

# LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## Sustainability Group

**Meeting 13  
15 May 2008**

### **Record of Meeting**

#### **Attendance**

Phil Griffiths  
Dave Lucas  
Alison Palmer  
Neil Maylan  
Steve Martin  
Paul Cooke  
Alison Jones  
Gemma Thomas  
Pat Martin  
Rhian Kyte  
Gareth Evans

Caerphilly CBC (Countryside)  
Caerphilly CBC (Forward Planning)  
GAVO  
Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust  
Caerphilly CBC (Energy)  
Caerphilly CBC (Sustainability)  
Caerphilly CBC (Ecology)  
Caerphilly CBC (Highways)  
Caerphilly CBC (Conservation)  
CCBC (Planning)  
LDP Team

#### **Apologies**

Richard Jones  
Gayle Wootton  
Caroline Drayton  
Ryan Bowen  
Stanley Evelyn

Countryside Council For Wales  
Countryside Council For Wales  
Environment Agency (Wales)  
Welsh Water  
BT



REGENERATION

THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

EDUCATION FOR LIFE

HEALTH SOCIAL CARE & WELL BEING



## **Outcomes For The Meeting**

1. To have knowledge of what stage the process has reached
2. To broaden knowledge of assessment process

### **37 Introduction to meeting and update from last meeting**

- 37.1 Members of the group were advised that work on the allocations assessments had commenced, with the policy elements nearing completion. Once the policy elements had been completed work on the allocations themselves would be commenced. It was not possible to start work on the allocations until the policy element had been concluded as this process reviewed and changed the test sets used at allocation level.
- 37.2 Apologies were given for the fact that the Record of the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting had not been produced in time for the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Record would be ready for consideration at the next SG meeting.

### **38 Update on Habitats Regulations Assessment.**

- 38.1 The Members were advised that the Council had appointed a firm of consultants (Enfusion) to undertake the HRA for the LDP. Enfusion had already been commissioned by the Regional Planning Group (SEWSPG) to investigate whether HRA could be undertaken on a regional basis. The Members were advised that the findings of that work were that it was not possible to undertake HRA over the region due to incompatibilities of LDPs and timetables and the fact that effects cover areas greater than just the SE Wales Region if done on that basis. However there were areas where regional work would result in benefits and synergies. Enfusion had subsequently been commissioned to undertake this regional work.
- 38.2 Given that Enfusion was already involved in work on HRA within the region, and that they had been commissioned by other authorities in the region to undertake their specific HRAs, the council decided to appoint Enfusion to undertake the HRA of the LDP. Work on the commission had already started and it was hoped that work would be sufficiently advanced for Enfusion to present their findings to the Group at the Meeting on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 38.3 Work on the HRA was ongoing.

### **39 Membership of the Group and commenting on LDP & SEA/SA documents**

- 39.1 In March CCW wrote to the Council asking for clarification of their position on the Group and in respect of whether this prejudices their position to comment on the LDP as a statutory consultee. This is an extremely important issue, particularly for the members of the group, and for the council itself, and subsequent discussions between CCW and council officers have taken place in an effort to resolve the situation.
- 39.2 To clarify the issue the Group were advised that it has never been the intention of the Council to prejudice any of the members of the Group from making comments on the LDP, or even the SEA/SA as part of the consultation exercises. The members of the Group have been invited to attend the meetings and to be involved in the process to provide their advice and comment in the production of the SEA/SA with the aim of producing a better SEA/SA. The Council accept that all members of the group provide their input in good faith, with the overall aim of making the SEA/SA a better tool to assist the plan in addressing sustainability and environmental issues.

39.3 As a result of CCW raising the issue a formal written response was sent to CCW outlining the Council position and stating that as the group is advisory, it does not prejudice the position of any member of the group. At the time of the meeting a formal response from CCW had not been received. A copy of the response to CCW has been appended to this record as Appendix 1.

*(At the time of writing this Record, CCW have acknowledged the statement from the council and agree that members of the Group are not prejudiced from commenting on the LDP or any of its associated documentation (including the SEA/SA) as part of the consultation processes on the LDP.)*

#### **40 Assess Allocation Policies and Specific Sites**

40.1 The Group were asked to undertake another set of assessments of allocations from the LDP. The results of the assessments are included as Appendix 2 to this Record.

