

Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Newydd Cyngnor Bwrdeistref Sirol Merthyr Tudful (2016-2031)
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Replacement Local Development Plan (2016 – 2031)

Further Addendum | Further Addendum
Habitats Regulations | Habitats Regulations
Assessment (HRA) | Assessment (HRA)
Appropriate Assessment | Appropriate Assessment
(Matters Arising Changes) | (Matters Arising Changes)
Medi 2019 | September 2019



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

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CONTENTS

Page number

1. INTRODUCTION	1.
2. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION	1.
3. THE APPROACH TO THE REVIEW	2.
4. AMENDED DEPOSIT PLAN APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENTS – INCORPORATING MATTERS ARISING CHANGES	4.
5. CONCLUSION	28.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report forms a Further Addendum to the Deposit Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report June 2018 (SD12) and the Appropriate Assessment (AA) December 2018 (SD11) Addendum Report prepared to inform the Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (MTCBC) Local Deployment Plan (LDP) 2016 -2031.
- 1.2 Following a number of Examination Hearing Sessions held between June 25th and 21st August 2019, to examine the submitted Replacement LDP comprising the Deposit Plan as amended by the Focused Changes, the Council has proposed additional changes to the Plan arising from matters discussed at the Hearings Sessions. The purpose of this Further Addendum to the HRA Appropriate Assessment is to set out how the proposed 'Matters Arising Changes' (MACs) to the Replacement LDP have been subject to assessment under the Habitats Regulations. This addendum should therefore be read in conjunction with the Schedule of Proposed Matters Arising Changes to the Deposit Plan (September 2019) and the earlier Deposit Plan HRA incorporating AA (document SD11).

2. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The HRA screening undertaken for the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy (PS) concluded that the PS was not likely to adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites, subject to further investigations being undertaken on the following pathways of impact:
- All development allocations in the Deposit Plan must avoid the loss and or have the potential to affect the loss and or degradation of marsh fringing habitat (of relevance to the Aberbargoed Grasslands SAC and Blaen Cynon SAC).
 - Emissions from new industrial development on protected and allocated industrial sites in the Deposit Plan must not directly contribute to the degradation of the environmental conditions of the Brecon Beacons SAC, Coedydd Nedd a Mellt SAC, Cwm Cadlan SAC, and Llangorse Lake/Llyn Syfaddan SAC.
- 2.2 HRA screening was therefore re-run for the Deposit Plan stage, to consider the above pathways and potential significant effects. That report, taking account of information available at that time, concluded that the Replacement LDP is not likely to significantly adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000/European Site either alone or 'in-combination' with other plans and projects.
- 2.3 In the light of the decision of the European Court of Justice in *People Over Wind and Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta* (c322/17)¹ decision the Council considered it necessary to revise the HRA screening work to incorporate the requirements of

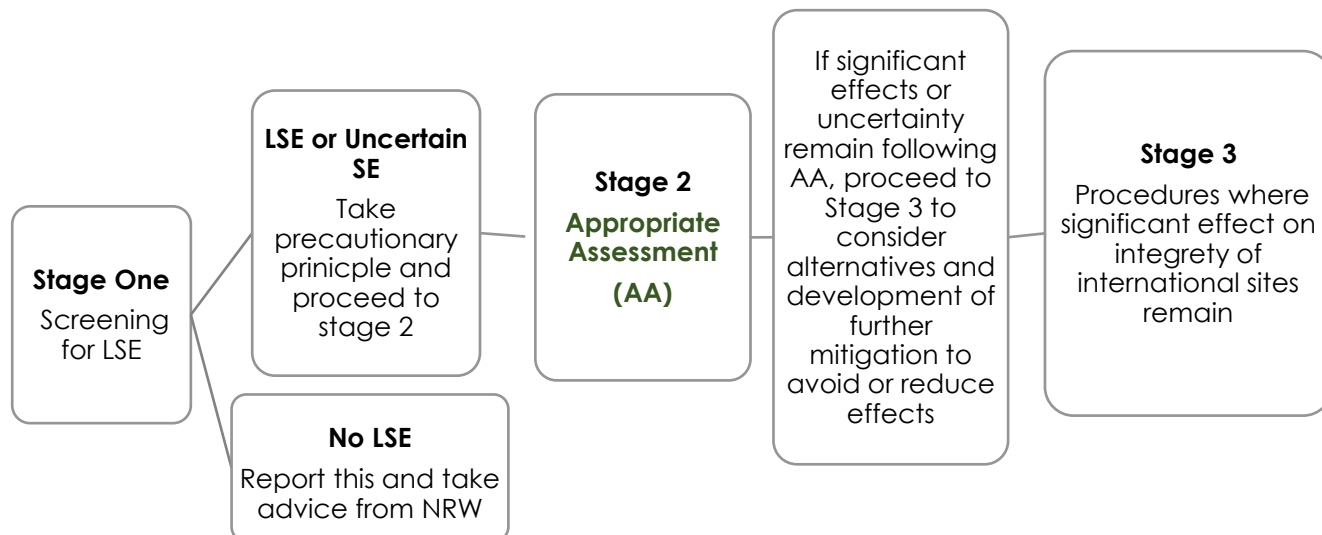
¹ Judgement of the Court (High Court Ireland) *People Over Wind and Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta* (c322/17)

Appropriate Assessment (AA) in order to consider the potential for the LDP to adversely affect the above matters either alone or 'in-combination' with other plans, policies or projects. The HRA Report Addendum (incorporating AA) December 2019 discounted all significant effects and concluded that it was not necessary to examine further options for mitigation (i.e. Stage 3 HRA).

- 2.4 A number of the proposed Matters Arising Changes amend policies or propose to delete or add new site allocations to the Plan. Therefore, in line with the requirements of the Habitats Directive (92/43/ECC) (European Economic Community, 1992), as out set by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (UK Government, 2017), the Council has updated and amended the relevant Appropriate Assessments for these policies in order to consider whether there would be any likely significant effects on Natura 2000/European Site, either alone or 'in-combination' with other plans and projects.

