



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
**MERTHYR TUDFUL**  
**MERTHYR TYDFIL**  
County Borough Council

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Response to the  
Inspector's Supplementary Note for Hearing Sessions 1 and 2 in  
relation to Welsh Medium Education provision

## Introduction

In advance of Hearing Sessions 1 and 2 the Council has considered the matters raised in the Inspector's supplementary note (ED034) and has responded to the questions listed at paragraph 12 of the supplementary note under the following headings.

### **Matter 1.1: Preparation and procedural requirements**

***Has secondary Welsh medium education been addressed in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA), and should the SA Report be amended to identify any impacts in this regard?***

The impacts of the LDP on the Welsh Language have been integrated into the SA process, with the SA Framework containing an objective that focuses specifically on Cultural Heritage and Welsh Language. Overall, the strategy taken forward was considered to have a neutral impact against this objective, however a positive effect was noted in the assessment due to the proposed level of population growth having the potential to increase the number of children attending Welsh Medium education.

The Council's Education department have confirmed that they are satisfied that the overall level of pupil growth in the County Borough can be accommodated, through a combination of utilising existing capacity, and extensions to existing premises, where appropriate. With regards to Welsh Medium education, there are two Welsh Medium Primary schools in the County Borough, one of which is currently in the process of being extended to address future demand.

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council's Welsh medium secondary pupils currently attend Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun (YGR) in Rhondda Cynon Taff and have done so for a number of years. To clarify potential impacts of the Replacement LDP growth and infrastructure needs the Council has used school enrolment projection figures and forecasting assumptions used by both education departments in Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (MTCBC) and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council (RCTCBC).

The current capacity of YGR is 1038 and the projected total pupil numbers for the next 5 years are as follows:

YEAR	PUPILS
2019	1005
2020	1037
2021	1065
2022	1104
2023	1123

Source: RCTCBC Cabinet Report dated 20/09/18

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At the present time, there are 999 pupils in attendance (630 from RCTCBC and 369 from MTCBC) with pupils from Merthyr Tydfil accounting for approx. 37% of the total pupil numbers. Projections from the MTCBC's education department indicate that the number of pupils entering secondary Welsh education over the next five years will be as follows:

YEAR	MTCBC PUPILS MOVING INTO WELSH SECONDARY
2019	87
2020	82
2021	86
2022	93
2023	91

These projections would indicate that there will be approximately 440 MTCBC pupils in YGR at 2023 (approx. 39% of the total number of pupils).

The level of housing growth proposed in the Replacement LDP (2,250 dwellings) would generate a total of approximately 390 additional secondary pupil spaces. Both RCTCBC and MTCBC use an assumption of 11% of spaces being taken up by Welsh Medium provision. Accordingly, the Replacement LDP will generate a need for approximately 40 secondary Welsh Medium pupil spaces over the plan period. The Council considers that in the short to medium term, the additional demand for Welsh secondary provision can be met at YGR through a proposed extension that increases capacity to 1200. Longer term requirements in regard to both Primary and Secondary Welsh Medium Education will need to be monitored by the Council and considered as part of Band C of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme which commences in 2026.

The above Welsh Medium secondary education pupil projections can be used to inform the Sustainability Appraisal of the Replacement LDP. This information would provide greater certainty regarding the likely sustainability effects of the Plan, in particular, against SA Objective 17 (To facilitate services and facilities that support distinctive local culture and the Welsh language).

The Council has considered the Welsh Language impacts of the Replacement LDP (e.g. arising from the proposed level of growth, spatial distribution and infrastructure requirements) and the likely sustainability implications. The main effect on objective 17 is likely to be related to the proposed level of growth (Strategic Growth options) rather than the spatial distribution of growth given the location and capacity of the existing two Welsh medium primary schools in the north and south of the County Borough.

Whilst additional detail and certainty can be added to the assessments for the Spatial Strategy, Growth Strategy and potential site allocation impacts, it is considered that the overall effect would not change the assessment scores originally identified against the SA

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objective. Consequently, it is considered there would be no overall impact to the Sustainability Appraisal of the Replacement LDP.

