



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TYDFIL

Replacement Merthyr Tydfil

Local Development Plan 2016 – 2031



Delivery Agreement

Agreed with Welsh Government in August 2016



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Status of the Adopted LDP

- 1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (section 62) requires all local planning authorities to prepare a Local Development Plan (LDP) for their area. Accordingly, the Council prepared and subsequently adopted the Merthyr Tydfil LDP on 25th May 2011. The adopted LDP sets out the Council's priorities for the development and use of land in the County Borough and its policies to implement them between 2006 and 2021.
- 1.2 Since adoption, the Plan has been monitored on an annual basis and an assessment of the extent to which the LDP's strategy, policies and development sites are being delivered has been provided in the four Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) produced to date.
- 1.3 A full review of the LDP has also been undertaken and the findings have been presented in a review report, which was accepted by Council on 20th April 2016. The Review Report sets out the extent of changes required to the LDP and recommends that the Council commences the preparation of a replacement LDP following the full revision procedure. The recommended changes were informed by the findings of preceding AMRs, updates to the evidence base and ongoing surveys¹.
- 1.4 While the replacement LDP is being prepared, the adopted Merthyr Tydfil Local Development Plan (May 2011) remains extant and will continue to provide the policy framework by which planning applications will be determined. This will remain the case until the point at which the replacement LDP is formally adopted by the Council.

Purpose of the Delivery Agreement

- 1.5 This Delivery Agreement (DA) is a public statement of how and when stakeholders and the community can contribute to the preparation of the replacement LDP, which will cover the plan period of between 2016 and 2031. The DA consists of two key elements:
 - A **Timetable** of the key stages for LDP preparation (see Section 2); and
 - A **Community Involvement Scheme** (see Section 3).
- 1.6 Once agreed by the Welsh Government, the DA commits the Council to producing its replacement LDP according to the stated timescales and consultation processes.

¹ Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to keep under review matters affecting development within its area.

Preparation of Delivery Agreement

1.7 The Council has taken the following actions in preparing the DA:

- Prepared an updated DA;
- Sought the views of selected key stakeholders on a draft²;
- Revised the DA in light of the views received;
- Obtained approval of the DA by Full Council;
- Obtained agreement of the DA with the Welsh Government; and
- Published the DA and made it available for public inspection.

Approach to Preparing the Replacement LDP

1.8 Through the preparation of the replacement LDP the Council will aim to achieve the key objectives of the LDP system. In doing so, the Council will seek to:

- fully integrate a sustainability appraisal into the plan making process in order to facilitate sustainable development;
- secure early and effective community involvement to enable the consideration of wide ranging views and the building of a broad consensus;
- deliver a fast and responsive approach to plan-making;
- produce a plan that is strategic, concise and distinctive in setting out how the County Borough will develop and change; and
- deliver sustainable development based on a clear understanding of infrastructure requirements, availability of resources, viability and market factors.

1.9 The preparation of the replacement LDP will have regard to relevant European Directives; national legislation, policy, plans and guidance; and regional and local plans and strategies. In particular, consideration will be given to how the replacement LDP can complement Merthyr Tydfil's current Single Integrated Plan, and the forthcoming Local Wellbeing Plan, by providing the land use expression of a shared vision of how the County Borough will change.

1.10 The content of the replacement LDP will be informed by the findings of a variety of assessments. The findings of the assessments and information on how they have informed the preparation and/or contents of the replacement LDP will be published at appropriate stages of statutory consultation (see Appendix 3). During such consultation exercises, those wishing to do so may make comments on the assessments. The types of assessment are as follows:

² The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment Regulations) 2015 has removed the requirement to engage consultees in the preparation of a community involvement scheme or a timetable where those documents relate to a revision of an LDP.

Sustainability Appraisal Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.11 Section 62 (6a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the replacement LDP. In addition, the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004 requires the replacement LDP to be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The aim of the SEA is to improve the environmental performance of a plan and provide strategic environmental objectives, while the SA considers the social and economic effects of a plan as well as the environmental effects. Welsh Government guidance³ states that the requirements of the SEA Regulations are best incorporated in to the SA.
- 1.12 A sustainability appraisal, incorporating a strategic environmental assessment is an integral element of every stage of plan preparation including evidence gathering, identifying issues, setting objectives, evaluating options and consultation. Together they help to achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- 1.13 Part 6 Chapter 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 requires the screening and appropriate assessment of a plan in order to ascertain whether it is likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of European protected sites, such as a Special Area of Conservation, a Special Protection Area and a Ramsar site. A screening assessment for the replacement LDP will be undertaken in the first instance, followed by an appropriate assessment if necessary.

Topic Based Assessments

- 1.14 During the preparation of the replacement LDP, there will be a need to undertake a number of topic based assessments which will help inform decisions on specific policy choices and land allocations. These assessments will form part of the LDP evidence base and will be submitted alongside the replacement deposit LDP to the Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate.

Tests of Soundness

- 1.15 The Council will only place on deposit and subsequently submit for examination a replacement deposit LDP which it considers to be “sound”.
- 1.16 On behalf of the Welsh Ministers, the Planning Inspectorate will carry out an independent examination of the “soundness” of the replacement deposit LDP together with supporting documents. The Planning Inspectorate will assess whether plan preparation has been in accordance with legal and regulatory procedural

³ Local Development Plan Manual Edition 2 (August 2015)

requirements, including adherence to the Community Involvement Scheme, and determine whether the plan meets the following three soundness tests:

- **Test 1 – Does the plan fit?** (i.e. is it clear that the LDP is consistent with other plans?);
- **Test 2 – Is the plan appropriate?** (i.e. is the plan appropriate for the area in light of the evidence?); and
- **Test 3 – Will the plan deliver?** (i.e. is it likely to be effective?).

2.0 THE TIMETABLE

- 2.1 The timetable sets out what the Council considers to be a challenging, but realistic, timeframe for preparing a replacement LDP. In preparing the timetable regard has been had to the Welsh Government's expectation that a replacement plan be prepared in considerably less than 4 years, taking in to account the resources available to the Local Planning Authority.

Indicative and Definitive Stages

- 2.2 An overview of the main stages for plan preparation are set out in Table 1 and a more detailed timetable is provided in Appendix 1. The stages have been split in to **Definitive** and **Indicative Stages**.
- i. **Definitive Stages** – These include the stages in plan preparation up to and including the statutory deposit stage. These stages are under the control of the Council and as such, reflect a realistic assessment of what can be achieved within particular timescales. The Council will project manage and closely monitor the preparation of the replacement LDP through these stages, making every effort to adhere to the defined timetable.
 - ii. **Indicative Stages** – These include those elements of the LDP process after statutory deposit stage and up to and including adoption. The Council has less control over these stages of the process as they are influenced by external factors, such as the number of representations received at deposit and the availability, requirements and capacity of the Planning Inspectorate. After the replacement LDP has reached deposit stage, an updated DA with definitive timescales for the final stages will be submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement.

Key Stage in Plan Preparation	Timescale	
	From	To
Delivery Agreement	April 2016	August 2016
	Full Council – 13 th July 2016 Submission to WG – 14 th July 2016 (Response within 4 weeks)	
Pre-deposit Participation	September 2016	June 2017
Pre-deposit Consultation (Preferred Strategy)	July 2017	August 2017
	Full Council - June 2017 (6 weeks public consultation)	
Statutory Deposit Consultation (Deposit Plan)	June 2018	July 2018

	Full Council - May 2018 (6 weeks public consultation)	
Submission of LDP	January 2019	
Examination and receipt of Inspector's Report	March 2019	October 2019
Publication of Inspector's Report	November 2019	
Adoption	December 2019	
	Full Council – December 2019	

Table 1: Key Stages in Plan Preparation

Project Management and Resources

- 2.3 The Head of Planning and Countryside will be responsible for the overall delivery of the replacement LDP, while the Group Leader – Planning Policy and Implementation will lead on the day-to-day project management of the Plan's preparation and delivery. The staff resources available within the Policy Team are set out in Table 2 below. Additional support will also be secured from specialist officers within the Council to assist with the undertaking of the SA/SEA work and other assessments. Officer support is anticipated in respect of the following areas: GIS, Housing, Landscape, Ecology, Highways, Drainage, Heritage and Conservation.

	Work
Group Leader – Policy and Implementation	75%
Planning Policy Officers x2	100%
Part Time Planning Policy Officer x1	100%

Table 2: Staff Resources

- 2.4 The Council recognises that additional specialist services will also be required in order to establish a robust evidence base which will inform the preparation of the Plan. An assessment has been made of which elements of plan preparation are likely to need external consultant support and financial resources have been secured and

apportioned accordingly. Opportunities to reduce costs through the joint commission of studies with neighbouring authorities will also be explored.

- 2.5 An estimated budget of £234,000 will be required to progress the LDP to adoption within the prescribed timescale. This budget will cover expenditure relating to the commissioning of the topic based assessments, plan production costs and examination costs.