The meeting closed following the completion of the assessments.

# Appendix 1

## **Response to Countryside Council for Wales in Respect of Clarifying the Position in Respect of Membership of the Sustainability Group and the Ability to Comment on the LDP and Associated Documents**

RICHARD

Thanks for your apologies.

In respect of the situation with regard to your place on the Sustainability Group and any implications in respect of your role as a statutory consultee on SEA/SA, I can confirm, as we discussed at the previous SG meeting, from our personal point of view (both mine and Phil's) that your attendance at the group was purely in the spirit of joint working to realise a better product and in no way would we seek to try to circumvent any comments you may want to make on the finished article.

However I accept that a more formal confirmation of the situation is required. In this respect I can confirm that it has never been the intention of the Council, in inviting you to attend the group, to constrain your role as a Statutory Consultee or your right to make comments on documents that you have been party to discussing through the Group.

The role of the Group is advisory, having no decision-making powers (the decisions being made via mechanisms within the Council itself) and as such the Group is not tied to any decisions. Indeed the full and unbiased input into the process and content of the SEA/SA at all stages is what the Council has always sought from all 3 Statutory Consultees, and indeed all members of the Group itself. The Council accepts that all information, views and opinions expressed by all members of the Sustainability Group at the meetings are given in the spirit of joint working to realise a better product, and are given in good faith. In addition the Council acknowledges that where the council has accepted the advice of the group as a whole (NB - all advice is reported as that of the whole Group, not any individual person or body even where contrary views are reported) we, naturally, accept that you, as a Statutory Consultee, may subsequently need to comment adversely against something that we (the council) have taken from the meetings and determined. I hope the following, formal response, can re-assure you that your position is safeguarded (as indeed it is for all members of the Sustainability Group).

The Council has never hidden the fact that we have deliberately sought the involvement of the Statutory Consultees on the Group to help draw up our SEA/SA in order to ensure that we have your input as often and as directly as possible and as such your attendance and input have influenced the content, process and direction that the Council's SEA/SA is taking. However in saying above, the council does not seek to constrain any member of the Group from making comments about any aspect of the SEA/SA, even where they may have agreed previously with what is included. It is hoped, through your attendance at the meetings, that any issues or problems that you may have can be raised at the earliest opportunity and discussed fully. The Council also acknowledges that this may not be possible and that such comments may be raised during formal consultation periods, and again the Council would not seek to constrain this either. Indeed the Council accepts that in the worst-case scenario you may have comments that the Council may not agree with, and these would, as a matter of process be taken to Inquiry for consideration by an Inspector.

It is the Council's view that the respective roles of the both the Council and the Statutory Consultees in the SEA/SA are protected, whilst seeking combined input through the Sustainability Group, with the aim of ultimately producing a much better and fit-for-purpose SEA/SA.

(Included with the kind consent of Countryside Council for Wales).

## Appendix 2

Policy/Proposal No: TM1		Assessing Officers: Sustainability Group					
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							
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
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 County 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?			●	●	●	•
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• A significant educational resource
11	Will it meet the educational needs of local people?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• A significant educational resource
12	Will it enable skills progression?		Secondary	●	●	●	•
13	Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this • Potential for positive and negative effects
16	Does it provide equality of access to services?			●	●	●	•
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?			●	●	●	•
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?			●	●	●	•
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic 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?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Won't target deprived areas on large sites
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Generic generation of associated jobs – tourist accommodation, servicing etc.