Any changes that are considered necessary to clarify the SA of the Replacement LDP have been indicated at Appendix 1 of this statement.

**Matter 2.2: Delivery and Infrastructure; Issue 2.3: Planning Obligations (Policy SW9)**

***Having regard to the SA, CIL Regulations, the CIL Infrastructure evidence and any potential future changes to MTCBC's CIL Regulation 123 list, should additional reasoned justification relating to Policy SW9 criterion 4 be added to the Plan to clarify the position in relation to secondary Welsh medium education, and specifically the circumstances under which necessary contributions towards Welsh medium secondary education might be sought and secured in the future, subject to compliance with CIL Regulations or any successor regulations.***

The Council considers that the current approach in regard to securing contributions towards education provision (including Welsh Medium provision) through the planning system is the most appropriate approach. The Council's Education department has indicated that, subject to receiving a formal request from Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC, it would consider an application for CIL funding that could be used to contribute towards the extension at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun.

The approach of including 'education provision' (and the other items of infrastructure) on the CIL Regulation 123 list gives developers clarity in regard to what infrastructure requirements they will be required to contribute towards. This approach also gives the Council a level of flexibility in regard to how it is able to use any funding secured through the planning system, which is not available with contributions secured through Section 106 agreements.

The Council also considers that there is a greater likelihood of a larger amount of funding being available towards Welsh medium secondary education provision through the CIL mechanism, as opposed to attempting to secure funds through negotiations on S106 agreements. Historically, the Council has secured financial contributions towards education provision through S106 agreements on three developments, amounting to £369,000 in total, over the past 20 years. At present, there is £130,000 in the CIL account held by the Council, and if housing completions come forward as anticipated in the LDP housing trajectory, the Council will receive approximately an additional £800,000 in CIL during the next 5 years. The Council estimates that further CIL receipts totalling approximately £1,800,000 would then be received by the end of the Replacement LDP period.

It should be noted that the education contributions agreed through S106 agreements were secured prior to CIL being implemented in the County Borough. If any changes were made to the Regulation 123 list, i.e. to exclude Welsh Medium Secondary provision, CIL liabilities from a development would still be required before other obligations are negotiated. It must also be noted that pooling restrictions currently remain in place on funds secured through S106 agreements. These restrictions limit contributions for a specific infrastructure project to no more than five S106 planning obligations. Contributions secured through S106 agreements would also be subject to spending time limits, which would not be the case for infrastructure funding sought through CIL.

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In order to clarify the situation in regard to how CIL funding can be applied for and used for infrastructure, the Council would propose adding the following text to the reasoned justification of Policy SW9:

**6.56 The MTCBC Regulation 123 List of Infrastructure (June 2014) states that the following types of infrastructure projects are eligible for CIL funding:**

- Core Highway Network Improvements
- Strategic Drainage Network
- Education Provision (schools)
- Upgrade/new Civic Amenity sites
- Upgrade existing Leisure facilities provision
- Off-site formal leisure facilities (e.g. Sports pitches and changing facilities, Multi-use games areas, Neighbourhood equipped area for play)
- Strategic Public Transport Infrastructure (does not include site specific links to strategic network such as new bus stop within a development to improve accessibility, or short length of cycleway to link a site to a national or local route)

**6.57 Where an infrastructure project is identified as requiring CIL funding (for example, an extension to an existing school, or transport improvement identified in the Infrastructure Schedule at Appendix 6 of the LDP), the relevant Council department responsible for that infrastructure type will need to submit an application for funding to the Council's CIL Steering Group. The CIL Steering Group is responsible for assessing any applications for funding, and then making recommendations to Cabinet in regard to how CIL money is spent.**

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**Matter 2.2: Delivery and Infrastructure; Issue 2.3: Planning Obligations (Policy SW9)**

**Are any amendments to the Infrastructure Schedule necessary?**

In order to clarify the situation regarding Welsh medium education secondary provision, the Council considers that it is appropriate to add the proposed extension at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun to the Infrastructure Schedule that is proposed to be included as Appendix 6 of the LDP Written Statement in the Council's Hearing Statement for Matter 2. Further amendments have been included to update the indicative cost for the provision of a new footbridge/cycle path across the River Taff (Policy SW3.1 Hoover Factory Site). This replaces an early estimate used prior to the completion of the Hoover Strategic Regeneration Area strategic site viability assessment and further research undertaken on bridge construction costs. For completeness and constancy with policy SW12 the safeguarding of the Cwm Bargoed rail line and rail head (Policy SW12.6) has also been included in Table 2.

