# Merthyr Tydfil Replacement Local Development Plan (2016-2031)

## **EXAMINATION**

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# AGENDA

#### for

# Hearing Session 6 on 2 July 2019 at 10:00

#### **MATTER 6: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES 1**

#### **Opening remarks and introductions**

## 6.1. Nature Conservation and Ecosystem Resilience (Policy EnW1)

a. Does the Plan's definition of 'ecosystem resilience' accord with that set out at paragraph 6.4.21 of Planning Policy Wales Edition 10?

## 6.2. Nationally Protected Sites and Species (policy EnW2)

- a. Should policy EnW2 refer to sites as well as species within the policy text?
- b. Would this policy be used to assess potential effects on European Sites in neighbouring Local Planning Authorities, and if so should this be stated in paragraph 6.7.16?

#### 6.3. Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (policy EnW3)

a. Are the Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) designations founded on robust and up-to-date evidence<sup>1</sup>? Specifically, do the designated areas encompass parcels of land which accord with the selection criteria for each SINC?

## 6.4. Environmental Protection (policy EnW4)

- a. Would the application of policy EnW4 support national policy objectives including those relating to air quality and soundscape<sup>2</sup>?
- b. Should the reasoned justification provide greater clarity about how proposals would be assessed where these would have the potential to detrimentally affect air quality or increase exposure within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)?
- c. Should indicator 7.4 monitor the application of policy EnW4 with reference to levels of air pollution within AQMAs rather than solely the number of AQMAs?
- d. The final part of policy EnW4 requires proposals to incorporate measures to improve water quality where opportunities exist. Given the separate consenting process for sustainable drainage systems, should the reasoned justification at 6.7.31 explain how this would apply in relation to planning applications?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation Background Paper 2018 [SD27]; Rhydycar West Survey and SINC Assessment 2006 [SD55]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 (PPW) paragraphs 6.7.2 to 6.7.5

# 6.5. Landscape Protection (policy EnW5)

a. Does the evidence<sup>3</sup> provide a robust and credible basis for the Special Landscape Area designations, consistent with national policy and guidance<sup>4</sup>?

## 6.6. Any other matters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Background Paper: Special Landscape Areas [SD26]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> PPW paragraph 6.3.11; LANDMAP Guidance Note 1 – LANDMAP and Special Landscape Areas 2017 (Natural Resources Wales)