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?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Particularly in respect of events.
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense of community?			●	●	●	• People see this as their identity
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	•
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?			●	●	●	• Encourages walking at sites
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	• Encourages walking at sites
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?	High Moderate 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
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?	Low Minor Medium Moderate High Major Local County Temporary Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	xxx	xxx	xxx	• Proximity to castle and visitors
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?			●	●	●	•
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?	High Moderate Local Temporary	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	x	x	x	• Events will lead to increased noise at certain times
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 • Events are temporary
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Maintenance is a given
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?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Promotion of sites is dual language • Interpreting welsh culture
45	Will it support community development?			●	●	●	•
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?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
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"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for some species on isolated sites</li> </ul>
70	Does it provide safe routes for walking and cycling?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
73	Does it facilitate the generation of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
74	Does it encourage the use of energy from renewable sources?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>

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
<b>Comment</b>							
<b>Changes to the Policy as a result of the Assessment</b>							

TM1.8 - Caerphilly Castle Grounds, Caerphilly				Assessing Officers: GE			
Assessment Test	Predicted Effect					Comments	
	Nature of Effect	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?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	XXX	XXX	XXX	•
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	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well located in terms of public transport via bus and train</li> <li>Located in the centre of the principal town.</li> </ul>
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)			●	●	●	•
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	X	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focussed on “middle class”</li> </ul>
18	Will it support the role and function of the settlement within which it is located?	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	•
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	XXX	XXX	XXX	•
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?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	X	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Important building so needs to be protected from inappropriate tourism development</li> </ul>
46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	X	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site contains large body of water feeding into a watercourse. Care needs to be taken to ensure no adverse impact.</li> </ul>
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whilst within the flood zone the site would not be an inherent risk due to the existence of the drainage features of the site (moats)</li> </ul>
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of moats are critical</li> </ul>
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?			●	●	●	•
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	X	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Could prove to be a threat</li> </ul>

63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?			●	●	●	•
65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	××	×××	×××	•
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?	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	• Located in the centre of the main town.
<b>Comment</b>							
<b>Issues/Factors For Detailed Design or SPG</b>							

Policy/Proposal No: TR2		Assessing Officers:					
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?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	•
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 County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> <li>Capitalises on existing facility, therefore less resource and fuel use</li> </ul>
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?			●	●	●	•
5	Will it help sustain the local community?	High Major County 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?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reason for people to stay and maintain their homes</li> </ul>
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?			●	●	●	•
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will have benefits to non-car owners</li> <li>Improves mobility</li> <li>Station design is key</li> </ul>
16	Does it provide equality of access to services?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
17	Will it provide jobs in accessible locations by all modes?			●	●	●	•
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?			●	●	●	•
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	•
21	Will it promote business start-ups?		Secondary	●	●	●	•
22	Will it provide a broad range of jobs and employment opportunities?			●	●	●	•

23	Will it promote economic growth particularly in the most deprived areas?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will benefit area and more particularly benefit residents of Merthyr Tydfil</li> </ul>
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opens up potential for jobs both in and outside of the area</li> </ul>
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
26	Will The facilities be particularly relevant to young people?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provides subsidised travel via Rail cards for those who lack of access to a car</li> </ul>
27	Is it likely to maintain a sense of community?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links to hospital</li> </ul>
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?		Secondary	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positives and negatives</li> </ul>
32	Will it help reduce health inequalities in the community?		Secondary	●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
33	Will it promote design that discourages crime and helps reduce fear of crime?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positives of reduced car use will not outweigh the negatives from increased numbers of trains</li> </ul>
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maybe particularly significant in country park</li> </ul>
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
39	Does it promote high standards of design that reflect local character and distinctiveness?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dependant upon management</li> </ul>
43	Will it improve the range and quality of cultural, sporting and leisure facilities?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
44	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
45	Will it support community development?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>

46	Does it adversely impact on the biological and chemical water quality in water courses in the County Borough?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential is there</li> <li>Negative result that could be turned blue or positive with careful design</li> </ul>
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?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential is there</li> <li>Negative result that could be turned blue or positive with careful design</li> </ul>
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"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)			●	●	●	•
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	•
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for using secondary materials for ballast and sleepers</li> </ul>
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?			●	●	●	•
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	•
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
62	Will it provide the opportunity for the reduction of invasive plant species?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management is key, would be negative if spread.</li> </ul>
65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
66	Will it allow for carbon offsetting?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design should take account of this</li> </ul>
67	Can it provide for habitat routes to allow other species to adapt to the changing environment?			●	●	●	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maybe benefits for some species</li> </ul>
68	Does it promote the use of alternative travel other than the car?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	•
69	Will it deliver services and facilities in locations accessible by modes other than the car?	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivers people not a service</li> </ul>
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 Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	•

72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
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

**Comment**

This safeguarding policy aims to allow the reintroduction of a passenger service along the Cwmbargoed mineral railway, allowing an additional mode of transport to be made available to the residents and businesses of Nelson.