The LDP Infrastructure Schedule proposed to be included as Appendix 6 is shown below. Amendments have been shown and bold and underlined text.

Appendix 6 – Infrastructure Schedule

The following tables highlight the pieces of infrastructure that are required in order to deliver the housing and employment allocations included in the Plan. Information is included in regard to the types of infrastructure works required; indicative costs and anticipated timescales for delivery. This schedule should be considered alongside Appendix 1 – Site Allocation Details.

**Table 1: Site Specific Infrastructure**

Housing Allocations

Policy Ref. / Site Name	Total Dwellings	Item	Indicative Cost	Funding Source	Delivery Mechanism	Timescales
Policy SW3.1 Hoover Factory Site	440	New footbridge/cycle path across the River Taff	<del>£4,200,000</del> <b><u>£2,700,000</u></b>	Developer/ Welsh Government	Developer/ Welsh Government	Alongside delivery of housing units during 2026/2027
Policy SW3.2 Sweetwater Park	10	SITE NOW COMPLETE. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.3 Upper Georgetown Plateau	50	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.4 Brondeg	50	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required at junction with	£50,000 - £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside initial completions on-site. Scheduled for 2020/21

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		Heolgerrig Road.		application process.		
Policy SW3.5 Erw Las, Gellideg	10	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.6 Beacon Heights	20	FINAL PHASE OF 14 DWELLINGS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.7 Winchfawr	20	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.8 South of Castle Park	160	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required along Winchfawr Road.	Over £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process./ Potential contribution from CIL	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside initial completions on-site. Scheduled for 2026/27
Policy SW3.9 Cyfarthfa Mews	19	SITE NOW COMPLETE. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.10 Trevor Close	20	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.11 East Street, Dowlais	10	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Minor highway network improvements required at the site.	£0 - £50,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2019/20
Policy SW3.12 St Johns Church	20	SITE NOW COMPLETE. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.13 Victoria House	19	SITE NOW COMPLETE. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.14 Pen y Dre Fields	40	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.15 Goetre Primary School	120	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network	£50,000 - £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2028/29



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		improvements required within the vicinity of the site		through the planning application process./ Potential contribution from CIL	of housing development	
Policy SW3.16 Former Merthyr Care Home	20	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required within the vicinity of the site.	£0 - £50,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2022/23
Policy SW3.17 Haydn Terrace	40	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.18 Former St Peter and Paul Church, Abercanaid	13	SITE NOW COMPLETE. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.19 Twynrobyn	150	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required along Twynrobyn Road	£50,000 - £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside initial completion of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2023/24
Policy SW3.20 Former Mardy Hospital	114	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required along Glasier Road	£50,000 - £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2021/22
Policy SW3.21 Bradley Gardens II	100	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.22 Former St Tydfils Hospital	50	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required within the vicinity of the site	£50,000 - £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2021/22

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Policy SW3.23 Miners Hall	12	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required within the vicinity of the site	£0 - £50,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2022/23
Policy SW3.24 Former Ysgol Santes Tudful	10	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required along Queens Road.	£0 - £50,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2022/23
Policy SW3.25 Sandbrook Place	12	SITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION. 12 SELF BUILD PLOTS, 11 PLOTS ARE ON-SITE AT PRESENT. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.35 Clwydyfagwr, Swansea Road	40	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required along Swansea Road.	£50,000 - £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2024/25
Policy SW3.36 P and R Motors, Pentrebach	22	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.26 Project Riverside	153	DEVELOPMENT NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.27 Railway Close, Walters Terrace	23	SITE NOW COMPLETE. NO FURTHER INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS				
Policy SW3.28 Opp Kingsley Terrace	12	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.29 adj to Manor View, Trelewis	248	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Minor highway network improvements required at the site.	£0 - £50,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2021/22

