

Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan Delivery Agreement

(Revised May 2011)



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Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan

Delivery Agreement (Revised May 2011)

Summary

The Local Development Plan (LDP) will set out the Council's strategy and objectives for the development and use of land in Neath Port Talbot together with its policies to implement them over a fifteen year period from 2011-2026. When adopted the LDP will constitute the development plan for the County Borough and will be the primary document for use in the determination of planning applications and appeals.

The LDP will guide market-driven development and the location of projects and investment funded by local authority grant aid and infrastructure providers. It will have a major impact on the future shape of Neath Port Talbot and its individual communities.

The LDP will carry forward the strategy and policies set out in the Community Plan, other strategies for the Neath Port Talbot area¹ together with the Wales Spatial Plan and other national and regional guidance.

The new legislation and regulations regarding the preparation of the LDP require an open and on-going involvement with stakeholders in order to ensure that the Plan reflects the needs of the area and its communities. The Authority is fully committed to engaging with stakeholders and the community throughout the Plan's preparation. Wherever possible agreement on the best way forward will be the aim, however when difficult decisions have to be taken any options should have been fully considered. This Delivery Agreement sets out:

- **The Timetable** – this sets out the Council's timetable for preparing the LDP. It will identify the dates by when keystages in the Plan's preparation will be achieved.

¹Health and Well-being Strategy, Local Housing Strategy and Children and Young People's Plan



- **The Community Involvement Scheme** – this sets out who, when and how the Council proposes to consult and engage with various stakeholders throughout the Plan preparation process.

It also sets out how information will be made available to the public and how the public can engage with stakeholders, together with the role of County Borough Councillors and Community Councils in reflecting the views of the local communities.

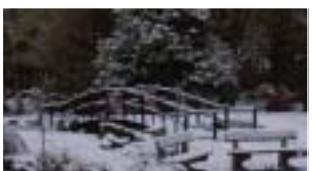
If you have any questions or would like more information on how to become involved please contact us, either by email at ldp@npt.gov.uk or telephone 01639 686821.

A Welsh version of this document is available on request and on the Council's website at www.npt.gov.uk



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Neath Port Talbot Draft Delivery Agreement

SECTION 1: Introduction

Introduction

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires local authorities in Wales to prepare a Local Development Plan (LDP) for their area. One of the main aims of the new system is to make the LDP more relevant, inclusive and engaging to local communities and to encourage a partnership approach to Plan preparation.

As part of the LDP process, the Council is required to prepare a Delivery Agreement in order to ensure the early and continuous engagement and involvement of stakeholders throughout the Plan preparation process. The purpose of this Delivery Agreement is to set out the timetable for LDP production, which will form a necessary project management tool for the Authority and to set out who, when and how the Authority proposes to consult and engage with various stakeholders throughout the LDP preparation process.

The legislation, regulations and Welsh Assembly Government planning guidance referred to in this document may be accessed from the Assembly Government website: www.wales.gov.uk.

This document and information concerning the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan can be accessed from the Authority's website: www.npt.gov.uk.

The draft Delivery Agreement was subject to a period of consultation during November 2007 where the views of various stakeholders and consultation bodies were sought. A summary of the comments received and responses are provided at Appendix 8. The Delivery Agreement was approved by Council on 20th December 2007 and agreed by the Welsh Assembly Government on 3rd September 2008.

A further period of consultation was held during February / March 2011 where the views of stakeholders and all those persons who had expressed an interest



in the Plan, were sought on the need to revise the timetable for the preparation of the LDP. No comments of objection were received. The revised Delivery Agreement was approved by Cabinet Board on 17th March 2011 and agreed by the Welsh Assembly Government on 21st April 2011.

This Delivery Agreement incorporates the revised timetable.

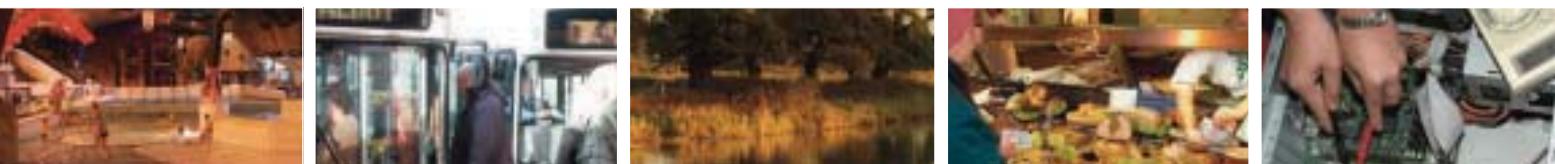
Purpose and Format of the Local Development Plan (LDP)

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to prepare a LDP, which sets out its strategy and objectives for the development and use of land in Neath Port Talbot together with its policies to implement them over a fifteen year period from 2011 – 2026. When adopted the LDP will constitute the development Plan for the County Borough (superseding the Unitary Development Plan) and will be the primary document for use in the determination of planning applications and appeals.

The LDP will have a major influence on the future shape of Neath Port Talbot and its individual communities. It will:

- Guide the amount and location of new development in the County Borough – from housing and employment to minerals and waste.
- Adopt a strategic view of the spatial implications of development decisions and act as a basis for rational and consistent decisions regarding the use and development of land.
- Reflect local aspirations, based on a vision agreed by the community and stakeholders.
- Guide growth and change, while protecting local diversity, character and sensitive environments.
- Indicate how and where change will occur over the Plan period.
- Guide the location of new public / grant funded projects and co-ordinate the provision of new infrastructure, such as highways and schools.

The LDP is not simply the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) rolled forward. It will address new issues such as health and well being, and must be based on evidence and consideration of all feasible alternatives. There will be a focus on stakeholder and community engagement throughout the process in order to make the Plan more relevant, inclusive and engaging to local communities. There will be difficult issues to address – for example, the identification of new housing sites – and as a local planning authority the



Council may have to take difficult decisions. It is essential that the process is transparent and fully explained in order to maintain community and stakeholder confidence in the LDP.

The preparation of the LDP is regulated by complex requirements and guidance and will be subject to a tight timetable agreed with the Assembly Government. The Plan will be subject to an independent examination to determine its ‘soundness’, with the subsequent Inspector’s Report binding on the Authority.

In preparing the LDP, the 2004 Act requires the Council to have regard to other plans and strategies that it produces, such as the Community Plan, integrating with other strategies where possible. Regard must also be given to national and regional plans, strategies, policies and guidance such as the Wales Spatial Plan and Regional Waste Plan.

In developing the LDP it is important to give early consideration to the format of the Plan. The Plan will focus on issues which are specifically relevant to the Plan area and will not unnecessarily repeat national planning policy. The proposed draft format is as follows:

- Introduction
- Strategy (vision, key aims and objectives, strategic issues, key policies and monitoring targets)
- Area-wide policies
- Major allocations of land
- Specific policies / proposals for key areas of change or protection
- Succinct reasoned justification (to explain policies and guide their implementation)
- Proposals map on a geographical base.

The key stages of LDP preparation as required under the provisions of the LDP Regulations and Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 are outlined in Section 2, Table 1. The table also identifies important stages of engagement.

A brief summary of the characteristics of the population of Neath Port Talbot is included in Appendix 11.



Sustainability Appraisal, Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the LDP and to report its findings as an integral part of the Plan preparation process. The Authority must also consider the need for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)² and will undertake a screening of the need to prepare a SEA (it is very likely that a SEA will be required).

In accordance with Assembly Government guidance, the SEA would be integrated with the SA and inform the Plan preparation process. In addition, any plan or programme likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site (a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA)), or a Ramsar site will be subject to the Habitats Directive and a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) / Appropriate Assessment may be required under the Habitats Regulations. Consideration of this matter will also be integrated with the SA/SEA. The Local Development Plan will address health issues and include health issues in the SA/SEA.

SA/SEA and HRA are iterative processes that will be undertaken throughout the Plan preparation process and will inform and direct the development of the Plan. It is a requirement of the Regulations that the LPA takes into account the SEA Environmental Report (i.e. the conclusions of the SEA) in decision making, shows how the results of the assessment have been taken into account, and gives the reasons for choosing the Plan as adopted in light of other reasonable alternatives. The SA/SEA will be prepared with the participation of the Environmental Consultation Bodies (as identified in the Regulations) and public and stakeholder consultations will be undertaken in parallel with LDP consultations.

The key stages involved in the preparation of the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment of the LDP, together with the proposed timetable are provided in Appendices 2 and 3.

²Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004



Purpose and Content of the Delivery Agreement

The Delivery Agreement is a statutory requirement of the Plan preparation process. The purpose of this Delivery Agreement is to set out the Council's timetable for LDP preparation, together with the resources the Authority will invest in plan preparation and to provide details of its Community Involvement Scheme (CIS), which establishes who will be involved in the LDP process, and how and when participation and consultation will occur.

The Delivery Agreement also sets out how information will be made available to the public, the stakeholders that will be involved together with the role of County Borough Councillors and Community Councils in reflecting the views of local communities.

Once agreed the Delivery Agreement commits the Council to produce the LDP in accordance with stated timescales and consultation processes. It is essential that the Council delivers the Plan in accordance with the Delivery Agreement as this will be one of the tests of soundness when examined by the Planning Inspectorate.

The Delivery Agreement has been prepared in accordance with the Assembly Government's regulations and guidance – The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005, Local Development Plans Wales, 2005 and the Local Development Plan Manual, 2006. The Delivery Agreement will be subject to regular review and if necessary amended in accordance with LDP Regulations (see Section 4).

The Delivery Agreement comprises the following two elements:

- **The Timetable**

This sets out the various stages of Plan preparation (definitive and indicative dates) and how the Council will manage this process, together with the resources required. It also establishes key dates for the preparation and publication of the Sustainability Appraisal Report, Annual Monitoring Report and supplementary planning guidance (SPG). The timetable is detailed at Section 2 and in Appendices 1-3 and Section 4 addresses monitoring arrangements.

²Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004



- **The Community Involvement Scheme**

This sets out who, when and how the Council will engage and consult with various consultations bodies and the public throughout the Plan preparation process. The CIS is detailed at Section 3.

Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

SPG are non statutory documents and may be prepared to expand upon policies or proposals contained in the LDP. The need to review existing SPG and prepare new SPG will be considered as part of the LDP preparation process. The Pre-Deposit stage will be a key time at which any new SPG needed will be identified. Relevant stakeholders will be consulted during the production of SPG.

Where SPG will assist the understanding of the LDP it will be prepared and consulted on as an intrinsic part of the process of engagement as set out in this Delivery Agreement. For each SPG a report of consultation and engagement will be produced and made available with the approved guidance.

