



**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL**  
**RHONDDA CYNON TAF**  
**COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE SUMMONS**

C Hanagan  
Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication  
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council  
The Pavilions  
Cambrian Park  
Clydach Vale CF40 2XX

Meeting Contact: Julia Nicholls - Democratic Services (01443 424098)

**YOU ARE SUMMONED** to a hybrid meeting of **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL** to be held on **WEDNESDAY, 12TH JULY, 2023** at **5.00 PM**.

It is the intention to live stream this meeting, details of which can be accessed [here](#)

**AGENDA**

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No's**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>PAGE(S)</b>
5 Minutes	<b>ITEM 1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b>  To receive disclosures of personal interests from Members in accordance with the Code of Conduct  1. Members are requested to identify the item number and subject that their interest relates to and signify the nature of the personal interest; and  2. Where Members withdraw from a meeting as a consequence of the disclosure of prejudicial interest they <b>must</b> notify the Chairman when they leave.	
5 Minutes	<b>ITEM 2. MINUTES</b>  To approve as an accurate record, the minutes of the hybrid Council Meeting held on 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	3 - 16
5 Minutes	<b>ITEM 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	
<b>OPEN GOVERNMENT:</b>		

10 Minutes	<b>ITEM 4. STATEMENTS</b>  In accordance with Open Government Council Meeting Procedure Rule 2, to receive any statements from the Leader of the Council and/or statements from Cabinet Portfolio Holders:	
20 Minutes	<b>ITEM 5. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS</b>  To receive Members questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.2.  ( <b>N.B</b> a maximum of 20 minutes shall be allowed for questions on notice.)	17 - 24
<b>COUNCIL WORK PROGRAMME - FOR MEMBERS INFORMATION</b>		
<a href="#">Council Work Programme 2023/2024</a> - For Members information		
<b>OFFICERS' REPORTS</b>		
15 Minutes	<b>ITEM 6. ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2022/23</b>  To receive the report of the Deputy Chief Executive & Group Director – Finance, Digital & Frontline Services.	25 - 36
15 Minutes	<b>ITEM 7. REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (RLDP) 2022 - 2037- UPDATE ON NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PLANNING MATTERS AND APPROVAL FOR A DELIVERY AGREEMENT AND TIMETABLE AMENDMENT FOR THE CONTINUED PREPARATION OF THE RLDP.</b>  To consider the report of the Director of Prosperity & Development.	37 - 118
10 Minutes	<b>ITEM 8. CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP</b>  To receive the report of the Service Director Democratic Services & Communication	119 - 122
	<b>ITEM 9. URGENT BUSINESS</b>  To consider any items which the Chair, by reason of special circumstances, is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.	

**Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication**

**To: All Members of the Council**

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF**

## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL**

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 14 June 2023 at 5.00 pm

This meeting was live streamed, details of which can be accessed [here](#)

### **County Borough Councillors – The following Councillors were present in the Council Chamber:-**

Councillor G Hughes (Chair)

Councillor S Evans	Councillor B Stephens
Councillor L Addiscott	Councillor R Bevan
Councillor S Bradwick	Councillor J Brencher
Councillor G Caple	Councillor J Cook
Councillor A Crimmings	Councillor E L Dunning
Councillor R Davis	Councillor L Ellis
Councillor V Dunn	Councillor D Evans
Councillor J Edwards	Councillor S Emanuel
Councillor D Grehan	Councillor S Hickman
Councillor B Harris	Councillor G Holmes
Councillor W Hughes	Councillor K Johnson
Councillor G Jones	Councillor G O Jones
Councillor W Jones	Councillor C Leyshon
Councillor W Lewis	Councillor M Maohoub
Councillor C Lises	Councillor A Morgan
Councillor N H Morgan	Councillor S Morgans
Councillor M Norris	Councillor D Parkin
Councillor A Roberts	Councillor C Preedy
Councillor J Smith	Councillor S Rees
Councillor L A Tomkinson	Councillor G Stacey
Councillor J Turner	Councillor S Trask
Councillor M Webber	Councillor G L Warren
Councillor R Williams	

### **County Borough Councillors – The following Councillors were present online:-**

Councillor M Ashford	Councillor J Barton
Councillor P Binning	Councillor J Bonetto
Councillor S J Davies	Councillor J Elliott
Councillor A Dennis	Councillor A J Ellis
Councillor S Evans	Councillor A Fox
Councillor G Hopkins	Councillor H Gronow
Councillor C Middle	Councillor W Owen
Councillor S Powderhill	Councillor R Lewis
Councillor A O Rogers	Councillor D Owen-Jones
Councillor W Treeby	Councillor G E Williams
Councillor D Wood	Councillor T Williams
Councillor R Yeo	

### **Officers in attendance**

Mr P Mee, Chief Executive  
Mr B Davies, Director of Finance & Digital Services  
Mr C Hanagan, Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication  
Mr A Wilkins, Director of Legal Services and Democratic Services  
Mr R Waters, Director, Frontline Services

### **Apologies for absence**

Councillor P Evans    Councillor R Evans  
Councillor K Morgan    Councillor M Powell  
Councillor K Webb    Councillor D Williams

## **12 Welcome & Apologies**

The Presiding Member welcomed attendees to the meeting and apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors P Evans, R Evans, K Morgan, M Powell, K Webb and D Williams.

## **13 Declaration of Interest**

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, the following declarations were made pertaining to the agenda:

### **Agenda item 9 - THE TRANSITION TO A SINGLE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD (PSB) FOR CWM TAF MORGANNWG - JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS**

- County Borough Councillor S Bradwick – “I am Chair of the South Wales Fire & Rescue Service”
- County Borough Councillor D R Bevan – “I am a member of the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee”
- County Borough Councillor A Crimmings – “I am a member of the PSB Board”
- County Borough Councillor B Stephens - “I am a member of the PSB Board”

## **14 Minutes**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the hybrid meetings held on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 (4pm and 5pm) and on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023, as an accurate reflection of the meetings.

## **15 Announcements**

The following announcements were made:

- The Leader of the Council, Councillor A Morgan OBE, paid the following

tribute to the late Tyrone O'Sullivan OBE who sadly passed away on the 27<sup>th</sup> May at the age of 77. Tyrone was born into a mining family in Abercwmboi, and he was well aware of the dangers of the pits, losing both his great-grandfather at Maerdy, and also his father at Tower when Tyrone was just 17. Despite this, Tyrone entered the pit as an apprentice electrician and soon became a leading figure in the Union movement – famously never losing a vote for industrial action in 22 years as an underground NUM Branch Secretary. He played a leading role in the 1984-85 strike, eventually organising picketing in Wales, the south of England, Essex, and South Yorkshire. His most infamous accomplishment was persuading the fellow miners of Tower to commit £8,000 each from the redundancy money as the basis for a £1m down payment to take over the Tower site after its closure. The Leader added that as many will remember the sight of the 239 miners marching back to work in January 1995 – a year after the mine shut - following the successful buyout. Tower remained open for a further 13 years, and today the popular Zip World Tower is situated on the site. The Leader recounted a memory with Tyrone during a trip to North Wales and, on behalf of the Local Authority wished to pass his condolences to Tyrone's wife, Elaine and family.

- Councillor A O Rogers, as ward councillor for Tower Colliery, also paid tribute to the late Tyrone O'Sullivan OBE, referring to the many tributes and comments that have been made about him in recent weeks. He added that many would agree his legacy will be his leadership and the fight to keep Tower colliery open and the successful buyout of the mine by the miners. Councillor Rogers spoke of Tyrone's vision for young people having opportunities, to give them a future, to build and develop the communities post mining, such as Zip World providing local employment for the many not the few.
- Councillor R Lewis wished to congratulate Abercynon R.F.C on a successful season of rugby being crowned champions of East Central Division 2 and securing promotion. The whole team, support staff and volunteers have done the whole community proud. Cllr Lewis, on behalf of Cllr Dennis, wished the team well for the next season.
- Councillor S Emanuel, on behalf of Councillor W Jones, congratulated Maggie Davies, a resident from Blaenrhondda who ran the London marathon in memory of her late husband Paul and has raised over £4000 for Brain Bank which is a dementia charity.
- Councillor Ros Davis congratulated Mr David Ferns, who lives in Porth. He completed the London Marathon on 23 April, in 3hrs :40 minute and raised over £600 for Tommy's, the baby charity that funds research into miscarriage, still birth and premature birth. It was an exceptional personal achievement for David and great news for the charity.
- Councillor K Johnson wished to congratulate a young resident of Llantwit

Fardre, Coral Brush-Davies, who has been invited to China as a member of Team GB to compete as a solo amateur in the Elite 2023 Dance World Cup. Cora will be the first ever soloist in her age group to be invited as part of Team GB and is the only Welsh competitor. She will represent Efail Isaf and the Dance Crazy Studios in Llantwit Fardre where her talent has been developed. Councillor Johnson requested the mayor send a letter to Coral on her achievement and sought the permission of the Presiding Member to circulate the details of a Just Giving Page to all Members following the meeting.

- Councillor Sheryl Evans congratulated Abercwmboi RFC on their recent promotion to Division 1 of the Welsh Rugby Union East Central League. This is a well-deserved achievement for the whole team, players, coaches and everyone involved with the Club. Councillor Evans wished them luck for the next season.
- Councillor A S Fox wished to pay tribute to a remarkable young resident from Penrhiwceiber who attends Penrhiwceiber Primary School. Oliver Wilson was born with cerebral palsy 11 years ago and takes on every challenge set before him with a smile on his face. He took part in trials for the England Cerebral Palsy team and has now been selected and offered a place on this prestigious team. Councillor Fox was sure that all Members would like to join him in wishing Oliver every success for the future.
- Councillors G O Jones and E Dunning wished to present a petition on behalf of residents calling on traffic calming measures in Bronllwyn Rd and surrounding streets in Gelli.

## 16 **Members' Questions**

### **1. Question from County Borough Councillor G. E. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

“Ahead of the winter and the preparations for severe weather, will there be an opportunity for Members to have engagement and briefings on the preparations?”

#### **Response from County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

Councillor A Morgan responded that each year, the Council holds an annual briefing session for Elected Members in advance of the winter period. Last year's session was held in November with this year's session to be held earlier, possibly in October. The Leader advised that the primary focus of these sessions is the Council's Winter Maintenance Plan, and this outlines what actions the Council is taking to prepare for inclement weather over the winter months, the roles and responsibilities for Members and Officers, how to share information, directing Members to the out of hours number, how to log issues via

the contact centre and what they are able to offer in support of their communities and to Council Services and staff.

The Leader stressed the importance of achieving as much engagement and participation from Members as possible – he explained that the session is worthwhile and he encouraged all Members to attend. The Leader concluded that though Democratic Services, a date would be confirmed and circulated in due course.

**Supplementary question from County Borough Councillor G Williams:**

“We can’t guarantee that Pentre won’t flood again but the works conducted to the culvert and drainage systems provides much needed peace of mind for the residents in Pentre, could the Leader provide further details of the Council’s preferred option of works?”

**Response from County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

The Leader commented that Pentre was obviously one of the hardest hit communities during Storm Dennis, and of course over subsequent weather events and over £1m has been spent on the area to date. He confirmed the preferred option is bringing a new culvert through the streets which although will be disruptive to residents (which was relayed in the consultation information that was circulated) would alleviate their concerns through face to face and online sessions with Officers and drop-in sessions.

The Leader advised that the scheme will be a multi-million-pound investment in local infrastructure, delivered in phases but the Council has secured significant funding for the scheme this year. The scheme will be necessary in the face of climate change and the need to protect houses and residents. The Leader commented that preparation is key to the scheme and that is why training is essential for Members, as the Leader outlined earlier.

**2. Question from County Borough Councillor J. Cook B.E.M. to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

“What support is available for food banks and similar local schemes in the coming year?”

**Response from County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

The Leader commented that recently he held a key meeting recently to discuss what further support can be provided to local foodbanks and food clubs/pantries where there is a lot of excellent work being undertaken across the county borough to support older persons groups and families. There are a range of grants available for example community groups are able to apply for small grants of up to £500 (up to three times a year) to allow the groups to utilise the money locally.

The Leader advised that the anticipated total financial value of support is in excess of £160,000 and the relevant teams will be working to release these

funds, such as the Food Fund worth £500, which any community organisation can apply for as well as community funds worth up to £1,000.

The Leader wished to commend all the community groups working hard to support families and residents through difficult times and he stressed that the Council is once again looking to provide direct support this financial year with further allocations being made in the future.

**There was no supplementary question**

**3. Question from County Borough Councillor S. Emanuel to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

“Can the Leader please make a statement on capital investment in Rhondda Cynon Taf?”

**Response from County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

The Leader advised that the level of Capital spend is larger than ever, for 2022/23 it totalled £135m. By way of comparison, in 2015/16, the Council’s total capital spend equated to £66.9m. The new 3-year capital programme represents a total investment of £187m for 2023/24 to 2025/26.

The Leader advised that the Council receives large amounts of Capital funding throughout the year, recently receiving over £5m from Welsh Government for active travel (with further details being published shortly). A further bid, in excess of £10m has been submitted for works associated with the tips and a grant worth £5m for flood alleviation projects. He further advised that significant funding for schools is also forthcoming, either fully funded or a shared investment model.

The Leader explained that the programme also includes additional specific investments in areas including Highways, Structures, Parks, Play Areas and Multi-Use Games Areas and other investment areas aligned with the Council’s Corporate Plan. He added that the capital programmes over the last 8 years have averaged out at over £100m per year – so this shows the relentless levels of capital investment that has been going into the communities, improving local infrastructure, boosting local spend for the economy and investing in maintenance costs in the future where the revenue budget is under pressure. The Leader concluded that he is pleased with the way the capital investment is pushed to the front end of services.

**Supplementary question from County Borough Councillor S Emanuel:**

“Blaenrhondda Park has benefitted from the much-needed investment, can the Leader outline what further investments there will be in this very well used and well-loved local Park?”

**Response from County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

The Leader advised that all parks across the county borough have been assessed and this year the council intends to spend £1m on its parks. He



explained that there is a real understanding of what exactly is required, and the money is split across different categories such as infrastructure (such as footways, drainage, fencing), the pavilions (changing rooms). The Leader added that the pavilions are costly therefore only a few are refurbished every year. Another programme involves drainage on pitches and now work on nine each year is undertaken across the county borough.

The Leader concluded that the Council would continue to invest in this area.

**4. Question from County Borough Councillor W. Hughes to the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Council Business, County Borough Councillor M. Webber:**

“Can the Deputy Leader provide an update on the Council’s apprenticeship and graduate programmes?”

**Response from County Borough Councillor M. Webber:**

The Deputy Leader advised that the Apprenticeship and Graduate recruitment for the September 2023 intake has just closed and confirmation that the Council received just over 700 applications for 9 Graduate posts and 49 Apprenticeship opportunities which shows that the Council continues to be an attractive prospect as an employer and residents clearly see us as a good organisation to develop their careers.

The Deputy Leader commented that interviews will be conducted over the next two months with the cohort given a start date of the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023. She added that this Administration’s commitment is to provide another 150 apprenticeship and graduate positions over the course of this Council term. This year’s intake builds on the excellent work already undertaken over previous years to provide well-paid, good quality jobs to our residents.

The Deputy Leader explained that in the last Council term, there was a commitment to create 150 apprenticeship and graduate posts. Between 2018 and 2022, a total of 256 positions were created within the Authority, meaning that the Council far exceeded its commitment. Furthermore, since 2012 when the scheme began, a total of 324 apprenticeships and 125 graduate positions have been created.

The Deputy Leader advised that the Council’s Apprenticeship Programme is widely respected and has been recognised for the outstanding opportunities it provides, with the Council having been crowned Macro Employer of the Year at the Apprenticeship Awards Cymru in both 2018 and 2021. The Council currently support Trivallis with their apprenticeship scheme and have in the past supported Bridgend and Merthyr Councils.

In conclusion, the Deputy Leader commented that Council Officers have attended numerous meetings and conferences to speak about the apprenticeship programme and was proud to confirm that RCT’s Apprenticeship scheme is known as the flagship programme in Wales.

**There was no supplementary question**

**5. Question from County Borough Councillor S. Powderhill to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:**

“Can the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the works to improve Ynysangharad War Memorial Park?”

**Response from County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:**

Councillor Crimmings explained that works on the latest round of major improvements to Ynysangharad War Memorial Park are well advanced and will soon be completed with the work being supported by a significant £1.9m investment package from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Welsh Government’s Transforming Towns fund, and Council contributions. She added that the construction of the new Canolfan Calon Taf is nearing completion, with only the finishing touches and some snagging works remaining. The goal is to have the Centre fully operational during July.

Councillor Crimmings advised that the Centre will provide dedicated classroom space, an outdoor garden with raised flower beds, and a greenhouse with the intention that it will be a community hub that will encourage learning and active community engagement. She added that the old disused and derelict toilet block is being restored and converted into a Parks staff welfare facility and works are almost complete, with the Contractor currently rendering the outside of the building. The Parks staff have relocated all their equipment into the new facility.

Councillor Crimmings commented that the Bandstand and surrounding area have been fully restored, and planting works are currently underway. The timeline design for the Bandstand floor is almost finished, and this feature will be completed over the next few weeks. She added that work continues on the Sunken Garden area restoration - the perimeter walls and footpath repairs are nearing completion, and the new benches have also arrived. The planting is scheduled to commence shortly.

Councillor Crimmings informed Members that the Project Co-ordinator is facilitating the delivery of courses and activities in the park and also preparing for the planning and execution of the Park’s centenary project, which is scheduled to take place on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> August, in conjunction with the “Big Welsh Bite” event. The centenary celebration will feature live music from the bandstand, history walks and talks, and family-friendly activities. It promises to be an exciting event for the community to commemorate the Park’s hundredth anniversary.

**There was no supplementary question**

**6. Question from County Borough Councillor R. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

“In light of the funding shortfall facing councils across Wales for next year, please can the Leader provide an update on discussions with other Council Leaders and Welsh Government?”

**Response from County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:**

The Leader commented that discussions between Welsh Government and Council Leaders are held weekly where they continue to press the case for further investment and greater allocations from Welsh Government. He added that the funding outlook for public services over the next three years appears difficult and based on the three- year comprehensive spending review undertaken by the UK Government, the local authority is currently looking to receive an uplift of 3.1% which would leave the Council short in terms of maintaining services next year.

The Leader advised that the picture is similar across Wales with many local authorities reporting a worse situation than in RCT. The Council has managed to balance its budget this year by prioritising appropriately for Schools and Social Care and taking difficult decisions. He added that there is pressure on services as a result of the potential further rise in interest rates which will impact on borrowing and markets. The Leader advised that regular meetings are held with the finance minister to discuss the funding outlook.

The Leader spoke of the ambiguity over how the UK Government will pay for the NHS pay award in England and how the lack of clarity will impact on the consequential for Wales. He added that this is no way to run public services and he hoped that the next few years will improve but assured Council that lobbying will continue with Central Government. He heralded the worth and value of all local authorities and hoped that there will be a change in direction as public services cannot operate effectively on a shoestring.

**There was no supplementary question due to the lapse of the allotted time.**

**17 Flood Resilience**

The Director of Frontline Services presented the report (supported with a Power Point presentation) with the purpose of providing an update on the Council's actions to mitigate flood risk since Storm Dennis, together with an overview of works undertaken to replace and upgrade flood affected public infrastructure. The Director commented that the report cross references previous reports and commitments following the storm and sets out a programme of works, as contained within the appendices to the report, following the storm events in February 2020 which left over 1,500 properties flooded.

The Director advised that the Council has investigated the flood events and produced a total of nineteen Section 19 Reports, and he referred to the work that has been undertaken in response to the devastation caused by Storm Dennis in 2020 and the areas of capital expenditure with grants and commitments from Welsh Government, together with almost £3m of the Council's own funding.