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Policy SW3.30 Stormtown, Trelewis	80	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required within the vicinity of the site	Over £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process./ Potential contribution from CIL	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2023/24
Policy SW3.31 Cwmfelin	50	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				
Policy SW3.33 Cilhaul	30	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required along Cilhaul.	£50,000 - £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2023/24
Policy SW3.34 Twynygareg/ Oaklands	50	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required around the site.	£50,000 - £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of housing units on site. Scheduled for 2024/25

Employment Allocations

Policy Ref. / Site Name	Size (ha)	Item	Indicative Cost	Funding Source	Delivery Mechanism	Timescales
Policy EcW1.1 Former Hoover Factory Car Park	1.5	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required around the site.	£0 - £50,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of the employment use on site. MTCBC Employment Land Review indicates site could come forward in 3-5 years.
Policy EcW1.2 Goatmill Road	16.98	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required	£0 - £50,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing	Alongside delivery of the employment use on site. MTCBC Employment Land Review indicates site could come forward within 2

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		around the site.		planning application process.	development	years.
Policy EcW1.3 Ffos y Fran	18.85	Standard drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. Local highway network improvements required around the site.	Over £200,000	Developer. Necessary works will be negotiated and conditioned through the planning application process.	Developer will be required to deliver infrastructure as part of construction of housing development	Alongside delivery of the employment use on site. MTCBC Employment Land Review indicates site likely to come forward in 10-15 years.
Policy EcW1.4 Land South of Merthyr Tydfil Industrial Park	3.1	Standard highways, drainage and ground work infrastructure required to serve the development. No additional costs for any on or off-site infrastructure requirements.				

**Table 2: Other Infrastructure**

The following table lists other infrastructure items identified or safeguarded in the Replacement LDP. The development of individual allocated sites included in the Plan is not reliant on any of the following infrastructure proposals, however delivery of these proposals would contribute towards the achievement of the LDP Objectives.

Policy Ref. / Proposal	Description	Indicative Cost	Funding Source	Delivery Mechanism	Timescales
Policy SW12.1 – Active Travel Route improvements	Improvements to Active Travel routes that have been put forward through the MTCBC Active Travel Integrated Network Map	Total TBC. £365,000 secured for first phase of improvements	Welsh Government/ MTCBC	MTCBC. Initial improvements will be delivered using first tranche of funding. Due for completion by 2021	The Active Travel proposals cover the period 2018-2033
Policy SW12.2 – New Merthyr Tydfil Central Bus Station	Construction of a new central bus station for Merthyr Tydfil at the former Hollies health centre/ Police Station site.	£9.8m	MTCBC/ Welsh Government (Wales Infrastructure Investment Fund)	MTCBC. New station is a key priority for MTCBC as part of Town Centre and wider regeneration programmes.	Construction to commence Autumn 2019. Completion due 2021.
Policy SW12.3 – South Wales Metro rail line improvements	Range of improvements along the Merthyr to Cardiff rail line, including installation of passing loops and electrification of the line.	TBC	Welsh Government/ Transport for Wales	Transport for Wales. Proposals will be delivered as part of South Wales Metro Scheme	Due for completion by 2024.
Policy SW12.4 – Proposed new Metro Station	Land is safeguarded at the Northern end of the Hoover factory site for a potential new metro station.	TBC	Welsh Government/ Transport for Wales	Transport for Wales	TBC