Independent Examination

The Council is required to submit its Deposit LDP, associated documents and representations to the Assembly Government for consideration of its “soundness” by an Inspector appointed by the Assembly Government in an “Examination in Public”. This is an independent process for determining whether it is fundamentally sound. The Inspector will have regard to the evidence submitted with the Plan and the representations received at the Deposit stage in order to determine whether the Plan meets the following tests of soundness³:

Procedural

- P1 The Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Delivery Agreement including the Community Involvement Scheme
- P2 The Plan and its policies have been subjected to Sustainability Appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment

³Local Development Plans Wales, Welsh Assembly Government , 2005; Guide to the Examination of Local Development Plans – Planning Inspectorate Wales



Consistency

- C1 It is a land use Plan which has regard to other relevant plans, policies and strategies relating to the area or to adjoining areas
- C2 It has regard to national policy
- C3 It has regard to the Wales Spatial Plan
- C4 It has regard to the community strategy

Coherence and Effectiveness

- CE1 It sets out a coherent strategy from which its policies and allocations logically flow and where cross boundary issues are relevant, it is compatible with the development plans prepared by neighbouring authorities
- CE2 The strategy, policies and allocations are realistic and appropriate having considered the relevant alternatives and are founded on a robust and credible evidence base
- CE3 There are clear mechanisms for implementation and monitoring
- CE4 The Plan is reasonably flexible to enable it to deal with changing circumstances.

Wherever possible, the Inspector will aim to progress the LDP to the stage where it is sound and can be safely adopted. In view of the tests set out above, it is crucial that the LDP is founded on a strong evidence base with its form and content as prescribed by the Regulations and consultation procedures. Following the examination, the Inspector will produce a report recommending changes to the LDP together with reasons for the changes. The Inspector's recommendations will be binding and therefore accepted by the Council, unless the Assembly Government intervenes.



SECTION 2: The Timetable [Revised May 2011]

The timetable detailing the various stages of the LDP process and how it will be project managed, together with the resources required for its preparation is a key part of the Delivery Agreement.

Table 1 outlines the proposed key stages and timetable in the LDP preparation process required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the LDP Regulations⁴. A more detailed timetable is set out in Appendices 1-3.

Table 1: Timetable for LDP Preparation

Stage in Plan Preparation		Timescale
	Definitive Timetable	
1	Start	<i>September 2008</i>
2	Review and Develop Evidence Base	
3	Consultation on sites suitable for development	<i>February – August 2009</i>
4	Pre-deposit Participation / Preparation (<i>Regulation 14</i>)	<i>May 2011</i>
5	Pre-deposit Consultation – for a 6 week period (<i>Regulation 15</i>)	<i>September - October 2011</i>
6	Deposit Participation/ Preparation	<i>November 2012</i>
7	Deposit LDP and associated documents – for a 6 week period (<i>Regulation 17</i>)	<i>January – February 2013</i>
	Indicative Timetable	
8	Publication of Site Allocation Representations – for a 6 week period (<i>Regulations 20/21</i>)	<i>May 2013</i>
9	Submission of LDP to Assembly Government for examination (<i>Regulation 22</i>)	<i>November 2013</i>
10	Independent Examination in Public (<i>Regulation 23</i>)	<i>March 2014</i>
11	Publication of the Inspector's Report (<i>Regulation 24</i>)	<i>October 2014</i>
12	Adoption of the LDP (<i>Regulation 25</i>)	<i>November 2014</i>
	Monitoring and Review	

⁴The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005



Definitive and Indicative Stages

As evident in Table 1, the LDP Regulations provide for a two-stage timetable – definitive stage and indicative stage.

Definitive stages (stages 1-6) are those up to and including the Deposit Plan stage. As these stages are under the direct control of the Council, the timescales outlined above are considered to be realistic and achievable. Every effort will be made to adhere to and avoid deviations from the (agreed) timetable.

Indicative stages (stages 7-12) relate to those stages of the LDP process post Deposit and up to and including Adoption. As this stage of the process is dependant on various external factors and influences, such as the number of deposit representations received, the dates are indicative. In accordance with the LDP Regulations, the Council will define the indicative timetable within 3 months of the close of the formal six week Deposit period (following entering into a service level agreement with the Planning Inspectorate).

Resources

The Council is required to identify the resources – staff and financial – required at various stages in the LDP process⁵ in preparing the Delivery Agreement.

The Council's Planning Policy Team will lead in the production and management of the LDP process, including the preparation of any consultative documents, and will be charged with the management of the definitive stages (1-6, see Table 1) of the preparation process.

The following officer time will be dedicated to the LDP preparation process:

LDP Team

- o Planning Policy Manager (70%)
- o Planning Policy Team Leader (50%)
- o Planning Policy Officers X 6 (70%)
- o Planning Trainee (70%)
- o Planning Technicians X 2 (70%)
- o Office Manager (50%)

⁵Local Development Plans Wales, Welsh Assembly Government 2005



Officers in other Council service areas will also be involved in various aspects of the Plan preparation process as required. Where necessary, external consultants will be used to undertake surveys and advise on particular issues, such as the SA/SEA/ HRA of the Plan.

Sufficient funds will be available to ensure that the LDP progresses in accordance with the Delivery Agreement. The budgetary requirements for the LDP process are at Appendix 9.

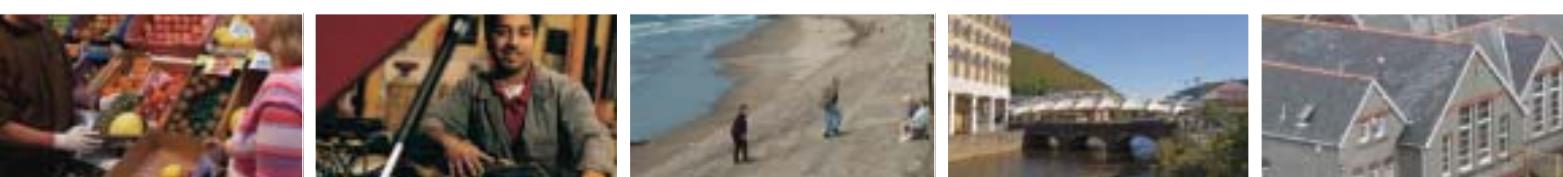
Decision Making and Member Briefings

The Council will expedite the timetable wherever feasible providing that there would be no adverse impact on engagement or plan preparation. Decision making on the LDP will be by Board or Cabinet, as appropriate. Key formal stages will be decided by Council, following consultation with Cabinet, Planning Committee, Scrutiny Committee and the Economic and Community Regeneration Board.

Reflecting their key role in engaging with the public, Members will be briefed on a regular basis and prior to consultation exercises. This will be on a six monthly cycle.

Achievability / Risk Management

The definitive stage of the timetable is considered to be realistic and achievable, having regard to resource input in to the LDP process. While the Council will seek to avoid departure from the proposed timetable, a number of risks have been identified which could result in programme slippage. The potential risks and proposed mitigation measures to address / minimise these risks are set out in Appendix 4. The Council will report and justify any substantial deviation (of more than 4 months) from the proposed timetable. Section 4 identifies the procedures to be followed should the Council identify the need to amend the Delivery Agreement.



SECTION 3: The Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

Introduction

The Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) sets out the Council's principles, strategy and process for engaging with stakeholders and the community throughout the LDP process. The LDP Regulations require the Council to work in partnership with stakeholders and the community throughout the Plan preparation process and highlight the importance of involving the community in strategic issues as early in the process as possible.

The key principles that underpin community engagement in the LDP process are defined in LDP Wales (2005) as:

- Creating conditions for early involvement and feedback at a stage when people can recognise a chance to influence the Plan;
- Encouraging the commitment of all participants to an open and honest debate on realistic development alternatives in the search for a consensus; and
- Recognising the need to adopt approaches for engaging the community, including business which seeks the views of those not normally involved.

Aims of the CIS

The aim of the CIS is to indicate who will be formally involved in the LDP process and how and when the participation and consultation will occur. The new legislation and regulations regarding the preparation of the LDP require an open and on-going involvement with stakeholders in order to ensure that the Plan reflects the needs of the area and its communities. Early and continuous engagement in the process should assist in resolving conflict at the earliest opportunity and enable the Council to build as much consensus as possible with regard to the overall strategy of the Plan.

The Council is fully committed to engaging with stakeholders and the local community throughout the Plan's preparation and intends to engage widely and as early as possible. It is important that stakeholders become involved early in the LDP process so that their ideas can be considered and tested.



The CIS will provide the framework for everyone with an interest in future of Neath Port Talbot and the LDP process to become involved in its preparation.

Links with the Wales Spatial Plan and Collaborative Work

It is important in preparing the Plan and producing an appropriate and robust strategy that the Council is fully aware of proposals and developments in adjoining authorities and beyond, which may impact on the County Borough. There are already a range of forums such as the Wales Spatial Plan working groups, the South West Wales Regional Planning Group, the Regional Transport Plan and the Regional Waste Plan. A close working relationship will be forged with the adjoining Authorities: the City and County of Swansea, Carmarthen and Powys County Councils, Bridgend and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Councils and the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority through regular programmes of meetings.

The Council will keep adjoining Community Councils informed of progress in the preparation of the Plan (see Appendix 6) and will involve them in its preparation if requested.

Neath Port Talbot's Approach to Community Engagement

Engagement in the Plan's preparation will focus on:

Stakeholders: as representatives of the many interest-based and geographical communities that make up Neath Port Talbot, stakeholders will be encouraged to play a full part in the preparation of the Plan (see below).

The Public: individual members of the public will have 4 stages at which they may make formal comments and representations (see Appendix 3). In addition, the Council will use a range of methods to raise awareness and encourage involvement in the Plan's preparation (see below).

The Council's 'Equalities' Guide for Community Engagement' will guide the approach to community and stakeholder involvement in the preparation of the LDP. The document contains advice and guidance on how to communicate



consult and engage with the community – including ‘seldom heard’ groups – when producing plans, strategies and policies, and sets out various methods of consultation.

Regard will also be given to the Partnership Agreement between the Authority and the Voluntary / Community sector in the County Borough – ‘Working Together - Making a Real Difference’. The document represents a shared commitment to partnership working between the Council and the local voluntary / community sector and sets out the responsibilities and expectations of these bodies in working together, promoting greater participation in the formulation and implementation of policy and co-operation in taking forward strategic programmes.

Consensus Building

A variety of consultation methods (see below) will enable structured discussions and engagement with the aim of building as much consensus as possible, and this will be particularly important during the early stages of Plan preparation. The Council believes that early community engagement in the LDP process is critical to achieve local ownership and legitimacy for policies that will shape the future development of the County Borough. This approach should reduce the time taken to reach adoption by reducing the number of deposit objections to policies and therefore reducing the time spent at later stages of the Plan preparation process. Consensus building will be assisted through the establishment and sharing of a common information base for the key issues from the start of the process.