The Director explained that the four-year capital programme, which will come to an end this financial year, consists of around £84M in total which includes £42M

for direct upgrades and repairs, £20M for coal tips safety works, £14M relating to flood risk management and £4.75M for resilient roads.

The Director referred to Appendix A which provides an overview of the actions reported to Cabinet in December 2020, where they specifically relate to Frontline Services, such as growing its internal capacity at operational level and managing and maintaining the network of drainage assets, developing by laws, raising flood awareness, and enforcement as well as developing a flood risk strategy through a series of consultations, which will be considered by the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.

The Director of Frontline Services continued his update on the infrastructure and flood risks through a series of images via a number of Power Point slides under the following headings, which served to demonstrate the volume of the schemes in hand and ongoing across the county borough:

- February 2020 Storm Events
- Receptor Sites
- Phase 3A Drainage & Clearance
- FAS - Park Lane – Pre-construction/Post construction
- Bronallt Terrace FAS
- Treorchy Phase 1a – Heol Tyle Du
- Heath Terrace FAS
- Cefnpennar Road – Internal Culvert Lining
- Pentre Lining & Culvert Replacement
- Pentre Road Inlet
- Tynyncoed Terrace Culvert Upgrade
- A4059 – Newtown Conveyance Swale
- Rhigos Road Culvert Replacements
- Nant Y Frwd – Allen Street, Mountain Ash Emergency Repairs & Upgrade
- Granville Terrace outfall
- Granville Terrace debris basin
- Campbell Terrace- culvert Inlet
- Cwmbach – Canal Road Inlet
- Bryn Ifor -culvert inlet
- Kingcraft Street - Inlet
- Painters Row – Inlet Improvements
- Tramway Culvert
- Glenboi Pumping Station
- Structures Work – Castle Inn Bridge
- Castle Inn Scour Treatment
- Berw Road – (White Bridge) Pontypridd
- Blaencwm Riverwall Phase 2
- Ynysangharad Park Footbridge
- Tynybryn Culvert Outlet Scour Repair
- Ynyshir Community Route
- Pontypridd Road River Wall – Porth
- Cross Street River Wall – Ynyshir
- Maes-Y-Ffynnon Footbridge
- Llwynceilyn Road Embankment
- Cwm Clydach Bridge Scour Repair
- Nant Clydach Bridge – Ynysybwl Scour
- Sion Street, Pontypridd
- Penydarran Tramroad Bridge, Aberdare

- Gelligaled Park Bridge, Ystrad
- Maerdy Mountain Landslip

Following the visual aids, the Director of Frontline Services stressed the importance of continuing the momentum of the series of works across RCT, as with its unique topography and geography the local authority represents the highest risk of surface water flooding.

Following a detailed discussion on the scale of the works that has been and continues to be undertaken across the county borough, the Leader praised the Director of Frontline Services and the relevant teams (particularly that under the Head of Flood Risk Management and Strategic Projects) that have been heavily involved in the delivery of programmes to address the physical impacts of Storm Dennis on public infrastructure and the mitigation of flood risk.

Following the discussion, the Leader, Group/Deputy Group Leaders and the Presiding Member wished to place on record their thanks to the Director of Frontline Services, Mr Roger Waters who would soon be retiring, they paid tribute to his commitment, dedication and hard work during his long career in RCT and they all wished him a long and happy retirement.

The Presiding Member advised that any outstanding questions could be directed to the Director of Frontline Services following the meeting via the Council Business Unit inbox.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the content of the report and the presentation.

## **18 Council Work Programme 2023/24**

The Service Director Democratic Services & Communication presented for Members' comment and approval, a draft Work Programme on the proposed list of matters requiring consideration by Council for the 2023-2024 Municipal Year. He added that further to that announced at the AGM, additional dates have now been added to the work programme.

During the period outlined, the Service Director advised that the work programme may be subject to change to reflect additional reporting requirements or any legislative changes or business that may arise from considerations of another committee, such as Scrutiny recommendations or those from the Appointments Committee. He added that any changes to business will be agreed by the Proper Officer with final agreement from the Presiding Member and where possible Group Leaders will also be informed of the changes through the municipal year.

In conclusion and following consideration of the report, the Service Director advised that subject to agreement, the items within the 'Miscellaneous' section on the council work programme would be allocated during the municipal year and Members advised accordingly through the regular updates at each Council meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Work Programme for the 2023-2024 Municipal Year and thereafter receive further updates from the Service Director Democratic Services & Communication as appropriate.

## 19 Notices of Motion Reporting Mechanism

The Service Director, Democratic Services & Communications presented the report which sought Council's consideration of the proposals for formally recording and reporting the outcome and effect of the Council's representation made by Members following the adoption and/or referral of a Notice of Motion (NOM).

At the Council meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023, Members supported the motion as presented by Councillors D Grehan and A Rogers in respect of extending the existing reporting mechanism. The Service Director referred to the existing arrangements in place to record the outcomes of motions adopted by Council and where appropriate, those referred to another committee. In the case of a referral to a Scrutiny committee the outcome is currently rereferred back to Council in a substantive report to advise Members of the outcome of the original motion.

The Service Director set out the proposals for those matters which require external correspondence which, it is proposed would follow the same arrangements as those internal matters, the outcomes would be recorded and published to the Council webpages. He added that this matter was recently considered by the Constitution Committee where Members resolved to agree the proposals.

Following consideration of the report it was **RESOLVED** to note the support provided by the Council's Constitution Committee for the revised arrangements.

## 20 THE TRANSITION TO A SINGLE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD (PSB) FOR CWM TAF MORGANNWG - JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS

The Service Director, Democratic Services & Communications presented the report which sought Council's approval of the new arrangements for the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board, following the transition to a single Public Services Board (PSB) for Cwm Taf Morgannwg which now includes Bridgend County Borough Council as part of the footprint, in addition to RCT and Merthyr County Borough Councils.

The Service Director advised of the existing arrangements in place for a joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee between RCT and Merthyr Tydfil Councils which scrutinise and challenge the work of the Public Service Board and its partners, in line with the statutory requirement set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, 2015 and associated statutory guidance. The Service Director added that following a number of discussions between the three unitary authorities, the proposed terms of reference and composition of the committee have been agreed and considered and are set out in the report, which seeks to build on the existing joint scrutiny arrangements.

The Service Director commented that the new joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee will comprise of five Members from each Local Authority in addition to the co-opted members where appropriate, to include citizen representatives, representatives from Natural Resources Wales, the Health Board and South

Wales Fire & Rescue Service. He added that local authorities are also requested to nominate a substitute representative, which will reflect the political balance of the respective Councils. In line with the previous joint arrangements, the Chair will be appointed by the Committee with the Vice Chair being nominated from another local authority.

The Service Director advised that it is proposed that for the next two years, Rhondda Cynon Taf will continue to provide support to the joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee with the opportunity afforded to the other local authorities to review this arrangement at the end of the two-year period.

In conclusion, the Service Director advised that the proposals have been considered by the PSB who were content to support adoption by the respective Councils and in addition to consideration by this Council, the Councils of Merthyr and Bridgend would also be considering similar reports.

Following consideration of the report it was **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree to the creation of a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee comprising elected Members from Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil and Bridgend County Borough Councils to scrutinise the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board;
2. Endorse the Draft Terms of Reference of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee, as set out in Appendix 1, and to make any further comments as felt appropriate;
3. Determine the PSB Statutory members (non-executive) and `invited participants` to serve as co-opted members on the Cwm Taf PSB JOSC as highlighted within section 6 of the report;
4. Agree that the Chair and Vice Chair arrangements, highlighted within section 7 of the report, be taken forward, commencing from the beginning of the 2023/24 Municipal Year;
5. Agree that the support and administrative arrangements, highlighted within section 8 of the report be provided by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, for a 2-year period, commencing from the beginning of the 2023/24 Municipal Year before a review of the arrangements is undertaken;
6. Agree that all Members of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg PSB JOSC be provided with training to assist them in undertaking their new role; and
7. Nominate the following 5 Elected Members, 4 (Labour), 1 (Plaid Cymru) and 1 additional substitute member (Labour), in accordance with the Council's political balance arrangements:

County Borough Councillors D R Bevan, B Stephens, J Bonetto, M Ashford, and K Morgan (Councillor Sheryl Evans as substitute member).

## 21 Annual Report 2022/2023

The Service Director, Democratic Services & Communications presented his report which provided Council with the Annual Report of the Democratic

Services Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year with the opportunity for the Chair and Vice Chair to contribute to the business of the committee. He added that key areas of consideration contained within the report included Members development, Members Services and the support for the non-executive democratic functions of the council for the municipal year.

In his role as the Head of Democratic Services he wished to place on record his thanks to the Democratic Services Committee for the continued support he and the Democratic Services team had received.

Members received County Borough Councillor W Jones and County Borough Councillor M Webber, Chair and Vice Chair respectively of the Democratic Services Committee, to present the annual report for the 2022/2023 Municipal Year.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to note the content of the Democratic Services Committee Annual report for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

## 22 Notice of Motion

**To consider the under-mentioned Notice of Motion standing in the names of County Borough Councillors S Trask and K Johnson:**

Loneliness and social isolation is an issue that makes a huge impact on the mental health of people of all ages, and has grown in prevalence significantly since the coronavirus pandemic. The Welsh Government set up a fund of £500,000 per year for three years to cover the whole of Wales, in order to help tackle the issue. The fund so far has only allocated £22,727 per year in the past 2 years for the entirety of Rhondda Cynon Taf, that equates to around 9p per person in RCT. RCTCBC has each year allocated this to small local groups via its Neighbourhood Network Fund. We applaud the work of these small community groups but feel that the current funding level from the Welsh Government is woefully insufficient to have any widespread impact.

The original 3 -year funding package expires after the financial year 2023/2024.

We therefore move that:

- This council notes that loneliness and social isolation is damaging the mental health of many residents of RCT, and Welsh Government funding does not go far enough to make a real difference.
- This council calls on the Leader of the council to write to Eluned Morgan MS to request the funding level is increased from this year onwards to a level sufficient to make real difference in the lives of RCT residents who benefit from the funding.

Following consideration, it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Notice of Motion.

**This meeting closed at 6.35 pm**

**Councillor G Hughes  
Chair.**

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh



## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### COUNCIL

12 JULY 2023

### MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATION.

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To present the order of questions in respect of the Members Questions on Notice, following the amendment to the process agreed at the [Council AGM 2019](#).

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Receive the Questions and any supplementary questions proposed, as in accordance with the running order advised upon in 4.3 of the report, which should not exceed a 20-minute time period.

#### 3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 As agreed at the Council AGM on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, Members agreed to amend Council Procedure Rule 9.2 in respect of Members Questions on Notice. A further amendment was made to Council Procedure Rule 9.2 at the Council AGM on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in respect of supplementary questions following expiry of the 20 minute time duration. [Council AGM 2021](#)

#### 4. MEMBERS QUESTION ON NOTICE

- 4.1 The closing date for receipt of Members Questions on Notice to the Council Business Unit for the Council meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 was 5pm on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
- 4.2 Twenty-five questions were received and put forward to the Council Ballot held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023, to determine the running order of the questions at the Council Meeting.
- 4.3 The results of the ballot are outlined below, however since undertaking the ballot, the Proper Officer received notification from Councillor L. Addiscott advising that she would like to withdraw her question, which was drawn at 4. The revised order of questions is listed below:

Number	Corresponding Question
1	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Brencher to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Will the Leader update on the commitment to fund 10 PCSOs in RCT and provide an overview of how the Community Wardens service is benefitting our communities?”</p>
2	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Parkin to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Will the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the progress of play area improvements across the County Borough?”</p>
3	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Emanuel to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader provide an update on the progress of the South Wales Metro?”</p>
4	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor A. J. Dennis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“What support and signposting services are available to residents in regards to the cost of living crisis?”</p>
5	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Morgans to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</b></p> <p>“Following the granting of planning approval, can the Cabinet Member outline the next steps for the development of a brand-new school in Ferndale for YGG Llyn-Y-Forwyn?”</p>
6	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D.R. Bevan to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Will the Leader update on the progress of the Tylorstown tip works?”</p>
7	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor W. Lewis to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“How is the Council working with and supporting local food banks through the effects of the Cost-of-Living crisis?”</p>

8	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Maohoub to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader provide an update on the preparations that the Council has undertaken in readiness for the Welsh Government’s 20mph rollout?”</p>
9	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor T. Williams to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Could the Leader provide Councillors with an update on the Shared Prosperity Fund Community Fund?”</p>
10	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor C. Middle to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“What progress is the Council making in achieving its commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030?”</p>
11	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor G. O. Jones to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“We have heard in recent months that the combined impacts of both Brexit and the war in Ukraine are having a profound effect on our construction industry. What does this mean for the Council and how can we mitigate these impacts?”</p>
12	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor P Binning to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R Lewis:</b></p> <p>“The Welsh-language primary school in my ward, YGGG Llantrisant, cannot recruit Teaching Assistants due to the lack of any interest of suitable, Welsh-speaking applicants. They have been trying for a year and there are other schools in the Borough in the same position. Can the Member please let us know if there are any plans to address this situation?”</p>
13	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor K. Morgan to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Should passenger trains be reinstated to Hirwaun and Rhigos, where would the stations for both villages be located?”</p>
14	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor N. H. Morgan to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Will the Leader provide an update on how the Council is progressing its work to upgrade and improve drainage on its highway network?”</p>

15	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor D. Williams to the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Corporate Services, County Borough Councillor T. Leyshon:</b></p> <p>“Would the Cabinet Member provide a further update on the progress of EV charging point rollouts in RCT?”</p>
16	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Smith to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“With the introduction of the Social Partnership and Procurement Bill in Wales, can the Leader please outline what action RCT are taking to ensure compliance with the legislation?”</p>
17	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor H. Gronow to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Could the relevant Cabinet Member please give us an update on fly tipping across the county borough?”</p>
18	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Bonetto to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader please give a roundup on the Winter Welcome Centre scheme in RCT and outline what support the Council can offer residents for the winter ahead?”</p>
19	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor S. Bradwick to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Can the Leader make a statement on bus services in RCT and outline the latest position on providing support to providers?”</p>
20	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor J. Edwards to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>“Would the Leader update on the progress of the Welsh Government funded walking and cycling route along the river through the Rhondda Fach?”</p>
21	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor C. Preedy to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure, County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“Can the Cabinet Member please give an update on the usage of the National Lido of Wales’ and any information on how long the summer season will be this year?”</p>

22	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor C Lises to the Cabinet Member for Environment &amp; Leisure, Council County Borough Councillor A Crimmings:</b></p> <p>“The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Wellbeing plan suggests that at present, we are using our resources in an unsustainable way, and this is contributing to the climate and nature emergencies. The document states that we already have good rates of recycling but there is more we must do to reduce the amount of waste we produce. This Council has three excellent reuse shops, or Sheds at Llantrisant, Aberdare and Treherbert. What plans are there to roll this model out further across the County and to introduce reuse shops back into the town centres as previously found in Pontypridd?”</p>
23	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor M. Powell to the Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A. Morgan OBE:</b></p> <p>"Could the Cabinet portfolio holder for highways say what measures or proposals the RCT Highways department are considering to alleviate the dire traffic congestion problems that the Pontypridd Town centre has been enduring for many, many years please?"</p>
24	<p><b>Question from County Borough Councillor E. L. Dunning to the Cabinet Member for Education, Youth Participation and Welsh Language, County Borough Councillor R. Lewis:</b></p> <p>“Will the Cabinet Member please make a statement on outreach work and detached youth service provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf, particularly in the Ystrad area?”</p>

- 4.4 At the Council meeting a maximum of 20 minutes shall be allowed for Questions on Notice. Any questions that are not dealt with in this time limit shall fall. Any questions on notice not answered will need to be resubmitted to the Proper Officer for the next full Council meeting in accordance with these rules.

## **5. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

- 5.1 The amendments to the Council Procedure Rule in respect of Members Questions was considered and agreed at the Council’s AGM 2019 and AGM 2021, following consultation with the Constitution Committee.

## **6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The amendment to the Council procedure rule taken forward at the Council AGM, allows the opportunity for more Members to ask a question at Council

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

## **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

8.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.2.

**9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES.**

9.1 The opportunity for Members to propose questions at Council meetings allows Members to receive information which potentially detail the Council priorities. It also embraces the Future Generations Act as all work and decisions taken by Council seek to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the County Borough.

**10. CONCLUSION**

10.1 Detailing the procedure for Members Questions on Notice assists in transparency for both Members and for public engagement.

**Other Information:-**

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee – Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**12 JULY 2023**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &  
COMMUNICATION.**

**Item: MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Background Papers**

[Council AGM 2019.](#)

[Council AGM 2021](#)

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## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023 / 2024**

**COUNCIL**

**12<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023**

### **2022/23 ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW**

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE & GROUP DIRECTOR -  
FINANCE, DIGITAL & FRONTLINE SERVICES  
AUTHOR: Barrie Davies (01443) 424026**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This report constitutes the statutory requirement to provide Members with information on: -

- the Council's Treasury Management activity during 2022/23; and
- the actual Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2022/23.

#### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 It is recommended that Members:

- a) note the content of the report; and
- b) note the funding arrangements for the Sustainable Communities for Learning programme as set out at section 12.

#### **3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 To report to Council the Annual Treasury Management Review in line with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

## **4.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 4.1 Treasury Management is defined as:  
*“The management of a local authority’s cash flows, its borrowings and its investments, the management of the associated risks, and the pursuit of the optimum performance or return consistent with those risks”.*
- 4.2 This report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities. The Council is required to comply with both Codes through Regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003.
- 4.3 The primary requirements of the Codes are as follows:
- Creation and maintenance of a Treasury Management Policy.
  - Creation and maintenance of Treasury Management Practices, which set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve stated policies and objectives.
  - Approval by Council (by 31<sup>st</sup> March) of:
    - A Treasury Management Strategy Report including Treasury Indicators and an Investment Strategy for the year ahead; and
    - A Capital Strategy Report (including Prudential Indicators) to support the Council’s strategic and financial planning arrangements.
  - Council approval of a Mid-Year Treasury Management Stewardship Report and an Annual Treasury Management Review Report for the previous year.
  - Effective scrutiny of the Treasury Management function.
- 4.4 Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council complies with these requirements and supplements this by including information on treasury activities and prudential indicators in the quarterly Council performance reports to Members.
- 4.5 During 2022/23, the Governance and Audit Committee undertook scrutiny of the Treasury Management function, including treasury / capital strategy and annual / mid-year performance reports.
- 4.6 This annual report will cover the following areas of treasury activity during 2022/23:
- Treasury Management advisors;
  - Economic background;
  - Borrowing strategy;
  - Borrowing activity and results;
  - Estimated and actual treasury position and prudential and treasury indicators;
  - Investment strategy; and
  - Investment activity and results.

- 4.7 It should be noted that the accounting practice to be followed by the Council requires financial instruments in the statutory accounts (debt, investments, etc.) to be measured in a method compliant with International Financial Reporting Standards. The figures in this report are based on the principal amounts borrowed and invested and so may differ from those in the Council's Statement of Accounts.

## **5.0 TREASURY MANAGEMENT ADVISORS**

- 5.1 The Council appointed Arlingclose as its Treasury Management Advisors from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 for the 3 year period up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, with the option to extend for up to 2 years. Following a review of the service provision, the option to extend for a further two years has been agreed.
- 5.2 Since March 2020, the service provided has adapted with strategy meetings taking place virtually and technical updates being carried out via webinars. This practice has continued effectively post pandemic. The Council will continue to monitor the advisor's performance. If any adverse performance or contractual issues arise, Members will be advised accordingly.
- 5.3 The Council recognises that although information and advice is provided via the contract, responsibility for Treasury Management decisions remains with the Council.