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Policy SW12.5 – Park and ride/ Metro Station improvements	Improvements to existing Pentrebach Station including a larger car park; retail floorspace and general station improvements.	TBC (£15m has been secured for a range of projects that includes these proposals)	Welsh Government/ Transport for Wales	Transport for Wales. Proposals will be delivered as part of South Wales Metro Scheme	Due for completion by 2022
<b><u>Policy SW12.6 – Safeguarding of the Cwm Bargoed rail line and rail head</u></b>	<b><u>The Cwm Bargoed rail line and rail head is safeguarded for future freight and passenger use as part of the potential extension of passenger services north of Ystrad Mynach.</u></b>	<b><u>TBC</u></b>	<b><u>Welsh Government/ Transport for Wales</u></b>	<b><u>Potential future metro scheme.</u></b>	<b><u>TBC</u></b>
Policy SW12.7 – Extension of Cwm Bargoed rail line	Land is safeguarded to the North and West of the Cwmbargoed rail line for the potential extension of the existing line to Dowlais Top following the restoration of Ffos y Fran.	TBC	<b><u>Welsh Government/ Transport for Wales</u></b>	<b><u>Potential future metro scheme.</u></b>	TBC
Policy SW12.8 – A465 dualling	Dualling of the Heads of the Valleys trunk road between Dowlais Top and Hirwaun.	£500m	Welsh Government	Welsh Government. Scheme will form the final phase of long term dualling project.	Construction to commence late 2019. Completion due 2023.
<b><u>Policy SW13 - Protecting and Improving Local Community Facilities</u></b>	<b><u>Extension at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in order to increase pupil capacity.</u></b>	<b><u>£10,200,000</u></b>	<b><u>Welsh Government / Merthyr Tydfil CBC/ Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC</u></b>	<b><u>Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC. Proposals will be delivered as part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme.</u></b>	<b><u>Due for completion by 2024.</u></b>

## Appendix 1: Addendum to the Replacement LDP Sustainability Appraisal to update Welsh Language assessments

Initial SA (ISA) Report June 2017 (SD09)

Growth Strategy Assessment (Appendix 4, p115 of the ISA, SD09)

SA Objective	Planning for population decline	Sustainable population growth	Continuation of Existing Enhanced Growth Strategy
	The LDP accepts trend based population projections that anticipate population decline towards the end of the Plan period, and seeks to manage this as effectively as possible. Will require approximately 50-70 dwellings per annum.	The LDP seeks to facilitate and manage a level of sustainable population growth by 2031 (approx. 8% increase).  The level of house building will continue broadly along the lines of recent (10 year average) build rates (150 dwellings per annum).	Continuation of current LDP strategy to build over 200 dwellings per annum and subsequently attempt to manage a population increase of over 15% by 2031.
17. To facilitate services and facilities that support distinctive local culture and the Welsh language.	Population decline is likely to result in a decrease in the number of Welsh speakers in the County Borough.  Also, the low level of investment (given the low level of development proposed) could result in the condition of assets that reflect the cultural significance of Merthyr Tydfil deteriorating or potentially being lost.	The option is likely to attract people into the County Borough, although the LDP cannot directly influence how much of the increased population will be Welsh speakers.  Measures to promote the Welsh language will need to be robustly implemented.  <b><u>Population growth will increase demand for Welsh medium education and it is estimated that the Replacement LDP will generate a need for approximately 40 additional secondary Welsh Medium pupil spaces over the plan period. Whilst positive effects are realised through the increased number of Welsh medium school pupils, this will place additional pressure on Welsh medium school places. The Council's Education department have advised that they are satisfied the overall level of pupil growth in the County Borough can be accommodated, through a combination of utilising existing capacity, and extensions to existing premises where appropriate. Welsh medium secondary education needs are currently met at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Rhondda Cynon Taff. In</u></b>	The level of population increase could see any distinctiveness of local culture be diluted unless measures to promote local culture and Welsh language are robustly implemented.  <b><u>Population growth would increase the number of pupils attending Welsh medium education which would result in positive effects.</u></b> The level of growth proposed is likely to result in investment being attracted to facilitate improvements to assets of cultural significance, however the extra pressure for land for housing <b><u>and other facilities</u></b> may result in some of these assets being lost <b><u>and other negative effects.</u></b> <b><u>This includes, for example, an increase in demand for Welsh medium education which would require additional land for the provision of new and/or extended school sites.</u></b>

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		<p><u>the short to medium term, the additional demand for Welsh secondary provision can be met at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun through a proposed extension that would increase capacity to 1200. Longer term requirements in regard to both Primary and Secondary Welsh Medium Education will need to be monitored by the Council and considered as part of Band C of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme which commences in 2026.</u></p> <p>The level of growth proposed is likely to result in investment being attracted to facilitate improvements to assets of cultural significance.</p>	
Sustainability Effect against objective	? = Uncertain or Unknown Effects	0 = Neutral effect	? = Uncertain or Unknown Effects