Methods of Engagement, Consultation and Participation

The Council will use a range of methods to facilitate stakeholder and community involvement throughout the plan preparation process. It is important that the techniques adopted are fit for purpose for different stages of LDP preparation and for different groups. The proposed engagement and consultation methods include:

- Publications / updates / questions and answers on the Council’s website at www.npt.gov.uk



- Direct contact (via letter / email)
- Advertisements in local newspapers
- Documents deposited at Council offices and libraries throughout Neath Port Talbot
- Press releases
- Existing networks and partnerships
- The Community Newspaper
- Citizens' Panel

Further details of the main stages of engagement and involvement in the Plan preparation process are detailed at Appendix 3.

Stakeholder Engagement

LDP Key Stakeholder Group

A LDP Key Stakeholder Group (KSG) will be established to assist in Plan preparation and will act as a sounding board to enable structured discussions. The KSG will be based on the existing Community Plan Partnership and will be made up of a cross section of representatives who all have a significant interest in the future development of Neath Port Talbot. The potential members of the Stakeholder Group are set out in Appendix 5 – these may be subject to amendment as Plan preparation progresses.

Members of the KSG will play an important role in the key stages of the Plan's preparation. The group will assist in identifying potential alternative strategies and options and in assessing these as the Plan progresses.

At this stage it is anticipated that the LDP Stakeholder Group's role will evolve through formal meetings, consultation and discussion throughout the Plan preparation process, up to the Deposit stage. Progress on the Plan's preparation will be considered by the Community Plan Partnership meetings. Where necessary, engagement with other forums and groups represented through the KSG will be held. This will secure the involvement of key groups, including 'seldom heard groups' such as young people, elderly, gypsies, travellers and disabled.

Further details of the stages of engagement and involvement are provided in Appendices 1 and 3.



Specific and General Consultation Bodies

In accordance with the LDP Regulations, the Council has identified those Specific Consultation Bodies (including Countryside Council for Wales, Assembly Government, Environment Agency and adjoining local authorities) which will be consulted at each stage of the Plan preparation process (see Appendix 6), as well as those General Consultation Bodies which appear to have an interest in development in the County Borough (including business and voluntary groups) and which will be invited to become involved in the process (Appendix 7).

In order to avoid consultation fatigue for stakeholders and to encourage structured discussion engagement will be focussed on the groups represented in the LDP Key Stakeholder Group. Where necessary the need to expand or amend the membership, or to arrange meetings with individual groups will be addressed.

Through this process Key Stakeholder engagement will address LDP issues and progress on an annual basis with updates (through the Community Plan Partnership) every 6 months (see Appendices 1-3). In addition Key Partners (who have an important role in the preparation of the Plan) will be invited to participate in the Technical Officer Groups (see internal consultation below), and a separate Technical Officer Group will be created to consider preparation of the SA/SEA and HRA. These groups will be likely to meet on a quarterly programme, but where partners experience difficulties in attending meetings the Council will endeavour to ensure that they remain fully involved (e.g. electronically or through separate meetings).

Community / Area-based Stakeholder Groups

In order to secure effective involvement with local communities a number of community / area based groups will be established. They will comprise local stakeholders including Community Councils and others with an interest in the development of the area and will meet on an annual basis. The findings of the groups would be fed back to the LDP Key Stakeholder Group.



Document and Feedback Availability

Consultation documents and notes of the proceedings at stakeholder meetings will be made widely available in order to encourage and secure effective engagement throughout the LDP process. They will be supplied to consultees and published electronically on the Council's website (www.npt.gov.uk) and by e-mail and hard copies will be made available at the following locations:

- Civic Centres
- Libraries
- One Stop Shop

Paper copies will be available for purchase at a cost that covers the Council's administrative costs.

Expectations of Stakeholders

In order to ensure that stakeholders play a full role and represent their local communities throughout the LDP process it will be important that they have regard to the following expectations:

- Respond to correspondence within an appropriate timescale following any given procedure;
- Raise legitimate issues that can be addressed by the LDP;
- Commit to the process by attending, contributing and helping to achieve consensus;
- Identify any gaps in information supplied / evidence base;
- Identify proposed sites early in the process;
- Follow relevant guidelines and procedures;
- Share / provide information if required;
- Understand that the Inspector's Report is binding and there can be no appeal in respect of the recommendations of the Inspector;
- Provide contact details to allow the Council to feedback responses.



Support

The Planning Policy Team, with assistance from colleagues from across the Authority and the Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Services, will support and facilitate the engagement methods set out above and undertake the consultation / participation exercises throughout the LDP process.

The Public

This includes everyone with an interest in the future of Neath Port Talbot. Members of the public will be informed of LDP progress through various methods, including the Council's community newspaper and website – both of which will contain up to date information and articles regarding the Plan's preparation.

County Borough Councillors and Community Councils will play important roles as elected members and bodies in engaging with local communities and conveying issues and information. Members will be briefed on a regular basis and prior to consultation exercises. It is anticipated that this will be on a six monthly basis. At the same stages, briefing documents will be sent to Community Councils and further support provided if requested.

Notes of the stakeholder meetings will be publicised on the Council's website and by emails, while paper copies will be made available at libraries throughout the County Borough. Questions and comments (unless confidential) concerning the LDP will also be posted on the website.

In addition, members of the public will have the right to make formal representations and thereby influence the Plan at the formal plan preparation stages:

- The suggestion of Candidate Sites for development
- Pre-Draft Plan
- Draft Plan
- Sites proposed by objectors to the Draft Plan.



The Citizen's Panel

The Council's Citizen's Panel will provide a method to investigate the opinions of a cross-section of the County Borough's population. The Panel comprises 1200 people who are representative of the County Borough and will form an useful 'control group'. The Panel would be consulted at important stages in the preparation of the Plan and particularly in the early stages of issue identification and consideration of alternatives.

The Candidate Sites Register

A register of Candidate Sites will be created early in the Plan's preparation (see Appendix 3). The suggestion of potential sites for development (e.g. housing, business, retail) will be invited by advertisement in the local press and via the Council's website. Anyone may suggest a site, but any sites will be expected to be supported by information as to why the site is suitable. The Authority will identify the information that will be needed for the sites to be considered. The register will be publicly available on the website and at deposit locations. Site notices will be placed on site or on adjacent land to invite comments. Following consideration of the sites and any representations, the Council's assessment (together with any comments received) will be published. This register of sites would then play an important role when the Council identifies sites for development and in the discussion of alternatives. In order to avoid alternative sites being proposed late in the process and as a result not having been properly assessed, publicised and discussed with stakeholders, a deadline for submission will be published (in the local press and on the Council's website).

Petitions

Petitions are sometimes used by groups to offer their opinions on an issue. The petition should clearly state on each page the purpose of the petition, and should have a contact name/ address/ e-mail. Correspondence would be directed to this contact; individual acknowledgement will not be sent to signatories of the petition.



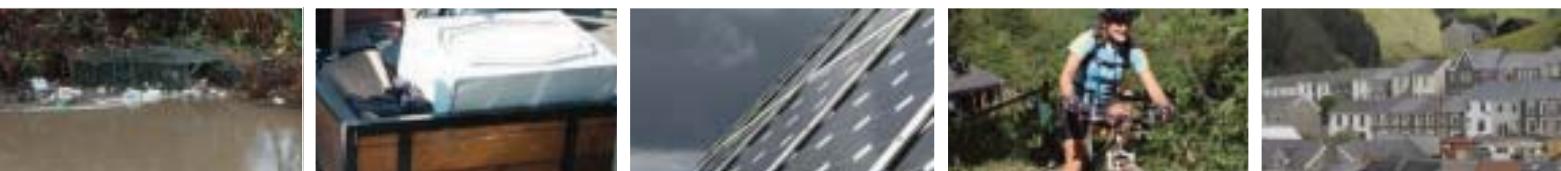
Internal Consultation and Technical Officer Groups

Active involvement across the Council is essential if the Plan is to address the spatial implications of its strategies. The Technical Officer Group will direct the preparation work and oversee progress. It will be chaired by the Director of the Environment.

Officer-level groups will address topic-based issues such as housing (and affordable housing) and area-based community issues. As explained above, Key Partners will be invited to participate in these groups which will be at the heart of plan preparation.

Welsh Language

The preparation of the LDP, engagement and consultation will conform to the Council's Welsh Language Scheme. Wherever possible public documents will be published bilingually, although where they are technical in nature and of limited public interest the need for the document to be bilingual will be reviewed.



SECTION 4: Monitoring and Review

Monitoring and Review

In accordance with the LDP Regulations, the Council will monitor and review progress against the Delivery Agreement throughout the preparation of the LDP, in order to ensure that the aims of the Community Involvement Scheme are being met in accordance with the proposed timetable.

Instances in which the Delivery Agreement may need to be reviewed and amended include:

- If the process fall significantly behind schedule (4 months)
- If any significant changes are required to the CIS
- If there are significant changes in the resources available to the Council
- If new European, UK or Assembly legislation, regulations or guidance should require new procedures or tasks to be undertaken
- If any other changes of circumstances materially affect the delivery of the Plan in accordance with the Delivery Agreement.

If the Council identifies the need to review the Delivery Agreement there will be a need to re-consult with the specific consultation bodies and seek agreement with the Welsh Assembly Government in accordance with the LDP Regulations.

Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)

Following adoption of the Plan, the Council will produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) of the LDP and SA/SEA. In accordance with guidance contained in Local Development Plan Wales (2005), the report will cover the period 1st April to 31st March each year and will be submitted to the Assembly Government by 31st October of the same year. The AMR will be made available for public inspection and representation.

The AMR will assess how effectively the policies and proposals of the Plan are performing. If a policy is not being implemented the Council will give the reasons for this and set out the steps it intends to take to secure



implementation and any intention to revise the LDP, to replace or amend the policy.

In accordance with Assembly Government guidance, the Council will seek to integrate its approach to monitoring of the Plan with other Council strategies and plans, particularly the monitoring / review of the Community Plan. Where LDP objectives complement those in other strategies, monitoring will highlight common indicators and targets.

Review of the LDP

Following adoption of the Plan, the Council intend to undertake a full review of the LDP at least once every four years, although the frequency and timing will depend on findings in the AMR / local circumstances. The review will include reconsideration of the ‘soundness’ of the Plan together with reassessment of the Sustainability Appraisal and emerging trends, and will indicate whether alterations are needed to the Plan. Should the Plan need amending the process to be followed for revision will be the same as for Plan preparation.