Risk Assessment

- 2.6 Whilst the Council consider the timetable for preparing the replacement LDP to be realistic and achievable, there are a number of factors that could delay the plan preparation process and it is considered prudent to factor in a degree of flexibility. The Council therefore considers it reasonable to incorporate a tolerance for delay of up to 3 months before a formal revision to the DA is required.
- 2.7 A risk assessment for the preparation of the replacement LDP, which includes potential risk areas and contingency arrangements, can be found in Appendix 4.

Supplementary Planning Guidance

- 2.8 The replacement LDP will contain sufficient policies and proposals to provide the basis for deciding planning applications. However, in order to avoid excess detail in the plan, the Council will selectively use Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) as a means of setting out more detailed guidance on the way in which the plan's policies are to be interpreted and applied in particular circumstances. SPG will not form part of the plan but will be derived from the plan and will be consistent with it.
- 2.9 The adopted Local Development Plan is currently supported by six separate supplementary planning guidance notes which cover the following areas: affordable housing, planning obligations, shopfront design, sustainable design, nature and development and householder development. A review of these SPGs has indicated that they continue to be relevant; however, the extent to which they need to be updated will only become clear as the plan progresses towards preparation of the deposit plan. The ability to revise the aforementioned existing SPG or produce any new SPG alongside the preparation of a replacement LDP will however be limited due to timescales and resources available.
- 2.10 Notwithstanding the above, SPG Note 1: Affordable Housing and SPG Note 2: Planning Obligations have been identified as requiring updating to reflect evidence that will be prepared to inform the replacement LDP. These will be revised alongside the preparation of the replacement LDP. Although SPG does not have to undergo independent examination, it will be prepared in accordance with the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) provisions for public consultation at statutory stages (e.g.

statutory deposit of proposals) so that views can be taken into account before the document is finalised and submitted for approval by the Planning and Regulatory Committee. The latter will not be undertaken until the Inspector's Report has been received confirming that the replacement LDP's policy approach is "sound".

Monitoring and Review

2.11 The Council will monitor the progress of the preparation of the replacement LDP against the requirements of the DA in order to ensure that timescales and public engagement objectives are being met. Any amendment to the DA prior to the statutory deposit stage will require agreement by the Welsh Government (following consultation with the Portfolio Member for Regeneration, Planning and Countryside and the Leader of the Council). Potential reasons for amendment include:

- Significant changes to the Community Involvement Scheme;
- Significant changes in the resources available to undertake plan preparation;
- Significant delay in plan preparation, i.e. over 3 months;
- The publication of any relevant new European Directives or UK/Welsh Government legislation, regulations or guidance which directly affects the plan preparation process; and
- Any other change in circumstances which materially affects the delivery of the replacement LDP in accordance with the agreement.

2.12 The indicative timetable will be redefined within 3 months of the close of the statutory 6 week deposit period. The revised timetable will reflect the service level agreement between the Council and the Planning Inspectorate and will be resubmitted to the Welsh Government for agreement.

3.0 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHEME

- 3.1 This part of the DA, 'The Community Involvement Scheme' (CIS), details how and when the Council will involve the community and other stakeholders in the preparation of the replacement LDP. Its aim is to make the process transparent, enable effective engagement and to build consensus on the replacement LDP.
- 3.2 The Joint Cwm Taf Public Engagement Strategy, approved by the Cwm Taf Regional Collaboration Board in June 2014, has been adopted by the County Borough Council. The strategy commits to the National Principles for Public Participation and the National Children and Young People's Participation Standards for Wales. As such, the following principles shape this involvement scheme:
1. Engagement is designed to make a difference.
 2. Encourage and enable everyone to be involved, if they choose.
 3. Engagement is planned and delivered timely and appropriately.
 4. Work with relevant partner organisations.
 5. Information is jargon free, clear and understandable.
 6. Make it easier for people to take part.
 7. Enable people to take part effectively.
 8. Engagement is given the right resources to be effective.
 9. People are told the impact of their contribution.
 10. Learn and share lessons to improve the process of engagement.
- 3.3 This involvement scheme will use the Cwm Taf Engagement Hub <http://www.cwmtafhub.co.uk/> which enables access to view and comment on all consultation and engagement being undertaken across Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil. This 'hub' hosts a 'Citizens' Panel' which can be used as a control group to consider whether consultation responses received are reflective of the views of the wider population.
- 3.4 The roles of those responsible for the preparation of the Local Development Plan are set out in the Council's Constitution⁴.

Local Planning Authority: Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council is empowered by law to exercise statutory town planning functions within the County Borough outside the Brecon Beacons National Park.

Council Executive: The Leader is the councillor who heads the largest political group represented on the Council. The Leader is the most senior member of the Council, leading the decision-making process, directing strategic policy and budget setting. The

⁴ Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Constitution

Leader chairs the Cabinet, appoints its members and assigns portfolios to individual Cabinet members. The Cabinet consists of Senior Councillors who, like ministers in central government, determine the strategic management and policy development. The political group holding the next highest number of seats is known as the 'majority opposition party'.

Councillors: Democratically elected representatives of the people of Merthyr Tydfil for County Borough wide matters (of which the LDP is one). Councillors make decisions in the best interest of the County Borough as a whole and will take the final decisions at key stages throughout the plan preparation process. Senior Councillors will also contribute to the LDP Steering Group. Councillors' actions are guided by the advice of the Standards Committee and the Members Code of Conduct⁵.

Bedlinog Community Council: Democratically elected representatives of the people of Bedlinog for local matters. The Community Council will be closely involved on any LDP matters which have the potential to impact on Bedlinog and their opinions will be carefully considered by the County Borough Council when taking decisions on the LDP. Community Councillor's actions are also guided by the aforementioned Members Code of Conduct.

Local Government Officers: Professional officers are employed by the County Borough Council for two purposes:

1. To provide information and make recommendations to Councillors so that they may take informed decisions.
2. To implement decisions taken by the Councillors.

Officers' actions are guided by the Local Government Employees Code of Conduct⁶ and, where a member of the Royal Town Planning Institute, the Institute's Code of Professional Conduct⁷.

- 3.5 Decisions on the Local Development Plan are taken by the Full Council of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council unless it first delegates its responsibility for a decision to a Cabinet Portfolio Holder or Senior Officer. Reports, due to be considered by Full Council, are published on the Council's website at least a week before they are due to be considered. Meetings are webcast. Prior to being accepted on the agenda for Full Council each draft report is considered by Senior Council Officers (including legal) and the Leader of the Council. Each report is prepared weeks in advance of the formal meeting at which it is due to be considered.

5 The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) Order 2008

6 Code of Conduct (Qualifying Local Government Employees) (Wales) Order 2001 (2001 No 2280)

7 Royal Town Planning Institute Code of Professional Conduct

- 3.6 The preparation of the replacement LDP will be supported and informed by a Local Development Plan Steering Group and Area or Topic based Working Groups. The Steering Group will consist of Senior Councillors and Senior Council Officers which will consider key issues for the plan and its appraisal. The Steering Group will not have any formal decision making powers, with the aim of the group being to reach consensus on key issues and assist in making recommendations to Full Council.
- 3.7 Area or Topic based Working Groups will be set up after expressions of interest in the LDP process have been received. These groups will assist in identifying key issues for the LDP, and in generating and developing alternative strategies, options and policies. The work of these groups will then feed into the work of the LDP Steering Group.
- 3.8 The LDP Regulations⁸ requires the involvement of certain bodies/groups/organisations in LDP preparation. These 'statutory' consultees are listed in Appendix 2, under the headings Specific, Environmental and General. It should be noted that the list of 'general consultation bodies' is not exhaustive and new relevant bodies/groups/organisations may become involved after the CIS is agreed.
- 3.9 The Council may also involve at its discretion *"such other persons as appear to the Authority to have an interest in matters relating to development in the area"*. These 'non statutory' consultees are also listed in Appendix 2 under the heading 'other consultees'. This list is also not considered to be definitive and will be updated to include individuals and organisations, as yet unidentified, who are actively involved in 'Planning' locally.
- 3.10 All stakeholders currently identified as a 'general consultation body' or 'other consultee' will be invited to participate in the plan preparation process and added to the consultation database where an expression of interest has been received. The Council will strive to ensure that specific representatives of the public, such as those groups that are traditionally difficult to involve in the plan preparation process, are included at key stages. If hard to reach groups do not appear to be engaging as anticipated, the Council will explore alternative methods of involvement.
- 3.11 The mechanisms for involving stakeholders and communities at each stage in preparing the LDP are detailed in Appendix 3. These are designed to maximise opportunities for joint engagement, to respond to the population profile (Appendix 5) and to meet the mission statement of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (as set out by the Chief Executive in his blog on the change programme progress update,

⁸ The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 / The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015

February 2016), which is to become an innovative local authority that is ambitious, customer led and outcome focussed with the following operating principles:

- Listening and engaging with our stakeholders;
- Clear communication;
- Embracing digital technology;
- Focusing on the key priorities and outcomes;
- Consistent and timely implementation of the strategy;
- Everyone is accountable;
- Aligning the budget to the key priorities; and
- Promoting independence.