In reality this proposal may not take place until the mid-end of the plan period but has been assessed on the short-term basis also in case the developer will undertake sooner. Whilst the main benefits will be local it will affect the whole County Borough and the significance in this case is considered moderate although high at the local level. The effects will be permanent.

The negatives associated with this proposal relate to the pollution, noise and diesel that are resultant from locomotives, which could effect residents, visitors, wildlife and water. Particular care is needed as it passes adjacent to the nelson bog, SSSI, wildlife and Country park. There are some concerns that they even may flood which may become an increasing problem.

The positives however potentially (provided enough people use the time) far outweigh the negatives identified above as it should reduce car use and allows opportunities for including disadvantaged groups, access to employment and recreation and help support and sustain local communities. Consideration should be given to creating a halt to serve the Penallta Industrial Estate and Country Park. Maximises use of a currently underused resource.

Overall the proposal is considered very beneficial.

**Changes to the Policy as a result of the Assessment**

**TR 2.1 - Land forming the Cwmbargoed rail line between Ystrad Mynach and Bedlinog will be safeguarded to facilitate the reopening of the line for passenger services**

**Assessing Officers:**

Assessment Test	Predicted Effect					Comments			
	Nature of Effect	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)	Medium Minor Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•		
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?	Medium Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	• Dependant upon links to the north being established		
18	Will it support the role and function of the settlement within which it is located?	Medium Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	++	++	++	•		
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?			●	●	●	•		
41	Is it likely to adversely affect an area of landscape importance?	Low Minor Local Temporary	Medium Moderate County Permanent	High Major	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	○	○	○	• Management Issues – how much work needs to be done
42	Is it likely to adversely affect a building, structure or area of heritage importance?			●	●	●	• The line exists • Management of the line could realise positive results.		
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	•		
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property			●	●	●	•		
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?			●	●	●	•		
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• Potential impact from a number of sources		
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• Potential for adverse impact to facilitate new service. • Detailed design can mitigate to realise positive effects.		
63	Does it guard against habitat fragmentation?			●	●	●	• Positive of potential to improve corridor, negatives resulting from increased usage		
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?			●	●	●	• Secondary effect.		

**Comment**

**Issues/Factors For Detailed Design or SPG**

Policy/Proposal No: TR7			Assessing Officers:				
Assessment Test	Predicted Effect					Comments	
	Nature of Effect	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 Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	•
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	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• Provision of dedicated cycling and walking facilities as part of schemes will realise a positive effect.
3	Will it promote reduced resource use?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	•
4	Will it maximise the production or use of renewable materials?			●	●	●	• Detailed design and sustainable construction techniques could realise positive effects
5	Will it help sustain the local community?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
6	Does it promote a mix of housing types?			●	●	●	•
7	Does it provide affordable housing?			●	●	●	• Dependant upon associated housing development
8	Does it help protect or improve housing stock?			●	●	●	• Dependant upon associated housing development
10	Will it help promote or sustain educational establishments?			●	●	●	• Dependant upon associated housing development
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?			●	●	●	•
15	Does it consider the needs of vulnerable/minority groups?			●	●	●	•
16	Does it provide equality of access to services?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• Detailed design to mitigate
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 County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	•
19	Will it contribute towards a balanced range of employment sites?			●	●	●	•
20	Is it likely to encourage inward investment?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+++	+++	+++	•

21	Will it promote business start-ups?			●	●	●	•
25	Will it provide facilities that will encourage residents to remain in the County Borough?	High Major 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?			●	●	●	•
29	Does it encourage active and healthy lifestyles?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate by providing cycling and walking facility
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
35	Will it maintain or improve local air quality?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗✗	✗✗	✗✗	• Could have beneficial effects in localised areas
36	Is it likely to increase light pollution?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate
37	Is it likely to increase noise pollution?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate
38	Is it likely to increase odour pollution?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate
39	Does it promote high standards of design that reflect local character and distinctiveness?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
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?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
47	Will it minimise the use of water?	High Moderate Local Temporary		✗	●	●	• During Construction