3. THE APPROACH TO THE REVIEW

- 3.1 The method and approach used for screening is based on Welsh Government Guidance and emergent practise, which recommends that the HRA is approached in three main stages:



- 3.2 This report considers the Matters Arising Changes under **Stage 2 - AA** as set out below:

- If the plan will not significantly affect European sites **proceed without further reference to Habitats Regulation.**
- If significant effects or uncertainty remain consider alternatives and development of further mitigation options under **stage 3.**

- 3.3 Table 4.1 provides an updated Appropriate Assessment for those policies, proposals and allocations which have been amended by the MACs, setting out whether there would be likely significant effects on Natura 2000/European Site, either alone or 'in-combination' with other plans and projects.
- 3.4 Following adoption of the Replacement Plan, monitoring will be undertaken through the LDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and Plan Review process. Frameworks to monitor effectiveness of the first Replacement LDP policies and the 18 Sustainability Objectives are attached to the Deposit Plan Written Statement (as amended by Matters Arising Changes) (see - section 7, September 2019) and the Deposit Plan Sustainability Appraisal Report (section 8, June 2018) respectively. Any failing policies will be identified through AMRs and amended where necessary as part of future Plan review processes.

4. AMENDED DEPOSIT PLAN APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENTS – INCORPORATING MATTERS ARISING CHANGES

TABLE 4.1: APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT' OF MATTERS ARISING CHANGES TO POLICES, PROPOSALS AND ALLOCATIONS OF THE DEPOSIT PLAN**Key issues to consider:**

1. The loss and or degradation of marsh fritillary habitat.
2. Emissions from new industrial development on protected and allocated industrial.

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p><u>Policy SW 1: Provision of New Homes</u></p> <p>To sustainably grow our population, 2250 additional homes are required. To ensure these are delivered, provision is made for 2820 2821 additional homes.</p> <p>(MAC4.1)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed MAC is a consequential change arising from changes to housing allocations within the Plan, however the overall level and distribution of growth remains unchanged. • The policy will have no direct effect because development is dependent on implementation of lower tier policies. 	<p>Indirect potential effects arising from a growth in housing development are increased air pollutants from development and a growth in traffic movements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies SW11 & SW12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport which will act in mitigation. • Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things, to the lowest acceptable level. • Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent 	<p>None</p>

Policies affected by MACs				Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect																																				
					development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable.																																					
<p><u>Policy SW 2: Provision of affordable housing.</u></p> <p>During the plan period, the Local Development Plan will make provision for up to 251 253 affordable dwellings across the County Borough in order to contribute to the identified level of housing need.</p> <p>(MAC4.2)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The proposed MAC is a consequential change arising from changes to housing allocations within the Plan, however the overall level and distribution of growth remains unchanged.				The policy does not explicitly involve new development proposals but provides the anticipated level of affordable housing that the planning system can provide locally.	N/A	None																																				
<p><u>Policy SW3: Sustainably Distributing New Homes</u></p> <p>New homes will be concentrated within the main settlement of Merthyr Tydfil (Primary Growth Area). A significant proportion of these (circa 800) will be delivered within the 'Hoover Strategic Regeneration Area:</p> <table><tr><th>Site No.</th><th>Site Name</th><th>Dwellings</th><th>Indicative Delivery Timescale</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Hoover Factory Site</td><td>440</td><td>2024 - 2031</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Sweetwater Park, Trefechan</td><td>10</td><td>2017-2019</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Upper Georgetown Plateau</td><td>50</td><td>2021-2023</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Brondeg, Heolgerrig</td><td>50</td><td>2020-2024</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Erw Las, Gollideg</td><td>10</td><td>2022</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>Beacon Heights, Swansea Road</td><td>20</td><td>2017-2022</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>Winchfawr, Heolgerrig</td><td>20</td><td>2024-2030</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>South of Castle Park</td><td>160</td><td>2026-2031</td></tr></table>				Site No.	Site Name	Dwellings	Indicative Delivery Timescale	1	Hoover Factory Site	440	2024 - 2031	2	Sweetwater Park, Trefechan	10	2017-2019	3	Upper Georgetown Plateau	50	2021-2023	4	Brondeg, Heolgerrig	50	2020-2024	5	Erw Las, Gollideg	10	2022	6	Beacon Heights, Swansea Road	20	2017-2022	7	Winchfawr, Heolgerrig	20	2024-2030	8	South of Castle Park	160	2026-2031	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The policy places the most significant level of housing development in and around the existing Merthyr Tydfil urban area. There is therefore potential for the concentration of development to lead to an overall increase in harmful air pollutants, e.g. through	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policies SW11 & SW12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which will act in mitigation.• Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the	None
Site No.	Site Name	Dwellings	Indicative Delivery Timescale																																							
1	Hoover Factory Site	440	2024 - 2031																																							
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MERTHYR TYDFIL REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2016 - 2031

FURTHER ADDENDUM HRA APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT (MATTERS ARISING CHANGES)