3.12 When undertaking involvement, the Council will seek to explain the policy-making processes, the key principles which are fixed at a national level and the objectives (and targets) handed down from Welsh Government Policy and Case Law. The Council recognises that the limitations of the Local Development Plan, in its remit, can be sources of frustration at the local level. Nevertheless the involvement techniques will seek to develop an appreciation of the interaction of stakeholders' interests to develop a better understanding of the impacts of development options and which stakeholders would benefit or would be disadvantaged by them.

3.13 All those involved in plan making and the development of supplementary planning guidance have a responsibility to engage productively. That is to understand the plan making process, what the plan can and cannot influence and be committed to improved outcomes in the wider public interest recognising environmental, social, economic and cultural implications. All those involved must contribute the information and evidence which informs their position. The Council expects that all opinions and information will be received within the set deadlines.

3.14 Details of all involvement and consultation activities will be included in a Consultation Report that will be updated as the replacement LDP progresses through the key stages of plan preparation. Involvement that takes place outside of the formal 'consultation periods' will be undertaken in a variety of forms, and all engagement activities will be recorded and analysed. The outcomes of such engagement will be added to the Consultation Report. At formal 'consultation periods', the Council will prepare a document and ask for comments in the form of 'representations', or 'opinions' on the environmental report. These will be acknowledged on receipt, formally considered by the Council and a response will be recorded in the Consultation Report.

3.15 The Council will ensure that feedback is provided as soon as possible on the outcome of community engagement and formal consultation throughout the plan preparation process. Direct feedback will take the following forms:

- Acknowledgement letter or email providing contact details and information on how the Council will deal with the representation;
- Details of any decision/amendment made and supporting reasons;
- Details of the next steps in the plan preparation process;
- Follow up meetings and consultations where necessary; and
- Circulation of findings/minutes of previous meetings.

3.16 The Council will do all it can to adhere to the published timetable and will try to ensure that all information is published and available on time. The Council will publicise the progress of the LDP to ensure that stakeholders and the community are regularly updated.

3.17 The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 introduced a duty on organisations, including Councils, to comply with standards to do with the Welsh language. Many of the standards are relevant to the process of preparing the replacement LDP, particularly in respect of the way in which the Council publicises proposals, consults with the public, communicates with those making representation or giving opinion and makes arrangements for the conduct of examination proceedings. The Council will promote the use of the Welsh language through the replacement LDP preparation process and will ensure that those who wish to participate through the medium of Welsh can do so effectively.

3.18 The appendices which follow provide further details of how and when stakeholders and the community can contribute to the plan preparation process. In particular, they set out the timetable for plan preparation (Appendix 1), identify the stakeholders the Council intends to involve (Appendix 2), and highlight the potential involvement methods at key stages in the Plan's preparation (Appendix 3).

APPENDIX 1 – TIMETABLE FOR LDP REVISION

Key Stage (Definitive)	2016								2017											
	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Delivery Agreement (DA)																				
Targeted Consultation on draft DA																				
Report DA to Full Council (13/07/16)																				
Submission to Welsh Government																				
Agreed by Welsh Government																				
Update Evidence Base																				
Review/update evidence base for Plan																				
Review/update SA/SEA baseline and appraisal framework																				
Pre-Deposit Participation																				
Call for candidate sites and develop register																				
Consultation on draft Scoping Report																				
Identification and assessment of strategic options																				
Preparation of Preferred Strategy, SA/SEA report and HRA																				
Report Preferred Strategy to Full Council (15/06/17)																				

Key Stage (Definitive)	2017												2018											
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec		Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec					
Pre- Deposit Public Consultation																								
Consultation on Preferred Strategy, Vision, Strategic Options and Key Policies																								
Consultation on initial Sustainability Report																								
Assess outcome consultation and prepare Initial Consultation Report																								
Preparation of Deposit Plan, and updated SA/SEA and HRA																								
Report Deposit Plan to Full Council (May 2018)																								
Statutory Deposit of Proposals																								
Consultation on Deposit Plan, SA/SEA Report and HRA documents																								
Assess outcome of consultation and prepare Consultation Report																								

Key Stage (Indicative)	2019						
	Dec						
	Nov						
	Oct						
	Sept						
	Aug						
	July						
	June						
	May						
	Apr						
	Mar						
	Feb						
	Jan						
Submission of LDP and key documents to Welsh Government							
Pre-Hearing Meeting							
Hearing Sessions							
Preparation of Inspector' s Report							
Publication of Inspector' s Report							
Adoption							

APPENDIX 2 – EXTERNAL CONSULTEES

SPECIFIC CONSULTATION BODIES:

The Council will consult the following specific consultation bodies at all stages in the preparation of the LDP:

Bodies	Adjoining Local Planning Authorities	Electronics
Welsh Government	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority	Airwave (A Motorola Solutions Company)
Natural Resources Wales	Caerphilly County Borough Council	BT Local Business
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd (Western & Wales – Property)	Powys County Council	EE (Everything Everywhere includes Orange/ T-Mobile (UK) Ltd)
Secretary of State for Transport	Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council	CTIL (Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Limited (Vodafone/O2 UK)
Bedlinog Community Council	Community or Town Councils whose area adjoins the County Borough boundary	Hutchison 3G UK Limited
Cwm Taf University Health Board		Mono Consultants Limited (Vodafone/O2 UK)
Gas and Electricity Licensees		
Gas	Electricity	
National Grid	Western Power Distribution (South Wales & West)	M&S Energy (supplied by SSE)
Wales & West Utilities Limited	Budget Energy	OVO Energy
British Gas	Co-operative Energy	Power NI
E.ON UK	Ebico Ltd	Sainsbury's Energy (British Gas)
EDF Energy	Ecotricity	Spark Energy Ltd.
Npower	First Utility	SSE Energy Supply Limited (Southern Electric/Scottish Hydro/SWALEC/Atlantic)
Scottish Power	Good Energy Ltd.	SSE Airtricity Energy Supply Ltd.
SSE	Green Energy (UK) PLC	Utilita Energy Limited
	iSupply Energy	Utility Warehouse
	LoCO2 Energy	
Sewerage and Water Undertakers		
Dwr Cymru Welsh Water		

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION BODIES:

The following will be consulted in accordance with the SEA Directive:

Environmental Consultation Bodies
Natural Resources Wales
Cadw

GENERAL CONSULTATION BODIES:

The following will be consulted in accordance with the Delivery Agreement:

Voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the authority's area		
3Gs Development Trust Merthyr Limited / First Responders	Friends of Taff Bargoed Park	Quakers Yard Community Association
Aberfan and Merthyr Vale Darby and Joan Club	Friends of Ty Cwm Care Association	Rocky Park Residents Association
Aberfan Canoe Club	Forsythia Youth Project	Safer Merthyr Tydfil
Aberfan and Merthyr Vale Community Co-op	Galon Pen Community Association	South East Wales Rivers Trust
Aberfan and Merthyr Vale Youth and Community Project	Gellideg Foundation Group	Sustrans
Adult Community Learning Merthyr Tydfil	Georgetown Tenants Association	Stay Young at Heart
Aberfan/Merthyr Vale Old Age Welfare	Hafal Merthyr	Taff Bargoed Angling Association
Age Connects Morgannwg	Hafod Housing Association	Taff Bargoed Development Trust Ltd.
Barnardos Merthyr	Hendre Group	Teulu Re-enactment Group
Bedlinog & Trelewis Going for Green	I.C.I. Rifle Field Sports Association	The Bevan Foundation
Bedlinog & Trelewis Partnership Board	Kevin Ryan Court Tenants & Residents Group	The Merthyr Tydfil Compact
Bedlinog Senior Citizens Welfare Committee	Mentrau Iaith Cymru -Welsh Council	Trefechan Community Association

	for Voluntary Action	
Care and Repair Cymru	Merthyr Cynon Foodbank	Treharris Regeneration Association
Carers Strategy Network	Merthyr Initiative Group	Treharris Community Trust (TACT)
Castle Park Residents Association	Merthyr OAP Welfare (Town Ward)	Treharris Together Club
Catch 22 Merthyr Youth Inclusion Project	Merthyr Tydfil 50+ Forum	Trelewis O.A.P Welfare Committee
Cefn Coed Community Centre	Merthyr Tydfil & District Naturalists Society	Troedyrhiw Community Partnership
Children & Young People's Voluntary Organisations Forum	Merthyr Tydfil Angling Association	Ty Pontrhun Residents Association
Citizens Advice Bureau Merthyr Tydfil	Merthyr Tydfil Association Football League	Tydfil Training Consortium
Communities First – Mid, North and South Clusters	Merthyr Tydfil Carers	Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT)
Craig-y-hendre Tenants & Residents Association	Merthyr Tydfil Children's Contact Centre	Vaynor Community Forum
Dowlais Community Day Group	Merthyr Tydfil Federation of Leisure Gardeners	Wales & West Housing Association
Dowlais OAP Association	Merthyr Tydfil Fairtrade Steering Group	Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales
Dowlais Community Development Forum	Merthyr Tydfil Housing Association (MTHA)	Workers' Educational Association Merthyr Tydfil
Dowlais Residents Group	Merthyr Valley Ramblers	Ynysowen Community Regeneration Partnership Board
Drug Intervention Programme	Merthyr Valleys Homes	Young Wales – Merthyr Tydfil Youth Forum
Fir Tree Community Association	New Gurnos Resident's Board	
Bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the authority's area		
Bridges- (gypsy / traveller community in Merthyr Tydfil)	The Polish Community of the Valleys Association (PCVA)	Valleys Race Equality Council
Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the authority's area		
Churches Together in Wales	Christians Against Poverty	The Almond Tree Christian Fellowship
Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the authority's area		
Alzheimer's Society (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf)	Merthyr & The Valleys MIND	Merthyr Tydfil Talking Newspaper for the Visually Impaired
Cancer Aid Merthyr Tydfil	Merthyr Eyelights	National Autistic Society Cymru (Merthyr Tydfil Branch)
Cwm Taf Mental Health Forum	Merthyr Tydfil Association of the Disabled Transport Group	The County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil Access Group Shopmobility
Heartbeat "95" Headway Merthyr	Merthyr Tydfil Institute for the Blind (MTIB)	Visually Impaired Merthyr (VIM)
Bodies which represent the interests of Welsh culture in the authority's area		
Aber Arts Wales	Gates Art Group	Merthyr Tydfil Historical Society
Canolfan a Menter Gymraeg	Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust	Merthyr Tudful (Canolfan Soar)
Cymdeithas Gymraeg Beddlwynog	Merthyr Museum & Heritage Group	
Dic Penderyn Society	Merthyr Tydfil Heritage Trust	
Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the authority's area		
Home Builders Federation	Treharris Town Centre Partnership	
Merthyr Tydfil Town Centre Partnership	St. Tydfil's Shopping Centre	