50	Where Groundwater conditions allow, does it seek to maximise permeable surfaces and encourage the use of sustainable drainage systems.	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate
51	Does it reduce the risk of flooding to people and property	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to make result neutral or positive.
52	Does it protect high quality agricultural land? (1&2 &3a)			●	●	●	•
55	Does it promote alternatives to land fill/land raise sites?			●	●	●	•
56	Will it promote the use of recycled and secondary materials?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate
57	Will it minimise the production of waste?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate
58	Will it provide facilities for recycling?			●	●	●	•
60	Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or habitat enhancement?			●	●	●	• Detailed design should take account of this
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?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗✗	✗✗	✗✗	•
64	Will it minimise greenhouse gas emissions?	High Major County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗✗	✗✗	✗✗	•
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?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Detailed design is key
68	Does it promote the use of alternative travel other than the car?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate
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?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	✗	✗	✗	• Detailed design to mitigate
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
<p><b>Comment</b></p> <p>This policy aims to secure new highways in order to facilitate development.</p> <p>The effect of the policy is likely local in nature and be of moderate significance. It will be implicated in line with the development of identified sites and duration will be permanent.</p> <p>The main negative affects are associated with pollution and construction materials. Issues relating to travel, other than by car, can be designed into proposal and help mitigate some of adverse effects. There are also likely to be negative affect on biodiversity which again maybe mitigated through detailed design as is the case for potential drainage systems.</p> <p>The positive effect primarily relate to supporting the role and function of settlements.</p> <p>Whilst a range of negative effects are identified, the detailed design and use of sustainably construction materials will help mitigate these issues. Little can be done directly with regards to the car use. Walking and cycling provisions should be included with the proposal.</p> <p>Need to include policy requiring the provision of dedicated cycling and walking routes as part of <b>all</b> new road builds and highway improvements.</p>							
<p><b>Changes to the Policy as a result of the Assessment</b></p>							

TR7.1 - Bedwellty Road Relief Road				Assessing Officers:			
Assessment Test		Predicted Effect					Comments
		Nature of Effect	Assessment of Effect			Analysis	
			Additional Effects	Effect Period			
S/T	M/T			L/T			
		Any Mitigation Measures Assumptions					
9	Will it remove derelict land? (brownfield)	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
14	Does it help reduce disparities between Southern and Northern Wards?			●	●	●	•
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 County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
24	Will it meet the employment needs of local people?			●	●	●	•
28	Does it provide increased accessibility to healthcare?			●	●	●	•
30	Does it provide increased accessibility to facilities for physical or recreational activities?		Secondary	●	●	●	•
31	Does it protect quality of life for the residents?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Disbenefits of those on road line outweighed by general benefit by reducing traffic over a larger area
34	Is it likely to improve air quality within a designated air quality management area?			●	●	●	•
40	Will it maintain or improve landscape quality?	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	• Dependant upon appropriate landscaping scheme
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?			●	●	●	•
48	Is it likely to have a detrimental impact on the amount and quality of groundwater resources?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• Potential problem of contaminated land • Detailed design to mitigate
49	Is it located outside of an area at risk of flooding	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
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	+	+	+	•
59	Does it protect areas of importance for biodiversity?	High Moderate Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	×	×	×	• Potential effect on SAC from aerial pollution and from contaminated groundwater
61	Does it protect woodlands, hedgerows, trees and watercourses?	High Major Local Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	× ×	× ×	× ×	• Detailed design to mitigate
65	Will it promote reduced journey length by private vehicles?			●	●	●	•
71	Will it reduce congestion through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
72	Will it improve communities through the development and improvement of the strategic transport infrastructure	High Moderate County Permanent	Cumulative Synergistic Secondary	+	+	+	•
<b>Comment</b>							
<b>Issues/Factors For Detailed Design or SPG</b>							