Policies affected by MACs					Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
9	Cyfarthfa Mews, Swansea Road	19	2017-2019		<p>increased traffic movements. The potential for significant impact is however, dependant on the respective site sensitivities and the cumulative impacts of other plans.</p> <p>• The policy will steer/ place small scale development in existing settlements away from European sites and associated sensitive areas.</p> <p>• There are no Natura 2000 sites within close proximity to the allocations.</p>	<p>lowest acceptable level.</p> <p>• Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable.</p>	
10	Trevor Close, Pant	20	2020-2022				
11	East Street, Dowlais	10	2020				
12	St Johns Church, Dowlais	20	2019				
13	Victoria House, Dowlais	19	2017				
14	Pen Y Dre Fields, Gurnos	40	2025-2026				
15	Goetre Primary School, Gurnos	120	2029-2031				
16	Former General Hospital	20	2023				
17	Haydn Terrace, Penydarren	40	2024-2026				
18	Former St Peter and Paul Church, Abercanaid	13	2017				
19	Twynyrodyn	150 120	2024-2028 2021-2024				
20	Former Mardy Hospital, Twynyrodyn	114	2017-2022				
21	Bradley Gardens 2, Penyard	100 90	2029-2031 2025-2027				
21	Bradley Gardens 2, Penyard	100 90	2029-2031 2025-2027				
22	Former St Tydfils Hospital	50	2022-2024				
23	Former Miners Hall	12	2023				
24	Former Ysgol Santes Tudful,	10	2022-2023				
25	Sandbrook Place	12	2018-2021				
35	Clwydyfagwr, Swansea Road	40	2022-2024				
36	<u>P and R Motors, Pentrebach</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>2027-2028</u>				
37	<u>Land South of Bryniau Road, Pant</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>2024-2027</u>				
38	<u>Land North of Ty Llwyd, Incline Top</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>2023-2026</u>				
	Sub Total	1569 1578					
<p>New homes will also be directed to our other settlements of Troedyrhiw, Merthyr Vale and Aberfan, Bedlinog, and Edwardsville, Quakers Yard, Trelewis and Treharris. The following sites are allocated for residential development within the 'Other Growth Area':</p>							

Policies affected by MACs				Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
Site No.	Site Name	Dwellings	Indicative Delivery Timescale			
26	Project Riverside, Merthyr Vale	153	2020-2023			
27	Walters Terrace, Aberfan	23	2018			
28	Opposite Kingsley Terrace, Aberfan	12	2020-2022			
29	Adjacent to Manor View, Trelewis	248	2017-2029			
30	Stormtown, Trelewis	80	2023-2026 2028-2031			
31	Cwmfelin, Bodlinog	30	2027-2029			
33	Cilhaul, Treharris	30	2024-2025			
34	Oaklands, Treharris	50	2025-2027			
39	<u>Y Goedwig, Edwardsville</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>2014-2026</u>			
	Sub Total	626 618				
Total Policy SW3 Allocations			2195 2196			
(MAC4.5)						
Screening:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The proposed MAC amends the housing allocations within the Plan, however the overall level and distribution of growth remains unchanged. The new sites allocated are all located within existing settlement and built up areas and does not change the overall distribution of housing.• The policy concentrates development in existing urban areas, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas.• The policy is unlikely to result in loss, and/or have the potential to affect the loss and or degradation of marsh fritillary habitat (of relevance to the Aberbargoed Grasslands SAC and Blaen Cynon SAC.)• The allocations included in this policy will not directly result in loss, and/or have the potential to affect the loss and or degradation of marsh fritillary habitat (of relevance to the Aberbargoed Grasslands SAC and Blaen Cynon SAC).						

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p><u>Policy SW 4: Settlement Boundaries.</u></p> <p>To encourage development within urban areas, support the re-use of previously developed land, and to protect and support the functioning of our rural economy and the countryside, settlement boundaries will be defined as follows:</p> <p>Primary Growth Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merthyr Tydfil. Trefechan. <p>Other Growth Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Troedyrhiw. Aberfan and Merthyr Vale. Quakers Yard, Edwardsville, Treharris and Trelewis. Bedlinog. <p>Outside defined settlement boundaries, proposals will be regarded as 'countryside development' and will not be permitted unless the development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is for the purposes of agriculture or forestry; is associated with rural enterprises or the winning and working of minerals; is for the re-use, adaptation, or replacement of rural buildings and dwellings; supports the expansion of an existing business in the countryside; is for low-impact tourism, recreation or leisure facilities or complementary development where the need for a countryside location is fully justified in accordance with Policy EcW7; is for the provision of public utilities, infrastructure or waste management facilities that cannot reasonably be located elsewhere; is required for the reclamation or treatment of unstable or contaminated land; is for renewable energy in accordance with Policy EcW8; is for affordable housing in accordance with Policy SW5; or is low impact One Planet Development. <p>Where 'countryside development' is acceptable in principle, the proposal must also satisfy other relevant plan policies. (MAC6)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is potential for the concentration of development to lead to an overall increase in harmful air pollutants, e.g. through increased traffic movements. The potential for significant impact is however, dependant on the respective site sensitivities and the cumulative impacts of other plans. This policy concentrates development in existing settlements/ urban areas with a focus around the main Merthyr Tydfil settlement. Focusing on existing urban areas by definition steers development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies SW11 & SW12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which will act in mitigation. Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. 	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MAC brings the policy in line with national policy with regards to tourism, recreation or leisure developments in the countryside and seeks to ensure the plan is internally consistent and clarifies the requirements for considering such proposals. • The policy concentrates development in existing urban areas and requires proposals in the countryside to be fully justified, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas. • The policy is unlikely to result in loss, and/or have the potential to affect the loss and or degradation of marsh fritillary habitat (of relevance to the Aberbargoed Grasslands SAC and Blaen Cynon SAC). 	<p>away from European sites and sensitive areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nearest Natura 2000 sites to Merthyr Tydfil town are Blaen Cynon, Cwm Cadlan and the Brecon Beacons. The policy is for limited growth (that will not generate significant increases in traffic in settlements located at a distance from the nearest SAC, Aberbargoed Grasslands which is also separated from development at Trelewis by the conurbation of the settlement of Bargoed. 		
<p><u>Policy SW6 – Hoover Strategic Regeneration Area</u></p> <p>The Hoover Strategic Regeneration Area is identified on the key diagram to facilitate a major mixed-use development comprising of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 440 new homes, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is potential for development to lead increase in harmful air 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies SW11 & SW12 seek to reduce the emissions through 	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local convenience retail provision of 409 400 sqm, New employment development on 6.5 hectares of land, Pentrebach Station Park and Ride, Provision of a new footbridge to Abercanaid; and Safeguarded land for a new Metro station; and <u>A minimum of 1.79 ha of open space.</u> <p>Development proposals will be required to incorporate the following sustainable placemaking design principles:</p> <p>Movement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate a park and ride at an upgraded Pentrebach Metro station that acts as an attractive gateway to the HSRA and Merthyr Tydfil. Integrate the existing railway via a green landscape corridor, and safeguard land for a future Metro station in the north of the HSRA. Create a legible environment through a clear hierarchy of streets that is reinforced by landscaping and the built form. Create a network of pedestrian and cycle routes within the development that improves connections and wayfinding to existing strategic recreational routes (Taff and Trevithick Trail), and provide links within the site and to surrounding areas, including connecting the site across the river through a new bridge for pedestrians and cyclists. <p>Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide for a range of dwelling types to satisfy local needs, while also delivering the plan strategy to develop a new sustainable mixed use community. Deliver a sufficiently high density development, as appropriate, adjacent to a Metro station. Provide a reconfigured public realm to better integrate Pentrebach railway station to the HSRA. Incorporate retail uses to provide for local need and increase natural surveillance over Metro facilities, with the potential for a focal civic square. Deliver distinctive character areas which create a sense of place. Provide employment zones that can accommodate a range of employment types and are adaptable to future need. Reflect the cultural heritage of the site in the design of new development, including 	<p>pollutants, e.g. through increased traffic movements. The potential for significant impact is however, dependant on the respective site sensitivities and the cumulative impacts of other plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development proposed is within the existing urban area. There are no Natura 2000 sites adjacent to this area. 	<p>improved design and more sustainable transport modes which will act in mitigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. 	