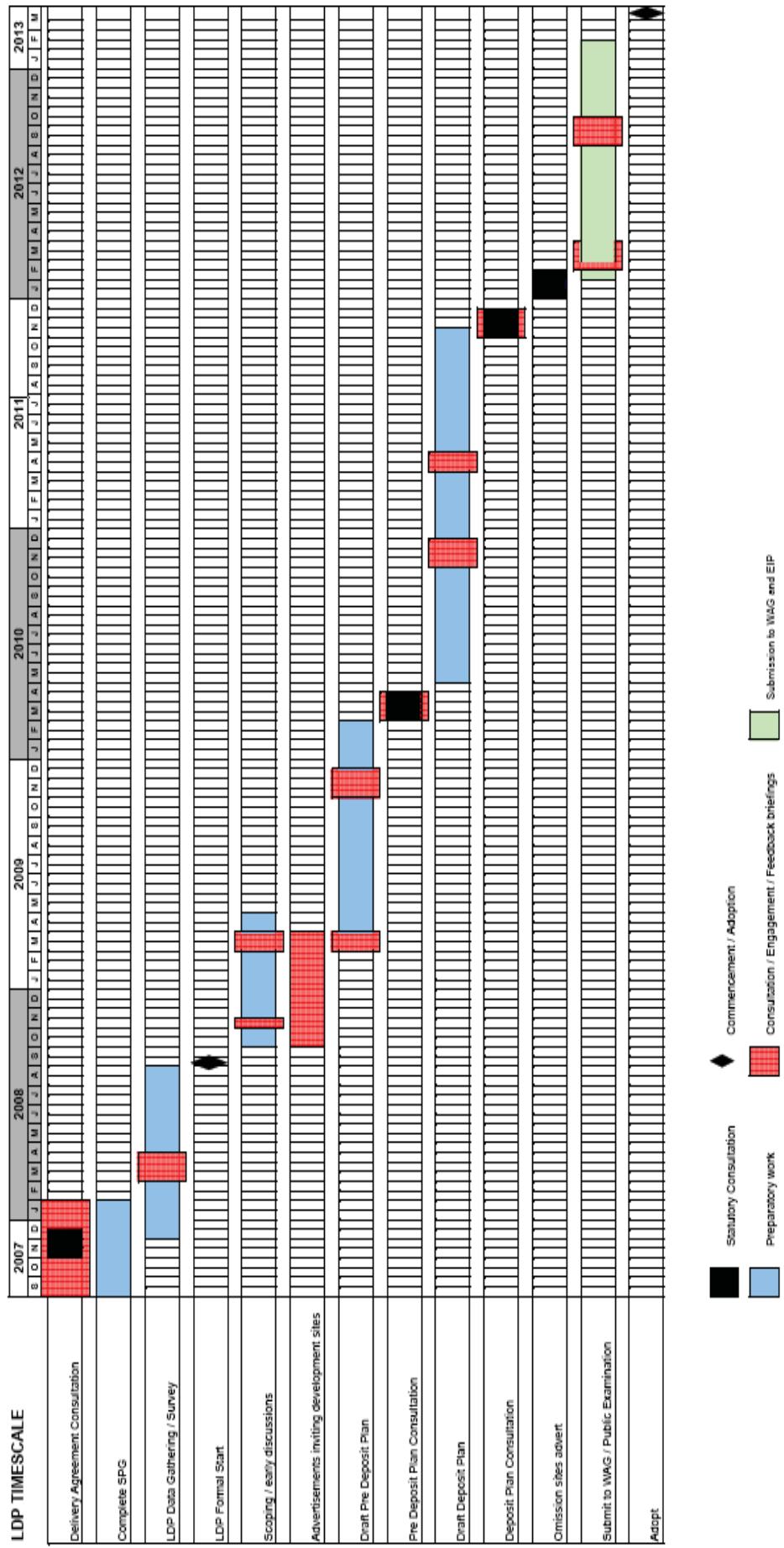




APPENDICES



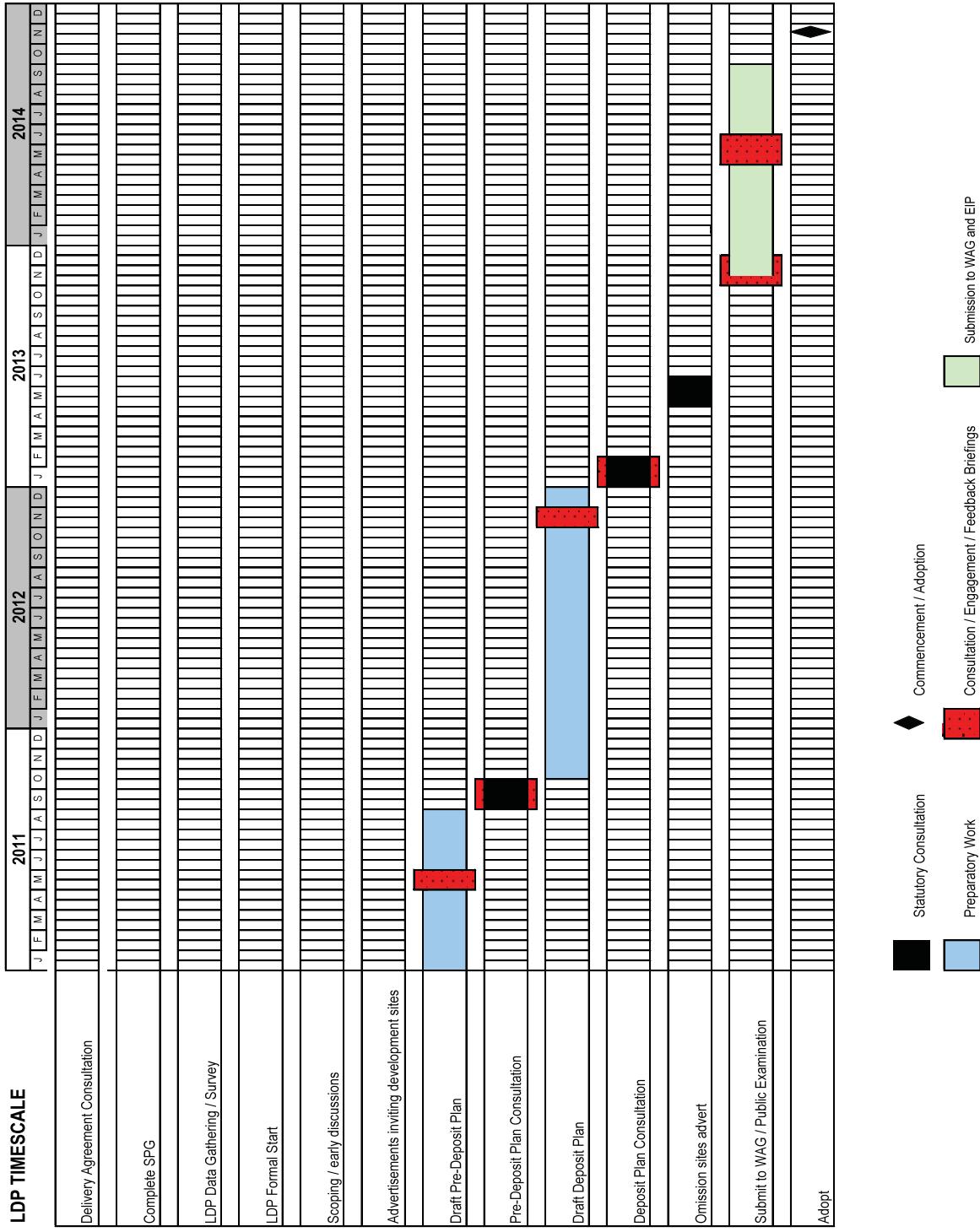
Appendix 1: Detailed LDP Timetable [Original]



Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan Delivery Agreement - May 2011



Appendix 1: Detailed LDP Timetable [Revised May 2011]



Appendix 2: Key Stages of the LDP, SA/SEA and HRA

Stage	LDP Stage	SA /SEA Stage	HRA Stage
1	• Review and Develop Evidence Base	• Initial screening	• Initial screening
2	• Consultation on Candidate Development Sites	• Develop the SA Scoping Report • Consultation on the SA Scoping Report	• Assessing Likely Significant Effects
3	• Pre-Deposit Stakeholder Engagement • Preparation of the SA Report	• SA assessment of strategic options and sites	• Assessing Likely Significant Effects
4	• Pre-Deposit Consultation	• Consultation on SA Report	• Assessing Likely Significant Effects
5	• Deposit LDP Stakeholder Engagement	• Assessment of emerging Plan	• AA Scoping (if required)
6	• Deposit LDP and Associated Documents	• Consultation on SA Report • Appropriate Assessment	• AA Scoping (if required)
7	• Consultation on Alternative Sites put forward by objectors	• Repeat SA on new options arising • Finalise SA Report	• Avoidance and Mitigation measures (if necessary) • Assess likely significant effects of Alternative Sites. • AA Scoping/ Amend AA if necessary



Stage	LDP Stage	SA /SEA Stage	HRA Stage
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of LDP to the Assembly Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of SA Report with LDP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultation on AA (if required) Record AA
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent Examination 		
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of the Inspector's Report 		
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of the LDP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of SA / SEA Statement 	
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring the implementation of the Plan 	

Appendix 3: Key Stages of Plan Preparation and Opportunities for Involvement Preparation and Submission of Delivery Agreement (Regulation 9)

Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
Draft Delivery Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To inform stakeholders that the Council is preparing a LDP and will seek community involvement To set out the timetable for LDP production To seek the views of stakeholders and consultees on the content of the Draft Delivery Agreement 	November 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific consultation bodies General consultation bodies as appropriate Key Stakeholder Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters and Draft Delivery Agreement to be sent to Specific consultation bodies Letters to be sent to all consultees Website Press release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any comments will be considered and Draft Delivery Agreement amended if necessary Summary of comments received will be presented to Members
Publication of agreed Delivery Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To inform stakeholders of the content and availability of the agreed Delivery Agreement 	September 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific consultation bodies General consultation bodies as appropriate Key Stakeholder Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters will be sent to all stakeholders informing that the Delivery Agreement has been agreed by the Assembly Government Specific consultation bodies will be sent hard copy of the agreed Delivery Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of agreed Delivery Agreement made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website



Pre-Deposit Preparation and Participation (Regulation 14)

Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
Start of Plan preparation		September 2008	• Potential interested parties	• Website • Press release	• N/A
Initial screening for SEA/ HRA. Developing SA/ HRA Scoping Report	• To engage with environmental consultation bodies and relevant stakeholders to develop SA objectives	September 2008	• Environmental consultation bodies • Specific consultation bodies • Other environmental consultees	• Direct mailing (letter / email) • Website	• Report on screening consultation made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website
Candidate Site Register	• Invite stakeholders to submit candidate sites and produce a Site Register	February – August 2009	• Potential interested parties	• Website • Press release • Letter to those that have requested to be informed	• Site notices • Site Register made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website
Identify issues; Review and develop evidence base; Develop vision and establish LDP objectives;	• To understand the context, review and supplement data and identify the issues and objectives the LDP should address • To develop a clear vision for the Plan area and objectives for the LDP	June/July 2010	• Specific consultation bodies • Key Stakeholder Group • Community / Area based groups • Community Plan Partnership • Key technical officer group	• Meetings / round table discussions • Direct mailing (letter / email) • Local newspaper • Press release • Website	• Minutes of meetings made available on the Council's website • Prepare evidence base topic papers • Report to Committee – made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website