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Spatial Strategy Assessment (Appendix 5, p128 of the ISA, SD09)

SA Objective	Urban extension and other small sites	Strategic brownfield site and other small sites	Dispersal of small sites across County Borough
	Majority of housing (upto 1500 dwellings) would be located on an urban extension at Cwm Glo and Glyndyrys SSSI along with associated leisure, retail and tourism development.	Significant proportion of housing (upto 800 dwellings) will be located on a strategic regeneration site (Abercanaid/Pentrebach). The site will also facilitate employment use and leisure facilities and will form a key part of the South Wales Metro proposals.	Housing will be located on a number of sites across the County Borough (approx. 50-150 dwellings per site), the majority of these sites will be situated in the main Merthyr Tydfil settlement.
17. To facilitate services and facilities that support distinctive local culture and the Welsh language.	<p>The option is likely to attract people into the County Borough, although the LDP cannot directly influence how much of the increased population will be Welsh speakers. Measures to promote the Welsh language will need to be robustly implemented.</p> <p>The level of growth proposed is likely to result in investment being attracted to facilitate improvements to assets of cultural significance.</p> <p><b><u>The distribution of growth could be accommodated through the County Borough's existing Welsh medium primary schools. In this respect, the level of growth identified is likely to have a greater impact against this objective. Secondary Welsh medium provision would continue to be met at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Rhondda Cynon Taff in the short to medium term with longer term effects being monitored by the Council.</u></b></p>	<p>The option is likely to attract people into the County Borough, although the LDP cannot directly influence how much of the increased population will be Welsh speakers. Measures to promote the Welsh language will need to be robustly implemented.</p> <p>The level of growth proposed is likely to result in investment being attracted to facilitate improvements to assets of cultural significance.</p> <p><b><u>The distribution of growth could be accommodated through the County Borough's existing Welsh medium primary schools. In this respect, the level of growth identified is likely to have a greater impact against this objective. Secondary Welsh medium provision would continue to be met at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Rhondda Cynon Taff in the short to medium term with longer term effects being monitored by the Council.</u></b></p>	<p>The option is likely to attract people into the County Borough, although the LDP cannot directly influence how much of the increased population will be Welsh speakers. Measures to promote the Welsh language will need to be robustly implemented.</p> <p>The level of growth proposed is likely to result in investment being attracted to facilitate improvements to assets of cultural significance.</p> <p><b><u>The distribution of growth could be accommodated through the County Borough's existing Welsh medium primary schools. In this respect, the level of growth identified is likely to have a greater impact against this objective. Secondary Welsh medium provision would continue to be met at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Rhondda Cynon Taff in the short to medium term with longer term effects being monitored by the Council.</u></b></p>
Sustainability Effect against objective	0 = Neutral effect	0 = Neutral effect	0 = Neutral effect



Deposit Plan SA Report June 2018 (SD06)

### **Overview of the potential impacts of Allocated Sites**

Paragraph 7.54: Sites perform universally positively against Welsh language Objective 17. This is due to the fact that sites would either provide housing in areas within the catchments of either of the 2 Welsh primary schools in the County Borough, thereby providing additional potential pupils for these schools, or would provide non-residential development in these areas (retail, employment, tourism etc.), thereby making the areas more attractive places to live, work and visit and therefore support the County Borough as a place of distinctive Welsh culture. This ensures that the LDP has the scope to facilitate services and facilities that support distinctive local culture and the Welsh language.