## **6.0 ECONOMIC BACKGROUND**

### **6.1 General Economic Background**

- 6.1.1 The UK economic backdrop during 2022/23 was one of high energy and commodity prices and inflation that in turn impacted on household budgets and spending. The conflict in Ukraine was a key factor in contributing to the UK's economic position and relatively weak outlook, and more widely also contributed to keeping global inflation above central bank targets.
- 6.1.2 Central Bank actions remained consistent with combatting inflation. The Bank of England, US Federal Reserve, and European Central Bank all increased interest rates over the period, taking into account the potential for economic slowdowns in these regions.
- 6.1.3 Starting the financial year at 5.5%, the annual CPI measure of UK inflation rose to 10.1% in July 2022 and then 11.1% in October 2022. Inflation remained high in subsequent months and appeared to be past the peak, albeit, remained at 10.1% in March 2023. During the last quarter of the financial year, food and housing costs were some of the largest upward contributors to the annual rate.

- 6.1.4 The unemployment rate eased from 3.8% at the beginning of the year to 3.7% toward the end of the financial year.
- 6.1.5 Earnings were robust throughout the year, with earnings growth in December 2022 to February 2023 at 5.7% for both total pay (including bonuses) and 6.5% for regular pay. Once adjusted for inflation, both measures were negative for that period.
- 6.1.6 The Bank of England official Bank Rate was 4.25% as at March 2023, up from 0.75% at March 2022. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) have increased the Bank Rate at each meeting during the year. The February 2023 Bank of England Monetary Policy Report noted that inflationary pressures remain elevated with growth stronger than was expected.
- 6.1.7 In the financial markets uncertainty continued to be a key driver of market sentiment. Bond yields remained relatively volatile due to concerns over elevated inflation, higher interest rates, the risk of the UK entering a recession and how long the Bank of England would continue to tighten monetary policy. Towards the end of the period, the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank in the US and purchase of Credit Suisse by UBS caused further volatility.
- 6.1.8 The Council continued to maintain a low-risk strategy throughout the year to ensure exposure to risk of any capital loss was minimised.

## 6.2 Short term investment rates

- 6.2.1 The Council's investment income is subject to changes in short term interest rates. The level of the Bank Rate is one of the main determinants of the rate of interest the Council receives on its short-term investments. The latest (June 2023) forward looking estimate of the Bank Rate (currently 5%), provided by our Treasury Management advisors, is for the rate to rise to 5.5% in the autumn and start reducing in quarter 2 of 2024 before falling to a low of around 3% by mid-2025.

## 6.3 Longer term interest rates

- 6.3.1 The majority of the Council's borrowing is from the PWLB (Public Works Loan Board). Long-term borrowing rates are influenced by gilt yields which are driven by inflation and demand/supply considerations.
- 6.3.2 During August 2012, HM Treasury introduced "the certainty rate", whereby local authorities are able to access borrowing at 0.2% cheaper than published PWLB rates. In order to access the discounted rate, authorities

were required to provide Welsh Government (and onward, the Debt Management Office) with an indication of their potential borrowing requirements for the next 3 years.

6.3.3 PWLB loans are no longer available to Councils planning to acquire investment assets primarily for yield or solely for exploiting commercial opportunities.

6.3.4 PWLB maturity loan rates during 2022/23 were as follows (these are the “certainty rates”):

	<b>5 years</b>	<b>10 years</b>	<b>20 years</b>	<b>50 years</b>
Average	3.62%	3.76%	4.09%	3.74%
Highest	5.44%	5.45%	5.87%	5.51%
Lowest	2.18%	2.36%	2.55%	2.25%

## **7.0 BORROWING STRATEGY**

7.1 The borrowing strategy for 2022/23, as included in the 2022/23 Treasury Management Strategy and approved by Council on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022, stated that the borrowing requirement to fund the 2022/23 Capital Programme was £18.4m. In line with the capital programme, the borrowing requirement decreased to £15.6m during the year largely due to the re-profiling of the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme (formerly 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools schemes) and slippage in other capital schemes. It was also reported that the Council’s policy will continue to maximise “internal borrowing”, run down cash balances and forego interest earned. This also minimises counterparty risk (risk that an investment may become irrecoverable).

7.2 The Strategy also reported that the Section 151 Officer, under delegated powers, would take the most appropriate form of borrowing depending upon the prevailing interest rates at the time, taking into account advice provided by our advisors and an assessment of risk.

7.3 Affordability and the cost of carry remain important influences on the Council’s borrowing strategy. No new long or short term borrowing was taken during the year.

7.4 The 2022/23 Treasury Management Strategy also reported that the Council has previously taken advantage of debt rescheduling opportunities, for example, to generate savings at minimum risk, and that the Section 151 Officer would monitor prevailing rates for any opportunities during the year based upon information provided by the Council’s Treasury advisors. PWLB loan redemption rates have reduced the attractiveness of early repayments associated with rescheduling and as a result no debt rescheduling took place during 2022/23.

## 8.0 **BORROWING ACTIVITY AND RESULTS**

8.1 A summary of the Council's borrowing activity (excluding Finance Leases) is set out in the table below:

	Opening Balance 01/04/22	Movement	Closing Balance 31/03/2023	Average Debt	Total Interest	Weighted Average Interest
	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M	%
PWLB*	219.307	(10.966)	208.341	213.894	6.797	3.18
Banks LOBO**	31.000		31.000	31.000	1.395	4.50
Banks Fixed Term	54.500		54.500	54.500	2.725	5.00
Local Auths	5.000	(5.000)	0.000	0.425	0.001	0.15
Other***	82.400		82.400	82.400	0.00	0.00
Total	392.207	(15.966)	376.241	382.219	10.918	2.86****

\* The movements in PWLB debt include the repayment of instalments of existing Equal Instalment of Principal (EIP) loans.

\*\* A "LOBO" loan is one where the lender has options to vary the interest rate. If the lender chooses to exercise that option, the borrower has an option to repay.

\*\*\* "Other" relates to Welsh Government (WG) repayable funding for investment in transport (rail) infrastructure works.

\*\*\*\* 3.64% excluding WG repayable funding

8.2 The average interest rate of debt as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 was 2.87% (3.68% excluding WG repayable funding).

8.3 Short term borrowing of £5M at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 was in place to meet day-to-day cash-flow requirements at a rate of 0.15% and was repaid 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022.

8.4 At the end of the year there was no variance reported in the Council's Net Capital Financing Budget of £21.308M.

8.5 There were no opportunities to further reduce the cost of our borrowing via rescheduling during the year.

## 9.0 **ESTIMATED AND ACTUAL TREASURY POSITION AND PRUDENTIAL AND TREASURY INDICATORS**

9.1 During the financial year 2022/23, the Council operated within its limits set out in the 'Capital Strategy Report Incorporating Prudential Indicators' and

'Treasury Management Strategy', both of which were approved by Council on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Details of limits and actual performance are as follows:

	£	2022/23 Actual £
Capital Expenditure 2022/23		135.095M
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023		503.255M

Limit / Indicator	2022/23 Limit / Indicator	2022/23 Actual
Authorised Limit (£) (Limit beyond which borrowing is prohibited)	612.400M	392.660M (at highest point in year)
Operational Boundary (£) (Indicator to ensure Authorised Limit not breached)	455.400M	376.696M (at year end)
External Debt (£)	440.242M	376.242M
Other Long Term Liabilities	<u>0.200M</u>	<u>0.072M</u>
Sub total	440.442M	376.314M
Other: Finance Lease	<u>2.258M</u>	<u>0.382M</u>
Borrowing + Other Long Term Liabilities	442.700M	376.696M
Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream	4.76%	4.60%
Ratio of Net Income from Commercial and Service Investments to Net Revenue Stream	0.28%	0.35%
Long Term Treasury Management Investments (greater than 1 year) (£)	25M	2.1M
LOBO Limit	£50M / 20% of debt portfolio	£31M / 8% of debt portfolio
Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Debt	Under 12 mths 0-70% 12 mths – 2 yrs 0-70% 2-5 years 0-60% 5-10 years 0-70% 10-20 years 0-90% 20-30 years 0-90% 30-40 years 0-90% 40-50 years 0-90%	Under 12 mths 33% 12 mths – 2 yrs 3% 2-5 years 9% 5-10 years 10% 10-20 years 2% 20-30 years 10% 30-40 years 33% 40-50 years 0%

9.2 The indicators and limits have been updated in line with Council approval of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 detailing the funding arrangements for Transport (Rail) Infrastructure works and as reported in the Treasury Management mid-year review.

## **10.0 INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

10.1 The Council manages its investments in-house, investing during 2022/23 in line with the lender criteria as set out in the Treasury Management Strategy approved by Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Investment policy is governed by Welsh Government guidance.

10.2 The Council's temporary cash flows are currently being invested in the Debt Management Account Deposit Facility and other Government backed public sector bodies. The Council supplements this strategy with lending to organisations subject to Section 151 officer determination, following appropriate due diligence and subject to appropriate and acceptable security arrangements being put in place. This low-risk strategy was determined balancing risk and return. It is acknowledged that low risk investment strategies result in lower investment returns.

10.3 During the year, the Council has complied with the approved 2022/23 Treasury Management Strategy and there have been no liquidity difficulties.

## **11.0 INVESTMENT ACTIVITY AND RESULTS**

11.1 The following table shows the overall result of the investment activities undertaken by the Council:

	<b>Interest Received</b>	<b>Average Cash Balance</b>	<b>Return on Investments</b>	<b>Benchmark Return*</b>
	<b>£M</b>	<b>£M</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Cash Balances	1.597	86.965	1.84	2.38

*\* The benchmark return for Local Authority internally managed funds is the average 7-day money market rate.*

11.2 The Economic Background section of this report set out the continuing challenging economic conditions during this period. As a result of these conditions and our low-risk strategy, interest rates on investments have remained relatively low, albeit, have increased in the latter part of the financial year.

11.3 The average return on investments has slightly under-performed the benchmark return over the year.



- 11.4 The £2.1m for “funds invested for greater than 1 year” represents a loan to Cynon Taf Community Housing Group (£2.2m outstanding, £0.1m of which to be repaid within 12 months).
- 11.5 For measuring the Council’s exposure to interest rate risk, the following table shows the revenue impact of a 1% rise or fall in interest rates:

<b>Interest Rate Risk</b>	<b>Impact £M</b>
One year revenue impact of a 1% rise/fall in interest rates	0.831

11.6 The Council also holds non-specified investments in Cynon Valley Waste Disposal Company Ltd, trading as Amgen Cymru Ltd and Amgen Rhondda Ltd. These are shown in the Council’s draft balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 as £3.045m, under “Investments in Subsidiaries”.

11.7 The Council also holds non-financial investments.

- Non-financial commercial investment in Ty Dysgu, Cefn Coed Business Park, Nantgarw. The building and site has a fair value of £2.980m, with an annual rental of £322k. This asset was reclassified as an investment property on the balance sheet following a change in use of the building.
- The Council has investments it categorises as non-financial and other investments relevant to Council functions. These buildings have a fair value of £22.2m, with an annual rental of £1.7m. They relate to:
  - 50-53 Taff St, Pontypridd;
  - Unit 1 Cambrian Industrial Estate, Clydach Vale;
  - Rhos Surgery, Mountain Ash;
  - Coed Ely Business Units;
  - Robertstown Units;
  - Llys Cadwyn, Pontypridd;
  - 103-110 Taff Street, Pontypridd, and;
  - 13-17 Sardis Road.

**12.0 FUNDING OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING PROGRAMME (FORMERLY, 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES PROGRAMME)**

12.1 This Council continues to successfully deliver new, improved and modern schools to make a significant improvement to the learning environment for our young people.

- 12.2 On the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021, Cabinet considered a report which detailed a significant increase in the approved Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) for Band B of the programme from £167M to £252M. The individual school projects were reported as part of that update, which are being funded by a combination of WG Grant Funding (at 65%) and the WG Mutual Investment Model (MIM) Funding (at 81%, subsequently updated to 83.66%). The Council is also responsible for funding fit out costs at 35% for the MIM projects. The Council's contributions are funded using prudential borrowing and revenue funding respectively. The Council's capital envelope has subsequently been increased by £40.5M.
- 12.3 The individual schemes continue to evolve through the Welsh Government's five case business model and approval process, with procurement processes running alongside to enable the delivery of timetabled on-site development.
- 12.4 Whilst absolute costs are not known until the completion of procurement processes and WG approvals, the overall envelope has previously been agreed by WG and accordingly the Council's contributions in line with the agreed envelope likewise need to be secured to avoid unnecessary delays to the programme.
- 12.5 The Council's contributions to the respective funding packages are and will continue to be built into the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Programme accordingly. On the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022, via the 2021/22 Annual Treasury Management Review report, Council agreed the overall level of contribution of £43.2M borrowing to fund the full programme in line with the detail set out above and up to and within the original overall envelope. Set against this, current borrowing amounts to £30.0M.

### **13 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 13.1 The report provides an overview of the Council's Treasury Management activities during 2022/23 in line with the Strategy reports approved by Council in March 2022. As a result, no Equality Impact Assessment is required for the purposes of this report.

### **14.0 WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 14.1 There are no Welsh language implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

### **15.0 CONSULTATION**

- 15.1 Following consideration by Council, this report will be subject to review by the Council's Governance and Audit Committee.

## **16.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

- 16.1 The financial results / implications of the Council's Treasury Management arrangements in 2022/23 have been incorporated into quarterly Performance Reports during the year and also reported to Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 as part of the 2022/23 Mid-Year Treasury Management Stewardship Report.

## **17.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 17.1 The report ensures the Council complies with its legal duty under the Local Government Act 2003 and in doing so is in line with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

## **18.0 LINKS TO CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT**

- 18.1 This report evidences the progress made in delivering the Council's Corporate Plan – 'Making a Difference' in particular through supporting the 'Living Within Our Means' theme by pursuing optimum treasury management performance or return at the same time as managing associated risk.
- 18.2 The report also supports the Well-being of Future Generations Act in particular 'a globally responsible Wales' through responsible management and investment of the Council's resources.

## **19.0 CONCLUSION**

- 19.1 The 2022/23 financial year has continued to be challenging in relation to Treasury Management and this report highlights for Members that all related activities have operated effectively and within budgetary and prudential limits.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL 12<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023**

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE & GROUP DIRECTOR -  
FINANCE, DIGITAL & FRONTLINE SERVICES**

**Item: 2022/23 ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW**

**Background Papers**

- 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Council meeting – Report: Treasury Management Strategy Incorporating Investment Strategy, Treasury Management Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement for 2022/23.  
[Report.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)
- 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Council meeting – Report: 2022/23 Capital Strategy Report Incorporating Prudential Indicators.  
[Report.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 Council meeting – Report: 2022/23 Mid-Year Treasury Management Stewardship Report.  
[Report.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Officer to contact: Barrie Davies (Deputy Chief Executive & Group Director - Finance, Digital & Frontline Services)

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## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023**

**COUNCIL**

**12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023**

**REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (RLDP) 2022 – 2037. UPDATE ON NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PLANNING MATTERS AND APPROVAL FOR A DELIVERY AGREEMENT AND TIMETABLE AMENDMENT FOR THE CONTINUED PREPARATION OF THE RLDP.**

### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 This report sets out ongoing national and regional planning matters that are having an influence over the preparation of the Revised Local Development Plan 2022 - 2037 (RLDP).
- 1.2 In light of these matters, the report seeks Council approval to make an amendment to the official RLDP Delivery Agreement, specifically its timetable.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Council:

- 2.1 Acknowledge the matters, as set out, that are affecting the preparation of the RLDP in accordance with its approved timetable.
- 2.2 Approve a proposed amendment to the RLDP Delivery Agreement timetable to incorporate an extension period for its preparation. This is set out in the following report in section 5 and in the proposed new Delivery Agreement which is attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.3 Subject to the above, seek necessary Welsh Government agreement to the Delivery Agreement changes.
- 2.4 Authorise the Director of Prosperity & Development to make minor changes to the timetable in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Development and

Prosperity. To request that the RLDP Steering Group are sighted upon any such amendments made by the Director of Prosperity & Development.

### **3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Preparation of the RLDP has continued positively in the past year since it began in April 2022. Considerable evidence preparation and gathering, public and internal engagement and continued assessment of up to 300 proposed development sites has taken place.
- 3.2 Further analysis of the most up to date Issues and Objectives for the RLDP to address/achieve has been undertaken and finalised. Options for the appropriate levels of development growth, alongside options for where this will happen, have been formally prepared.
- 3.3 As Members may recall, the current Delivery Agreement (DA), and the timetable set out within it for the preparation of the RLDP, indicated that the first formal consultation on the Preferred Strategy should be beginning in June or July this year
- 3.4 However, a number of factors have arisen whereby it was considered necessary to re-evaluate how this could be achieved. (as raised in the most recent RLDP Members Steering Group)
- 3.5 Firstly, there are several ongoing matters and proposed changes to national and regional planning policy and guidance and other matters, that have impacted upon our RLDP preparation and resulting in delays.
- 3.6 There are then more general and internal considerations that have arisen that need to be addressed, which have been mostly unforeseen.
- 3.7 Accordingly it has become necessary to seek to extend the agreed timetable for the preparation of the RLDP. The statutory Local Development Plan regulations allow for an expected 3-month 'slippage' period to be added to the timetable at any necessary time. For the reasons set out in this report, it is considered that it is necessary to implement this period now; along with an additional 4 months extension to the overall timetable.
- 3.8 Discussion with, and advice has been taken from, Welsh Government planning officers, indicating that an appropriate period should be considered for timetable extension to ensure that there is no further slippage further down the line of RLDP preparation.
- 3.9 The table in section 5.2 indicates the proposed new timetable. Although this indicates a formal 6 weeks Preferred Strategy consultation to begin in January 2024, (which we will be bound to), we will nevertheless aim for the November 2023 Council for its approval. In doing so, the Strategy itself will be made public then and the instigation of the formal consultation exercise will follow as soon as possible following the Council decision.

3.10 It is also noted that the proposed adoption of the RLDP would be set back to and estimated date of May 2026. However, it should be acknowledged that the Council would approve the Deposit RLDP (the Revised LDP that the Council are approving the principle of), in February 2025, where it would then be published for wide public consultation.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

4.1 This section of the report outlines the matters that are continuing to have an additional, and previously unforeseen effect on the preparation of the RLDP. Many of these are associated with ongoing changes at national and regional levels, in terms of planning policy, guidance, key information and collaborative working.

4.2 Members will be aware that determining where growth in LDPs should be allocated is significantly influenced by national planning policies including Welsh Government's 'Town Centres First' approach. Members may also be aware of the ongoing discussions taking place in respect of a new version of Technical Advice Note 15 (TAN 15) for Floodrisk which creates specific rules for the allocation of land in the RLDP and subsequent planning applications. Earlier draft versions issued by Welsh Government placed significant restrictions on development in flood zones and particularly for uses such as residential, health care and education. Whilst it is clearly important to prevent new development in flood plains, the early drafts also placed significant restrictions on development in our town centres as the majority of them are liable to flooding, being situated alongside rivers. Positive discussions between Council Planning and Flood risk practitioners and Welsh Government have taken place around how the document can be presented in a way that appropriate town centre regeneration can still take place and a new version of the TAN is expected in the New Year. Although we can now make fair assumptions against this expected version, our ability to make progress on growth options has until now been compromised as clearly the Council is supportive of including policies in the new plan that promote new development and regeneration in our town centres.

4.3 More recently, there have been proposed changes to Planning Policy Wales in relation to ecology and biodiversity. This seeks to increase the requirement for ecological enhancement in the planning process. Whilst the Council is clearly committed to promoting biodiversity and ecological enhancements, such requirements still impact on how we assess which sites can and should be allocated in the LDP and until we see the final version of the changes, we are left with levels of uncertainty in how we fully incorporate it into the LDP preparation process.