<p>Consider alternative strategies and options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To generate viable options and assess each one 	<p>• General consultation bodies as appropriate</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed vision / objectives made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website 	
	<p>Consultation on SA / HRA Scoping Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enable environmental consultation bodies and relevant stakeholders to comment on the SA / HRA Scoping Report 	<p>June / July 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental consultation bodies • Specific consultation bodies • Other interested parties • Key Stakeholder Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Press release • Direct mail (letter/ email) • SA / HRA Scoping Report made available at Deposit locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation Report made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website
	<p>Consider the Draft Pre-deposit Plan – i.e. the draft vision, strategy, alternatives and key allocations</p>	<p>May 2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To agree a preferred strategy for the LDP • To identify areas / topics for SPG production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Stakeholder Group • Community / Area based groups • Community Plan Partnership • General consultation bodies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of meetings made available on the Council's website • Report to Committee – made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website • Report on the assessment and implications made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website
	<p>SA / HRA assessment of strategic options and sites</p>	<p>May 2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the vision, strategic options and sites are assessed against the proposed SA / HRA framework 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental consultation bodies • Specific consultation bodies • Other interested parties • Key Stakeholder Group

Pre-Deposit Consultation (Regulation 15)

Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
Consultation on the Pre-Deposit Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable stakeholders to respond to the preferred strategy and suggest modifications To identify potential sites that correspond with the preferred strategy 	September - October 2011 <i>(6 week consultation period)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All stakeholders General public and other interested parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct mailing (letters / email) Website Press release Local advertisement (Regulation 15d) Documents made available at Deposit locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledge duly made representations by letter / email Summary of representations received together with the Council's response reported to Committee and made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website Preferred strategy made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website
Consultation on SA / HRA Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To demonstrate how the LDP complies with the SA / HRA framework and SEA Regulations 	March 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All stakeholders and interested parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct mailing (letters / email) Website Press release Local newspaper SA / HRA Report made available at Deposit locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledge duly made representations by letter / email Summary of representations received together with the Council's response reported to Committee and made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website

* Non-shaded box relates to key LDP stage; Shaded box relates to key SA stage

Deposit LDP and Associated Documents (Regulation 17)

Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
Prepare Deposit Plan, SA Report and HRA Report	• Develop the Deposit LDP out of the preceding stages of the Plan process	December 2011 - June 2012	• Key technical officer group • Key Stakeholder Group • Community/ area based groups • Community Plan Partnership	• Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports to Committee to obtain Council approval for Deposit LDP • Summary of feedback made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website
Consider the Deposit Plan		November 2012	• Key Stakeholder Group • Community / area based groups • Community Plan Partnership • General consultation bodies as appropriate	• Meetings / round table discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of the meetings made available on the Council's website • Report to Committee – made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website
Place LDP and associated documents on Deposit (including SA / HRA Report)	• To enable stakeholders to make representations to the Deposit LDP and associated supporting documents	January - February 2013 <i>(6 week consultation period)</i>	• All stakeholders • General public and other interested parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct mailing (letters / email) • Website • Press release • Local advertisement (Regulation 17d) • Deposit Plan and associated supporting documents made available at Deposit locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge duly made representations by letter / email • Summary of representations received together with the Council's response reported to Committee and made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website

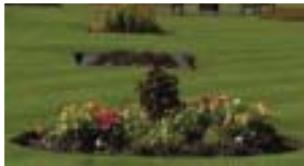


Alternative Sites (Regulations 20 / 21)

Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
6 week consultation exercise on new / alternative site representations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To allow interested parties to make representations on alternative sites To consider whether any changes to the Deposit LDP should be recommended in the Consultation Report 	<i>May/June 2013 (6 week consultation period)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All stakeholders General public and all interested parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct mailing (letters / email) Website (copies of new / alternative site proposals made available on website) Press release Local advertisement (Regulation 20d) Copies of new alternative site proposals made available at Deposit locations Deposit locations Site notices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledge duly made representations by letter / email Summary of representations received together with the Council's response reported to Committee and made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website Prepare report for EIP
Repeat SA / HRA on new options arising and finalise SA / HRA Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To determine whether sites are compatible with the SA / HRA 	<i>May/June 2013</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders Environmental consultation bodies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct mailing (letters / email) Website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to Committee – made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website

Italic dates are indicative

*Non-shaded box relates to key LDP stage; Shaded box relates to key SA stage



Submission of LDP to the Assembly Government and Planning Inspectorate for Examination (Regulation 22)

Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
Submission of LDP and associated documents (including SA / HRA Reports) to the Assembly Government and Planning Inspectorate for examination	• To inform stakeholders that the Council has submitted its LDP to the National Assembly	November 2013	• All representatives and any stakeholders that have requested to be informed of LDP progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Direct mailing (letter / email) - notice to persons who requested notification • Press release • Local advertisement (Regulation 22(5)b) <p>• All documents submitted to the National Assembly made available at deposit locations and on the Council's website, where practicable</p>	

Italic dates are indicative

Independent Examination (Regulation 23)



Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
Publication of Notice of Independent Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that stakeholders are advised that an Independent Examination into the LDP will be taking place 	<i>January 2014</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All representors / any stakeholders that have requested to be informed of LDP progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Direct mailing (letter / email) Press release Local advertisement (Regulation 23(1)c) 	N/A
Pre-examination meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To allow the Independent Planning Inspector to advise on examination procedures and format 	<i>January 2014</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All representors / any stakeholders that have requested to be informed of LDP progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Direct mailing (letter / email) Press release Information made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website 	N/A
Examination of the Plan (consideration of the soundness of the LDP and all representations made to the Plan by Independent Planning Inspector)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide an impartial planning view on the soundness of the Plan and the representations received in relation to it. 	<i>March 2014</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All representors and others at the invitation of the Inspector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round table discussions / hearings Formal written reps 	

Italic dates are indicative

Publication of the Inspector's Report (Regulation 24)

Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
Receipt/ publication of the Inspector's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To inform stakeholders of the Inspector's decisions. 	<i>October 2014</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All stakeholders / interested parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct mailing (letter / email) – to those persons who requested to be notified of Inspector's Report Inspector's Report made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website Press Release 	N/A

Italic dates are indicative





Adoption of the LDP (Regulation 25)

Stage in the Document Preparation Process	Purpose	Timescale (When?)	Who? Community Involvement	How? Consultation Mechanism	Feedback / Reporting Mechanism
Formal adoption of the LDP as the Development Plan for Neath Port Talbot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To advise stakeholders and interested parties of the adoption of the LDP 	<i>November 2014 (adoption within 8 weeks of receipt of the Inspector's Report)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All stakeholders / interested parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LDP, adoption statement and SA Report made available at Deposit locations and on the Council's website Press Release Local advertisement (Regulation 25(2)c) Direct mail (letter / email) - adoption statement sent to any person who requested to be notified 4 copies of the LDP and adoption statement sent to the Assembly Government. 	

Italic dates are indicative

Appendix 4: Risk Management



RISK	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	PROBABILITY	MITIGATION MEASURES
Additional requirements as a result of new legislation, regulations or guidance	Additional work required causing programme slippage	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor emerging legislation / guidance and assess need for additional resources
Loss of staff resources	Programme slippage	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider replacement of staff resources Monitor / advertise vacancies
Need for additional research / consultation	Programme slippage	Low / medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify / commission additional work needed as early as possible
Printing / translation delays	Programme slippage	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider additional resources
Timetable proves too ambitious due to greater than anticipated workload	Programme slippage	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realistic timetable prepared with some flexibility Consider additional resources
Significant objections from Statutory Consultation Bodies	LDP cannot be submitted for examination without significant work	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure views of Statutory Bodies are sought / considered as early as possible
Planning Inspectorate unable to meet required timetable for examination / reporting	Examination / report delayed	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise closely with Planning Inspectorate to ensure early warning of any potential problems



LDP fails test of soundness	LDP cannot progress to adoption	Low / Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure LDP is sound, based on robust evidence with SA and well audited stakeholder / community involvement
Legal challenge	Adopted LDP is quashed / additional work needed	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure LDP complies with regulations, legislation etc
Delay due to need for legal opinion from Barrister or QC	Programme slippage/ additional work needed	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that legal team are consulted at an early stage to ensure compliance with regulations and guidance
Delays caused by Council decision making structure	Programme slippage	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor progress against Delivery Agreement



Appendix 5: Key Stakeholder Group

The Authority already carries out a great deal of partnership working, under the umbrella of the Community Plan. The Key Stakeholder Group will be based on the existing Community Plan Partnership. It is suggested that representatives of the following key partners and groups will be invited to form the Local Development Plan Key Stakeholder Group. Members of the group will be consulted at all key stages of the plan by letter or e mail (according to preference) and will be given copies of all relevant documents by e mail or post where requested.