**7.55 The level of growth proposed will increase demand for Welsh medium education and it is estimated that the Replacement LDP will generate a need for approximately 40 additional secondary Welsh Medium pupil spaces over the plan period. Whilst positive effects are realised through the increased number of Welsh medium school pupils, this will place additional pressure on Welsh medium school places. The Council's Education department have advised that they are satisfied that the overall level of pupil growth in the County Borough can be accommodated, through a combination of utilising existing capacity, and extensions to existing premises. The distribution of growth can be accommodated through the County Borough's existing Welsh medium primary schools given their location in the north and south of the County Borough and capacity (Ysgol Gymraeg Santes Tudful is located in Merthyr Tydfil and Ysgol Rhyd Y Grug in Aberfan). Secondary Welsh medium provision would continue to be met at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Rhondda Cynon Taff in the short to medium term through a proposed extension that would increase capacity to 1200. Longer term requirements in regard to both Primary and Secondary Welsh Medium Education will need to be monitored by the Council and considered as part of Band C of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme which commences in 2026. The Replacement LDP would therefore have the scope to facilitate services and facilities that support distinctive local culture and the Welsh language.**

### **Conclusion: Health, Equalities and Welsh Language Impact Assessment**

Paragraph 9.10: The compatibility analysis for the Deposit Plan vision shows a neutral effect on the Welsh language; however LDP Objective 2 specifically relates to the Welsh language and performs positively in this respect. The Plan is considered likely to attract people into the County Borough and although the Plan cannot directly influence how many will be Welsh speakers, the level of growth proposed is likely to result in investment being attracted to facilitate improvements to community facilities or assets of cultural significance and this will help to retain Welsh speaking residents. Sites perform universally positively in regards to the Welsh language. This is due to the fact that sites would provide housing in areas within the catchments of the 2 Welsh primary schools in the County Borough, thereby providing additional potential pupils for these schools. **The level of growth will increase demand for welsh medium education and it is estimated that the Replacement LDP will generate a need for approximately 40 additional secondary Welsh Medium pupil spaces over the plan period. Whilst positive effects are realised through the increased number of Welsh medium school pupils, this will place additional pressure on Welsh medium school places. The Council's Education department have advised that they are satisfied that the overall level of pupil**

growth in the County Borough can be accommodated, through a combination of utilising existing capacity, and extensions to existing premises. Secondary Welsh medium provision would continue to be met at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Rhondda Cynon Taff in the short to medium term through a proposed extension that would increase capacity to 1200. Longer term requirements in regard to both Primary and Secondary Welsh Medium Education will need to be monitored by the Council and considered as part of Band C of the 21st Century Schools programme which commences in 2026.

**9.11** Additionally the Plan would provide **for** non-residential development in these areas (retail, employment, tourism), thereby making the areas more attractive places to live work and visit and supporting the County Borough as a place of distinctive Welsh culture. ~~This will ensure that the LDP has~~ **The Replacement LDP would therefore have** the scope to facilitate services and facilities that support distinctive local culture and the Welsh language.

#### **Overall summary of the sustainability of the Deposit Plan**

Paragraph 1.10: In terms of the Welsh language, the compatibility analysis for the LDP vision shows a neutral effect on the Welsh language; however LDP Objective 2 specifically relates to the Welsh language and performs positively in this respect. The Deposit Plan is considered likely to attract and retain population in the County Borough. Although the LDP cannot directly influence how many will be Welsh speakers, the level of growth proposed is likely to result in investment being attracted to facilitate improvements to assets of cultural significance and this will help to retain Welsh speaking residents. Sites perform universally positively in regards to the Welsh language. This is due to the fact that sites would provide housing in areas within the catchments of the 2 Welsh Primary schools in the County Borough, thereby providing additional potential pupils for these schools. **Whilst positive effects are realised through the increased number of Welsh medium school pupils, this will place additional pressure on Welsh medium school places. The Council's Education department have advised that they are satisfied that the overall level of pupil growth in the County Borough can be accommodated, through a combination of utilising existing capacity, and extensions to existing premises. Secondary Welsh medium provision would continue to be met at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Rhondda Cynon Taff in the short to medium term. Longer term requirements in regard to both Primary and Secondary Welsh Medium Education will need to be monitored by the Council and considered as part of future investment programmes.** Sites for non-residential development (retail, employment, tourism) will help make the area a more attractive place to live work and visit and will support the County Borough as a place of distinctive Welsh culture. This will ensure that the LDP has the scope to facilitate services and facilities that support distinctive local culture and the Welsh language.