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>reflecting the Hoover Factory frontage in the built form, and drawing upon historic built forms such as terraced dwellings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a distinctive and unique environment that can act as a flagship development incorporating high levels of sustainability including, where viable, building integrated renewables, district heating systems, the appropriate re-use of existing employment buildings/land and use of sustainable materials and construction. <p>Green Infrastructure and Open Space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a green perimeter and create a strong central green core for the HSRA. Provide a range of open spaces of sufficient quantity and quality, for play and recreation (including areas of natural play), and where viable, incorporate the retention and management of existing green infrastructure. Reflect the site heritage in the open spaces. Promote new planting throughout the development using distinctive formal and informal planting to support character areas. Establish a green buffer around the existing railway line that has ecological benefit and creates a positive interface between the railway corridor and residential uses. Incorporate the River Taff as a distinctive feature and use the river corridor as <u>a</u> green spine that filters into the development, opening up the riverside and creating an accessible and pedestrian-friendly movement corridor along it. Bring the River setting 'into' the site through incorporating water features/SuDS/watercourses in the public realm. Develop green infrastructure that has the potential to add value and sense of place to the future development. Develop a landscape-led approach that contributes to the sense of place. <p>(MAC9)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed MAC provides additional detail / clarification regarding the HRAS proposals. The policy concentrates development in existing urban areas, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas. The proposals or allocations included in this policy will not directly result in loss, and/or have the potential to affect the loss and or degradation of marsh fritillary habitat (of relevance to the Aberbargoed Grasslands SAC and Blaen Cynon SAC.); The proposals or allocations included in this policy will not directly contribute to the degradation of the environmental conditions of the Brecon Beacons SAC, Coedydd Nedd a Mellt SAC, 			

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
Cwm Cadlan SAC, and Llangorse Lake SAC.			
<p><u>Policy SW7: The former Ivor Steel Works Regeneration Site.</u></p> <p>Appropriate <u>residential-led mixed use re</u>development on the former Ivor Steel Works site in Dowlais will be supported, <u>where the proposals contribute to the regeneration of the local community and are fully justified.</u></p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed MAC provides additional detail / clarification regarding the allocated regeneration site in Dowlais. • The policy concentrates development in existing urban areas, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas. • The proposals or allocations included in this policy will not directly contribute to the degradation of the environmental conditions of the Brecon Beacons SAC, Coedydd Nedd a Mellt SAC, Cwm Cadlan SAC, and Llangorse Lake SAC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy supports development within existing urban areas on brownfield land with existing transport links which reduces the need to travel and the potential for increased emissions arising from a growth in road traffic. • There are no Natura 2000 sites within close proximity to this site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies SW11 & SW12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which will act in mitigation. • Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. • Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. 	None
<p><u>Policy SW9: Planning Obligations</u></p> <p>Where appropriate and having regard to development viability, planning obligations may be sought for:</p> <p>1. On site provision of affordable housing on sites of 10 homes or more at an indicative level of:</p>	The policy does not explicitly involve development.	The policy helps to secure appropriate improvements.	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% in the Primary Growth Area. 5% in the Other Growth Area. <p>2. A financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On sites of between 5 and 9 homes or; On sites of 10 or more homes, where on-site provision is not appropriate. <p>3. The provision and / or improvement of open space on sites of 10 homes or more, <u>where there is an identified need.</u></p> <p>Other relevant obligations not included within the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulation 123 List of Infrastructure. (MAC12)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development management policy does not allocate new development. The MAC seeks to provide clarifications regarding the implementation of the policy. 			
<p><u>Policy SW10: Protecting and improving our open spaces</u></p> <p>Development proposals that would have an unacceptable adverse impact or result in an unjustified loss of open space will not be permitted unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would not cause or exacerbate a deficiency of open space in accordance with the Council's open space standards or; The majority of the open space can best be retained and enhanced through the redevelopment of a small part of the site or; Satisfactory equivalent community benefit or enhanced compensatory provision can be provided in accordance with the Council's open space standards and In all cases, the open space has no significant nature or historic conservation importance. <p>To enable access to nature, the following Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) are proposed:</p>	This policy approach implicitly protects the natural environment.	The policy helps to avoid the need for mitigation or secures appropriate improvements.	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>1. Bryngolau LNR, Merthyr Vale.</p> <p>2. Cefn Glas LNR, Treharris.</p> <p>3. Cwm Blaes LNR, Town.</p> <p>4. Cwm Taf and Cefn Coed Tip LNR, Park.</p> <p>5. Cwm Taf Fechan (existing) LNR, Vaynor.</p> <p>6. Goitre Lane LNR, Penydarren.</p> <p>7. Ifor Tip LNR, Dowlais.</p> <p>8. Newlands Park LNR, Penydarren, Dowlais and Town.</p> <p>9. Old Colliery Site Coed y Hendre & Nant Llwynog LNR, Bedlinog.</p> <p>10. Pentrebach/Nant yr Odin Tip LNR, Plymouth.</p> <p>11. Scwrfaf (Gollideg Fields) & Cwm Ffrwd Woodland LNR, Cyfarthfa.</p> <p>12. Y Graig LNR, Gurnos.</p> <p>(MAC14)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed MAC deletes reference to local nature reserves which are to be included under policy EnW3. The development management policy does not allocate new development. The policy is intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, and such enhancements are unlikely to affect a European site. 			
<p><u>Policy SW11: Sustainable Design and Placemaking</u></p> <p>Development must contribute to the creation of attractive and sustainable places through high quality, sustainable and inclusive design.</p> <p><u>Where appropriate</u> New development will be required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> be appropriate to its local context in terms of scale, height, massing, elevational treatment, materials and detailing, layout, form, mix and density; integrate effectively with adjacent spaces, the public realm and historic environment to enhance the general street scene and create good quality townscape; not result in an unacceptable impact on local amenity, loss of light or privacy, or 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development management policy does not allocate new development. The policy provides sustainable design criteria for development that includes 	<p>The policy helps to avoid the need for mitigation or secures appropriate improvements.</p>	<p>None</p>