4.4 Other matters that remain unresolved include:

- the need to work with Councils across CCR to understand the need for regional growth and how the LDP fits into that picture
- incremental release of the 2021 Census information
- clarity on the planning implications of Welsh Government's Roads Review and what this means for strategic development in the north of the Cynon Valley and Llanilid in the south

4.5 Evidence gathered to date has indicated that around 8,500 new dwellings will need to be delivered over the plan period to meet the identified housing need. Existing planning permissions will contribute a lot, although we will need to identify several new sites in the right locations and of the necessary scale. Finding enough development sites that can meet the ever-increasing policy requirements set against the context described above of an uncertain and changing policy position requires a very comprehensive, ongoing and time consuming, assessment approach.

## 5. **Proposed Delivery Agreement Timetable Amendment**

5.1 Given the above factors, and overall scale of work required to be undertaken, we are not in a position to prepare and put out our Preferred Strategy to consultation by the end of July this year. Work has not sufficiently progressed on the strategy itself nor all associated documents and tasks. This would require a period for an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal on the main document and all associated evidence base documents. This would then all be subject to additional administrative processes prior to statutory consultation.

5.2 Accordingly, we need to amend our Delivery Agreement timetable to incorporate an extension period of approximately 7 months overall. The following table sets out the proposed amendments to the timetable. It is noted that the initial change would see the Preferred Strategy consultation stage pushed back to January 2024, hoping that all matters can be resolved appropriately, and to allow for opportunities for Council decision making. For information, the previously agreed dates have been shown, and crossed out, with the proposed new dates below them.

Key Stage	Date
Preparation of the Preferred Strategy	From April 2022
Consultation on the Preferred Strategy	<del>June/July 2023</del> January/February 2024
Preparation of the Deposit Revised LDP	<del>From August 2023</del> March 2024
Consultation on the Deposit Revised LDP	<del>July/August 2024</del> January/February 2025
Submit Revised LDP to Welsh Government	<del>November 2024</del> June 2025
Independent Examination	<del>April/May 2025</del> November/December 2025
Adoption	<del>October 2025</del> May 2026



## **6 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

- 6.1 The RLDP is subject to a bespoke and overarching Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA). This ISA will assess each and every stage of the preparation of the LDP. There are multiple legislative facets to this, including an Equalities Impact Assessment.

## **7. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Another key element of the ISA is to undertake a Welsh Language Impact Assessment and at each stage of the LDP.

## **8. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT**

- 8.1 There has been informal consultation with Welsh Government on the proposed amendments to the Timetable, although they cannot be definitive with their approval of them until RCT have approved them ourselves.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

- 9.1 In general, the financial implication associated with this report and its proposals remain in line with those agreed at the outset of RLDP preparation in April 2022. It is not considered that an extension of the timetable of preparation of the RLDP would incur any significant additional financial implications that aren't budgeted for.

## **10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 10.1 The new LDP will be prepared in accordance with The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004), the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended 2015), Planning Policy Wales 2021, the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) regulations.

## **11. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.**

### ***How the subject of the report will contribute to the delivery of the Council's Corporate Priorities?***

- 11.1 The production of a Local Development Plan will help to deliver the Council's three main corporate priorities of building a strong economy, promoting independence and positive lives for everyone and creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live and work. The production of this land-use plan

will help to stimulate the local economy through market and social house building, as well as providing for employment and retail development across the County Borough. Working together to shape our communities will instil a sense of pride and allow people to live and work independently, wherever they so choose. The LDP will also help to deliver the transport infrastructure that keeps Rhondda Cynon Taf working and moving, in a sustainable way that benefits current and future generations.

### **How the Sustainable Development principle, i.e. the five ways of working has been considered?**

11.2 The Local Development Plan will be a key project demonstrating the 5 ways of working in action:

- Integration - the preparation of the LDP will be bring together all land use planning issues across the County Borough, involving our partners, residents, visitors, employers and service providers in the formulation of the Plan.
- Collaboration - the LDP will be a key collaboration project for the region enabling stakeholders including residents to work together to form a Plan for the County Borough.
- Involvement - preparation of the LDP will provide numerous opportunities to engage with our residents and customers, including the business community and ensuring that we are listening to a wide range of views to inform the plan and decision making process.
- Prevention - the LDP provides an opportunity to understand the root causes of issues and preventing them by being proactive in our thinking and understanding the need to tackle problems at source for example by undertaking needs assessments to inform our priorities.
- Long-term - the LDP will be all about planning for the future and taking a strategic approach to ensure the County Borough is sustainable and that we understand the future need and demand for sustainable development in the region and how that is best met.

### **How the subject of the report seeks to maximise the Council's contribution to seven national well-being goals?**

11.3 The LDP will contribute to the seven well-being goals by working together with other public services and third sector organisations to improve the well-being of everybody in Wales. This new approach seeks to improve public services in a sustainable way, for the benefit of all. The LDP will help to ensure:

- A Prosperous Wales - the LDP will promote a productive, creative and low-carbon society that recognises the limits of our resources and global environment, by ensuring that our finite resources are used efficiently and proportionately. It will also help to develop a skilled, well-educated population to

work within an economy that generates wealth and provides employment opportunities for all.

- A Resilient Wales - the LDP will help to ensure that the region maintains and enhances a bio-diverse natural environment with healthy, functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience with the ability to adapt to change.
- A Healthier Wales - the LDP aims to help build a society in which people's mental and physical well-being is maximised through access to green space, and helps to foster an understanding of choices and behaviours that benefit future health.
- A More Equal Wales - the LDP will seek to enable people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances. It also aims to help communities effectively tackle the loneliness and isolation that can often exist within many of them.
- A Wales of Cohesive Communities - the LDP, via the place-making principle, will help to foster attractive, safe, viable and well-connected communities that improve the well-being of all residents and visitors.
- A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language - the LDP will support a society that promotes and protects our culture, heritage and Welsh language, whilst encouraging people to participate in the arts, sport and recreation.
- A Globally Responsible Wales - the LDP will contribute towards Wales being a nation which, when doing anything to improve our economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being; will take account of whether doing such a thing makes a positive contribution to our global well-being.

**Any other national strategies the subject of the report is seeking to address.**

- 11.4 The Local Development Plan will need to be in general conformity with the aims and objectives of Future Wales – The National Plan, which sits above the LDP in the development plan hierarchy within Wales.

## **12. CONCLUSION**

- 12.1 To conclude, it is requested that Members acknowledge the matters that are affecting the preparation of the RLDP in accordance with its approved timetable, as set out in the report above.
- 12.2 It is then recommended that Members approve a proposed amendment to the RLDP Delivery Agreement timetable to incorporate an extension period for its

preparation. This is set out above in section 5 of the report and in the proposed new Delivery Agreement which is attached as Appendix 1.

- 12.3 Subject to the above, it is then requested that we seek necessary Welsh Government approval of these Delivery Agreement changes.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**12<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023**

**REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (RLDP) 2022 – 2037. UPDATE ON NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PLANNING MATTERS AND APPROVAL FOR A DELIVERY AGREEMENT AND TIMETABLE AMENDMENT FOR THE CONTINUED PREPARATION OF THE RLDP.**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT**

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**Appendix 1**

**Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough  
Council**

**Revised Local Development Plan 2022  
– 2037**

**Delivery Agreement**

**July 2023**

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. The Local Development Plan

- 1.1.1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that Local Authorities prepare a Local Development Plan (LDP) for the Local Authority area. The document provides the development strategy and policy framework for the specified plan period. It is an important land use planning document, which will guide and control development, providing the basis of how planning applications are determined. Once adopted, the LDP provides certainty to the communities of the County Borough regarding where development will be located over the plan period. The LDP will also ensure that the principles of place making and sustainability are at the heart of the plan-making process, reflecting the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 1.1.2. The Council has prepared a Review Report in which the progress of the existing LDP has been considered. The Review Report concluded that a revised LDP was required. This was approved by Council in July 2020. The Council is now preparing a Revised LDP which will cover the plan period 2022-2037. The first stage of this is to prepare a Delivery Agreement in line with Regulation 9 of the LDP (Wales) Regulations 2005. The existing LDP 2006-2021 will continue to be the mechanism for determining planning applications.
- 1.1.3. This Delivery Agreement has been prepared during the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. The Council will adhere to the Government Regulations regarding COVID-19; this includes social distancing and seeking innovative methods to consult during this time. Should additional opportunities arise during the plan preparation process especially where restrictions continue to be lifted, the Council will endeavour to respond to these.

## 1.2. What is a Delivery Agreement?

- 1.2.1. A Delivery Agreement (DA) is a project management tool that must consist of two parts, the Timetable and the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS). The purpose of the DA is to establish the Local Planning Authorities (LPA) early and full engagement and involvement in the preparation of the LDP. The Delivery Agreement must be produced prior to the formal preparation of the LDP, and forms an important and legal part of the process for the preparation of the Plan. Once approved the Delivery Agreement commits the LPA to produce or revise its plan in line with the timescale and community engagement processes.
- 1.2.2. The DA is comprised of the following sections:

**Section A – The Project Management Timetable** for the Revised LDP: The timetable details the stages in the preparation of the LDP and how the plan-making process will be project managed. It sets out in a realistic manner what the Authority

can do in the timescale and with the budgetary and staffing resources available, as well as the corporate framework in which the plan will be prepared. The timetable provides a clear indication of when each stage of the plan preparation process will take place.

**Section B – The Community Involvement Scheme:** The Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) sets out the LPAs principles, strategy and mechanisms for early and continuous community stakeholder involvement in the preparation of the LDP. The purpose of the CIS is to show how, who, and when the LPA will seek the views of its stakeholders including its communities, as the LDP progresses. The CIS is written to maximise collaboration between the Council and its stakeholders, in doing so it will discharge its duty under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

1.2.3. A glossary of terms can be found at Appendix 6.

### **1.3. Stages in the Preparation of the Delivery Agreement**

1.3.1. The preparation of the Delivery Agreement requires a number of steps that are set out below, along with their timescales:

- Preparation of the Delivery Agreement (DA) document including the timetable and the Community Involvement Scheme. (December 2021)
- Political reporting to Cabinet to seek approval of and to consult on the DA (January 2022)
- Consultation of the DA (February 2022).
- Amendments to the DA post consultation and preparation of the initial final document. (February 2022).
- Political reporting of the DA and approval by resolution of the Council (March 2022).
- Submission of the DA to the Welsh Government for approval (March 2022)
- Publication of the approved DA and making the document available for public inspection and official start of the LDP process (April 2022)
- Review the DA on a regular basis.
  - Amendment to DA and timetable (July 2023)

### **1.4. Preparation of a Revised LDP**

1.4.1. In preparation of the Revised LDP, the Council will aim to achieve the following key outcomes;

- Support sustainable development and quality places based around the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes, aligned with national policy (set out in

PPW) integrated with an SA/SEA/HRA, including Welsh language and the requirements of the WBFGA 2015.

- Be based on and underpinned by early, effective and meaningful community involvement in order to understand and consider a wide range of views, with the aim of building a broad consensus on the spatial strategy, policies and proposals.
- Be based on a robust understanding of the role and function of an area(s) including the functional linkages to areas beyond administrative boundaries.
- Be distinctive by having plans setting out clearly how their area will develop and change, giving certainty for communities, developers and business.
- Be resilient to climate change (using the latest UK Climate Projections, flood risk and vulnerability assessment data) and support the transition to a low carbon society in line with the latest carbon reduction targets and budgets as set out in the Environment (Wales) Act (Part 2). The principles of Placemaking, the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy and the Energy Hierarchy as set out in PPW must be adhered to.
- Ensure the sustainable management of natural resources in accordance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and other relevant legislation.
- Deliver what is intended through deliverable and viable plans, taking into account necessary infrastructure requirements, financial viability and other market factors
- Be proactive and responsive with plans, kept up-to-date and flexible to accommodate change.

(Welsh Government, Development Plans Manual, Edition 3, March 2020)

1.4.2. Preparation of the Revised LDP will include consideration of a host of guidance, policy and legislation emanating from the European, national, regional and local level. The Revised LDP will also be guided by the aims and objectives set forth in the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan 2018-2023 entitled *Our Cwm Taf*. These are centred around having *thriving communities, healthy people* and a *strong economy*, with the cross cutting objective of *tackling loneliness and isolation*. The revised plan will also be influenced by the cultural, economic, environmental and social well-being goals and objectives within *Our Cwm Taf*, where they relate to land-use planning.

## 1.5. **Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA)**

- 1.5.1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (s.62) requires the LPA to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of its Revised LDP and report the findings as an integral part of the plan-making process. Policies in the plan are required to address those aspects of sustainable development that can be addressed through the land-use planning system. Consideration of social, economic and cultural implications should be fully considered.
- 1.5.2. In addition to this, Local Authorities are required to comply with European Union Directive 2001/42/EC and the Environmental Assessments of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulation, which require the formal Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the LDP. The scope of the SEA is limited to environmental effects.
- 1.5.3. Both first generation and Revised LDPs have to be subject to an SEA. It is considered by the Welsh Government that an appropriate way of undertaking the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is to incorporate it into the SA. The SA incorporating SEA is a statutory requirement in the preparation of a Revised LDP, to fully assess the social, environmental and economic implications of the Plan's strategy and associated policies. The process ensures that LDP policies reflect the principles of sustainable development, whilst taking full account of any significant effects of the Plan on the environment.
- 1.5.4. The SA process should be fully integrated into the LDP process and reflected in the timetable alongside each stage of the plan preparation process. There are elements of the SA/SEA process, which requires that specific work is undertaken and this needs to be clearly identifiable within the process. These will be reflected in the timetable and engagement plan.
- 1.5.5. There are 5 main stages in the SA/SEA process. These are set out below:
  - Stage A – Scoping. This establishes the baseline evidence and sets the context and objectives.
  - Stage B – Appraisal of Alternatives. Developing and refining options and assessing effects.
  - Stage C – Assessment of the Deposit Plan and preparation of SA Report
  - Stage D – Examination and Adoption
  - Stage E – Monitoring. Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the development plan.

(Welsh Government, Development Plans Manual, Edition 3, March 2020)

## 1.6. **Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)**

- 1.6.1. A Habitats Regulation Assessment is a legal requirement under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the 'Habitats Regulations'). The Local Authority must undertake a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) in order to

assess if the policies and proposals in the LDP will have any significant effect on the integrity of European designated sites.

- 1.6.2. The HRA will not be integrated with the SA due to different legislative requirements. Engagement and consultation with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) will be undertaken throughout the HRA process.

## **1.7. Evidence Base**

- 1.7.1. With the production of a Revised LDP, there will be a corresponding need to update or renew a number of studies/documents contained within the current LDP evidence base, which underpins the plan. In line with previous AMRs, all contextual, policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the adoption of the LDP will also need to be given due consideration, as part of the evidence base updates. The list below illustrates those areas of evidence base documents that are likely to be required, as part of the LDP full revisions process:

- Population Data and Housing Forecasts
- Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA)
- Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment
- Urban Capacity Study
- Settlement Boundary Review
- Sustainable Settlement Hierarchy
- Employment Land Review
- Retail Study Update
- Green Infrastructure Assessment
- Assessment of Environmental Constraints
- Public Open Space Assessment
- Renewable Energy Assessment
- Transport Assessment
- Landscape

- 1.7.2. The list is not definitive nor exhaustive, as the need for additional evidence may present itself throughout the plan-making process.

- 1.7.3. Given that a number of local authorities within South East Wales are currently progressing revised plans, the Council will endeavour to explore possibilities for the joint commissioning of evidence base documents.

## **1.8. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act**

- 1.8.1. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act received Royal Assent in April 2015. The Act requires public bodies to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work more effectively with people, communities and each other, and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate

change. The Act sets seven well-being goals, which it requires public bodies to achieve. These are:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant and thriving Welsh Language
- A globally responsible Wales

1.8.2. It must be demonstrated that the LDP contributes to all of these goals, with the production of the SA alongside the plan providing an understanding of how this contribution can be maximised.

1.8.3. The Act also identifies 5 ways of working, which the LPA is required to demonstrate, these are 'long-term', 'involvement', 'integration', 'prevention' and 'collaboration'.

1.8.4. As a requirement of the Act, a Local Well-being Plan must also be produced; Rhondda Cynon Taf has the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan, 2018-2023, which has been summarised above.

1.8.5. Both the WBFGA and the Local Well-being Plan will be given full consideration through the plan preparation process, including when undertaking engagement.

#### 1.8.6. **Future Wales: The National Plan 2040**

1.8.7. Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 is the National development plan for Wales. It is the highest level development plan in Wales and the LDP will need to accord with the plan and reflect its aims and objectives.

### 1.9. **Tests of Soundness**

1.9.1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that a LDP is subject to an independent examination, to ensure that the Plan is 'sound'. The Revised LDP will be submitted to the Welsh Government, who will appoint an independent Inspector to examine the Plan. The Inspector will determine whether the Plan has been produced in accordance with the legal and regulatory requirements and whether it conforms to the Community Involvement Scheme.

1.9.2. The Inspector will further assess whether the Plan meets the preparation requirements and the three soundness tests, which are:

- Does the plan fit? – Is it consistent with all other plans?
- Is the plan appropriate? – Does the plan address the issues of the area?

- Will the plan deliver? – Will the plan be effective?

1.9.3. There is a fundamental need for a strong evidence base and consultation process. It is also essential to demonstrate the rationale behind the Plan's policies and to assess the outcomes. The conclusions drawn by the Inspector in the final report will be binding on the LPA. Unless the Welsh Government intervene, the LPA must accept the changes and accordingly seek to adopt the Revised Plan at full Council.



## 2. THE TIMETABLE

### 2.1. Introduction

- 2.1.1. The Timetable is a crucial element of plan preparation. It ensures that the plan is produced efficiently and in a structured way
- 2.1.2. There are two stages to the timetable, those that are definitive and those that are indicative. Definitive stages are those up to and including the statutory deposit period. These stages of the process are under the direct control of the Council and therefore the timetable is as realistic as possible. This part of the timetable is firmer as the project management of the process can be monitored and controlled more carefully.
- 2.1.3. Indicative stages are the stages beyond the statutory deposit period. The Council has less control over the later stages of the process, as they are dependent on many factors such as the number of representations that need to be handled and the availability of the Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW). The indicative stages of the timetable will be subject to review as the LDP progresses, and the Council will endeavour to liaise with PEDW, informing them about the progress of the plan as it moves forward.

**Table 1** – Key Stages in the preparation of a Revised LDP

Key Stage	Date
Preparation of the Pre-Deposit Stage of the Revised LDP including the Preferred Strategy	From April 2022
Consultation on the Preferred Strategy	January/February 2024
Preparation of the Deposit Revised LDP	March 2024
Consultation on the Deposit Revised LDP	January/February 2025
Submit Revised LDP to Welsh Government	June 2025
Independent Examination	November/December 2025
Adoption	May 2026

Further details on the projected timescales for plan preparation are set out in **Table 2 in section 5 below**.

### 2.2. Management of the LDP Process

- 2.2.1. The Director of Prosperity and Development will hold overall responsibility for the delivery of the LDP. On a day-to-day basis, the Development Services Manager, (Planning Policy Team) will be responsible for the management of the process under the Head of Planning. The Planning Policy Team will be responsible for the preparation and production of the Revised LDP, with Member engagement and reporting at the relevant stages.

#### Resources and Budget

- 2.2.2. There is a sufficient budget set in place to enable the production of the Plan against the proposed timetable. The continued annual budget would also allow scope for shortfalls in estimated costs and unseen costs that may arise during the long production period of the Plan. Further monitoring will be undertaken to assess expenditure against budget as the RLDP progresses
- 2.2.3. In terms of staff resources, there is an appropriate team of officers in the Council's Strategic Planning Section dedicated to Revised LDP preparation. In addition, a range of other officers in Prosperity and Development, as well as in other Service Areas will also be involved in various aspects of Revised Plan preparation. Where necessary, the Council will employ consultants to undertake appropriate work and advise on the key stages of preparing the RLDP.