The Key Stakeholder Group will consist of representatives from each of the following:

Adjoining Authorities*

Black and Minority Ethnic Forum
Communities First Partnerships
Community Race Relations Forum
Disabled Person's Advisory Forum
Environmental Forum
Local Access Forum
Local Housing Partnership

(*refer to relevant authorities lists in Appendix 6)

Neath Port Talbot Biodiversity Forum
NPT Youth Offending Team
Neighbouring Community Councils*
Older Person's Council
Town and Community Councils
within Neath Port Talbot*

The KSG will include representatives of the Community Plan themes of:

Community Safety
Confident Communities
Economic Prosperity
Education & Lifelong Learning

Environment
Health Social Care & Wellbeing
Transport

The following groups are all invitees to the Community Plan meetings they will also form part of the Key Stakeholder Group:

(Community Plan Strategic Steering Group Invitees)

Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust
Dept for the Economy & Transport
Environment Agency Wales

Environment Forum
Jobcentre Plus
Local Health Board



NPTCBC Chief Executive
NPTCBC Corporate Directors
NPTCBC The Leader
NPT Council for Voluntary Services

(Community Plan Invitees)
Age Concern Neath Port Talbot
Arena Pontardawe
Arriva Trains Wales

BP Remediation Projects Director
Business Connect Neath Port Talbot

Caer Las Cymru
Celtic Community Leisure
Celtic Energy

Dash Training
DOVE Workshops

Energy Saving Trust (EST)

Farmers' Union of Wales
Federation of Small Businesses
First Buses Ltd

Glynneath Training Centre
Groundwork Bridgend & NPT

Hafal

Linc-Cymru Housing Association

Menter Iaith Castell-nedd Port Talbot Mid & West Wales Fire Service

National Assembly Member Dr B Gibbons
National Farmers' Union Cymru

South Wales Police
West Wales Chamber of Commerce
Youth Council

Associated British Ports
Awel Aman Tawe

British Waterways

Confederation of Passenger Transport
Corus
Cylch-Wales Community Recycling
Network

Dulais Valley Community Transport

Enfys Foundation

First Great Western
Forestry Commission

Grwp Gwalia Cyf

The Hideout

NCH Cymru W. Wales Office
Neath Port Talbot Access Group
Neath Port Talbot Biodiversity Forum



Neath Port Talbot College (Principal) Network Rail
Neath Port Talbot Magistrates (Clerk) New Learning Network Association
Neath Port Talbot Proprietors New Sandfields Aberavon

Older Persons' Council

Retired and Senior Volunteer
Programme (RSVP) Wales
Road Haulage Association

Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales

Skewen Community Group
SE Wales Energy Agency Local
Energy Support Team

South West Wales Economic Forum
Sports Council for Wales
Swansea Housing Association

University of Wales, Swansea

WAG Business Development Director West Wales Chamber of Commerce
Welsh Initiative for Supported
Employment (WISE)

Young Enterprise Wales

(Community Plan Environmental Invitees)

Country and Business Association
Forestry Commission, Woodland
Manager
National Grid Planning &
Environment Group
Neath Canal Navigation

Neath and Tenant Canal Preservation
Society
RSPB Cymru
Swansea Canal Society
Wildlife Police Officer



Appendix 6: Specific Consultation Bodies

This list of consultees will be consulted at all key stages of the plan, by letter or e mail (depending on the preference) and will be given copies of all relevant documents for consideration by e mail or post.

Countryside Council for Wales
Cadw
Environment Agency

Secretary of State
Welsh Assembly Government

Relevant Authorities

Betws C. Council	Hirwaun C. Council
Blaengwrach C. Council	Llangynwyd Lower C. Council
Blaenhonddan C. Council	Llangynwyd Middle C. Council
Brecon Beacons N. Park Authority	Maesteg C. Council
Bridgend C. B.C.	Mawr C. Council
Briton Ferry Town Council	Neath Town Council
Carmarthenshire County Council	Onllwyn C. Council
Cefn Cribwr C. Council	Pelenna C. Council
Cilybebyll C. Council	Pontardawe Town Council
City and County of Swansea	Powys County Council
Clydach C. Council	Pyle C. Council
Clyne & Melincourt C. Council	Quarter Bach C. Council
Coedffranc C. Council	Resolven C. Council
Cornelly C. Council	Rhigos C. Council
Crynant C. Council	Rhondda Cynnon Taf C.B.C.
Cwmllynfell C. Council	Seven Sisters C. Council
Dyffryn Clydach C. Council	Tonna C. Council
Garw Valley C. Council	Ystalyfera C. Council
Glynneath Town Council	Ystradfelte C Council
Gwaun Cae Gurwen C. Council	Ystradgynlais C. Council

Electronic Communications Operators

BT Group plc	Radio Communications Agency
Hutchinson 3G	T Mobile (UK Ltd)
Mobile Operators Association	Virgin Media
O2UK	Vodafone
Orange Personal Communications	



Local Health Boards

Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust

NPT Community Health Council

NPT Local Health Board

Swansea NHS Trust

Electricity & Gas Suppliers

British Gas

National Grid

N Power

N Power Renewables

Powergen

Swalec

Wales and West Utilities

Western Power Distribution

Sewerage/ Water Undertakers

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water

Government Departments

Department for Business Enterprise
and Regulatory Reform

Department for Transport
Home Office
Ministry Of Defence



Appendix 7: General consultation Bodies

These consultees will be informed by letter or e mail (depending on their preference) at the main preparatory stages of the plan. They will be invited to offer comment and directed to documents on the web site or at deposit locations. Copies of documents for discussion will not be forwarded. These groups will be asked if they want to be part of the plan preparation process, if they do they will stay on the mailing list, if not they will be removed. Many of the groups listed here are already represented in the existing fora and the Authority proposes to engage with those umbrella organisations which will then engage with its members. This will help avoid consultation fatigue and allow for structured discussion of the issues. If groups wish to be actively involved then this will also be encouraged. The list is not exhaustive and any group which wants to be added to this list will be accommodated wherever possible.

Please note that some General Consultation Bodies will also appear in the Key Stakeholder Group listed in Appendix 5.

Voluntary Bodies

Age Concern NPT

Neath Women's Aid

Neath Port Talbot Council for

Voluntary Services

Racial / Ethnic Groups

Friends Families & Travellers

Group Representing Disabled Persons

Neath Port Talbot Access Group

Workways

Religious Groups

Church in Wales

Diocese of Menevia (Catholic Church)

Elim Pentecostal Church

Muslim Welfare Association

Neath Port Talbot Methodist Churches

Presbyterian Church in Wales

Swansea Hebrew Congregation

Groups Representing Business Interests

Coalfields Regeneration Trust

Country Land and Business
Association

Dove Workshops Banwen

Farmers Union of Wales

Federation of Small Businesses



Glynneath Training Centre
Grwp Gwalia Cyf
Home Builders Federation
Job centre plus
Liberty Properties (Homes) Ltd
NFU Cymru
Neath Town Centre Forum
Neath Town Centre Manager

New Sandfields Sustainable
Regeneration Ltd
Peter Morgan Estate Agents
Quarry Products Association Wales
Road Haulage Association
West Wales Chamber of Commerce
Young Enterprise Wales

Groups Representing Welsh Culture

Menter Iaith Castell Nedd Port Talbot Welsh Language Board

Environmental Groups

British Geological Survey
British Waterways
The Coal Authority

Crown Estates Office Design Commission for Wales

Canal and Navigation Authorities

Neath and Tennant Canals Trust

Neath Canal Navigation

Neath Harbour Commissioners Swansea Canal Society

Environmental Groups At National/ Regional Level

National Trust RSPB Cymru

Local Community, Conservation and Amenity Groups including LA21 Groups & Civic Societies

Cwmduais Historical Society
Cymmer & Afan District Historical
Society
Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological
Trust
Glynneath & District Historical Soc

Neath Walking Club
Pontardawe Civic Society
Port Talbot Historical Society
Upper Tawe Valley Protection & Preservation Group

Electricity/Gas/ Telecoms Companies

British Telecom

British Wind Energy Association

Transport Groups

Airport Operators (Cardiff)

Network Rail



Train Operating Companies

Arriva Trains Wales

First Great Western

Port Operators

Associated British Ports

Local Bus Operators

D.J Thomas

First

Dulais Valley Community Transport

Miscellaneous Groups

Fields in Trust

Police Architectural Liaison Officer

Forestry Commission Wales

Sports Council for Wales

New Learning Network

Fire and Rescue Services

Fire Service

Welsh Ambulance Service

South Wales Police

Regional Groups

South Wales Regional Aggregate

South West Wales Regional Waste

Working Party (SWRAWP)

Group

South West Wales Integrated

Swansea & Carmarthen Bay Coastal

Transport Consortium (SWITCH)

Engineering Group

South West Wales Regional Planning

Wales Spatial Plan Swansea and

Group Wales

Western Valleys Working Group



Appendix 8: Consultation Arrangements for the Delivery Agreement and Consultation Report

The provision of information on the Delivery Agreement commenced prior to the publication of the Draft Delivery Agreement. This included the Community Plan Seminar held on the 12th September 2007, the Valleys Strategy Stakeholder meetings held during September and October 2007 and the Local Housing Partnership held on the 19th September 2007, together with meetings with the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and the Environment Agency (EA).

The Draft Delivery Agreement was subject to a period of consultation during November 2007. The document was forwarded for comments to all the consultation bodies identified in Appendices 5 and 6. In addition, letters were sent to all of the organisations identified in Appendices 5 and 7 requesting clarification as to whether they would like to participate in the LDP preparation process. Organisations listed in Appendix 7 have only been carried forward into the 'General Consultation Bodies' if requested.

Presentations were made to 5 Valley Strategy area /community meetings and the Neath Town Centre Forum. A range of meetings were held with management teams and groups where the Delivery Agreement arrangements and methods of Plan preparation were discussed and they included:

- Social Care and Well Being Partnership;
- Children and Young Persons Partnership; and
- CVS.

Articles were prepared for the Authority's community newspaper and the CVS Community Voice newspaper to raise awareness more generally. In addition, the publication of the Draft Delivery Agreement was announced on the Authority's website and in a press release.

The Council received a number of representations during the consultation period. All comments were considered by the Authority and a number of amendments were made to this final version of the Delivery Agreement. A summary of comments received together with the Council's response is provided below.



The Delivery Agreement was subject to a further period of consultation during February / March 2011. Letters were sent to all stakeholders and individuals that had expressed an interest in the Plan to inform them of the need to revise the timetable and to invite comments on the revision. In addition the revision of the Delivery Agreement was announced on the Authority's website and in a press release.

No comments or objection were subsequently received.

Neath Port Talbot Draft Delivery Agreement - Consultation Report



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Age Concern Neath Port Talbot	Q1	A very clear explanation of the process provided.	Noted
Age Concern Neath Port Talbot	Q2	A most comprehensive and carefully constructed CIS	Noted
Age Concern Neath Port Talbot	Q3	No comment	Noted
Arena Pontardawe Project	Q1	No comment	Noted
Arena Pontardawe Project	Q2	It wasn't clear when the new Community / area based Stakeholder groups (ref p.22) would be established. As these new groups include one for Pontardawe the Arena would like to be included as this will also help the direction of our own project	The respondent is a member of the Key Stakeholder Group and as such would be invited in Nov 2008 to be involved in identifying issues for the Local Development Plan. This is clarified in Appendix 3 of the document entitled Key Stages of Plan Preparation and Opportunities for Involvement
Arena Pontardawe Project	Q3	No comment	Noted
Bridgend CBC	Q1	No comment	Noted
Bridgend CBC	Q2	No comment	Noted



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Bridgend CBC	Q3	<p>It is our Officers' opinions that we do not wish to formally comment at this time on your LDP Draft Delivery Agreement and we are content to make any future views known, together with those which may subsequently be raised with our members, through our Officer representation on the envisaged LDP Key Stakeholder Group. Any more formal responses which may be required will be made at the appropriate times during the statutory consultation stages of LDP preparation, in accordance with what by then will be the LDP Timetable as set out in the approved Delivery Agreement.</p> <p>Officers will also be liaising with you shortly to arrange meeting to co-ordinate our joint approaches to cross-boundary strategic issues in accordance with WAG's guidance.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
Celtic Energy	Q1	No comment	<p>Noted</p>
Celtic Energy	Q2	Suggest the inclusion of Coalpro on the mailing list to ensure entire coal industry is involved	<p>Coalpro to be invited to become a General Consultee</p>
Celtic Energy	Q3	No comment	<p>Noted</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
City and County of Swansea	Q1	No comment	Noted
City and County of Swansea	Q2	No comment	Noted
City and County of Swansea	Q3	The City and County of Swansea would be pleased to be involved in the preparation of the Local Development Plan as part of the Key Stakeholder Group	Noted
Countryside Council for Wales	Q1	No comment	Noted
Countryside Council for Wales	Q2	No comment	Noted
Countryside Council for Wales	Q3	CCW identifies that the Delivery Agreement should accommodate forthcoming regulations on Habitats Regulation Assessment [HRA] (relating to RAMSAR Sites and SACs and Appropriate Assessment) will form part of the process). It is necessary to identify the role of HRA alongside SEA in plan preparation in the tables and text and to recognise that HRA is an important decision-making process in its own right. As a consequence a series of amendments are necessary to make reference to HRA, its role and to include it within the tables.	Agree. Although the Regulations have not been published the amendments would assist.