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>visual impact, and incorporate a good standard of landscape design;</p> <p>4. contribute to the provision of green infrastructure, including open space in accordance with the Council's standards, sustainable drainage systems where appropriate, and ensure that the County Borough's network of green infrastructure is accessible and connected;</p> <p>5. allow access for the widest range of people possible, and demonstrate that any traffic movements will not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity or highway safety and satisfy the Council's parking standards;</p> <p><u>6 incorporate a range of inclusive/adaptable design specifications, a mix of house types, tenures and sizes to meet identified local needs;</u></p> <p>6.7 incorporate resource efficient/adaptable buildings and layouts using sustainable design and construction techniques;</p> <p>7.8 minimise the demand for energy and, where appropriate, utilise renewable energy resources;</p> <p>8.9 provide and protect relevant utility services and infrastructure without causing any unacceptable environmental impacts;</p> <p>9-10. incorporate measures to improve ground and surface water quality wherever possible;</p> <p>10.1. provide adequate facilities and space for waste collections and recycling; and</p> <p>12. promote the creation of healthy and active environments and reduce the opportunity for crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>(MAC17)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed MAC seeks to ensure consideration of housing needs in the design of new residential developments alongside other clarifications. • The development management policy does not allocate new development. • The policy is intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity. • The policy is intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, and such enhancements are unlikely to affect a European site. 	<p>provision for a reduction in the potential indirect effects of construction and development.</p>		
<p><u>Policy SW 12: Improving the Transport Network.</u></p> <p>Development that encourages a modal shift towards sustainable transport will be supported,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This policy safeguards land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or 	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>including the enhancement of pedestrian, cycle, rail and bus facilities, in addition to any necessary road improvements. Development proposals will be expected to demonstrate how they reduce the need to travel and encourage the use of sustainable transport.</p> <p>To support the County Borough's transport network the following schemes are proposed:</p> <p>Walking and cycling</p> <p>1. Existing and proposed Proposed Active Travel Routes <u>Integrated Network Map</u>;</p> <p>Bus and rail</p> <p>2. New Merthyr Tydfil Central Bus Station;</p> <p>3. South East Wales Metro (Merthyr Tydfil Valley line) improvements;</p> <p>4. Safeguarding of land for a new metro station at the Hoover Strategic Regeneration Area <u>(HRSA)</u>;</p> <p>5. Pentrebach Rail Station Park and Ride;</p> <p>6. Safeguarding of the Cwm Bargoed rail line and rail head;</p> <p>7. Safeguarding of land for the future rail line extension (Cwm Bargoed to Dowlais Top); and,</p> <p>Highways</p> <p>8. Safeguarding land for the duelling of the A465 (T) Heads of the Valleys Road. <u>(MAC21)</u></p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed MAC clarifies that only the 'proposed' active travel routes are shown on the Proposals Map. • The proposals are unlikely to result in loss, and/or have the potential to affect the loss and or degradation of marsh fritillary habitat (of relevance to the Aberbargoed Grasslands SAC and Blaen Cynon SAC.) • The proposals included in this policy will not directly contribute to the degradation of the environmental conditions of the Brecon Beacons SAC, Coedydd Nedd a Mellt SAC, Cwm Cadlan SAC, and Llangorse Lake SAC. 	<p>for development of the A 465 (T) Heads of the Valleys in close proximity to Rhondda Cynon Taf and the BBNP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impacts arising from the road, regeneration area improvements and bus station are increases in air pollution generated by a growth in traffic movements on the road and potential effects on migrating species such as the marsh fritillary butterflies. • The policy supports public transport which reduces the potential for increased emissions from road traffic. 	<p>minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies SW11 & SW12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design, more sustainable transport modes which act in mitigation. • Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. • Plans are in place to compensate for the loss of marsh fritillary habitat outside the area in RCT. 	
Policy CW1: Historic Environment			