OTHER CONSULTEES:

The following individuals, agencies and organisations will be consulted in accordance with the DA.

Action on Hearing Loss (formerly RNID)	Disability Rights UK	Rail Future Cymru
Age Cymru	Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee	Rathbone Cymru (Youth Sector)
Arriva Trains Wales	Disability Wales	Redrow Homes
Assembly Members	Diverse Cymru (Equality)	RSPB
Barrat Homes	Dowlais Wesley Methodist Church	Quarry Products Association (Wales)
Belway Homes	Elan Homes	Rail Freight Group (RFG)
British Aggregates Association	Environmental Services Agency (Waste)	Salvation Army
British Deaf Association Wales	Equality and Human Rights Commission in Wales	Shelter Cymru
British Geological Society	Farmers Union of Wales (FUW)	SCOPE Cymru
Business in Focus	Fields in Trust	SNAP Cymru (Special Needs Advisory Project)
Business in the Community Wales	Freight Transport Association	Sports Council for Wales
Bus and Coach Operators	FSB Wales (Federation of Small Business)	South Wales Chamber of Commerce
Cadw	General Aviation Awareness Council (GAAC)	South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Calfaria Heolgerrig Baptist Church	Gypsies and Travellers Wales	South Wales Police - Secured by Design Advisor
Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW)	Health and Safety Executive – Wales and South West	St Margaret's Spiritualist Church
CBI Wales (Confederation of Business Industries)	High Street Baptist Church	St Mary and the Holy Innocents Church
Chwarae Teg	Jerusalem Baptist Church	St Tydfil Well Church
CILT Cymru – The National Centre for Languages	Llamau (Homeless)	SS Peters & Paul Church
Coal Authority	Lovell Homes	Stonewall Cymru
Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO)	Members of Parliament	Tabernacle Chapel Treharris
CLA Country Land and Business Association	Merthyr Tydfil Biodiversity Partnership	Tai Cymru-Housing for Wales
Coed Cymru	MPA Wales (Mineral Products Association)	Taylor Wimpey
Community Enterprise Wales	NFU Cymru	The College Merthyr Tydfil
Commission for Racial Equality	Persimmon Homes	The Gypsy Traveller Law Coalition
Crown Estates Commissioners	Planning Aid Wales	The Maxion group
Cwm Taf Public Services Board	Planning Inspectorate	Transport Focus
Cylch- Wales Community Recycling Network	Planning Consultants	Tros Gynnal Plant (Children & Young People)
Davies Developments	Post Office Property Holdings	Visit Wales
Design Commission for Wales	Prince's Trust Cymru	Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WC VA)
Development Trust Association Wales	Professional Bodies	Wales Environment Link
Disability Sport Wales	Public Health Wales	Welsh Environmental Services Association

APPENDIX 3 – POTENTIAL INVOLVEMENT METHODS AND DECISIONS AT KEY STAGES IN PLAN PREPARATION

The table below sets out the potential methods of involvement to be employed for the key stages in the LDP preparation process and for each stakeholder group listed in Appendix 2. The list is not exhaustive and will need to be adapted to involve relevant members of the community at each stage. The particular methods to be used are likely to depend on the topic, the stage of plan preparation, the preferences of the consultees and the resources available to the Council.

Delivery Agreement – June – August 2016						
Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
Targeted consultation on draft DA. Focus of involvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriateness of timetable and community involvement scheme. • Identification of opportunities to collaborate on involvement. 	Direct correspondence.	Some Specific Consultation Bodies and Planning Inspectorate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a realistic timetable and availability of Planning Inspector; • Manage risk 'horizon scanning'; • Seek agreement on key issues; • Facilitate joint working; and • Identification of those who do not normally participate. 	MTCBC key decision - adoption of DA.	Full Council – 13 th July 2016.	The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulations, 5 - 10. The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015. Regulation 2 (3).
Pre-deposit Participation and Call for Candidate Sites – September 2016 – February 2017						
Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
Involvement on the preparation of a draft Sustainability Appraisal scoping report and around developing the vision, objectives and key issues for the Replacement LDP.	Stakeholder involvement sessions / Group meetings including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDP Steering Group; • Area/Topic Based Working Groups; and • Cwm Taf Public Service Board 	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of the LDP process. • Involve those who do not normally participate. • Seek agreement on key issues, vision, 	Key issues, vision and objectives. Sustainability Appraisal Methodology. Candidate Site	Details of involvement added to the consultation report.	The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulation 14. Environmental Assessment of Plans

<p>Involvement to be co-ordinated with that to inform setting Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council's Well-being objectives.</p> <p>Focus of (LDP) involvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of key issues and sources of information on them; • Identification of opportunities to collaborate on addressing key issues; • Identification of environmental baseline information; • Identification of relevant plans, policies and programmes to which the LDP must have regard; • Methodology of the sustainability appraisal framework informing the LDP; • Identification of plan's, vision, objectives and strategic option; and • Call for Candidate Sites and preparation of Candidate Sites Register. 	<p>Awareness raising via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwm Taf Community Engagement Hub; • Merthyr Tydfil Council website; and • Merthyr Tydfil Council Twitter; <p>Direct correspondence. Direct meetings/workshops.</p>		<p>objectives and options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate joint working. <p>Draft Sustainability Appraisal scoping report.</p> <p>List of Candidate Sites.</p>	<p>Assessment Methodology.</p>		<p>and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Regulation 12 (5).</p> <p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015. Regulation 14 (2 - 5).</p>
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Preferred Strategy Preparation – September 2016 – June 2017

Details of	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
<p>Targeted involvement during preparation of strategic evidence (incl. sites), refining plan options and their appraisal.</p> <p>Options appraisal to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial Sustainability Appraisal, including Environmental Assessment Habitats Regulations Assessment Equalities Impact Assessment Welsh Language Impact Assessment 	<p>Direct correspondence.</p> <p>Direct meetings/workshops.</p>	All as necessary	A 'Preferred Strategy' and options appraisal.	MTCBC key decision – choice of strategy for the LDP and reasons for discounting alternatives.	Full Council – June 2017	<p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulation 14, 15 & 16.</p> <p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015. Regulation 16A.</p> <p>Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 S62 (as amended by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 s11).</p> <p>Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Part 5.</p> <p>The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. Regulation 61.</p> <p>Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Regulation 12 (2) & (3).</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011. Regulation 5 & 6.</p>

						Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. Section 29.
Statutory 'Pre-deposit' Consultation (Preferred Strategy) – July – August 2017						
Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
<p>Six week public consultation on the 'Preferred Strategy' for the Replacement Local Development Plan.</p> <p>Open opportunity to comment on the 'Preferred Strategy' for the Local Development Plan.</p> <p>Open opportunity to provide opinions on the Council's options appraisal.</p>	<p>Direct correspondence.</p> <p>Awareness raising via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwm Taf Community Engagement Hub; • Merthyr Tydfil Council website; • Merthyr Tydfil Council Twitter; • Merthyr Tydfil Council 'Contact' Magazine; • Public exhibitions; and • Posters / leaflets. <p>Documentation available at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merthyr Tydfil Council Civic Centre; • Merthyr Tydfil Council website; and • Local libraries. 	All	Gathering of evidenced opinions and observations on the 'Preferred Strategy' and its options appraisal.	N/A	<p>Details of involvement added to the consultation report.</p> <p>Observations made during the pre-deposit consultation added to the consultation report.</p>	<p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulation 15.</p> <p>The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Regulation 13.</p>
Deposit Preparation – September 2017 – May 2018						
Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
<p>Targeted involvement during preparation of the Deposit Replacement Local Development Plan (incl. sites).</p> <p>Preparation and completion of detailed evidence.</p> <p>Consider and address observations and opinions raised at the 'pre-deposit' stage as appropriate.</p> <p>Preparation of Sustainability</p>	<p>Group meetings including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDP Steering Group; • Area/Topic Based Working Groups; and • Cwm Taf Public Service Board. <p>Direct correspondence.</p> <p>Discretionary meetings.</p>	All as necessary.	The Deposit Replacement Local Development Plan.	MTCBC key decision – Agree response to observations made at 'Preferred Strategy' stage, the content of the Deposit Replacement Local Development Plan and reasons for discounting alternative policy options.	<p>Full Council – May 2018.</p> <p>Details of targeted consultation and agreed Council response to observations made during the pre-deposit consultation added to the consultation report.</p>	<p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulations, 11, 12 & 13.</p> <p>Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 S61 & S62 (as amended by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 s11).</p> <p>Well-being of Future</p>