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Cymmer Afan and District Historical Society	Q1	Is this the first time that this has been made public?	Yes. The Council has advised Cymer Afan and District Historical Society that this is the first time that the Draft Delivery Agreement has been made publicly available.
Cymmer Afan and District Historical Society	Q2	More people from the community should be involved even if they don't represent any formal group	Noted. The community is considered to be well represented through the stakeholders identified in the CIS which, together with the community / area based groups proposed will ensure effective involvement with local communities throughout the County Borough. As set out in the CIS, the list of stakeholders / general consultation bodies identified is not exhaustive and any group which wishes to be added will be accommodated wherever possible. Members of the public will have 4 stages at which they may make formal comments and representations and the Council will use a range of methods to raise awareness and encourage involvement in the plan's preparation. Councillors will also play an important role in engaging with the community and conveying issues and information to members of the public and local communities.



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Cymmer Afan and District Historical Society	Q3	No comment	Noted
Cyngor Cymuned Mawr Community Council	Q1	No comment	Noted
Cyngor Cymuned Mawr Community Council	Q2	<p>We welcome your intention of sending us copies of all relevant documents for consideration and hope you will consider relevant any matters which might have an impact on Mawr as a neighbouring community, especially environmental, countryside and planning matters</p>	Noted
Cyngor Cymuned Mawr Community Council	Q3	No comment	Noted
Energy Saving Trust	Q1	No comment	Noted
Energy Saving Trust	Q2	<p>We welcome the opportunity to participate in the development of the vision, objectives and preferred strategy via workshops of the Key Stakeholder Group and urge you to ensure those sessions are well planned and structured to ensure participants are able to contribute fully to the LDP process.</p>	<p>The timetable identifies that wherever possible the LDP will use the Community Plan forum to update stakeholders of progress and issues. However it may not be possible to use that forum for discussing detailed planning issues and where necessary separate meetings will be convened. The Council is aware of the pressures consultation exercises pose to</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>We would like to suggest that where possible consultation on the LDP is tied in with the Community Plan consultation process. The Community Plan will probably be up for review in the period before pre-deposit participation commences, therefore it may be possible to combine workshops on the Community Strategy and LDP vision and objectives to reduce 'consultation fatigue'. A further LDP focussed workshop could then spend more time teasing out the links between the Community Strategy and LDP, and focus on detail for the preferred strategy. We suggest you may wish to publish a list of the Technical Officer groups on the website to allow key partners who may be able to contribute to one of the groups to request involvement by outlining what they could bring to the group</p>	<p>organisations and will seek to ensure the best use of time and resources for all. The issue of publishing the Technical Officer Group details on the Council's website will be investigated.</p>
Energy Saving Trust	Q3	No comment	Noted
Environment Agency Wales	Q1	<p>We have no adverse comments upon your proposed LDP timetable but please note that with our current staffing resources under review due to centrally driven financial savings, there is every possibility that our consultation feedback process may suffer due to the pressure upon existing staff resources</p>	Noted



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Environment Agency Wales	Q2	No comment	Noted
Environment Agency Wales	Q3	We are constantly under pressure to be proactive in efficiency savings and recycling materials, so we are happy to receive any future documents, material or contact via electronic mail	Noted
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust	Q1	The draft Delivery Agreement proposes an appropriate period for the development of the LDP, presumably as the adoption of the UDP reduces the need for a rapid production of the document. The extra time proposed for the development of the Neath Port Talbot LDP in comparison to the production of similar documents in other LPAs is welcomed and it will hopefully allow for a better document to be produced.	Noted. The four and a half year timescale proposed is in accordance with the LDP Regulations and reflects amendments to the timetables originally proposed for other LDPs.
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust	Q2	No comment	Noted
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust	Q3	In our role as the archaeological advisors to the LPAs in south east Wales, we are working with a number of LPAs on the production of their LDPs, in some cases being a Member of their Stakeholder group and in others being part of the SA/SEA group. We are available to assist you in the preparation of your plan in either or both of these functions.	Noted



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Glynneath Historical Society	Q1	<p>Five years to publication of the plan is a long period of time. Appreciating the plan needs to be properly formulated, could it not be completed in a shorter timescale i.e. 3 years?</p>	<p>The four and a half year timescale proposed for LDP preparation is in accordance with the LDP Regulations and is considered realistic. It is considered that any shorter timescale, such as the 3 years suggested, would not be achievable given the complexities involved in the plan preparation process.</p>
Glynneath Historical Society	Q2	<p>The scheme is a good idea. Perhaps (cynically) will organisations / community be listened to or is this simply a PR exercise?</p>	<p>Noted. The views of organisations and the community will be listened to. The LDP Regulations require the LPA to work in partnership with stakeholders and the community throughout the plan preparation process in order to make the plan more relevant, inclusive and engaging to local communities. The outcomes of engagement and consultation exercises proposed in the CIS will inform the content of the LDP.</p>
Glynneath Historical Society	Q3	<p>Try to avoid writing plans in 'planning officers speak'. Think of the ordinary person reading these documents when writing them please.</p>	<p>Noted. Where it is considered that certain terminology requires further explanation, a glossary will be provided to assist the understanding.</p>
Hafal	Q1	<p>No comment</p>	<p>Noted</p>
Hafal	Q2	<p>Would like to see a stronger commitment to working with Mental Health Organisations across the plan to challenge stigma</p>	<p>Comment noted – the Council is keen to engage with all sectors of the Community and would welcome their input</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Hafal	Q3	No comment	Noted
HM Courts Service	Q1	No comment	Noted
HM Courts Service	Q2	It is important to try to ensure that documents are issued bilingually or in separate English and Welsh versions where appropriate	Noted. Wherever possible public documents will be published bilingually, although where they are technical in nature and of limited public interest the need for the document to be bilingual will be reviewed.
HM Courts Service	Q3	No comment	Noted
Mobile Operators Association / Mono Consultants	Q1	No comment	Noted
Mobile Operators Association / Mono Consultants	Q2	Could any consultations to be sent to the Mobile Operators Association be sent to me at Mono Consultants, contact details overleaf, rather than MOA London office	Noted. Contact details amended accordingly.
Mobile Operators Association / Mono Consultants	Q3	No comment	Noted
Neath and Tennant Canals Trust	Q1	No comment	Noted



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Neath and Tennant Canals Trust	Q2	The Inland Waterways Association provide waterway groups - Neath and Tennant Canals Trust - with engineering, policy and legal support and the IWA to be included in the waterway consultations (as required). IWA is a national voluntary body	Noted. Inland Waterways Association to be invited to become a General Consultee
Neath and Tennant Canals Trust	Q3	No comment	Noted
Neath Port Talbot Access Group	Q1	Please ensure that the maximum possible consultation times are given, as small voluntary sector organisations such as ours have limited manpower and time resources e.g. we are at present trying to deal with four NPT CBC consultations in one month	Noted. The LDP Regulations specify a statutory six week consultation period for the formal stages of the LDP preparation process.
Neath Port Talbot Access Group	Q2	There are references to the various Commissions in the appendices i.e. Racial Equality, Equal Opportunities and Disability Rights, it must be remembered that these have now been absorbed into the Equalities and Human Rights Commission. Email: waleshelpline@equalityhumanrights.com . Our group is listed in Appendix 5 under Community Plan and Appendix 7 bodies representing disabled people. We would only want one set of papers.	Noted and references amended accordingly.



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Neath Port Talbot Access Group	Q3	No comment	Noted
Neath Port Talbot Magistrates Court	Q1	No comment	Noted
Neath Port Talbot Magistrates Court	Q2	It is important to try and ensure that documents are issued bilingually or in separate English and Welsh versions where appropriate	Comments noted. The draft Delivery Agreement commits the Authority to producing bilingual documents, however where documents are of limited public interest or of a technical nature this will be reviewed.
Neath Port Talbot Magistrates Court	Q3	No comment	Noted
Neath Town Council	Q1	No comment	Noted
Neath Town Council	Q2	Method of engagement – NPTCBC and Community/ Town Council Liaison Forum	Noted
Neath Town Council	Q3	No comment	Noted
Planning Inspectorate	Q1	The proposed timetable for Examination allows for 12 months from submission to publication of the Inspector's Report. The Inspectorate wishes to clarify the draft model programme for an LDP Examination: i) 6 weeks from submission	Whilst not required for the timetable, (as the dates after the plan has been placed 'on deposit' are only indicative at this stage) the information could assist stakeholders and will be inserted into the timetable.