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>The integrity of our historic environment assets will be conserved and enhanced. Development proposals will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated they would preserve or enhance the architectural quality, character or the historic or cultural importance of our designated historic environment assets.</p> <p>Development affecting within undesigned historic environment assets including, Locally Listed Buildings or structures, Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales, Urban Character Areas and Archaeologically Sensitive Areas must should have regard to their special character and archaeological importance. (MAC23.1)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed MAC seeks to clarify the policy requirements that apply to designation and non-designated historic environment assets. • The development management policy does not allocate new development. • The policy is intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, and such enhancements are unlikely to affect a European site. 	<p>The Policy seeks to control, rather than direct development and is concerned with conservation and preservation of the historic and cultural environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy SW10 seeks to protect open space of historic importance. • Policy SW11 requires new development to effectively integrate with the historic environment. 	None
<p>Policy EnW2: Internationally and Nationally Protected Sites and Species</p> <p>Development likely to have an adverse effect either directly or indirectly on the conservation value of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), including the area, structure and function of designated features, will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no suitable alternative to the proposed development; and • It can be demonstrated that the benefits from the development clearly outweigh the special interest of the site; and • Appropriate compensatory measures are secured; or • The proposal contributes to the protection, enhancement and positive management of the site. 	<p>The Policy seeks to control, rather than direct development and is concerned with conservation and preservation of the natural environment.</p>	<p>The policy helps to promote mitigation or secure appropriate management and compensation.</p>	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>Development proposals likely to affect protected species will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The population range and distribution of the species will not be significantly adversely impacted; • There is no suitable alternative to the proposed development; • The benefits of the development clearly outweigh the adverse impacts on the protected species; and • Appropriate conservation, enhancement, avoidance, <u>minimisation</u>, mitigation and compensation <u>and enhancement</u> measures are provided. <p>(MAC27)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development management policy does not allocate new development. • The policy will steer inappropriate development away from European sites and associated sensitive areas. • The policy is intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity. • The policy is intended to conserve or enhance the environmental designations, and such enhancements are unlikely to affect a European site. 			
<p><u>Policy EnW3: Regionally Important Geological Sites, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, Local Nature Reserves and Priority Habitats and Species</u></p> <p>Development proposals likely to have an adverse impact on Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, <u>Local Nature Reserves</u> and Regionally Important Geological Sites or Priority Habitats and Species will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for the development clearly outweighs the conservation value of the site; • Adverse impacts on nature conservation <u>features</u> and <u>or</u> geological features can be avoided; • Appropriate and proportionate mitigation and compensation measures can be provided; and • The development maintains and where possible enhances biodiversity interests. <p>(MAC29)</p>	<p>The Policy seeks to control, rather than direct development and is concerned with conservation and preservation of the natural environment.</p>	<p>The policy helps to promote mitigation or secure appropriate compensation.</p>	<p>None</p>

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development management policy does not allocate new development. • The policy will steer inappropriate development away from European sites and associated sensitive areas. • The policy is intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity. • The policy is intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, and such enhancements are unlikely to affect a European site. 			
<p><u>Policy EnW4: Environmental Protection</u></p> <p>Development proposals will be required to demonstrate they will not result in an unacceptable impact on people, residential amenity, property and / or the natural environment from either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution of land, surface water, ground water and the air; • Land contamination; • Hazardous substances; • Land stability; • Noise, vibration, odour nuisance and light pollution; or • Any other identified risk to public health and safety. <p>Where impacts are identified the Council will require applicants to demonstrate that appropriate measures can be taken to have been incorporated to reduce, or minimise the impact identified to on the lowest possible acceptable level.</p> <p>Planning conditions may be imposed or legal obligation entered into, to secure any necessary mitigation and monitoring processes.</p> <p>In respect of flood risk, new developments will be expected to avoid unnecessary flood risk and meet the requirements of TAN15. No highly vulnerable development will be permitted within Development Advice Map (DAM) zone C2. Development will only be permitted in areas at risk of flooding where it can be demonstrated that the site can comply with the justification and assessment requirements set out in TAN15.</p> <p>Screening:</p>	<p>The Policy seeks to control, rather than direct development (except in the case of flood zones) and is concerned with the impact of development on people, residential amenity and the natural environment.</p>	<p>The policy helps to reduce, minimise or promote mitigation of impact from air pollution.</p>	<p>None</p>

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The development management policy does not allocate new development.The policy will steer inappropriate development away from European sites and associated sensitive areas.The policy is intended to protect the natural environment.The policy seeks directly address the issue of the impact of new development on air pollution. (MAC30)																					
<p><u>Policy EcW1: Provision of Employment Land</u></p> <p>To support economic development, 30.65 hectares of employment land (for B1 (b), B1(c), B2, B8 uses) is allocated at the following locations:</p> <table><tr><th>Site</th><th>Gross area (Ha)</th><th>Net area (Ha)</th></tr><tr><td>1. Former Hoover Factory Car Park</td><td>1.5</td><td>1.5</td></tr><tr><td>2. Goatmill Road</td><td>16.98</td><td>14.75</td></tr><tr><td>3. Ffos-y-fran</td><td>18.85</td><td>11.3</td></tr><tr><td>4. Land South of Merthyr Tydfil Industrial Estate</td><td>3.1</td><td>3.1</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td></td><td>35.65 Ha</td></tr></table> (MAC33.1)	Site	Gross area (Ha)	Net area (Ha)	1. Former Hoover Factory Car Park	1.5	1.5	2. Goatmill Road	16.98	14.75	3. Ffos-y-fran	18.85	11.3	4. Land South of Merthyr Tydfil Industrial Estate	3.1	3.1	Total		35.65 Ha	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The policy directs development within and around existing urban areas with existing transport links.There is potential for development to lead increase in harmful air pollutants, e.g. through increased traffic movements. The potential for significant impact is however, dependant on the respective site sensitivities and the cumulative impacts of other plans.There are no SACs within proximity to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Policies SW11 & 12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which will act in mitigation.Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level.Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable.	None
Site	Gross area (Ha)	Net area (Ha)																			
1. Former Hoover Factory Car Park	1.5	1.5																			
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3. Ffos-y-fran	18.85	11.3																			
4. Land South of Merthyr Tydfil Industrial Estate	3.1	3.1																			
Total		35.65 Ha																			
<p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The policy concentrates development in existing urban areas, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas.The policy will steer development away from European sites and associated sensitive areas.The allocations included in this policy will not directly contribute to the degradation of the environmental conditions of the Brecon Beacons SAC, Coedydd Nedd a Mellte SAC, Cwm Cadlan SAC, and Llangorse Lake SAC.The proposed MAC clarifies the range of B1 uses allocated at employment sites and is therefore is unlikely to have any implications on European sites and associated sensitive areas.																					