#### Risk Assessment

- 2.2.4. The Council considers that its timetable is realistic and deliverable, however the timescales involved are nevertheless challenging. There is inevitably some element of risk that cannot be foreseen, which could witness the plan deviate from the timetable. More detail relating to risk and potential mitigation is outlined at Appendix 3.

### 3. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHEME (CIS)

#### 3.1. Introduction

- 3.1.1. The Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) specifies how the LPA intends to proactively engage with and involve local communities/stakeholders in plan preparation, as part of the Revised LDP. The CIS provides information to interested parties on how the Council intends to consult with interested parties and provides information and certainty on when and how people can have their say throughout the LDP process.
- 3.1.2. Rhondda Cynon Taf firmly believes that community and stakeholder engagement in the plan-making process is fundamental to the success of the Revised LDP. Community involvement will be the cornerstone in addressing any contentious issues that arise as part of the process, in addition to assisting with mediation. Such engagement will also serve to highlight the shared goals and aspirations for the County Borough and expose those areas of common ground upon which consensus can be built.
- 3.1.3. The Development Plans Manual, Edition 3, states that when preparing the CIS LPAs should:
- Create the conditions for early involvement and feedback at a stage when people can shape and influence the plan, based on the 5 ways of working, as set out in the WBFGA 2015
  - Encourage the commitment from all participants to an open and honest debate on realistic development alternatives in search of broad consensus
  - Recognise the need to adopt approaches/techniques for involving all elements of the community (age groups, local community action groups, hard to reach groups and protected characteristic groups) including business, which seeks to involve those not normally involved
  - A one size fits all approach will not be appropriate
- 3.1.4 The LPA has prepared the Community Involvement Scheme during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Council will adhere to the latest Government guidelines and Regulations in terms of its consultation methods such as social distancing rules. The LPA will endeavour to engage the community in innovative ways and will keep the methods under review as the plan preparation is undertaken.

The CIS has been written with regard to achieving these principles.

## **3.2. Lessons Learnt from the Previous Plan**

- 3.2.1. During the preparation of the current LDP, various methods were employed to engage all interested parties. Such methods included the provision of clearly written information, as well as the opportunity to discuss issues, in person, with Council officers. It is considered that the previous methods of consultation were successful and did engage a wide range of individuals and organisations. This is evidenced by the amount of correspondence that the Council received during the process.
- 3.2.2. Since the original CIS however there have been numerous changes, which may make the consultation and engagement process even more effective.
- 3.2.3. The biggest change since the consultations on the previous plan, is the introduction of the Well Being of Future Generation (Wales) Act and the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan. Therefore the consultation approaches and methods used in the production of the new plan will be in conformity with these documents.
- 3.2.4. Social media has grown exponentially since the previous plan along with the Council's online presence generally, and the Council will investigate all opportunities for the use of this platform during the LDP process.
- 3.2.5. The Council further recognises the importance of obtaining the views of the younger generation, as such the Council would like to ensure greater engagement in this regard. This has been made easier since the previous plan with the formation of the RCT Youth Forum.
- 3.2.6. Due to the current situation with COVID-19 some methods of involvement and consultation such as meetings in person and workshops may need greater consideration of how they will be organised, to ensure that Government COVID-19 regulations are met. The Council will explore ways of doing this, and these methods will be reviewed as Government guidance changes. Along with this the use of online methods will be used where appropriate.
- 3.2.7. During engagement events undertaken during 2021 the Council has successfully utilised video conferencing software such as Team and Zoom to undertake meetings, forums and other events. These methods have proven very successful and an efficient way of engaging a large number of people. The Council will continue to use these methods where appropriate.
- 3.2.8. Along with providing information on the LDP website the Council will also utilise online methods of consultation such as the Let's Talk page to engage as widely as possible.

### 3.3. Principles of Engagement

- 3.3.1. The Council is committed to ensuring meaningful community involvement, therefore the Council will ensure that the principles of engagement will conform to the following standards.
- 3.3.2. Along with the principles of the Well-being Act, the principles of the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan will also be reflected. This document states:
- 3.3.3. Rhondda Cynon Taf Council has endorsed the National Principles for Public Engagement in Wales. The principles and standards have been developed and endorsed by the Welsh Government to make sure that participation happens in consistent and effective ways.

1. **Engagement is effectively designed to make a difference** - Engagement gives a real chance to influence policy, service design and delivery from an early stage.
2. **Encourage and enable everyone affected to be involved, if they so choose** - The people affected by an issue or change are included in opportunities to engage, as an individual or as part of a group or community, with their views both respected and valued.
3. **Engagement is planned and delivered in a timely and appropriate way** - The engagement process is clear, communicated to everyone in a way that is easy to understand within a reasonable timescale, and the most suitable method(s) for those involved is are used.
4. **Work with relevant partner organisations** - Organisations should communicate with each other and work together wherever possible to ensure that people's time is used effectively and efficiently.
5. **The information provided will be jargon free, appropriate and understandable** - People are well placed to take part in the engagement process, as they have easy access to relevant information that is tailored to meet their needs
6. **Make it easier for people to take part** - People can engage easily as any barriers for different groups of people are identified and addressed.
7. **Enable people to take part effectively** - Engagement processes should try to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of all participants.
8. **Engagement is given the right resources and support to be effective** - Appropriate training, guidance and support are provided to enable all participants to effectively engage, including both community participants and staff.

**9. People are told of the impact of their contribution** - Timely feedback is given to all participants about the views they express and the decisions or actions taken as a result; methods and forms of feedback should take account of participants' preferences.

**10. Learn and share lessons to improve the process of engagement** - People's experience of the process should be monitored and evaluated, to measure its success in engaging people and the effectiveness of that participation. Lessons should be shared and applied in future engagements.

3.3.4. The Council is also developing Corporate Consultation Standards, which it will publish later in the year. Consultation during the LDP will be consistent with said standards.

### 3.4. **Who should be Involved?**

3.4.1. The LPA is committed to engaging with any person or organisation who has an interest in shaping the future of Rhondda Cynon Taf. The LDP, once adopted, will be used to guide development in the County Borough and will be a key decision making tool for the consideration of planning applications. The Council therefore encourages anyone who wishes to express their views, to do so as part of the preparation of the LDP. The Council will endeavour to ensure that the process is transparent, engaging and accessible to all.

3.4.2. The legal requirements for community involvement and public participation for the LDP are set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended 2015). The Council intends to meet and where possible, exceed these requirements. A list of Specific and General Consultation bodies is set out at Appendix 2.

### 3.5. **Equality**

3.5.1 We aim to treat everyone with dignity and respect, and to operate in an equitable manner. The Council will make every effort to ensure that the plan preparation process is accessible to all. The Council will engage as widely as possible with all sectors of the community to reflect people from a range of backgrounds and identities. Where due to current COVID-19 pandemic restrictions it is not possible to undertake all consultations in person the Council will seek other appropriate methods of engagement to ensure that all members of the community are fully engaged in the process.

### 3.6. **Hard to Reach Groups**

3.6.1. There are particular sections of the community that the Council wishes to ensure are involved in the LDP process, due to their specific needs and/or the fact that they have traditionally been under represented in the planning process.

- 3.6.2. The Council will make every effort to ensure that hard to reach groups are included in the process. Hard to reach groups include:
- Young people;
  - People with disabilities;
  - The elderly;
  - Ethnic minorities;
  - Gypsies and Travellers;
  - People with learning difficulties;
  - Homeless people; and
  - Ex-offenders.
- 3.6.3. Clearly, hard to reach groups are by definition hard to reach and it is not always possible to predict which groups will, in fact, prove difficult to consult with. In order to ensure that the community involvement process is as all-inclusive as possible, the Council will monitor and review the statutory consultation periods throughout the process. Where it is clear that groups have not been represented, the Council will seek to invite such groups into the process.
- 3.6.4. The Council intends to work with its existing partners in the community and develop new partnerships where possible. The preparation of the plan will be closely linked with the work undertaken on the Council's Corporate Plan and Well-being Plan, and where possible, utilise the partnerships that have arisen as a direct result of these plans.

### **3.7. Welsh Language**

- 3.7.1. The Welsh Language Standards were published by the Welsh Language Commissioner as a set of legally binding requirements that have applied from the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The principal aim of the Welsh Language Standards is to ensure that Welsh is not treated less favourably than English, thus ensuring greater consistency in Welsh Language services. The Standards therefore allow individuals to access services via the medium of Welsh, English or bilingually. The Council published *Strategaeth Hybu's Gymraeg/Welsh Language Promotion Strategy* in September 2016, which alongside the Standards, will be adhered to at each stage of the plan-making process.

### **3.8. SA/SEA**

- 3.8.1. Although the SA/SEA approach should be integrated into the LDP preparation process, there are certain areas of work that need to be specifically prepared. Likewise, consultation on the SA/SEA process can be integrated with other LDP consultation periods however there are specific requirements for the involvement of certain consultation bodies.
- 3.8.2. The SEA Regulations identifies the following bodies that require consultation:
- Authorities with 'environmental responsibility', known as the Consultation Bodies. In Wales these are Natural Resources Wales and CADW (SEA Regulation 14);

- The Public (SEA Regulation 13 (2(b))); and
- Other EU Member States where the plan is likely to have significant effects on the Country.



## **4. CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY AND TECHNIQUES**

### **4.1. Introduction**

- 4.1.1. The LPA will employ a number of consultation methods and techniques in order to facilitate community involvement throughout the plan-making process. All methods utilised have been devised in order to ensure effectual, efficient and wide reaching participation.
- 4.1.2. Whilst a number of different techniques will be used to involve the community as a whole, the Council will ensure the provision of clearly written information in accessible locations and ensure that there is the opportunity to discuss issues with members of staff. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Council will, where possible be available in person, subject to regulations set out by the Government such as social distancing. Where this is not possible the Council will seek alternative appropriate methods of engagement such as being available on the telephone and online, to ensure that the community can effectively engage with us in the process.
- 4.1.3. During engagement events undertaken during 2021 the Council has successfully utilised video conferencing software such as Team and Zoom to undertake meetings, forums and other events. These methods have proven very successful and an efficient way of engaging a large number of people. The Council will continue to use these methods where appropriate.
- 4.1.4. Along with providing information on the LDP website the Council will also utilise online methods of consultation such as the Let's Talk page to engage as widely as possible.
- 4.1.5. Listed below are some of the techniques that will be used to consult on the stages of the plan.

### **4.2. STEERING GROUPS**

- 4.2.1. The LPA will host a number of discussion groups, focus groups and workshop sessions in a bid to maximise engagement and ensure a community-led approach, as far as possible. The input of other groups and organisations will also be key to the success of the Revised LDP and the same techniques will be employed to secure their input.

### **4.3. LDP Member Steering Group**

- 4.3.1. The Council will establish a Member Steering Group, in order to guide the formulation of the Revised LDP. This will be made up of a number of appropriate members.

#### **4.4. LDP Officer Steering Group**

- 4.4.1 In order to ensure that the Revised LDP is sustainable and deliverable, the Council will establish a LDP Officer Steering Group. The Group will consist of Council Officers with responsibility for areas including Planning, Highways, Engineering, Drainage and Flood Management, Biodiversity, Economic Development, Housing, Education and Public Health, although this list is not exhaustive. It is anticipated that a series of sub-groups will be created beneath the umbrella of the Steering Group, to assist in key areas of policy development.

#### **4.5. Developer Forum**

- 4.5.1. The LPA will also draw on the knowledge and expertise of those organisations involved in its unique Developer Forum. The Developer Forum was established in 2012, post adoption of the current LDP, to provide innovative solutions to overcoming barriers to housing delivery. Membership of the Forum comprises representatives of volume and local house builders (operating within RCT); the Home Builders Federations; Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) (operating within RCT); National Financial Institutions; the Federation of Master Builders; and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council. The LPA will work with the Forum to establish any obstacles to development that have previously been encountered and analyse any issues that emerge, to assist in the plan-making process, in relation to the Revised LDP.

#### **4.6. LDP Forum**

- 4.6.1. The Council is committed to working in partnership with the community as a whole throughout the plan making process. For this reason, it is proposed to establish an LDP Forum to assist in and inform the development plan process. The Forum will play an important role in ensuring that the LDP reflects the development needs and aspirations of Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 4.6.2. It is anticipated that the role of the Forum will be two-fold. Firstly, it will serve as a mechanism for discussion, which will allow open dialogue to take place between stakeholders on key issues of policy. Secondly, it will act as a control group for the various stakeholders in the development plan process. This Forum will be identified on a focus basis, incorporating further Council Members, Council groups, Specific and General Consultation bodies.

#### **4.7. SA/SEA Working Group**

- 4.7.1. The Council will set up a SA/SEA working group to help guide and inform the SA/SEA process.

#### **4.8. Social Media and online presence**

4.8.1. Social Media presents an opportunity to reach a large number of people in an efficient manner. The Council will use its existing social media platform and other online platforms where appropriate to advertise news and stages of the plan. The use of social media will be in line with the Council's social media policy. The Council however will not accept formal consultation representations made through certain social media platforms which will be made clear on that particular social media platform when this restriction applies.

#### **4.9. Website**

4.9.1. The Council's website will be one of the main sources of information and utilised for consultation throughout the plan process. It will be updated with information about each stage of the plan-making process, as well as hosting all the documents prepared and contain contact information for the Planning Policy Team. The website will also host consultation stages of the plan and include information such as how to make a representation and provide the relevant forms needed to do so. The website will be kept up to date throughout the plan process.

4.9.2. During engagement events undertaken during 2021 the Council has successfully utilised video conferencing software such as Team and Zoom to undertake meetings, forums and other events. These methods have proven very successful and an efficient way of engaging a large number of people. The Council will continue to use these methods where appropriate.

4.9.3. Along with providing information on the LDP website the Council will also utilise online methods of consultation such as the Let's Talk page to engage as widely as possible.

#### **4.10. Drop-in sessions during consultation periods**

4.10.1. The LDP team will endeavour to be as accessible as possible during the LDP process. In order to assist in this, various drop-in sessions will be held during consultation periods of the LDP where they can accord with up to date Government guidance on COVID-19. It will be ensured that these will be in accessible locations and at convenient times.

#### **4.11. Written Information**

4.11.1. The Council will produce clearly written information throughout the process. The Council will also translate these documents in line with the Welsh Language Standards. Requests for these documents in different formats should be made to

the Council in writing. The Council will endeavour to make the written information as accessible as possible.

The Council will prepare Easy Read versions of the main RLDP stage consultation documents.

#### **4.12. Document Availability (Deposit Locations)**

4.12.1. During the various stages of plan preparation, electronic documents associated with the LDP full revision process will be available on the Council's website. Electronic representations forms will also be available on the website, at the relevant stages of consultation. Additionally, copies of these documents will be available at main Council offices and libraries; at the time of writing these are:

- Sardis House, Sardis Road, Pontypridd, CF37 1DU.
- Pontypridd One 4 All Centre and Library 1 Llys Cadwyn, Taff St, Pontypridd CF37 4TH
- Aberdare One4All Centre and Library, Green Street, Aberdare, CF44 7AG.
- Porth One4All Centre, and Library Porth Plaza, Pontypridd Road, Porth, CF39 9PG.
- Mountain Ash One4All Centre and Library Oxford Street, Mountain Ash, CF45 3HD
- Treorchy One4All Centre and Library Station Road, Treorchy, CF62 6NN
- Abercynon Library, Ynysmeurig Road, Abercynon, CF45 4SU.
- Church Village Library, Garth Olwg Community Campus, off St Illtyd's Road, Church Village, Pontypridd, CF38 1RQ.
- Ferndale Library, The Hwb, North Road, Ferndale, CF43 4PS.
- Hirwaun Library, High Street, Hirwaun, CF44 9SW.
- Llantrisant Community Library, Llantrisant Leisure Centre, Southgate Park, Llantrisant, CF72 8DJ.
- Pontyclun Library, Heol-y-Felin, Pontyclun, CF72 9BE.
- Rhydyfelin Library, Library Court, Poplar Road, Rhydyfelin, CF37 5LR.
- Tonypandy Library. De Winton Street, Tonypandy, CF40 2QZ.
- Mobile Library

4.12.2 The Council will keep these locations up to date on its website. Please note appointments might be needed to view documents due to Covid restrictions.

#### **4.12.3 Principal Office**

4.12.4 The Teams Principal office is located in Sardis House Pontypridd. At the start of the pandemic the LDP team began working from home. Homeworking is likely to continue and therefore appointments will need to be made to view documents or to meet with the LDP team in person. To make an appointment please call or email the team.

#### **4.13. Direct Correspondence**

4.13.1. Anybody who has an interest in Rhondda Cynon Taf and the LDP can and should be involved in the LDP process. The Council will host a consultation database, which will hold the contact details of any individual or organisation who wishes to be kept informed of the plan process. During the various stages of the process, the Council will make direct contact with individuals and organisations via email or letter. The Council will endeavour to reduce the amount of paper used during the LDP process and therefore will, where possible, require an email address from participants. It is however understood that not everyone has an email address and therefore these individuals will be written to via post.

#### **4.14. Availability of the LDP Team**

4.14.1. The LDP team will endeavour to be as accessible as possible throughout the LDP process. The team has a direct email address and telephone number. The team can be contacted during office hours, which are between 9.00am-5.00pm Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

4.14.2. The Council will also endeavour to meet with community groups and/or residents as appropriate and where possible.

4.14.3. Contact details for the team are included at Appendix 1.

4.14.4. Set out above are the main consultation and engagement techniques that will be employed by the Council during the plan-making process. There will however inevitably be opportunities that arise during the LDP process to engage further with the public, especially as COVID-19 restrictions are gradually lifted. The Council will explore any opportunity to do so-

#### **4.15. Interacting with the Council/Expectations of Consultees**

4.15.1. For comments and/or representations to be made on the Revised LDP, it is essential that they are submitted during the specified timescales, to allow the LPA to give them due consideration. The timetable of relevant stages is set out earlier in the Delivery Agreement, which provides a guideline with regard to when involvement is sought. This will allow all views expressed to be considered and ultimately inform the plan-making process, where appropriate.

#### **4.16. Representation forms**

- 4.16.1. A standard representation form will be made available by the Council during consultation periods. The completion of key sections of this will be required to make a valid representation.
- 4.16.2. Should any personal details change from the point of initial contact, it is advisable to inform the LPA to ensure that you continue to remain informed of the Plan's progress. Additionally, the Council acknowledges that a change in land ownership details of Candidate Sites could occur during the process. Consequently, it is imperative that any such changes are communicated to the LPA, as a matter of urgency.

#### **4.17. Consensus Building**

- 4.17.1. The LPA will ensure that consensus is built via the engagement and consultation techniques referenced in the Community Involvement Scheme. In order to build a consensus, it is essential that stakeholders and all other interested parties are kept fully informed and engaged throughout the full revision procedure. This will be of particular importance at the outset of the process. It is however acknowledged that on occasion, consensus will not be achievable and a difference of opinion between various parties will prevail. As such, a clearly defined audit trail of decisions will be maintained, thus ensuring transparency in the decision making process.

#### **4.18. Handling of Representations and Other Data**

- 4.18.1. Representations which are received in the prescribed timescales will be handled in the following manner:
- Representation logged and given a representation number;
  - Confirmation sent to representor in receipt of the representation;
  - Representation and details of representor logged;
  - All valid representations considered and responses formulated; and
  - Local Authority's responses to representations recorded and published in accordance with the Regulations.

#### **4.19. Data Protection**

- 4.19.1. All personal information and data will be handled in line with the agreed Prosperity and Development Departments data protection and privacy policies.

To learn more about how your personal information will be used, please visit the Council's data protection pages at [www.rctcbc.gov.uk/dataprotection](http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/dataprotection).