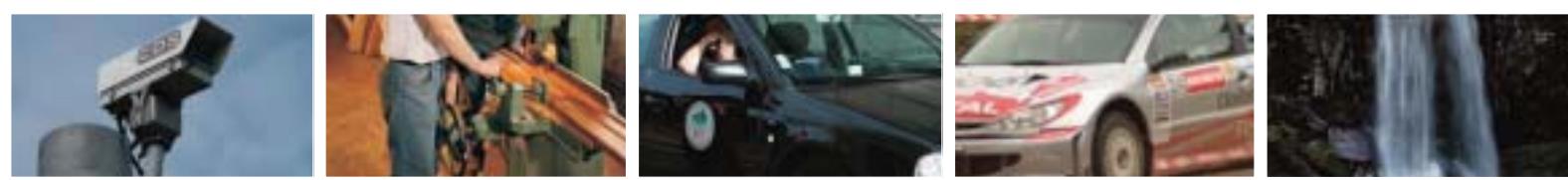
Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>of the LDP to Pre-Examination Meeting (PEM); ii) 12 weeks from PEM to Examination; iii) 12 weeks (maximum) for Examination. The average length of an LDP Examination is expected to be 6-8 weeks depending on the LDP in question; iv) 22 weeks for reporting. The indicative timetable suggests that Plan submission would be in February 2012; following the draft model programme for Examination, the timetable would be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) February 2012 (early) - Submission of LDP and key documents to WAG; ii) March 2012 (mid) - hold PEM; iii) June 2012 (early) - Examination; iv) August 2012 (late) - Reporting period begins; v) February 2013 - Inspector's Report is submitted. <p>.</p> <p>Following the submission of the Report there will be a period in which a factual check by the authority will be completed (the check will be for factual errors and the like); we estimate that the period for this check will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 10 days for the authority to comment; and b) 10 days for the Inspector to make any changes. 	<p>No comment</p> <p>Noted</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Planning Inspectorate	Q3	<p>In addition, we would like to clarify the Inspectorate's standpoint on the translation of Development Plan reports, as we anticipate the Welsh language will be an important factor in any LDP. Draft guidance issued to date draws on the Inspectorate's current approach to the translation of Development Plan reports:</p> <p>i) The Inspectorate does not translate all Development Plan reports; however, a local authority may request that their report be translated;</p> <p>ii) Where the provision of a report in the Welsh language is requested, there will be a delay in the submission of any translated report to the LPA.</p> <p>In the event of such a request, it is made clear to the authority that the cost of translation work will be charged to them. As a general rule, authorities who request translation will ensure that the cost is included as part of their forecasted plan expenditure.</p> <p><u>Neither the Inspectorate nor the WAG will incur the cost of translating the Inspector's Report into the Welsh Language.</u></p>	Noted
Pontardawe Town Council	Q1	No comment	Noted



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Pontardawe Town Council	Q2	No comment	Noted
Pontardawe Town Council	Q3	Concern expressed regarding the limited number of copies of the draft Delivery Agreement that have been provided to Stakeholders	The Authority seeks to maximise the use of the website and while the Authority wishes to engage as widely as possible, providing multiple copies of documents throughout all stages of the LDP process would prove expensive.
Presbyterian Church of Wales	Q1	We are a church over 125 years in service in Neath. We would want to ensure that any developments in our town, which we support, will also give protection to our position in the town	Noted
Presbyterian Church of Wales	Q2	We would like to be informed of all stages in the above scheme.	Noted
Presbyterian Church of Wales	Q3	Please keep us up to date in this exciting plan for our town. We look forward to seeing your new ideas and layout	Noted
RSPB	Q1	No comment	Noted
RSPB	Q2	<u>Engagement Throughout the Process:</u> RSPB Cymru supports the statement that public participation in the LDP will take place throughout plan formulation.	Noted



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p><u>Consultation over Vision and Strategy:</u></p> <p>RSPB Cymru is of the view that the public should be involved in generating the vision and alternative strategies. The document implies that the public will be relegated to the purely passive role of commenting on later stages of the plan, this having been decided upon beforehand by the local planning authority, and certain bodies. Please see detailed comment on the appendices in relation to this matter</p>	<p>Noted. The Authority is focusing on engagement / consultation with stakeholders which represent the local community. Information relating to LDP preparation will be available for public inspection on the website. Members of the public will have a formal stage at which they may make formal comments and representations and the Council will use a range of methods to raise awareness and encourage involvement in the plan's preparation. Councillors will also play an important role in engaging with the community and conveying issues and information to members of the public and local communities.</p> <p>Disagree. It is important that potential candidate sites are identified as early as possible in order to enable engagement and discussions with statutory consultees to identify any fundamental issues.</p> <p>The commitment to call for sites (and consult on them) is placed at too early a stage in plan formulation. According to Appendix 1, the call for sites will take place before the pre-deposit stage of the plan. There is a danger that the plan would therefore not be strategy-led, but would be overly influenced by the availability of land in certain broad locations, with landowner/developer agreement. The spatial options and preferred strategy should be formulated</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>before the call for sites, so that it is not influenced by it. Furthermore, it will not be possible for those who wish to make representations in respect of the Candidate Sites to arrive at a thorough understanding as to whether such sites are in conformity with the preferred strategy, because the latter will not be known.</p> <p>RSPB</p> <p>Q3</p> <p><u>Repetition of National Policy:</u> RSPB Cymru accepts that there should be no repetition of national policy, however the local planning authority should commit itself to interpreting national policy in the local context in the LDP.</p> <p><u>Rolling Forward of Old Development Plans:</u> RSPB Cymru supports the statement in the introduction on p6 that the LDP will not simply roll forward the UDP.</p>	<p>Noted. National Policy will not be unnecessarily repeated. Reference to ‘unnecessarily’ will be included in the document for clarification.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted. The purpose of the Pre-Deposit consultation is to consider alternative strategies and options. It is agreed that it should include sufficient information for communities to consider the implications. However, the wording in Appendix 3 should be amended to clarify that <u>KEY</u> allocations would be discussed at this stage.</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>legitimate interest in the plan can gain a full appreciation of the impact of the plan on that interest. Appendix 3 (Regulation 14), in stating that a key stage is to :-</p> <p>"Consider the Pre-Deposit Plan – i.e. the draft vision, strategy, alternatives and allocations" (emphasis added)</p> <p>implies that there will be a proposals map at the Pre-Deposit stage. We welcome this commitment, and further states that the proposals map should cover the entire local authority area. This would have the further positive effect of ensuring that the potential for negotiated solutions is maximised, because in the absence of this, the first indication which communities and the public will have of the implications for the plan on their communities will be in the Deposit version of the plan, at which point the plan moves into a confrontation and quasi-judicial stage</p>	<p>Noted</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>Candidate Sites. RSPB Cymru welcomes the commitment set out in Appendix 2 to consult on Candidate Sites.</p> <p>A further issue arising from this matter is that it appears from Appendix 3 that neither the public nor community groups will be consulted on the candidate sites, unless they happen to see a site notice. This flies in the face of the ethos of the Community Involvement Scheme, and will lead to a reduction in confidence on the part of the public and community groups in the town and country planning system in Neath Port Talbot, especially bearing in mind the importance the portfolio of candidate sites will ultimately play in allocating sites for development.</p>	<p>Disagree. In addition to site notices (which are not required by the Regulations), information on Candidate Sites will be made available for public inspection on the Council's website and at Deposit locations. The Candidate Sites Register would inform stakeholder consultations.</p> <p>Noted. SEA requirements will be included in the document.</p> <p><u>Strategic Environmental Assessment:</u> The document does not state how the SEA will impact on plan content. A paragraph should be inserted into the document stating that :-</p> <p><i>It is a requirement of the Directive that the local planning authority :-</i> <i>"takes into account the environmental report (i.e. the conclusions of the SEA)in</i></p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>"..shows how the results of the assessment have been taken into account", and "gives the reasons for choosing the plan as adopted in the light of other reasonable alternatives"</p> <p>("Implementing the SEA Directive" Welsh Assembly Government, 2004)</p>	<p><u>Supplementary Planning Guidance:</u> The section on SPG is somewhat deficient. It should state that :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. SPG is a material consideration in both development plan formulation, and development control. It's function, in the case of site-based SPG (such as development briefs) is to provide certainty to the developer, and to the community, as to what the local planning authority expects from the development of a site b. It is not part of the development plan, and cannot be objected to during the formulation process, but it is part of the background information which will underpin the plan. c. It must be supplementary to adopted plan policy or policies, d. The local planning authority commits <p>Disagree. The Authority is committed to consider the need for new SPG at the pre-deposit stage. Further detail on the role of SPG is provided in the Glossary of Terms at Appendix 10.</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>itself to a screening of all SPG over 3 years old, in order to ascertain whether they comply with modern planning thought, with the results of this screening to be made public and consulted upon. It will also publish a full list of topic-based and site-based SPG, which it intends to produce before the Examination e. SPG production should be timely, i.e. it should be produced so that those who wish to make representations in respect of a proposed allocation can have certainty as to how a site would be developed</p> <p><u>Appendix 2: Row 1, Column 3 (SA/SEA Stage):</u> Insert "Assessment of Baseline"</p> <p><u>Row 2, Column 3 (SA/SEA Stage):</u> Insert "Assessment of Candidate Sites"</p> <p><u>Appendix 3 Row 1, Column 6 (Regulation 9):</u> The local planning authority should publish responses to the draft DA/CIS on its website, along with its responses to them. Extracts from this should also be sent to all who made each representations.</p>	<p>Disagree. This is included in the 'initial screening' stage.</p> <p>Disagree. This is included in the SA of strategic options and sites.</p> <p>Noted. Copies of the Authority's consideration of comments will be made available on request and will be made available on the website.</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p><u>Row 4, Column 1 (Regulation 14):</u> Insert "Identify trends in environmental quality"</p> <p><u>Row 5, Column 4 (Regulation 14):</u> As stated above, the public and community groups (including groups established to resist proposed allocations in the UDP) should be involved at the "Alternative Strategies and Options Stage"</p>	<p>Noted. This is included in the 'review and development of the evidence base' which relates to economic, social and environmental trends.</p> <p>As indicated above, the Authority's approach is based upon engagement with stakeholder groups that represent the community, while County Borough Councillors and Community Councils will be available to play an important role.</p> <p><u>Row 7, Column 5 (Regulation 14):</u> The local planning authority should consult more widely on the pre-deposit plan, rather than relying merely on meetings and round table discussions. The pre-deposit plan should appear on the website, and <u>there should be press releases about it.</u></p> <p><u>Appendix 6:</u> Friends of the Earth should be present on the list of Environmental invitees</p> <p>The evidence base for the LDP and for the SEA should be expressed spatially. The reason for this is that it will enable Friends of the Earth have been invited to form part of the Key Stakeholder Group, however no response has been received.</p> <p>Noted. This spatial evidence will be provided wherever possible.</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>plan-formulators and those producing the SEA to gain a full appreciation of the interactions (both negative and positive) between the environmental resources of Neath Port Talbot and the spatial strategy options. Good practice recommends that the following datasets (all of which are readily available in digital form) should be used :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Wales State of the Environment Report (CCW/Environment Agency Wales). b. Spatial data on priority habitats pursuant to the UK BAP are now available in digital form from the Countryside Council for Wales. c. The RSPB holds spatial data on the distribution of priority bird species in Neath Port Talbot. These can be made available to the local authority on request. d. Countryside Council for Wales's (CCW) Phase 1 data. Although somewhat out of date in places, this data source can also be expressed spatially and is a valuable tool. It is obtainable from CCW and covers Neath Port Talbot. e. