period.

No significant negative effects of the policy have been identified although design care will need to be taken to ensure existing areas of worth are not damaged.

The primary benefits will be enhancing the quality of life through a range of recreational and health improvements whilst it is also likely to benefit the landscape and wildlife. The proximity principle should reduce the need to travel. The principle of the policy is assessed as being positive.

The re-assessment sees an increased move toward more negative effects. This would be expected, given the inherent tension between the economic and environmental factors in the assessment, when proposing an economic activity into a rural location. However most of the changes to more negative results can be mitigated by careful design. Without doubt the most significant factor relates to the implied intention to attract people from a wider area than at present, and in greater numbers than at present, into the country park. This realises negative effects in respect of sustainable transport and secondary effects upon environmental factors.

It should also be noted that the assumption in this assessment is the worst-case scenario of buildings, commercial activity and car parks, rather than those that might more readily be expected like camping on fields without specific camping facilities, and as such the negative effects are more exaggerated than they are realistically likely to be.

Overall, whilst realising a move toward more negative effects, the assessment does not identify any significant negative effects that cannot be mitigated by careful design.

Changes to the Policy as a result of the assessment

None

Key LDP Implications

There is no objection to the proposed policy amendment in respect of the SEA/SA

Conclusion

There are a significant number of changes to the LDP that are being recommended to the Inspector. These changes range across the full extent of the LDP and are identified on the basis that they improve the development plan and do not, at the same time, make the LDP unsound.

In total only 4 policy changes, and 4 site changes have been considered significant enough to warrant re-assessment through the SEA/SA process. This, in itself, supports the view that the recommended changes improve the plan without compromising its soundness.

Of the 8 assessments, 7 have concluded that the significant changes do not have significant adverse effect upon the environment and as such there are no objections on behalf of the SEA/SA. One of the Focused Changes does raise issues in respect of the SEA/SA and these will need to be considered if the proposal is continued forward. Overall the changes do not make affect the soundness of the LDP.