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p><u>Policy EcW2: Protecting employment sites</u></p> <p>In order to protect the employment function of the County Borough's business and employment sites, development will be permitted at Rhydycar Business Park where:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it falls within Use Class B1; or it provides an ancillary facility or service that supports the primary employment use. <p>At Pengarnddu, Pant Industrial Estate, Goatmill Road, EFI Industrial Estate, Cyfarthfa Industrial Estate, Triangle Business Park, Merthyr Tydfil Industrial Park, The Willows/ Abercanaid Industrial Estate, and at allocated employment sites, development will be permitted if:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is within Use Classes B1 (b), B1(c), B2 or B8; or It provides an ancillary facility or service that supports the primary employment use, or It is an acceptable complementary commercial service outside class B uses, or It is an appropriate waste management facility compatible with existing industrial and commercial activities. <p>Development proposals for uses other than those stipulated and that would result in the loss of employment land / premises at the above sites will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the proposal would not lead to an unacceptable change in the nature of the employment site and where the existing use is inappropriate or the land / premises are surplus to the requirements of the employment market. At existing employment sites and premises outside the sites identified development proposals for non B-class uses that would result in the loss of the employment land / premises will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the existing use is inappropriate or the land / premises are surplus to the requirements of the employment market.</p> <p>(MAC33.2)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy concentrates development in existing urban areas, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas. The sites protected in this policy will not directly contribute to the degradation of the 	<p>these areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Policy seeks to control, rather than direct development and is concerned with protecting the existing employment sites in the County Borough. There are no SACs within proximity to these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies SW11 & 12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which will act in mitigation. Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. 	<p>None</p>

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>environmental conditions of the Brecon Beacons SAC, Coedydd Nedd a Mellt SAC, Cwm Cadlan SAC, and Llangorse Lake SAC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed MAC clarifies the range of B1 uses allocated at employment sites and is therefore unlikely to have any implications on European sites and associated sensitive areas. 			
<p><u>Policy EcW3: Retail Hierarchy- Supporting Retail Provision</u></p> <p>Merthyr Tydfil Town Centre is the favoured location for retail, <u>leisure, and other complementary</u> development, being situated at the head of a retail hierarchy and being followed by the local centres of Dowlais, Gurnos, Cefn Coed and Brecon Road/Morgantown, Troedyrhiw, Aberfan, Treharris and a new local centre forming part of the 'Hoover Strategic Regeneration Area'. Proposals for new and enhanced retail, <u>leisure and other complementary</u> provision in all these centres will be permitted where they improve the vitality and viability of the centre(s) concerned.</p> <p>Outside the above centres, proposals will be subject to an assessment of need and a strict application of the sequential test. Proposals will then only be permitted where they avoid causing harm to town/local centre vitality and viability.</p> <p>(MAC35)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development management policy does not allocate new development. The policy concentrates development in existing urban areas, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas. The proposed MAC is unlikely to have any implications on European sites and associated sensitive areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy directs development within and around existing urban areas with existing transport links. There are no SACs within proximity to these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies SW11 & 12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which act in mitigation. Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. 	None
<p><u>Policy EcW4: Retail Allocation</u></p> <p>To support the Hoover Strategic Regeneration Area land is allocated to provide 409 400 sqm for local convenience retail.</p> <p>(MAC37)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy directs development within an urban 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies SW11 & 12 seek to reduce the emissions 	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy directs development within an existing urban area. • The policy concentrates development in an existing urban area, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas. • The allocation included in this policy will not have the potential to affect the loss and/or degradation of marsh fritillary habitat (of relevance to the Aberbargoed Grasslands SAC and Blaen Cynon SAC.) • The proposed MAC is unlikely to have any implications on European sites and associated sensitive areas. 	<p>area with existing transport links.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no SACs within proximity to this area. 	<p>through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which will act in mitigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. • Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. 	
<p><u>Policy EcW5: Town and Local Centre Development</u></p> <p>Development enhancing the vitality and viability of the Town and Local Centres will be supported.</p> <p>Within the Town Centre Primary Shopping Area (PSA) the change of use of the ground floor from A1 to another 'A class' use will be permitted where;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 75% of the commercial uses at street level within the PSA remain A1, and; • There are no more than two adjoining 'non-A1' units in any row of five units, provided there are not more than three 'non-A1' units in any 5 units. <p>Within the PSA and local centres, the change of use of the ground floor to 'non-A1' use classes will only be permitted where:-</p>	<p>The Policy seeks to control, rather than direct development and is concerned with protecting and enhancing the viability and viability of the County Borough's Town and Local Centres.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies SW11 & 12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which act in mitigation. • Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the 	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative provision of at least equivalent value to the local community can be provided nearby, or It can be demonstrated that existing provision is inappropriate or surplus to the needs of the community and is no longer required, or It is demonstrated through active and appropriate marketing that the existing use is no longer economically viable; and The proposal would not result in an over concentration of non-A1 uses that would be detrimental to the vitality, attractiveness and viability of the local centre, and. The proposal would not result in the creation of a dead window frontage; and and viability of neighbouring uses, having regard to the 'agent of change principle'. (MAC38.1) The proposal would not have an unacceptable effect on the amenity <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development management policy does not allocate new development. The policy considers retail development within existing town and local centres and directs development to existing urban areas, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas. The proposed MAC is unlikely to have any implications on European sites and associated sensitive areas. 		<p>impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level.</p>	
<p><u>LDP Policy EcW7: Tourism, Leisure and Recreation Development</u></p> <p>Tourism, leisure and recreation development within settlement boundaries is generally supported, particularly where they aid the revitalisation and regeneration of the Town and Local Centres.</p> <p>Low-impact tourism, leisure and recreation development outside settlement boundaries will be favoured provided the need for a 'countryside location' is fully justified, the proposal # minimises environmental and amenity impacts, maximises positive effects on the local community, economy and environment and is of an appropriate scale to its surroundings. (MAC40)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development management policy does not allocate new development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy generally directs development within an urban area with existing transport links. The policy favours Low-impact tourism, leisure and recreation development outside settlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy SW4 seeks to restrict 'countryside development' Policies SW11 & 12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more sustainable transport modes which act in mitigation. 	<p>None</p>