#### **4.20. Late Representations**

- 4.20.1. For representations to be considered, the consultation responses for the specific stage will be required within a precise period. Late comments/representations will not be logged as valid if they fail to comply with the published timescales.
- 4.20.2. There may be extenuating circumstances in which a representation is submitted late, it will however be at the discretion of the LPA with regard to whether such comments/representations are accepted. The LPA faces a challenging timetable in the production of a revised plan; therefore, late representations have the potential to cause further and unnecessary delays, which would not be acceptable.

#### **4.21. Monitoring and Review of the Delivery Agreement**

- 4.21.1. It is proposed to monitor and review the effectiveness of the Delivery Agreement at each stage of the Local Development Plan preparation process. This will establish whether the LPA is meeting its objectives in terms of public engagement in the process, and whether or not the timescales, as indicated, are being met. This will be of particular importance during this time due to COVID-19 restrictions and the evolving nature of the situation. Where there is opportunity to improve the methods of engagement we will seek to do so. However any significant amendments to the community involvement scheme and any changes to the timetable will require formal Council and Welsh Government approval.
- 4.21.2. An updated timetable will be submitted to the Welsh Government, following the Deposit stage. This will provide the opportunity to specify a refined timescale for the 'indicative' stages of the timetable, once further details are known.

#### **4.22. Monitoring and Review of the LDP**

- 4.22.1. The Council will produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) each year following the date of adoption, which will assess how effectively the policies and proposals of the plan are performing and highlight any need for modifications. The monitoring report will also include references to new or updated National Planning Guidance and any other relevant information. Once produced, the monitoring report will be made available to the public to view on the Council's website.
- 4.22.2. Following the adoption of the LDP, it is intended that the plan will be reviewed on a four-yearly cycle. A review of the SA/SEA baseline information and trends will also take place and feed into the revision.

#### **4.23. Supplementary Planning Guidance**

- 4.23.1. The Revised LDP will contain sufficient policies and proposals to provide the basis for determining planning applications. The selective use of SPG will be utilised as a means of setting out more detailed thematic policies or site-specific guidance on the way in which the LDP policies will be applied. SPG does not form part of the

development plan but will be derived from policies contained within the plan, thus ensuring consistency in the policies/proposals that it supplements.

4.23.2. Following the adoption of RCTs current LDP, a number of SPG were produced to provide support to existing LDP policy. These were:

- Design and Place-making (March 2011)
- Design and Place-making: Access, Circulation and Parking (March 2011)
- The Historic Environment (March 2011)
- Design in Town Centres (March 2011)
- A Design Guide for Householder Development (March 2011)
- Affordable Housing (March 2011)
- Nature Conservation (March 2011)
- Planning Obligations (March 2011)
- Planning Obligations (Revised) (December 2014)
- Shopfront Design (October 2014)
- Development of Flats (June 2015)
- Employment Skills (June 2015)
- Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) (May 2018)

4.23.3. A review of all the existing SPG documents, including ones prepared more recently, will form part of the LDP full revision procedure, with amendment or revised likely in most instances.

4.23.4. The Council will use SPG to cover detailed and numerical guidelines where it is considered that they may change during the lifetime of the plan. This will ensure that the LDP does not become outdated in the short term and will assist with the flexibility of the plan. Where SPG will aid the understanding of the LDP, it will be prepared and consulted on in parallel. It will not however be possible to prepare all SPG in parallel and in these circumstances, SPG will be subject to a separate formal process of consultation and adoption. A report of public consultation will be prepared in respect of each SPG document.

4.23.5. SPG cannot be formally adopted until after the Inspector's binding report has been received and it is clear that there will be no change in the policy approach.



## 5. TIMETABLE AND PROPOSED METHODS OF ENGAGEMENT

The information below provides a detailed breakdown of the plan making process, up to and including the submission of the LDP to PEDW for examination. It seeks to explain the purpose of the stage, who will be engaged and the Council's expectations of consultees. The subsequent stages in the process are not directly in the control of the Council and therefore may be subject to change.

**Table 2**

Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Pre-Deposit Participation (Regulation 14) including preparation of the Preferred Strategy	Timescale	Who will be Involved	Methods of Engagement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanism	Resources
<p>Preparation of detailed background papers of LDP topics</p> <p>Review evidence base</p> <p>Preparation of an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) Scoping Report – this report will encompass: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as well as the Wellbeing of future Generations Act, a Welsh language impact assessment, an Equalities Impact Assessment, a health impact assessment and the Environment Act.</p> <p>Preparation of Issues, Objectives, Vision and Aims</p>	<p>April 2022-December 2023</p>	<p>RCT Steering Groups</p> <p>Specific Consultation Bodies</p> <p>General Consultation Bodies</p> <p>General Public</p>	<p>Workshops</p> <p>Direct Correspondence via email/letter</p> <p>Online presence such as through the internet, social media platforms and video conferencing.</p>	<p>Preparation of formal evidence base documents and reports on engagement.</p> <p>Pre-deposit proposals and papers approved by Council and approval for public consultation</p>	<p>LDP Planning Policy Team</p> <p>Officer Steering Group</p> <p>Member Steering Group</p> <p>Consultants</p> <p>ICT</p> <p>Translation</p>

<p>Preparation of strategy options and assessment of alternatives (Incorporating ISA requirements)</p> <p>Preparation of Spatial Strategy and Preferred Options document</p> <p>Preparation of the initial ISA Report</p> <p>Habitats Regulation Assessment preparation.</p>					
<p>Call for Candidate Sites</p>	<p>June 2022-September 2022</p>	<p>RCT Steering Groups</p> <p>Specific Consultation Bodies</p> <p>General Consultation Bodies</p> <p>Other consultees</p> <p>Public Landowners</p>	<p>Information made available on the Council's Website with Press Release</p> <p>Corporate Facebook and Twitter Accounts and other appropriate social media platforms.</p> <p>Direct correspondence via email and letter</p>	<p>Preparation of a Candidate Sites Register</p>	<p>LDP Planning Policy Team</p> <p>ICT</p> <p>Marketing and press</p> <p>Translation</p>

		Any other interested party wishing to submit land to the process.			
<b>Integrated SA/SEA</b>					
5 week Statutory consultation on ISA Scoping report	July/ August 2022	Statutory Consultation Bodies  ISA working group	Direct correspondence via email/ letter  Workshop/meeting	Consideration of representations on Draft ISA Scoping Report.  Preparation of formal evidence base documents.	LDP Planning Policy Team  Consultation Bodies (ISA Working Group)  SA/SEA consultants.

<b>Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Pre-Deposit (Preferred Strategy) Public Consultation (Regulation 15 &amp; 16)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Who will be Involved</b>	<b>Methods of Engagement</b>	<b>Likely Outcomes &amp; Reporting Mechanism</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Consultation on Pre-deposit Proposals and supporting documents including Preferred Strategy and the Candidate Sites Register	January/February 2024  (for 6 weeks)	RCT LDP Steering Groups  Specific consultation bodies,  General consultation bodies,  Other consultation bodies  ISA Consultation bodies  Any other interested party/general public.	Direct Correspondence via email and letter  Documents placed on the Councils website Online presence such as through the internet, social media platforms, video conferencing and video sharing.  Copies of all relevant documents placed in deposit locations  Drop in sessions/ exhibitions/meeting where appropriate  Documents sent to Specific and General consultation bodies	Preparation of formal evidence base documents  Analyse and record representations received  Details of responses received to be incorporated into a report of consultation (initial consultation report)  Confirm/Amend Preferred Strategy. Approval of Pre-	LDP Planning Policy Team  Elected Members  ICT  Translation team  Events team  Printing costs  Marketing costs

<b>Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Pre-Deposit (Preferred Strategy) Public Consultation (Regulation 15 &amp; 16)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Who will be Involved</b>	<b>Methods of Engagement</b>	<b>Likely Outcomes &amp; Reporting Mechanism</b>	<b>Resources</b>
			Hard copies of the main documents placed in main Council offices and libraries (deposit locations)  Social media posts	deposit proposals for Deposit consultation.	
6 week consultation on the initial ISA Report	January/February 2024	As above	As above	Analyse and record representations received  Details of responses received to be incorporated into a report of consultation  Amend/update ISA as necessary	ISA working group  Consultants  And as above

<b>Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Pre-Deposit (Preferred Strategy) Public Consultation (Regulation 15 &amp; 16)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Who will be Involved</b>	<b>Methods of Engagement</b>	<b>Likely Outcomes &amp; Reporting Mechanism</b>	<b>Resources</b>

<b>Stage in the LDP Preparation</b> <b>Process: Preparation of Deposit Revised LDP (Regulation 16, 17, 18 and 19)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Who will be Involved</b>	<b>Methods of Engagement</b>	<b>Likely Outcomes &amp; Reporting Mechanism</b>	<b>Likely Resources</b>
Preparation of Deposit Revised LDP	March 2024- January 2025	LDP Planning Policy Team  Officer Steering Group  LDP Members Steering Group  Developer Forum  LDP Forum	Meetings  Workshop  Video Conferencing  Digital correspondence	Appropriate contributions to the Deposit Revised LDP.	LDP Planning Policy Team  Officer Steering Group  LDP Members Steering Group  Developer Forum  LDP Forum
Preparation of the ISA report and the HRA for the Deposit Revised LDP.	March 2024- January 2025	LDP Planning Policy Team/ ISA Consultants  Officer Steering Group  LDP Members Steering Group  LDP Forum  ISA Working Group	As above	Appropriate contributions to the Deposit Revised LDP.	LDP Planning Policy Team/ ISA Consultants  Officer Steering Group  LDP Members Steering Group  LDP Forum  ISA Working Group

Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Statutory Deposit of Proposals (Regulation 17, 18 and 19)	Timescale	Who will be Involved	Methods of Engagement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanism	Likely Resources
Statutory consultation of the Deposit Draft LDP and supporting documents.	January/February 2025  (for 6 weeks)	RCT Steering Groups  Specific consultation bodies, General consultation bodies, Other consultation bodies  ISA Consultation bodies  Any other interested party including general public.	Direct correspondence via email and letter  Documents made available at deposit locations  All relevant documents published on the Councils Website with press release. Online presence such as through the internet, social media platforms, video conferencing and video sharing.  Documents sent to Specific and	Details of responses incorporated into a Report of Consultation.  Copies of representations placed in deposit locations and on website	LDP Planning Policy team  Internal consultees  ICT  Marketing and events  Printing costs



			<p>General consultation bodies</p> <p>Corporate Facebook and twitter</p> <p>Drop in sessions/ exhibitions/ meetings as appropriate</p> <p>Site notices for site specific allocations</p>		
Statutory Consultation on the Deposit stage ISA report and the HRA.	January/February 2025	As above	As above	As above	As above

<b>Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Submission of LDP for Examination (Regulation 18,19,22)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Who will be Involved</b>	<b>Methods of Engagement</b>	<b>Likely Outcomes &amp; Reporting Mechanism</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<p>Consider representations received and update consultation report</p> <p>Update the ISA if necessary</p> <p>Notify all relevant parties of submission</p> <p>Submit the Deposit Draft LDP, ISA and HRA and other relevant documents to Welsh Government</p>	<p>Indicative date: June 2025</p> <p>(Actual dates to be agreed with PEDW)</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Planning and Environment Decisions Wales</p> <p>RCT Steering Groups</p> <p>Specific consultation bodies</p> <p>General consultation bodies</p> <p>Other consultation bodies</p> <p>SA Consultation Bodies</p> <p>Those persons who have requested notification when the LDP is submitted</p> <p>Any other interested party.</p>	<p>Direct correspondence via email and letter</p> <p>Information/ statement provided on the Council's website of submission along with relevant documents</p> <p>Hard copies of main relevant documents available at deposit locations</p>	<p>Updated Consultation report</p> <p>Updated ISA if necessary</p> <p>Report of Consultation reported to Council on Deposit plan and any focussed changes sought</p> <p>Submission of Deposit LDP and supporting documents to Welsh Government</p>	<p>LDP Planning Policy Team</p> <p>Printing costs</p>

Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Independent Examination (Regulation 23)	Timescale	Who will be Involved	Methods of Engagement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanism	Resources
Notification of independent examination in line with regulation 23	Indicative date: September 2025  (at least 6 weeks prior to the start of the Examination)  (Actual to be agreed with PEDW)	RCT Steering Groups  Specific consultation bodies  General consultation bodies  Other consultation bodies  Those persons who have made valid representations  Planning and Environment Decisions Wales  Programme Officer  Any other interested parties	Formal notification given by direct correspondence and information provided on the Council's website  Notification of those who have made a valid representation	N/A	LDP Planning Policy Team  Consultants

<b>Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Independent Examination (Regulation 23)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Who will be Involved</b>	<b>Methods of Engagement</b>	<b>Likely Outcomes &amp; Reporting Mechanism</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Independent Examination	Indicative date:  November/December 2025  (Actual to be agreed by PEDW)	All those interested individuals and organisations that have made representations at the Deposit Stage of the Plan  Planning and Environment Decisions Wales	Round Table discussions  Formal written and oral submission	Inspectors report	Programme officer  Cost of examination  Administrative costs

<b>Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Receipt of the Inspectors Report (Regulation 24)</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Who will be Involved</b>	<b>Methods of Engagement</b>	<b>Likely Outcomes &amp; Reporting Mechanism</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Receipt of Inspectors report	Indicative date: April 2026 (Actual to be agreed with PEDW)	Any persons who has asked to be notified. RCT Steering Groups	Inspectors report made available on the Councils website Copies of the report made available in deposit locations Press release Corporate Facebook and twitter	Advise Council of receipt of Inspectors report	Cost of printing

Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Adoption (Regulation 25)	Timescale	Who will be Involved	Methods of Engagement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanism	Resources
Formally adopt the LDP as the Development Plan for the County Borough within 8 weeks of receipt of Inspectors Report	May 2026	Those who have asked to be notified  Cabinet  Council	LDP, adoption statement and the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal report to be published on the Council's website  Documents available in deposit locations  Adoption statement sent to those who have asked to be notified  Press release	Full Council prior to final adoption	Costs of printing  Marketing

Stage in the LDP Preparation Process: Adoption (Regulation 25)	Timescale	Who will be Involved	Methods of Engagement	Likely Outcomes & Reporting Mechanism	Resources
			Corporate Facebook and Twitter		
Formal publication of the ISA Report	May 2026		As above	As above	Cost of printing
<b>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</b>					
Production of the Annual Monitoring Report	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2028 and annually thereafter	Any interested party	Published on the Council's Website Send to Welsh Government	Cabinet/Delegated Cabinet Member	Staff Translation ICT

## Appendix 1

### CONTACT DETAILS

The Planning Policy Team can be contacted using any of the following methods:

**Email:** [LDP@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:LDP@rctcbc.gov.uk)

**Post:**

Planning Policy Team

Floor 2

Sardis House

Sardis Road

Pontypridd

Rhondda Cynon Taf

CF37 1DU.

Telephone: 01443 281129



## Appendix 2 – List of Consultation Bodies

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 defines General Consultation Bodies and Specific Consultation Bodies as follows:-

General Consultation Bodies are:	Specific Consultation Bodies are:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the LPA's area;</li> <li>- bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the LPA's area;</li> <li>- bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the LPA's area;</li> <li>- bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the LPA's area;</li> <li>- bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying out business in the LPA's area; and</li> <li>- bodies which represent the interests of Welsh culture in the LPA's area;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Natural Resources Wales</li> <li>- Network Rail Infrastructure Limited</li> <li>- insofar as the Secretary of State exercises functions previously exercisable by the Strategic Rail Authority, the Secretary of State,</li> <li>- the National Assembly,</li> <li>- a relevant authority any part of whose area is in or adjoins the area of the LPA,</li> <li>- any person               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to whom the electronic communications code applies by virtue of a direction given under section 106(3)(a) of the Communications Act 2003, and</li> <li>(ii) who owns or controls electronic communications apparatus situated in any part of the area of the LPA (where known),</li> </ul> </li> <li>- if it exercises functions in any part of the LPA's area—               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a Local Health Board,</li> <li>(ii) a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 6(1)(b) or (c) of the Electricity Act 1989,</li> <li>(iii) a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 7(2) of the Gas Act 1986,</li> <li>(iv) a sewerage undertaker,</li> <li>(v) a water undertaker;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

The tables that follow comprise the Specific Consultation Bodies, UK Government, General Consultation Bodies and Other Consultees as required by LDP Wales. The tables also include parties who have either requested inclusion directly or been suggested as useful additions by third parties.

The Council undertook targeted consultation on the Delivery Agreement with stakeholders. Suggestions made for additional consultees have been added to this list following the consultation.

These groups will play an important role in the development of the LDP and the Council will ensure that they are kept involved throughout the process.

It must be stressed that this list is not exhaustive or exclusive. The Council welcomes all suggestions, either directly from organisations themselves or individuals, on any interest group, organisation or body who may wish to be included on the database. It is anticipated that the list will grow continuously throughout the development of the LDP.

The Council maintains an LDP Consultation Database, which includes interested parties. The Council is happy to include any individual who wishes to be kept abreast of the LDP process.

Should any party/individual wish to be removed from the LDP databases, they should contact the Development Planning Team directly.