Appraisal incl.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Environmental Report; • Policy options appraisal; • Equalities Impact Assessment; and • Welsh Language Impact Assessment. Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening and Appropriate Assessments (if necessary).						Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Part 5. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. Regulation 61. Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Regulation 12 (2) & (3). The Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011. Regulation 5 & 6. Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. Section 29.
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Statutory 'Deposit' Consultation – June – July 2018

Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
Six week public consultation. Open opportunity to comment on the Deposit Replacement Local Development Plan. Open opportunity to provide opinions on the Council's Sustainability Appraisal.	Direct correspondence. Awareness raising via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwm Taf Community Engagement Hub; • Merthyr Tydfil Council website; • Merthyr Tydfil Council Twitter; • Merthyr Tydfil Council 'Contact' Magazine; • Public exhibitions; and • Posters / leaflets. Documentation available at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merthyr Tydfil Council Civic Centre; • Merthyr Tydfil Council website; and • Local Libraries. 	All	Gathering of evidenced representations and opinions on the Deposit Replacement Local Development Plan and its appraisal documents.	N/A	Details of involvement added to the consultation report.	The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulations 17 & 18. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Regulation 13.

Preparing for Examination & Submission of Replacement LDP to Welsh Government August 2018 – January 2019

Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
Potential six week public consultation on Focussed Changes.	<p>Documentation available at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merthyr Tydfil Council Civic Centre; Merthyr Tydfil Council website; and Local libraries. <p>Awareness raising via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cwm Taf Community Engagement Hub Merthyr Tydfil Council website Merthyr Tydfil Council Twitter 	All	Gathering of evidenced representations and opinions on focussed changes, if necessary.	<p>MTCBC key decision – Agree response to representations and opinions made at ‘deposit’ stage.</p> <p>If any are required, agree resulting ‘Focussed Changes’ for consultation.</p>	<p>Full Council – November 2018.</p> <p>Observations made during the deposit consultation added to the consultation report.</p> <p>Details of agreed response to observations made during the deposit consultation added to the consultation report.</p> <p>Submission of Plan and key documents (January 2019)</p>	<p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulations 19 - 22.</p> <p>The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Regulation 8.</p>

Examination and Receipt of Inspector’s Report – March – November 2019

Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
<p>Seek common ground with objectors to focus hearing sessions.</p> <p>Prepare for, attend and contribute to examination hearings.</p> <p>Proof read the initial inspector’s report.</p>	<p>Direct correspondence / meetings.</p> <p>Documentation available at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merthyr Tydfil Council Civic Centre; and Merthyr Tydfil Council website. 	Those making representations / submitting opinions.	To help focus examination hearings.	Agree common ground.	Statements of common ground.	The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulation 23.

Publication of Inspector's Report – November 2019						
Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
N/A - For Information.	Documentation available at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merthyr Tydfil Council Civic Centre; Merthyr Tydfil Council website; and Local libraries. 	All	Report with recommendations identifying required changes to the LDP (including to the proposals map) together with reasons for the changes.	N/A	N/A	The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulation 24.
Adoption – December 2019						
Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
N/A - For Information.	Documentation available at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merthyr Tydfil Council Civic Centre; Merthyr Tydfil Council website; and Local libraries. 	All	An adopted planning policy framework for development proposals in the Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Area.	MTCBC key decision – Receipt of the Inspector's Report and Adoption. Publish post adoption statement.	Full Council – December 2019	<p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulations 25.</p> <p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015. Regulation 25A.</p> <p>The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Regulation 16.</p>

Annual Monitoring Report – October 2021

Details of Involvement	Method	Stakeholder Group	Outcome	MTCBC Decision	Reporting mechanism	Legislation
N/A - For Information.	Documentation available at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merthyr Tydfil Council Civic Centre; and Merthyr Tydfil Council website. 	All	To Monitor and Review the Plan.	Establish whether the Annual Monitoring Report indicates that a review of the Plan is necessary.	Annual Monitoring Report presented to MTCBC - Regeneration, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee for information annually.	The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. Regulation 37. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Regulation 17.

APPENDIX 4 – RISK ASSESSMENT

The proposed timetable for plan preparation is considered to be realistic and achievable having regard to the scope of work that the Council anticipates will be involved, and the resources it currently has. Whilst every effort will be made to avoid deviations from the proposed timetable, a number of potential risks have been identified. These are set out below together with the Council's proposed approach to managing them. The timetable, together with the anticipated work programme and available resources will be kept under continual review to monitor possible slippage or other impacts resulting from the risks identified or other causes.

Risk	Potential Impact	Mitigation
Loss of staff and resources due to financial savings, illness, alternative employment or other factors.	Insufficient staff and resources to undertake the amount of work required to meet the agreed timetable.	Additional resources, secondment from other authorities.
Additional requirements arising from new legislation or national guidance.	Additional work required, causing programme slippage.	Monitor emerging legislation/guidance and respond early to changes.
Timetable proves too ambitious due to greater than anticipated workload e.g. no. of representations or SEA/HRA requirements.	Programme slippage.	Realistic timetable prepared with some flexibility. Consider additional resources.
Delays caused by meeting cycles, Council decision making structure or local elections.	Programme slippage.	Realistic timetable prepared in anticipation of most matters with potential to delay.
Insufficient information to undertake SEA of proposals.	Programme slippage.	Identify expectations of consultees in Delivery Agreement.
Delays caused by Welsh Translation.	Programme slippage.	Consider whether translation is required. Factor in sufficient lead in time for translation. Consider additional resources.
Significant objections from Statutory Consultation Bodies.	LDP cannot be submitted for examination without significant work.	Ensure the views of statutory bodies are sought and considered as early as possible.
Consensus difficult to achieve, including at political level.	Additional work required, causing programme slippage.	Early attention to potentially contentious issues. Involvement of all political groups.
Examination longer than anticipated.	More resources needed/programme slippage.	Early attention to consensus building. Ensure LDP is sound, founded on a robust evidence base with sustainability appraisal and well audited community and stakeholder engagement.
LDP fails test of soundness.	LDP cannot be adopted without additional work.	Ensure LDP is sound, founded on a robust evidence base with sustainability appraisal and well audited community and stakeholder engagement.
Legal challenge.	Additional workload. Adopted LDP quashed.	Ensure compliance with procedures, legislation, regulations.

APPENDIX 5 – POPULATION PROFILE OF MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Introduction

The key sources of statistics and data on the population makeup of Merthyr Tydfil are:

- Office for National Statistics: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>
- Nomis official labour market statistics: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>
- Stats Wales: <https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue>
- Data Unit Wales: <http://www.dataunitwales.gov.uk/home>
- Cwm Taf Data Observatory: <http://cwmtaf.infobasecymru.net/IAS/>
- South East Wales Skills Observatory: <http://www.dataunitwales.gov.uk/sewso>

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (111 Square Kilometres) is the smallest Local Authority in Wales covering approximately 0.5% of the landmass of Wales (20,780 Square Kilometres). Approximately one fifth of the County Borough, which lies within the Brecon Beacons National Park (BBNP), falls under the planning control of BBNP Local Planning Authority (LPA). The two other neighbouring LPA's are Caerphilly and Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Life Expectancy

In Merthyr Tydfil County Borough, a newborn baby boy could expect to live 77.3 years and a newborn baby girl 80.5 years. (Source: [Office for National Statistics \(2012 - 2014\). Life Expectancy at birth](#) [accessed 16th May 2016]).

Population - Mid Year Population Estimates

Population estimates are produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), and take into account births, deaths, and an estimate of migration between the last census and the middle of the current year.

The population of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough is estimated (mid-year 2014) to have been 59,065 in 2014, accounting for 1.9 per cent of the Welsh population. The age profile of the local population is identified in Table 1 below.