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy favours development in existing urban areas, directing new development away from European sites and sensitive areas, and favours low-impact tourism, leisure and recreation development outside settlement boundaries where the need for a 'countryside location' is fully justified and it minimises environmental and amenity impacts. 	<p>boundaries where such proposals are fully justified and, for example, minimise environmental impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. 	
<p><u>LDP Policy EcW11: Minerals Development</u></p> <p>Proposals for mineral extraction and associated development will only be allowed where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a proven national, regional or local need for the mineral which cannot be met from existing sources or from secondary or recycled material; <u>In the case of coal resources, there are wholly exceptional circumstances clearly demonstrated that justify its extraction;</u> The potential for minerals to be transported by means other than road has been adequately assessed; They include acceptable proposals for progressive and final restoration, aftercare and beneficial after-use; They satisfy the other relevant policies of the Plan; and They maximise opportunities to re-use and recycle mineral waste. <p>The production and use of alternative and recycled materials will be supported as substitutes for naturally occurring aggregates. (MAC46)</p> <p>Screening:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Policy seeks to control, rather than allocate development and seeks to ensure that minerals development only takes place where appropriate in line with national policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy SW4 seeks to restrict 'countryside development' Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape 	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
The development management policy would be applied to justify new minerals development in line with national policy. The proposed MAC is unlikely to have any implications on European sites and associated sensitive areas.		impacts are unacceptable.	
<p><u>LDP Policy EcW13: Minerals Safeguarding</u></p> <p>Known mineral resource of coal, sandstone, sand and gravel, and limestone are safeguarded as shown on the proposals map.</p> <p>New development will only be permitted in an area of known mineral resource where it has first been demonstrated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Any reserves of minerals can be economically extracted prior to the commencement of development, or, and in the case primary coal resources, there are no wholly exceptional circumstances to justify its prior extraction; or Prior extraction would have an unacceptable impact on environmental or amenity considerations; or The resource in question is of poor quality / quantity; or The development would have no significant impact on the possible future working of the resource by reason of its nature, location or size. <p>(MAC48)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy is a safeguarding / development management policy that does not allocate new development. The changes are to ensure the safeguarding policy is brought in line with national policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy approach safeguards mineral resources and does not indicate the acceptability of working. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy EcW11 seeks to restrict mineral extraction and minimise the environmental impacts of mineral extraction. 	None
<p><u>LDP Policy EcW14: Waste Facilities</u></p> <p>Waste treatment facilities will only be permitted where: there is an identified need, where they are situated in locations where they would not have a significant adverse effect on amenity or the environment, accord with the waste hierarchy, the proximity principle and provide comprehensive restoration and aftercare of the land for a beneficial re-use. Proposals for new facilities should</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy directs development within and around existing urban areas with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies SW11 & 12 seek to reduce the emissions through improved design and more 	None

Policies affected by MACs	Description of Likely Effect	Mitigation Measures	Potential Effect
<p>provide a Waste Planning Assessment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> there is an identified need; they are situated in locations where they would not have a significant adverse effect on amenity or the environment; <u>they</u> accord with the waste hierarchy <u>and</u>, the proximity principle; and <u>appropriate, they</u> provide comprehensive restoration and aftercare of the land for a beneficial re-use <u>and</u>. Proposals for new facilities should <u>they</u> provide a Waste Planning Assessment. <p>The following locations are identified as preferred areas of search for waste management facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pengarnddu Industrial Estate Pant Industrial Estate Goatmill Road Merthyr Tydfil Industrial Park Land adjoining the A4060, Ffos-Y-Fran <p>Land at Trecatti is safeguarded for continued necessary landfill of unavoidable residual wastes. (MAC50)</p> <p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy directs development to existing urban areas, and specifically to existing / allocated employment sites, steering development away from European sites and sensitive areas. The policy will steer development to locations where they would not have a significant adverse effect on amenity or the environment and therefore away European sites and associated sensitive areas. 	<p>existing transport links.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no SACs within proximity to these areas. 	<p>sustainable transport modes which act in mitigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy EnW4 seeks to reduce or minimise the impact of air pollution, amongst other things to the lowest acceptable level. Policies En1 – 3 & 5 prevent development where ecological and landscape impacts are unacceptable. 	

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 In line with the Deposit Plan AA (as amended by the Focused Changes) this updated AA has taken into account the following key issues identified at the HRA screening stage:

- ✿ To avoid the loss / degradation of marsh fritillary habitat, of relevance to the Aberbargoed Grasslands SAC and Blaen Cynon SAC; and
- ✿ Emissions (air quality) impacts arising from new industrial development on protected and allocated industrial sites which may contribute to the degradation of the environmental conditions of Brecon Beacons SAC, Coedydd Nedd a Mellte SAC, Cwm Cadlan SAC, and Llangorse Lake SAC.

5.2 For each of the six relevant Natura 2000 sites within a 15km radius of the County Borough, likely to be affected by the above, the AA process was reviewed and updated to ensure that any likely significant effects arising from Matters Arising Changes (MACs), either 'alone' or 'in-combination' with other policies or proposals (see tables 3 and 4 of the Deposit Plan HRA AA Report dated December 2018), on the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites are avoided. None of the proposed MACs were considered to significantly change the AA of the Deposit Plan or result in any likely significant effects on Natura 2000/European protected sites. Therefore, there is no need for more detailed stage 3 assessments to consider further mitigation or alternatives.