At stages of plan preparation, the Council will consult with those consultation bodies listed below:

**Specific Consultation Bodies:**

<b>Specific Consultation Bodies (including UK Government Departments)</b>
British Telecom
CADW
Cwm Taf University Health Board
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Department for Transport
Dwr Cymru Welsh Water
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust
Home Office
Ministry of Defence
National Grid Company plc
National Grid Wireless
Natural Resources Wales
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Office of the Secretary of State for Wales
Telecommunications Operators (inclusive of EE, Vodafone, O2, Three, Tesco Mobile, NTL, Open reach and Virgin Media)
Transco
Wales and West Utilities
Welsh Government (inclusive of the Planning Division)
Welsh Water
Western Power Distribution

<b>South East Wales and Other Local Authorities and Bodies</b>
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Bridgend County Borough Council

Caerphilly County Borough Council
Cardiff Capital Region
Cardiff Capital Region Strategic Planning Panel (when established)
City of Cardiff Council
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Monmouthshire County Borough Council
Neath Port Talbot
Newport City Council
Powys County Council
Torfaen County Borough Council
Vale of Glamorgan

### **Town and Community Councils in Rhondda Cynon Taf**

Gilfach Goch Community Council
Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council
Llanharan Community Council
Llanharry Community Council
Llantrisant Community Council
Llantwit Fardre Community Council
Pontyclun Community Council
Pontypridd Town Council
Rhigos Community Council
Taffs Well and Nantgarw Community Council
Tonyrefail Community Council
Ynysybwl and Coed y Cwm Community Council

### **Community Councils in Adjoining Authorities**

Aber Valley Community Council
Blaengwrach Community Council
Coychurch Higher Community Council
Glyn Neath Town Council
Llanfrynach Community Council
Llangan Community Council
Nelson Community Council
Ogmore Valley Community Council
Pencoed Town Council
Pendoylan Community Council
Penllyn Community Council
Pentyrch Community Council
Penyrheol, Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council
Peterston-Super-Ely Community Council
Tongwynlais Community Council
Welsh St Donats Community Council
Ystradfellte and Pontneddfechan Community Council

**General Consultation Bodies:**

<b>General Consultees – Voluntary Organisations in RCT</b>
Age Connects Morgannwg
Canolfan Maerdy
Citizen’s Advice Rhondda Cynon Taff
Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services – Fernhill Youth Project
Groundwork Trust
Home Start Rhondda Cynon Taff
Interlink RCT
Penywaun Building Communities Trust
TraVol Community Transport
Valleys Kids/Plant y Cymoedd
Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA)
Wales Federation of YFC
Women’s Aid RCT

<b>General Consultees – Ethnic Minority Groups</b>
Friends, Families and Travellers
Gypsies and Travellers Wales
Showmen’s Guild of Great Britain (Wales and Northern Ireland)
The Equality and Human Rights Commission
The Gypsy Council
The National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups (Wales)
Traveller Law Reform Project
Travelling Ahead
VALREC (Valleys Race Equality Council)

<b>General Consultees – Religious Organisations</b>
Cardiff Buddhist Centre
Catholic Church in England and Wales
Evangelical Movement of Wales
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses, Miskin, Pontyclun
Mountain Ash Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses
Muslim Council for Wales
Pontypridd Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses
Presbyterian Church of Wales
Representative Body of the Church in Wales
Rhondda Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses
South Wales Baptist Association
St Elvan’s Church Aberdare
St Fagan’s Church
The Apostolic Church, UK
The Islamic Centre, Aberdare
The Salvation Army
Trealaw Quakers

UK Islamic Mission
United Reform Church
Wales Synod – The Methodist Church in Wales

<b>General Consultees – Disability Groups</b>
Accessible Wales
British Deaf Association (Wales)
Disability Arts Cymru
Disability Law Service
Disability Resource Centre
Disability Rights Commission Wales
Disability Sport Wales
Disability Wales
Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee
Guide Dogs for the Blind (including Guide Dogs Cymru)
Learning Disability Wales
Mencap Cymru
MS Society Cymru
National Federation of the Blind
Partially Sighted Society
Rhondda Cynon Taff Access Group
Rhondda Cynon Taf People First
Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB Cymru)
Sense Cymru
Wales Council for Deaf People
Wales Council of the Blind
Whizz-Kidz

<b>General Consultees – Arts and Culture</b>
Arts Connect
Arts Factory
Colliseum Theatre
Colstars Theatre Company
Cymdeithas yr Iaith
LMT Academy of Performing Arts
Menter Iaith
Model House, Llantrisant
Muni Arts Centre
National Centre for Learning Welsh
Rhondda Cynon Taff Community Arts
Rhondda Theatre Group
Showcase Sioegerdd
Spectacle Theatre Ltd
Stagecoach Performing Arts, Pontypridd
Stardreams Musical Theatre Company

Theatres Trust
Urdd Gobaith Cymru

**Other Consultation Bodies:**

<b>Other Consultees as Stated in the LDP Manual</b>	
Airport Operators- Cardiff Airport	Freight Transport Association
British Aggregates Association	Gypsy and Travellers Law Reform Coalition
British Geological Survey	Gypsy Council
Canal and River Trust	Health and Safety Executive
CBI	Home Builders Federation
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology	Institution of Civil Engineers
Chambers of commerce	Local community, conservation and amenity groups and Civic Societies- see separate list below.
Chartered Institute of Housing	Local Transport operators – See separate list below
Chartered Institute of Waste Management	Mineral Products Association Wales
Civil Aviation Authority	National Farmers Union of Wales
Coal Authority	National Grid
Commission for Racial Equality	One Voice Wales
Country Land and Business Association	Planning Aid Wales
Crown Estate Office	Police
Design Commission for Wales	Post Office Property Holdings
Disability Rights Commission	Public Health Wales
Disability Wales	Rail Freight Group
Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee	Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
Electricity, Gas and Telecommunications Companies – see separate list below	RTPI Cymru
Environmental groups at a national and regional level –See separate list below	Sports Council for Wales
Environmental Services Agency (Waste)	Train Operating Companies- See separate list below
Equality and Human Rights Commission	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Farmers Union of Wales	Wales Environmental Link
Federation of Small Businesses	Welsh Environmental Services Association
Fields in Trust	Welsh Language Commissioner
Fire and Rescue Services	Welsh Water DWR Cymru

Welsh Ambulance Service South Wales Fire and Rescue Service	
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<b>Commercial</b>	
Aberdare BID	Institute of Directors, Wales
Aberdare Chamber of Trade	
Business in Focus	Pontypridd BID
Business Wales (South Wales Regional Centre)	Retail consortium
Campaign for Real Ale (Camra)	South Wales Chamber of Commerce
Chamber of Commerce	Town Centre Forums
Federation of Small Businesses, Wales	Treforest Growth

<b>Environmental Groups – Local, National and Regional</b>	
Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW)	The National Allotment Society
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Natural Environment Research Council	The National Trust
Coed Cymru, Welsh Woodlands and Timber	The Open Spaces Society
Friends of the Earth (Cymru)	The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales (Glamorgan)
Glamorgan Bird Club	Wales Environment Link
Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust	Welsh Environmental Services Association
Just Mammals Consultancy	Welsh Historic Gardens Trust
RSPB Cymru	Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust

<b>Local Transport Providers including Rail</b>	
Bus Users UK	Network Rail
Cardiff Bus Company	New Adventure Travel
Edwards Coaches	Stagecoach South Wales
First Call Travel	Thomas of Rhondda
First Cymru Buses	Transport for Wales
Globe Coaches	Traveline Cymru
Great Western Railway	TraVol Community Transport
Harris Coaches	Veolia Transport (including Bebb Travel & Pullman Coaches)
Keolis Amey	Village & Valleys Community Transport
N.A.T Group (South Wales)	

<b>Local Community, Conservation Groups and Civic Societies</b>	
Action for Hirwaun	Pontypridd Historical Society
Cynon Valley History Society	Pontypridd YMCA
Cynon Valley Ramblers	Rhondda Civic Society
Glamorgan Family History Society	Taff Ely Ramblers
Glamorgan Fungus Group	Valleys Steps
Hirwaun Historical Society	



Hirwaun YMCA	
Llantrisant and District Local History Society	
Mountain Ash YMCA	
Pontypridd and District Art Society	

<b>Electricity, Gas and Telecommunications</b>	
Arbed Am Byth	Ofgem
British Gas (Transco) (Wales)	SSE (Scottish and Southern Energy)
Celtic Energy	Western Power Distribution
Mobile UK	

<b>Education</b>	
Cardiff University	University of Glamorgan
Coleg Morgannwg	University of South Wales
Coleg Y Cymoedd	WEA Cymru (Adult Learning Wales)

<b>Housing Associations</b>	
Cynon Taf Housing Association	Rhondda Housing Association
Hafod Housing Association	Trivallis Housing Association
Linc Cymru	Wales & West Housing Association
Newydd Housing Association	Welsh Federation of Housing Associations
Pobl Group/ Seren Housing	

<b>Elderly Persons Organisations</b>	
Age Alliance Wales	Care & Repair Cymru
Age Connects Wales	Older People's Commissioner for Wales
Age Cymru	

<b>Ex-Offender Groups</b>	
Apex charitable trust	Trailblazers
Nacro	Unlock
Probation service	Women in Prison
Rhondda Cynon Taf Youth Offending team	Working Chance
SOVA	Working Links
St Giles Trust	YMCA
Step Together	

<b>Gypsy and Traveller Groups</b>	
Cardiff Gypsy sites group	The Gypsy and Traveller Law Reform Group
Friends Families and Travellers	Travelling Ahead

Gypsies and Travellers Wales	Welsh Government Gypsy and Traveller Policy Officer
Gypsy Council	

<b>Homelessness Organisations</b>	
Crisis	Salvation Army
Cymorth Cymru	Shelter
Emmaus South Wales	Solar Cymru
Huggard	The Wallich
Llamau	YMCA

<b>House Builders</b>	
ASD Build	Jehu
Atlantic Dwellings	Kier Living
Barratt Homes	Leaders Romans Group
Bellway Homes (Wales) Ltd	Lewis Homes
Bovis Homes	Llanmoor Homes
Charles Church (Wales)	Lovells
Davies Brothers (Wales) Limited	Morganstone
Davies Homes	Persimmon Homes
Delta Property	Redrow Homes
Edenstone Homes	
Enzo's Homes	Taylor Wimpey
Federation of Master Builders	Tirion Homes
Harris Land and Development	WDL Homes
Home Builders Federation	

<b>Planning Consultants and Land Agents</b>	
Alan Stuckey Architects	Lichfields
Alder King	LRM Planning Ltd
Amity Planning	Mango Planning
Asbri Planning	Prospero Planning
Barton Wilmore	RPS
Boyer Planning	Savills
Boyer Planning	Stephen George architects
Capita	Stephen Waldron Architects
DPP Planning	The Urbanists
G Powys Jones	Turley
Geraint John Planning Ltd	WPM Planning and Development
Jenkins Best	WYG
Knight Frank	

<b>Political</b>	
Assembly Member for Cynon	Member of Parliament for Pontypridd

Assembly Member for Ogmore	Member of Parliament for Rhondda
Assembly Member for Pontypridd	Members of the European Parliament
Assembly Member for Rhondda	Plaid Cymru
Assembly Member for South Wales Central	The Welsh Conservatives
Assembly Member for South West Wales	The Welsh Liberal Democrats
Future Generations Commissioner for Wales	UKIP Wales
Member of Parliament for Cynon	Wales Green Party
Member of Parliament for Ogmore	Welsh Labour Party

<b>Other Bodies</b>	
Action on Hearing Loss	New Horizons Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Resource Centre
Active Travel Cymru	NFU Cymru
Active Wales	NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership
Addoldai Cymru (Welsh Religious Buildings Trust)	Planning Aid Wales
Arts Council for Wales	PEDW
British Aggregates Association	Public Health Network Cymru
British Astronomical Association (Campaign for Dark Skies)	Ramblers Cymru
British Red Cross	Renewable Energy Association
British Trust for Ornithology	Road Haulage Association
British Waterways	Road Safety Wales
Chartered Institute of Housing (Cymru)	Royal Mail Property Holding
Citizens Advice Bureau	Royal Society of Architects in Wales
Community Land Advisory Service Cymru (CLAS)	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings
Confederation of Passenger Transport	South East Wales Energy Agency
Confederation of UK Coal Producers	Sports Council for Wales
Consumer Council for Wales	Sustrans Cymru
	Tarian Group
Crown Estates Commissioners	TARMAC Ltd
Cwm Taf Public Services Board	The Civic Trust for Wales
DB Cargo UK (formerly EWS)	The Royal Mint
Energy Savings Trust Wales	Welsh Association of Motor Clubs
Football Association of Wales	Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)
Hanson Aggregates	Welsh Rugby Union
Living Streets (UK)	Young Builders Trust, Building Futures (UK) Ltd
National Federation for the Blind	

<b>Children and Young People</b>	
Action for Children	Save the Children Wales
Barnardos Cymru	Scouts Cymru
Children in Wales	The Arc Youth and Community Project
Girl Guiding Cymru	The National Library of Wales
Ethnic Youth Support Team	The Prince's Trust in Wales
Llwynypia Boys and Girls Club	Ty Hafan
National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS) Cymru	UpRising
Noah's Ark Charity Wales	Voices for Care Cymru
NSPCC Wales	Young Wales
Penygraig Boys and Girls Club	Youth Cymru
Play Wales	Youth Hostel Association England and Wales
Prince's Trust	

<b>Leisure and Tourism</b>	
Ibis	Travel Lodge
	Valleys Regional Park
Premier Inn	Visit Wales
Sport Wales Chwaraeon Cymru	Wales Activity Tourism Organisation
Tourism Wales	Wales Tourism Alliance

### Appendix 3 – Risk Management

There are a few main likely outcomes of failing to proceed with LDP preparation as indicated:

The Assembly Government has reserve powers in relation to plan preparation and adoption, which it can use when local planning authorities are clearly failing to progress plan preparation.

Promoters of major development proposals may seek to pursue planning permission for their sites, in advance of consideration through the LDP and to the detriment of the proper long term planning of the Borough.

Some of the main risks to the LDP not proceeding in accordance with the proposed timetable are included in the table below

Risk	Potential Risk	Mitigation
The publication of revised planning guidance by the Assembly Government	Changes needed to the content of the LDP	Ensure that the WG legislative programme is followed through the plan preparation and that the LDP is in general conformity with WG policy.  Liaise with WG colleagues throughout the LDP preparation process.
A reduction in the resources and budget available for the project	Timetable slippage	Ensure there is corporate support for the delivery of the LDP.  Consider additional resources available from the wider division
Any inability of Service Areas to provide necessary input as required;	Timetable slippage	Liaise with colleagues throughout the plan process to keep them informed of when their input will be required to allow them to forward plan
Unavailability of meetings and/or agenda time of Cabinet, Development Control Committees and Council, at the necessary times, to consider reports and approve necessary documents, or inability to agree plan proposals;	Timetable slippage	Liaise with Cabinet/Council office to consider timescales and take account of this is the timetable.  Ensure that the LDP is a Corporate priority.

Risk	Potential Risk	Mitigation
Inability of translators or printers to deliver documents, plans and publicity material in accordance with the approved programme;	Timetable slippage	Liaise with colleagues in translation early to ensure they can take account of the translation needs of the LDP in there forward planning.  Consider additional resources and buy in where necessary
The volume or significance of responses to consultations being so great as to require a longer period than projected to respond to their implications	Extra time needed to process and respond to representations.  Timetable slippage	Early engagement and consultation with consultees to endeavour to build consensus.  Consider bringing additional resources
Political Change/ elections	Time table slippage or abortive work	Ensure that the Revised LDP is a Corporate priority
The ability of statutory consultees to respond within a set timeframe given their resource constraints.	Timetable slippage	Early engagement with the consultees to allow them to forward plan the periods when their input is required.
Legal challenge	Adopted LDP may be subject to challenge in the courts and quashed	Ensure that all the Regulations and legislation are adhered to.
Further lockdown due to COVID-19	Unable to progress with LDP preparation	Limited mitigation. Staff are able to work from home in a reduced capacity, and online consultation would still be possible. This is still a considerable risk to fully accord with the timetable.
Unable to fulfil the CIS due to COVID-19 restrictions	Non- compliance with the CIS	Keep the DA under regular review and endeavour to adapt as necessary to ensure effective consultation

## Appendix 4 – Profile and Characteristics of the Local Population

### Population

<b>Population</b>	
Total	234,410
Females	119,775
Males	114,635

<b>Age Structure</b>	<b>%</b>
Aged 0-4	6.16
Aged 5-7	3.47
Aged 8-9	2.13
Aged 10-14	5.92
Aged 15	1.20
Aged 16-17	2.49
Aged 18-19	2.65
Aged 20-24	6.90
Aged 25-29	6.32
Aged 30-44	19.46
Aged 45-59	19.57
Aged 60-64	6.59
Aged 65-74	9.38
Aged 75-84	5.55
Aged 85-89	1.44
Aged 90+	0.72

### Cultural

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>%</b>
White (British)	96.29
White (Irish)	0.248
White Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.022
Other White	0.806
Mixed (White and Black Caribbean)	0.234
Mixed (White and Black African)	0.081
Mixed (White and Asian)	0.179
Other Mixed	0.146
Asian/British Asian (Indian)	0.279
Asian/British Asian (Pakistani)	0.113
Asian/British Asian (Bangladeshi)	0.045
Asian/British Asian (Chinese)	0.454
Asian/British Asian (Other Asian)	0.399
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British (African)	0.486
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British (Caribbean)	0.042
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British (Other Black)	0.029
Other Ethnic Group (Arab)	0.068
Any Other Ethnic Group	0.070

<b>Religion</b>	<b>%</b>
Christian	50.50
Muslim	0.45
Buddhist	0.22
Hindu	0.17
Pagan	0.09
Sikh	0.078
Jewish	0.037
Other Religion	0.27
No Religion	40.76
No Religion Stated	7.40

<b>Welsh Language Knowledge of Welsh (Aged 3+)</b>	<b>%</b>
No skills in Welsh	80.4
Can speak Welsh	12.3
Can understand spoken Welsh only	4.2
Other combinations of Welsh skills	3.3
<b>Can Speak Welsh (of the 12.3% who can speak Welsh)</b>	<b>%</b>
Can speak Welsh but cannot read or write	1.64
Can speak and read but cannot write Welsh	0.90
Can speak, read and write Welsh	9.71

Health

<b>Health Classification</b>	<b>%</b>
Day-to-day activities limited a lot	14.46
Day-to-day activities limited a little	11.38
Day-to-day activities not limited	74.15
Day-to-day activities limited a lot (Age 16-64)	6.86
Day-to-day activities limited a little (Age 16-64)	6.21
Day-to-day activities not limited (Age 16-64)	50.93

<b>General Health</b>	<b>%</b>
Very good health	44.85
Good health	29.66
Fair Health	15.87
Bad Health	7.42
Very bad health	2.17

<b>Provision of Unpaid Care</b>	<b>%</b>
Provides no unpaid care	87.35
Provides 1 to 19 hours unpaid care a week	6.68
Provides 20 to 49 hours unpaid care a week	1.95
Provides 50 or more hours unpaid care a week	4.00



Employment and the Economy

<b>Economic Activity (All Persons)</b>	<b>%</b>
Economically active: Employee – Part-time	13.40
Economically active: Employee – Full-time	35.58
Economically active: Self-employed	6.41
Economically active: Unemployed	4.71
Economically active: Full-time student	3.08
Economically inactive: Retired	16.03
Economically inactive: Student (including full-time students)	5.76
Economically inactive: Looking after home or family	4.07
Economically inactive: Long-term sick or disabled	8.63
Economically inactive: Other	2.29
Unemployed: Age 16-24	1.64
Unemployed: Age 50-74	0.68
Unemployed: Never worked	0.85
Long-term Unemployment	1.93

<b>Economic Activity (Females)</b>	<b>%</b>
Economically active: Employee – Part-time	21.26
Economically active: Employee – Full-time	27.78
Economically active: Self-employed	2.95
Economically active: Unemployed	3.36
Economically active: Full-time student	3.34
Economically inactive: Retired	17.78
Economically inactive: Student (including full-time students)	5.45
Economically inactive: Looking after home or family	6.98
Economically inactive: Long-term sick or disabled	8.34
Economically inactive: Other	2.71
Unemployed: Age 16-24	1.11
Unemployed: Age 50-74	0.38
Unemployed: Never worked	0.66
Long-term Unemployment	1.51

<b>Economic Activity (Males)</b>	<b>%</b>
Economically active: Employee – Part-time	5.36
Economically active: Employee – Full-time	43.56
Economically active: Self-employed	9.95
Economically active: Unemployed	6.08
Economically active: Full-time student	2.81
Economically inactive: Retired	14.24
Economically inactive: Student (including full-time students)	6.07
Economically inactive: Looking after home or family	1.08
Economically inactive: Long-term sick or disabled	8.93
Economically inactive: Other	1.86
Unemployed: Age 16-24	2.17

Unemployed: Age 50-74	0.99
Unemployed: Never worked	1.03
Long-term Unemployment	2.37

<b>Economic Activity – Hours Worked</b>	<b>%</b>
Part-time: 15 hours or less worked	8.25
Part-time: 16-30 hours worked	20.87
Full-time: 31-48 hours worked	61.46
Full-time: 49 or more hours worked	9.41
Males: Total	52.11
Males: Part-time: 15 hours or less worked	2.53
Males: Part-time: 16-30 hours worked	4.76
Males: Full-time: 31-48 hours worked	37.20
Males: Full-time: 49 or more hours worked	7.60
Females: Total	47.89
Females: Part-time: 15 hours or less worked	5.71
Females: Part-time: 16-30 hours worked	16.11
Females: Full-time: 31-48 hours worked	24.25
Females: Full-time: 49 or more hours worked	1.81

<b>Economic Activity – Year Last Worked</b>	<b>%</b>
In employment	57.73
Not in employment: Total	42.27
Last worked in 2011	1.05
Last worked in 2010	4.20
Last worked in 2009	2.78
Last worked in 2008	2.14
Last worked in 2007	1.61
Last worked in 2006	1.49
Last worked in 2001-2005	5.88
Last worked before 2011	14.15
Never worked	8.96

<b>Employment by Industry</b>	<b>%</b>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.22
Mining and Quarrying	0.33
Manufacturing	12.56
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.86
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1.10
Construction	10.38
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles	15.01
Transport and storage	3.90

Accommodation and food service activities	5.00
Information and communication	1.76
Financial and insurance activities	2.97
Real estate activities	1.12
Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.33
Administrative and support service activities	4.08
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	7.66
Education	10.10
Human health and social work activities	15.36
Other	4.19