Local Authority				Aged 0 to 15	Aged 16 to 64	Aged over 65	All ages
Merthyr Tydfil				11,017	37,473	10,575	59,065
Merthyr Tydfil	Merthyr Tydfil U002			5,667	20,102	5,772	31,541
	Merthyr Tydfil U002	Merthyr Tydfil 004		1,185	4,265	1,208	6,658
		Merthyr Tydfil 004	Cyfarthfa 2	421	1,104	216	1,741
			Cyfarthfa 3	293	1,077	346	1,716
			Park 3	231	923	297	1,451
			Town 1	240	1,161	349	1,750
		Merthyr Tydfil 005		1,559	5,309	1,531	8,399
		Merthyr Tydfil 005	Plymouth (Merthyr Tydfil) 3	466	1,382	394	2,242
			Town 2	580	2,007	452	3,039
			Town 3	263	957	367	1,587
			Town 4	250	963	318	1,531
		Merthyr Tydfil 006		1,448	5,157	1,642	8,247
		Merthyr Tydfil 006	Bedlinog 1	222	877	290	1,389
			Merthyr Vale 1	223	731	188	1,142

		Merthyr Vale 2	269	809	147	1,225	
		Merthyr Vale 3	239	924	286	1,449	
		Plymouth (Merthyr Tydfil) 1	226	834	448	1,508	
		Plymouth (Merthyr Tydfil) 2	269	982	283	1,534	
	Merthyr Tydfil 007		1,475	5,371	1,391	8,237	
	Merthyr Tydfil 007	Bedlinog 2	342	1,262	308	1,912	
		Treharris 1	258	1,137	276	1,671	
		Treharris 2	252	955	252	1,459	
		Treharris 3	332	981	264	1,577	
		Treharris 4	291	1,036	291	1,618	
	Merthyr Tydfil U003		5,350	17,371	4,803	27,524	
	Merthyr Tydfil U003	Merthyr Tydfil 002		1,737	6,328	1,637	9,702
		Merthyr Tydfil 002	Dowlais 1	274	959	277	1,510
			Dowlais 2	243	1,098	313	1,654
			Dowlais 3	342	1,283	249	1,874
Dowlais 4			329	1,178	298	1,805	

			Penydarren 3	294	1,028	311	1,633
			Penydarren 4	255	782	189	1,226
		Merthyr Tydfil 003		1,460	5,343	1,646	8,449
		Merthyr Tydfil 003	Cyfarthfa 1	445	1,325	234	2,004
			Cyfarthfa 4	298	1,074	382	1,754
			Park 1	185	767	272	1,224
			Park 2	233	985	238	1,456
			Vaynor 2	299	1,192	520	2,011
		Merthyr Tydfil 008		2,153	5,700	1,520	9,373
		Merthyr Tydfil 008	Gurnos 1	393	943	229	1,565
			Gurnos 2	398	1,078	328	1,804
			Gurnos 3	475	1,175	280	1,930
			Penydarren 1	356	807	147	1,310
			Penydarren 2	293	791	218	1,302
			Vaynor 1	238	906	318	1,462

Table 1 – Age Profile of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough

<https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Estimates/Local-Authority/populationestimates-by-localauthority-year>

Population Density

Population density provides a measure of the number of people living in an area. It is calculated by dividing the population by the geographical area in square km. Population density is higher in urban areas, and lower in rural areas.

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough is the ninth most densely populated local authority area in Wales (of 22) with 530 people per square kilometre of land area. Compared to the Wales average (149.1) there are over 3 times as many people per square km living in the Local Authority area.

<https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Density/populationdensity-by-localauthority-year>

Origin of Population by Country of Birth

Country of Birth (2011) <i>Source: Office for National Statistics</i>		
	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales
% of people born in Wales	88.5	72.7
% of people born in the UK, outside of Wales	7.0	21.9
% of people born in other EU Countries	2.9	2.2
% of people born outside EU Countries	1.6	3.3

Projected Population Change

Population projections are based on assumptions; they indicate what may happen should recent trends in births, deaths and migration continue. The 2011-based local authority population projections for Wales, 2011 to 2036 indicate:

- A rise in the older population (65 years and over) of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough residents from 9,856 (16.8 per cent of total population – 58,851) in 2011 to 15,796 (25.3 per cent of total population - 62,434) in 2036.
- A decline in the younger population (aged 15 and under) of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough residents from 10,969 (18.6 per cent of total population – 58,851) in 2011 to 9,787 (15.6 per cent of total population – 62,434) in 2036.

- A decline in the working aged population (aged 16 to 64) of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough residents from 38,026 (64.6 per cent of total population – 58,851) in 2011 to 36,851 (59 per cent of total population – 62,434) in 2036.

<https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Projections/Local-Authority/2011-Based/PopulationProjections-By-LocalAuthority-Year>

Ethnicity

Every public sector organisation has a statutory duty to promote race equality. Not only may ethnicity reflect specific language and cultural needs but also health needs.

For the year ending 31st December 2015, the Local Labour Force Survey/Annual Population Survey identified that 4.5% of people in Wales say they are from a non-white background. The figure for Merthyr Tydfil County Borough area was 2.4%, although it must be noted that the data for Merthyr Tydfil is based on approximately 25 and 40 responses to the survey and is therefore considered low quality data.

<https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Equality-and-Diversity/Ethnicity/ethnicity-by-area-ethnicgroup>

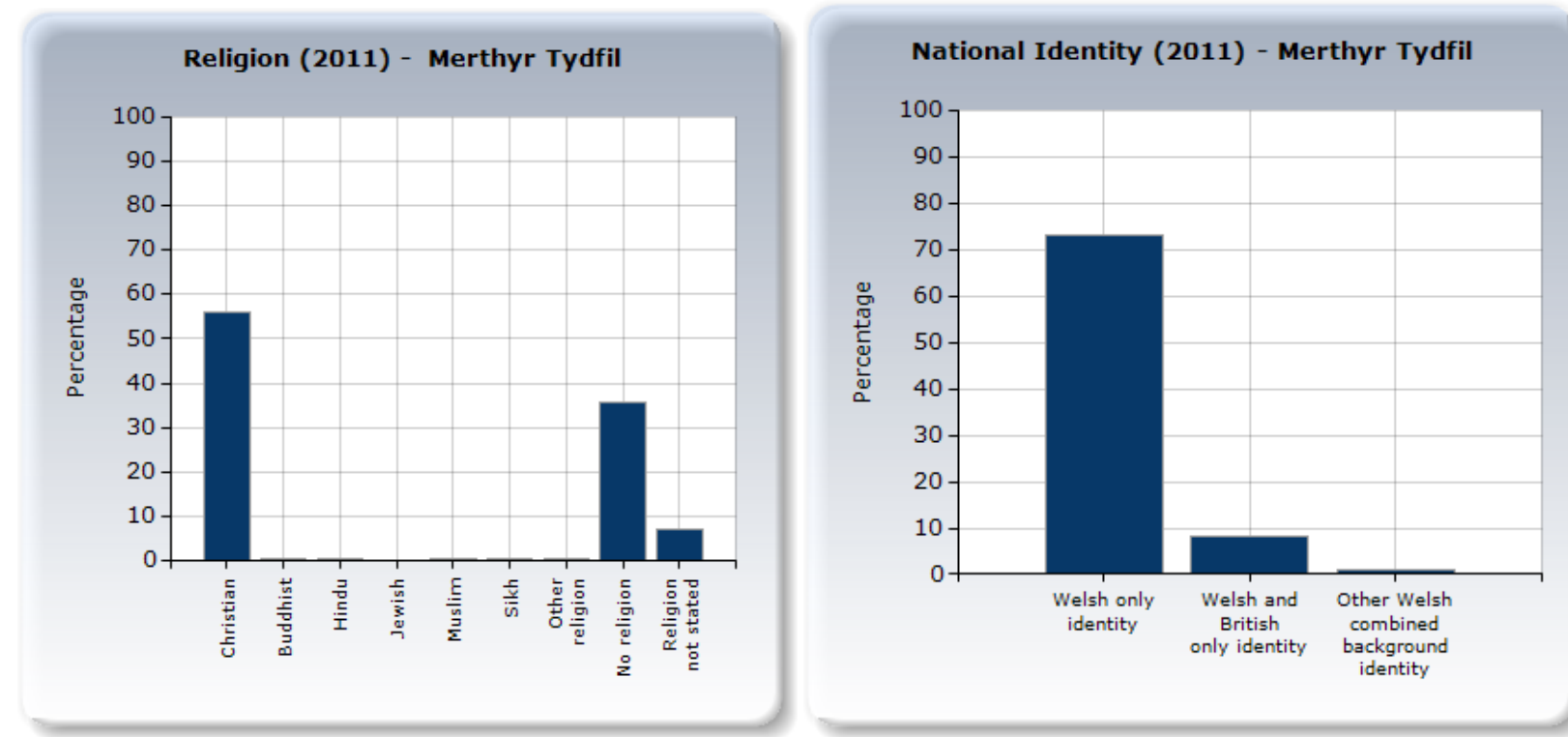
Ethnicity (2011) <i>Source: Office for National Statistics</i>		
	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales
% White	97.6	95.6
% Mixed/multiple ethnic group	0.8	1.0
% Asian/Asian British	1.2	2.3
% Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	0.2	0.6
% Other ethnic group	0.2	0.5

Welsh Language

The National Survey for Wales, 2014-15, contains information by local authority on Welsh language ability and usage. From acceptable estimates it is evident that the ability to speak Welsh is lower in Merthyr Tydfil County Borough's population (8%) than the level across Wales (20%) and of those who said they could speak Welsh a greater proportion could only speak a little Welsh in Merthyr Tydfil area (41%) than across Wales (28%). Furthermore, for those who can speak at least a little Welsh it would appear that it is spoken less frequently in Merthyr Tydfil (31% daily) than across Wales (51% daily), although the local estimates for this are not considered reliable, due to the small sample size.

<https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Welsh-Language>

Identity

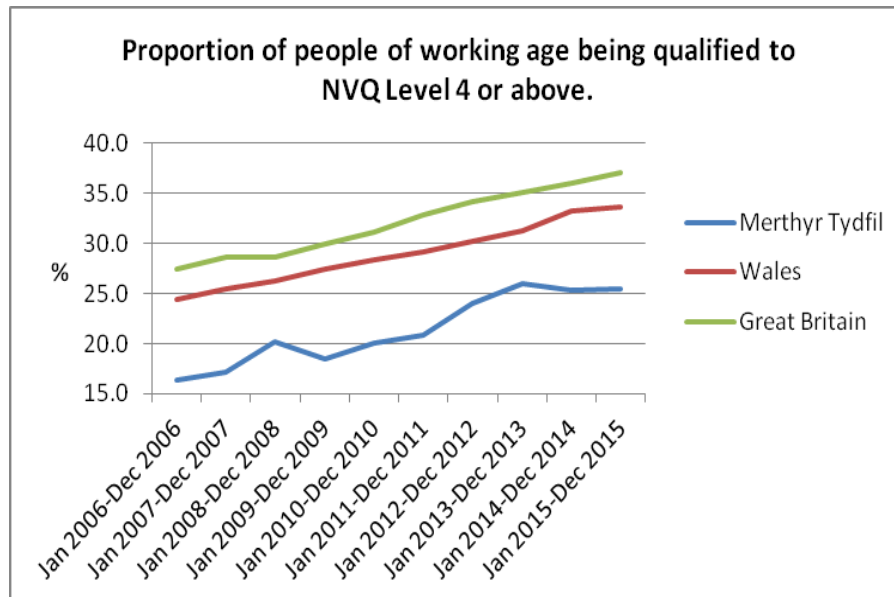


Source: 2011 Census, South East Wales Skills Observatory.

Graphs

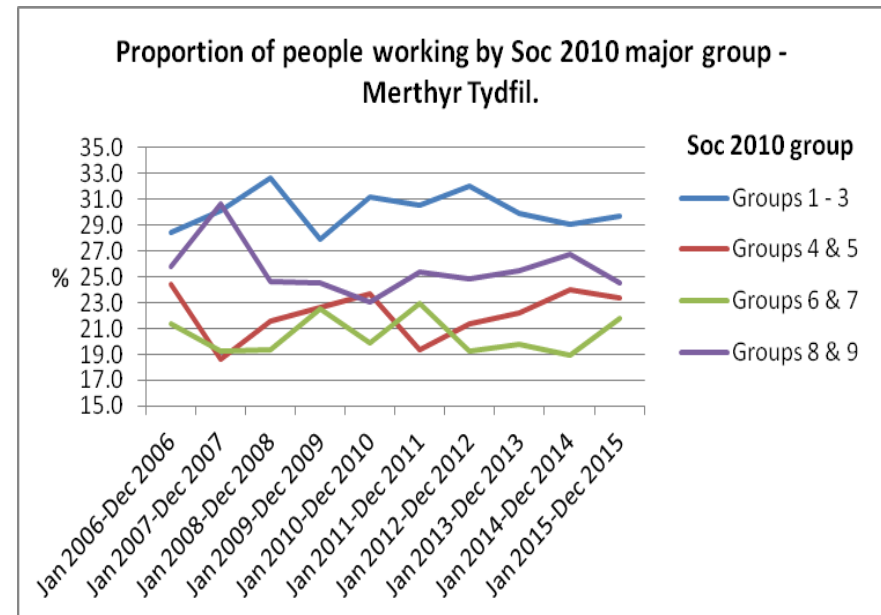
The following graphs show a selection of information on the population of Merthyr Tydfil in respect of education and employment.

Education levels and qualifications



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Employment

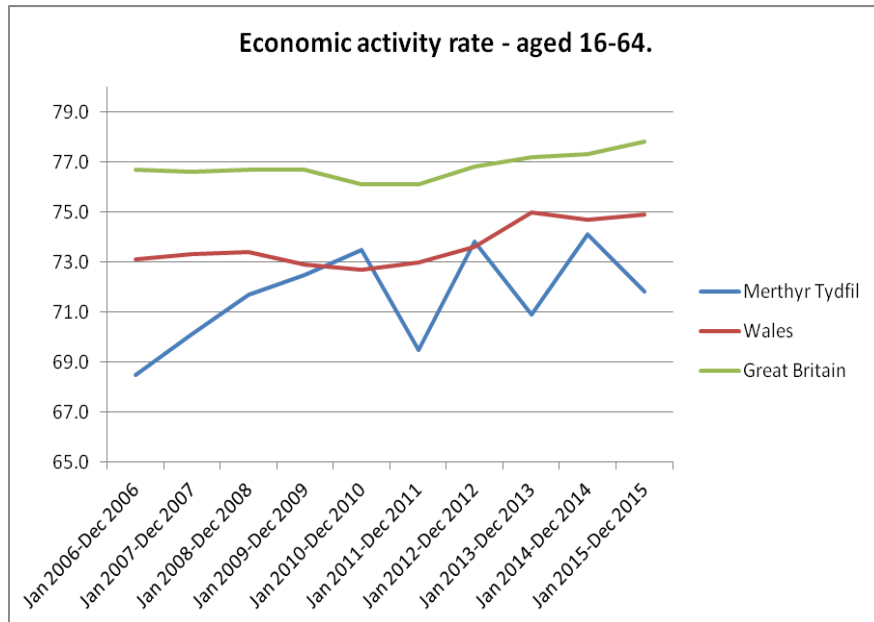


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Soc 2010 group

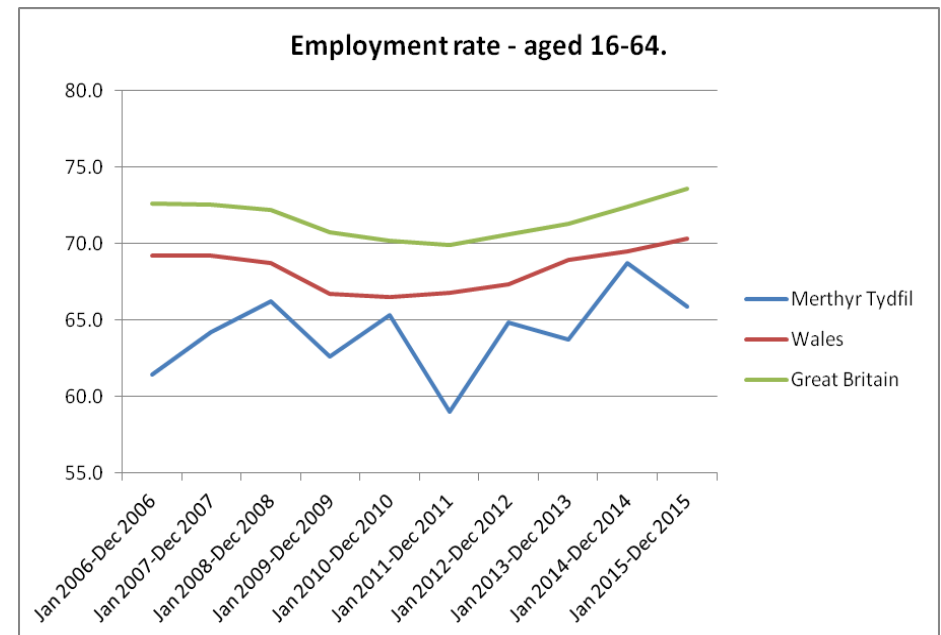
- 1: MANAGERS, DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS
- 2: PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATIONS
- 3: ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL OCCUPATIONS
- 4: ADMINISTRATIVE AND SECRETARIAL OCCUPATIONS
- 5: SKILLED TRADES OCCUPATIONS
- 6: CARING, LEISURE AND OTHER SERVICE OCCUPATIONS
- 7: SALES AND CUSTOMER SERVICE OCCUPATIONS
- 8: PROCESS, PLANT AND MACHINE OPERATIVES
- 9: ELEMENTARY OCCUPATIONS

Economic activity rate



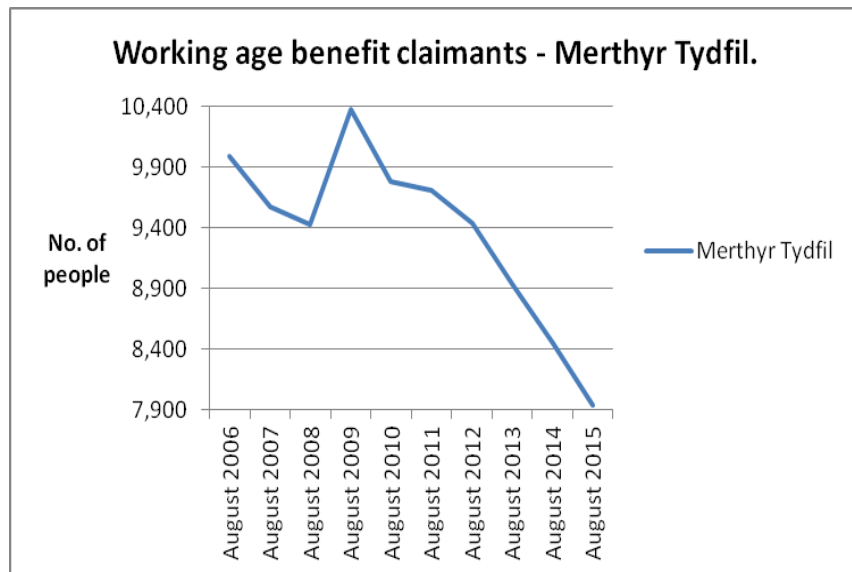
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Employment rate

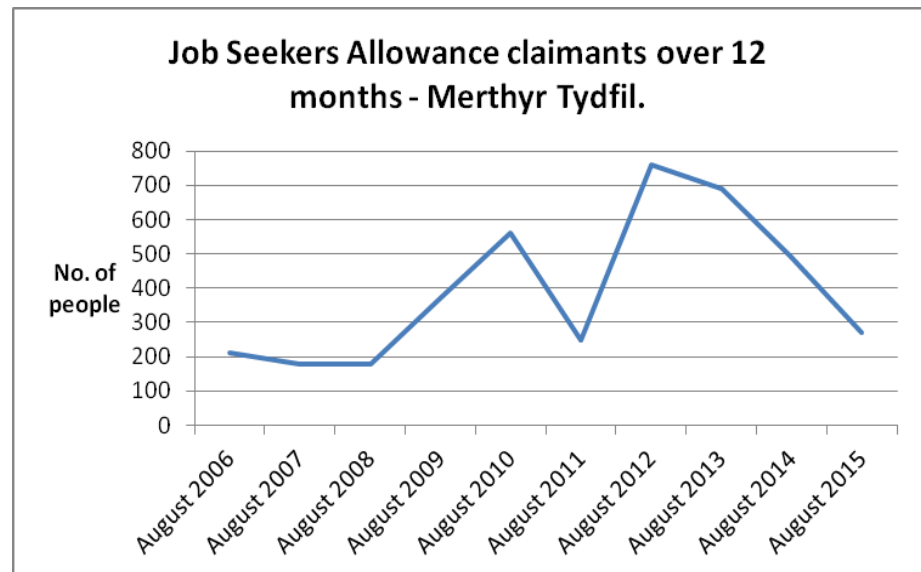


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Number of people claiming social benefits



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APPENDIX 6 – LIST OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE DELIVERY AGREEMENT

Internal Stakeholders

Chief Executive and Directors

Selected Heads of Service

Performance

External Stakeholders

Welsh Government

The Planning Inspectorate for Wales

Natural Resources Wales

Cadw

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Adopted Plan

This is the Final stage of Local Development Plan preparation, where the Local Development Plan becomes the statutory Development Plan, for the purposes of the Act.

Adoption

This is the final confirmation of a development plan status by a Local Planning Authority (LPA).

Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)

A report submitted to the Welsh Government by the local planning authorities which assess the effectiveness of the LDP against a set of indicators and targets.

Citizens Panel

The Council has found that one of the best ways of consulting local people is through its Citizens' Panel. The Panel consists of a cross section of people, who are chosen at random to represent the overall characteristics of the residents of Merthyr Tydfil.

Community

People living in a defined geographical area, who are considered as a unit because of their common interests, social group or characteristics.

Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

The CIS identifies how and when the LPA intends to involve consultation bodies and the public in the preparation of the Local Development Plan. The CIS is submitted to the Welsh Government as part of the Delivery Agreement for its agreement.

Consensus building

A process of early dialogue or mediation of relevant viewpoints or complex issues which involves targeted interest groups.

Consultation

A formal process where comments are invited or discussion takes place on a particular topic, set of topics, or a draft document.

Consultation Report

Report of consultation required under Local Development Plan (LDP) Regulation 22 when the LDP is submitted for independent examination. An initial consultation report covering the pre-deposit plan preparation stage is required under LDP Regulation 17(c).

Delivery Agreement

A document comprising the Local Planning Authorities (LPA) timetable for the preparation of the Local Development Plan together with its Community Involvement Scheme, submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement.

Deposit

A formal stage in which individuals and organisations can make representations on the full draft Local Development Plan, representations that relate to whether the plan is 'Sound' can then be examined by an Inspector.

Development

Development, as it is defined in planning law is the "carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, over or under land" (Section 55 of the 1990 Planning Act as amended).

Deposit LDP

A full draft of the Local Development Plan comprising a long-term land use and development strategy focused on achieving sustainable development, which undergoes a formal consultation period.

Engagement

A process that seeks to encourage the involvement and participation of the community in the decision making process.

Evidence Base

The information and data gathered by the Local Planning Authority to justify the "soundness" of the policy approach set out in the Local Development Plan, including physical, economic, and social characteristics of an area.

Environmental Consultation Body

An authority with environmental responsibilities concerned by the effects of implementing plans and programmes, which must be consulted under the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations; i.e. Natural Resources Wales and Cadw.

Examination

Examination is carried out by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Welsh Government and involves the examination of the consultation report, all the deposit representations, the Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) with its background evidence and the Sustainability Appraisal Report. It ensures that the LDP is based on sound information and thinking, and that the views of those with concerns about the plan have been considered.

Involvement

Community involvement is a process by which an organisation consults and involves interested or affected individuals, organisations, and government entities before making a decision.

Inspector's Report

The findings of the Inspector, following an independent examination of the Local Development Plan, set out in a report that is binding upon the Local Planning Authority.

Local Development Plan (LDP)

A land use plan is a plan that is subject to independent examination, which will form the statutory development plan for a local authority area. It should include a vision, strategy, area wide policies for development types, land allocations, and where necessary policies and proposals for key areas of change and protection (required under Part 6 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

Local Planning Authority

A Local Planning Authority (LPA) is the Local Authority or Council that is empowered by law to exercise statutory town planning functions for a particular area of the United Kingdom.

Participation

A process, not a single event, that directly engages the public in decision-making and gives full consideration to public input in making that decision.

Planning Policy Wales (PPW)

A document issued by the Welsh Government setting out its national land use policies on different areas of planning.

Pre deposit stage

The Strategic Options and Preferred Strategy stage of Local Development Plan preparation.

Representations

Comments received in support of, or in opposition to, the deposit Local Development Plan.

Service Level Agreement

An agreement between the Planning Inspectorate and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) in respect of a Local Development Plan examination, setting out the likely timescales and cost of the examination and providing the LPA with clear guidance on the nature of their own responsibilities.

Site specific allocations

An allocation of sites or proposals for specific or mixed uses of development contained within a Local Development Plan (LDP). Policies will identify any specific requirements for individual proposals. Allocations will be shown on the LDP's proposals map.

Soundness

To be considered sound, a Local Development Plan (LDP) must be justified (founded on robust and credible evidence and be the most appropriate strategy) and effective (deliverable, flexible and able to be monitored). There are three tests of soundness set out in guidance issued by the Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate against which the LDP will be assessed.

Stakeholders

Interests directly affected by the Local Development Plan (and / or Strategic Environmental Assessment) – involvement generally through representative bodies.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

Generic term used to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The SEA Regulations require a formal "*environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use*".

Submission

Formal stage when the Local Development Plan is submitted to the Welsh Government for independent examination by a government-appointed planning inspector.

Supplementary planning guidance (SPG)

Supplementary information in respect of the policies contained within a Local Development Plan. SPG does not form part of the development plan and is not subject to independent examination but must be consistent with the plan and with national policy.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

A tool for appraising policies and proposals to ensure they reflect sustainability development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic factors). Each Local Planning Authority is required by S62(6) of the Act to undertake an SA of the Local Development Plan (LDP). This form of SA fully incorporates the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive. The term used in the LDP includes Strategic Environmental Assessment, unless otherwise made clear.

Sustainable Development

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Sustainability Appraisal Report

A document required to be produced as part of the sustainability appraisal process to describe and appraise the likely significant effects on sustainability of implementing the Local Development Plan (LDP), which also meets the requirement for the Environmental Report under the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations. Section 62(6) of the 2004 Act requires each Local Planning Authority to prepare a report of the findings of the sustainability appraisal of the LDP.

Wales Spatial Plan (WSP)

A plan prepared and approved by the Welsh Government under S60 of the Act, which sets out a strategic framework to guide future development and policy interventions, whether or not these relate to formal land use planning control. Under S62 (5) (b) of the Act a Local Planning Authority must have regard to the WSP in preparing a Local Development Plan.

Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD)

The official measure of deprivation used in small areas in Wales. It is a relative measure of concentrations of deprivation at the small area level. It looks at issues such as income, housing, employment, access to services, health, environment, education and community safety.



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MERTHYR TUDFUL
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