<b>Occupational Groups</b>	<b>%</b>
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	10.4
Professional Occupations	16.2
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	11.3
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	9.0
Skilled Trades Occupations	13.1
Personal Service Occupations	10.7
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	8.0
Process Plant and Machine Operatives	9.2
Elementary Occupations	11.4

#### Education

<b>Education – Qualifications Highest Qualification Attained</b>	<b>%</b>
No qualifications	31.77
Level 1 qualifications (1-4 GCSEs or equivalent)	14.05
Level 2 qualifications (5+ GCSEs or equivalent)	15.65
Apprenticeship	3.53
Level 3 qualifications (2+A-levels or equivalent)	11.42
Level 4 qualifications and above (Degree level or above)	19.55
Other qualifications (Vocational/work-related/foreign)	4.02

#### Householder

<b>Household Space and Accommodation Type</b>	<b>%</b>
Unshared dwelling	99.981
Shared dwelling: Two household spaces	0.0085
Shared dwelling: Three or more household spaces	0.0104
Household spaces with at least one usual residents	94.637
Household spaces with no usual residents	5.3623
Whole house or bungalow: Detached	14.501
Whole house or bungalow: Semi-detached	26.546
Whole house or bungalow: Terraced (including end-terrace)	50.398

Flat, maisonette or apartment: Purpose-built block of flats	6.625
Flat, maisonette or apartment: Part of converted/shared home	0.985
Flat, maisonette or apartment: In commercial building	0.805
Caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	0.137

Tenure	%
Owned: Owned outright	36.46
Owned: Owned with a mortgage or loan	34.54
Shared ownership (part owned and part rented)	0.15
Social rented: Rented from Council (Local Authority)	6.86
Social rented: Other	6.86
Private rented: Private landlord or letting agency	12.38
Private rented: Other	1.27
Living rent free	1.48

Household Composition	%
One person household: Aged 65 and over	13.22
One person household: Other	16.76
One family only: All aged 65 and over	7.92
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: No children	12.35
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: Dependent children	13.77
One family only: Married or same-sex civil partnership couple: All children non-dependent	7.27
One family only: Cohabiting couple: No children	4.10
One family only: Cohabiting couple: Dependent children	5.19
One family only: Cohabiting couple: All children non-dependent	0.62
One family only: Lone parent: Dependent children	8.97
One family only: Lone parent: All children non-dependent	4.12
Other household types: With dependent children	2.12
Other household types: All full-time students	0.74
Other household types: All aged 65 and over	0.32
Other household types: Other	2.53

Household Size	%
1 person in household	29.98
2 people in household	33.78
3 people in household	17.26
4 people in household	13.41
5 people in household	4.12
6 people in household	1.16
7 people in household	0.19
8 or more people in household	0.09

<b>Number of Bedrooms</b>	<b>%</b>
No bedrooms	0.18
1 bedroom	5.25
2 bedrooms	22.57
3 bedrooms	56.38
4 bedrooms	13.23
5 or more bedrooms	2.39

<b>Household by Deprivation Dimensions</b>	<b>%</b>
Household is not deprived in any dimension	37.71
Household is deprived in 1 dimension	30.00
Household is deprived in 2 dimensions	25.84
Household is deprived in 3 dimensions	8.91
Household is deprived in 4 dimensions	0.54

\*Note – A household is deprived in a dimension if they meet one or more of the following conditions:

- Employment: where any member of a household, who is not a full-time student, is either unemployed or long-term sick.
- Education: no person in the household has at least level 2 education and no person aged 16-18 is a full-time student.
- Health and Disability: any person in the household has general health that is 'bad' or 'very bad' or has a long-term health problem.
- Housing: the household's accommodation is either overcrowded, with an occupancy rating 1 or less, or is in a shared dwelling or has no central heating.

<b>Household Language</b>	<b>%</b>
All people aged 16 and over in household have English or Welsh as a main language	98.36
At least one but not all people aged 16 and over in household have English or Welsh as a main language	0.78
No people aged 16 and over in the household but at least one person aged 3 to 15 has English or Welsh as a main language	0.10
No people in household have English or Welsh as a main language	0.76

<b>Central Heating</b>	<b>%</b>
No central heating	1.27
Gas central heating	90.66
Electric (including storage heaters) central heating	1.78
Oil central heating	0.64
Solid fuel (for example wood, coal) central heating	1.97
Other central heating	0.66
Two or more types of central heating	3.02

## Transport

<b>Car or Van Availability</b>	<b>%</b>
No cars or vans in household	27.07
1 car or van in household	42.60
2 cars or vans in household	23.40
3 cars or vans in household	5.33
4 or more cars or vans in household	1.60

<b>Travel to Work</b>	<b>%</b>
Work mainly at or from home	1.61
Train	2.43
Bus, minibus or coach	2.32
Taxi	0.17
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	0.26
Driving a car or van	40.70
Passenger in a car or van	4.74
Bicycle	0.26
On foot	4.93
Other method of travel to work	0.27
Not in employment	42.27

**Appendix 5 - WELSH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION**

WIMD Rank	Electoral Division	SOA Lower Layer Name
444	Aberaman North	Aberaman North 1
243		Aberaman North 2
841		Aberaman North 3
413	Aberaman South	Aberaman South 1
288		Aberaman South 2
245		Aberaman South 3
992	Abercynon	Abercynon 1
33		Abercynon 2
506		Abercynon 3
1069		Abercynon 4
923	Aberdare East	Aberdare East 1
586		Aberdare East 2
736		Aberdare East 3
273		Aberdare East 4
1366	Aberdare West/Llwydcoed	Aberdare West/Llwydcoed 1
1166		Aberdare West/Llwydcoed 2
432		Aberdare West/Llwydcoed 3
451		Aberdare West/Llwydcoed 4
576		Aberdare West/Llwydcoed 5
1886		Aberdare West/Llwydcoed 6
1460	Beddau	Beddau 1
658		Beddau 2
1753		Beddau 3
1602	Brynna	Brynna 1
1371		Brynna 2
501	Church Village	Church Village 1
1872		Church Village 2

WIMD Rank	Electoral Division	SOA Lower Layer Name
1907	Church Village	Church Village 3
813	Cilfynydd	Cilfynydd 1
737		Cilfynydd 2
191	Cwm Clydach	Cwm Clydach 1
551		Cwm Clydach 2
695	Cwmbach	Cwmbach 1
220		Cwmbach 2
1537		Cwmbach 3
742	Cymmer	Cymmer 1
853		Cymmer 2
96		Cymmer 3
83		Cymmer 4
680	Ferndale	Ferndale 1
652		Ferndale 2
471		Ferndale 3
823	Gilfach Goch	Gilfach Goch 1
175		Gilfach Goch 2
51	Glyncoch	Glyncoch 1
463		Glyncoch 2
642	Graig	Graig 1
268		Graig 2
1130	Hawthorn	Hawthorn 1
390		Hawthorn 2
996	Hirwaun	Hirwaun 1
691		Hirwaun 2
176		Hirwaun 3
657	Llanharan	Llanharan 1
1609		Llanharan 2
1649	Llanharry	Llanharry 1
257		Llanharry 2

WIMD Rank		Electoral Division	SOA Lower Layer Name
1744		Llantrisant Town	Llantrisant Town 1
1812			Llantrisant Town 2
1139			Llantrisant Town 3
1736		Llantwit Fardre	Llantwit Fardre 1
1879			Llantwit Fardre 2
1712			Llantwit Fardre 3
1670			Llantwit Fardre 4
534		Llwn-y-pia	Llwyn-y-pia 1
159			Llwyn-y-pia 2
120		Maerdy	Maerdy 1
52			Maerdy 2
1015		Mountain Ash East	Mountain Ash East 1
468			Mountain Ash East 2
474		Mountain Ash West	Mountain Ash West 1
136			Mountain Ash West 2
359			Mountain Ash West 3
6		Penrhiwceiber	Penrhiwceiber 1
275			Penrhiwceiber 2
429			Penrhiwceiber 3
356			Penrhiwceiber 4
579		Pentre	Pentre 1
1451			Pentre 2
141			Pentre 3
493			Pentre 4
262		Pen-y-graig	Pen-y-graig 1
698			Pen-y-graig 2
110			Pen-y-graig 3
730			Pen-y-graig 4

WIMD Rank		Electoral Division	SOA Lower Layer Name
101		Pen-y-waun	Pen-y-waun 1
15			Pen-y-waun 2
1755		Pont-y-clun	Pont-y-clun 1
1904			Pont-y-clun 2
1884			Pont-y-clun 3
1171			Pont-y-clun 4
1485		Pontypridd Town	Pontypridd Town 1
994			Pontypridd Town 2
752		Porth	Porth 1
1280			Porth 2
415			Porth 3
539			Porth 4
707		Rhigos	Rhigos
709		Rhondda	Rhondda 1
480			Rhondda 2
1297			Rhondda 3
209		Rhydfelen Central/Ilan	Rhydfelen Central/Ilan 1
26			Rhydfelen Central/Ilan 2
145			Rhydfelen Central/Ilan 3
1308		Taffs Well	Taffs Well 1
1129			Taffs Well 2
1497		Talbot Green	Talbot Green 1
438			Talbot Green 2
1518		Ton-teg	Ton-teg 1
1651			Ton-teg 2
1193			Ton-teg 3
481		Tonypandy	Tonypandy 1
611			Tonypandy 2



WIMD Rank		Electoral Division	SOA Lower Layer Name
637		Tonyrefail East	Tonyrefail East 1
805			Tonyrefail East 2
87			Tonyrefail East 3
1641			Tonyrefail East 4
577		Tonyrefail West	Tonyrefail West 1
1723			Tonyrefail West 2
185			Tonyrefail West 3
920			Tonyrefail West 4
682		Trallwng	Trallwng 1
1423			Trallwng 2
541			Trallwng 3
554		Trealaw	Trealaw 1
100			Trealaw 2
306			Trealaw 3
604		Treforest	Treforest 1
839			Treforest 2
937			Treforest 3
487		Treherbert	Treherbert 1
114			Treherbert 2
248			Treherbert 3
286			Treherbert 4
869		Treorchy	Treorchy 1
745			Treorchy 2
410			Treorchy 3
560			Treorchy 4
860			Treorchy 5
4		Tylorstown	Tylorstown 1
198			Tylorstown 2
107			Tylorstown 3

WIMD Rank		Electoral Division	SOA Lower Layer Name
1625		Tyn-y-nant	Tyn-y-nant 1
668			Tyn-y-nant 2
149			Tyn-y-nant 3
121		Ynyshir	Ynyshir 1
791			Ynyshir 2
344		Ynysybwl	Ynysybwl 1
705			Ynysybwl 2
1620			Ynysybwl 3
639		Ystrad	Ystrad 1
598			Ystrad 2
403			Ystrad 3
131			Ystrad 4

## Appendix 6 - Glossary of Terms

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Adopted Plan</b>	The final version of the Local Development Plan (LDP).
<b>Adoption</b>	The final stage of LDP plan-preparation, where the LDP becomes the statutory development plan for the area it covers.
<b>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</b>	The AMR is a yearly report that monitors and assesses the extent to which the strategy and associated policies within the LDP are being implemented. The document is used to determine whether any revisions to the LDP are necessary.
<b>Baseline</b>	A description of the present state of an area that can be compared with future data.
<b>Candidate Site</b>	A site put forward for consideration within the LDP. All candidate sites will be assessed against specific criteria to determine their suitability for inclusion within the Plan, as a potential allocation.
<b>Community</b>	People living in a defined geographical area, or who share other interests and therefore form communities of interest.
<b>Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)</b>	Sets out the project plan and policies of the LPA for involving local communities, including businesses, in the preparation of the LDPs. The CIS is submitted to the Welsh Government for approval, as part of the Delivery Agreement.
<b>Consensus Building</b>	A process of dialogue with communities and other interested parties to understand relevant viewpoints and to seek agreement, where possible.
<b>Consultation</b>	A formal process in which comments are invited on a particular topic or draft document, usually within a specific period.
<b>Council</b>	The 'Council' in this instance is taken to mean Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.
<b>Delivery Agreement (DA)</b>	A document comprising the Local Planning Authority's (LPA) timetable for the preparation of the LDP, together with its Community Involvement Scheme (CIS), submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement.
<b>Deposit</b>	A formal six week stage in the plan making process, whereby individuals/organisations can make representations on the LDP. Representations pertaining to the 'soundness' of the plan can be examined by the independent Inspector.
<b>Deposit Plan</b>	This is a full draft of the LDP that undergoes a formal consultation period prior to it being submitted to the Welsh Government for public examination.
<b>Development Control Policies</b>	A suite of criteria-based policies, which will ensure that all development within the area meets the aims and objectives set out in the strategy.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Duly Made</b>	Representations to the LDP, which are made in the correct manner and within the specified consultation period, will be considered 'duly made'.
<b>Engagement</b>	A proactive process, that seeks to encourage the involvement and participation of the community and other interested parties in the decision making process.
<b>Evidence Base</b>	Reports, data and other information that provides the basis for plan preparation and the LDPs vision, objectives, policies and proposals, justifying the soundness of the policy approach of the LDP.
<b>Examination</b>	The examination in public of the Deposit LDP, Deposit representations, the report of consultation, the SA/SEA and the evidence base documents by the independent Inspector, appointed by the Welsh Government.
<b>Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)</b>	Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) relates to the assessment of the impacts of a plan (or project) against the nature conservation objectives of European designated sites for any likely significant effects. HRA also ascertains whether the proposed plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site.
<b>Indicator</b>	A measure of variables over time, often used to measure progress in the achievement of objectives, targets and policies.
<b>Inspector's Report</b>	The Report compiled by the Inspector at the conclusion of the LDP examination. The Inspector's Report, which is binding on the Council, contains recommendations on the content of the final LDP. The Council must adopt the LDP in the manner directed by the Inspector.
<b>Involvement</b>	A generic term that relates to community involvement, which includes both participation and consultation techniques.
<b>Local Development Plan (LDP)</b>	The LDP is a land-use planning document that includes the vision, objectives, strategy, proposals, policies and allocations for key areas of change/protection. Allocations, along with a number of other proposals are represented geographically on the LDP proposals map. The LDP is a statutory development plan that all LPAs in Wales are required to produce.
<b>Local Planning Authority (LPA)</b>	The LPA is the planning authority responsible for the preparation of the LDP, i.e. County or County Borough Council or National Park Authority. In this case, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.
<b>Local Strategic Partnership</b>	A partnership of stakeholders that comprises service providers, private, community and voluntary sector companies/organisations, that work in partnership to identify and meet local needs in a holistic way, typically through producing and employing community strategies.
<b>Objective</b>	A statement of what is intended, specifying the desired direction of change in trends.

Term	Definition
<b>Participation</b>	A process whereby stakeholders and the community can engage directly with the plan-making process, to guide decision-making.
<b>Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW)</b>	The Wales branch of PEDW is the independent body that will be responsible for the formal examination of the LDP.
<b>Planning Policy Wales (PPW)</b>	The document sets out the national planning policies for Wales, as produced by the Welsh Government.
<b>Pre-Deposit</b>	Stages of the preparation and consultation of the LDP before the Deposit Plan is finalised and approved by the Council.
<b>Preferred Strategy</b>	The preferred strategy sets out the broad, strategic direction for the LDP, inclusive of the preferred level of growth and the distribution for said growth, via the spatial strategy. It also includes the vision and objectives of the LDP.
<b>Press Release</b>	Sent to the Welsh media, including newspapers, radio and television news stations, as appropriate. Note: Media may choose not to print or broadcast an item.
<b>Regulation</b>	The regulations that provide the framework for LDP plan preparation are set out in Welsh Statutory Instruments.
<b>Report of Consultation</b>	A consultation report is one of the documents that are required as part of the independent examination. An 'initial consultation report' is also required at pre-deposit stage.
<b>Representations</b>	Comments received in relation to the LDP, either in support of, or in opposition to elements of its content.
<b>Review Report</b>	A document that provides an overview of those issues that have been considered as part of the full review process. It identifies changes that are likely to be required to the LDP, based on evidence. It further expresses the type of revision procedure to be followed in revising the LDP.
<b>Scoping</b>	A process of deciding the scope and level of detail of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA), including the sustainability effects and options that need to be considered, the assessment methods to be used and the structure and contents of the SA report.
<b>Soundness Tests</b>	For an LDP to be adopted, it must be determined to be 'sound' by the independent Inspector. The tests of soundness are set forth in PPW. The three tests are consistency, coherence and effectiveness.
<b>Stakeholders</b>	Individuals whose interests are directly affected by the LDP (and/or SA/SEA) and whose involvement is generally through representative bodies.
<b>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</b>	Generic term used internationally to describe environmental assessment, as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The SEA Regulations require a formal <i>environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use.</i>

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Strategic Development Plan (SDP)</b>	A Strategic Development Plan is a new plan in the development plan hierarchy in Wales, as introduced by the Planning (Wales) Act, 2015. It is a tool for regional planning, covering cross-boundary issues, such as housing and transport.
<b>Submission</b>	When the LDP, Sustainability Appraisal Report and the Habitats Regulations Assessment are formally submitted to the Welsh Government for examination by the independent Inspector, appointed by the Welsh Government.
<b>Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)</b>	Provides more detailed and/or site specific guidance on the application of LDP policies by supplementing certain policies. SPG does not form part of the development plan and is not subject to independent examination.
<b>Sustainability Appraisal (SA)</b>	Tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. economic, environmental and social factors). Each LPA is required by S62 (6) of the 2004 Act to undertake sustainability appraisal of its LDP. This form of sustainability appraisal fully incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive and Regulations.
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Report</b>	A document required to be produced as part of the sustainability appraisal process to describe and appraise the likely significant effects on sustainability of implementing the LDP, which also meets the requirement for the Environmental Report under the SEA Regulations. S62 (6) of the 2004 Act requires each local planning authority to prepare a report of the findings of the sustainability appraisal of the LDP.
<b>Sustainable Development</b>	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015).
<b>Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015</b>	The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is legislation that requires public bodies, such as local authorities to put long-term sustainability at the forefront of their thinking to make a difference to lives of people in Wales. Local authorities must work towards the seven well-being goals and enact the five ways of working set out in the Act.
<b>Workshop</b>	Where members of the public have the opportunity to engage in group debates and practical exercises with a written or drawn 'output'.

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## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### COUNCIL

12<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023

### CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

#### REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & COMMUNICATIONS.

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of the change to the Labour representation on the Alliance for the 2023/24 municipal year.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note that the Authority's nominated representative on the Alliance going forward will be County Borough Councillor J Smith; and
- 2.2 Subject to the agreement of 2.1, correspondence be sent to the Alliance advising them of the change to the Authority's nominated representative.

#### 3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The need to advise Members of the changes put forward by the Labour group in respect of the above-mentioned membership.

#### 4 CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 In accordance with the decision taken (Minute No.9 of the Council meeting held on the [10<sup>th</sup> May 2023](#)), I have received notification from the Labour Group of the following change to its membership:

- A change to its membership on the Alliance, in that County Borough Councillor J Smith is to be nominated in place of County Borough Councillor D Parkin.

#### 5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Members are encouraged as part of the Local Government & Elections Act Wales, to promote diversity in representations, particularly when determining senior roles.

#### 6. CONSULTATION/INVOLVEMENT

6.1 There are no consultation implications aligned to this report.

**7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

**8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 As in accordance with the Council's membership requirements – Council Constitution.

**9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES.**

9.1 The Council's Committees contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan objectives, therefore it is important to ensure the Committee membership to its Outside Bodies is complete and accurate.

**10 CONCLUSION**

10.1 To provide Members with information in respect of the Committee membership.

**Other Information:-**

*Relevant Scrutiny Committee – Not applicable*



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**12<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &  
COMMUNICATIONS**

**CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP**

**Background Papers**

Freestanding Matter

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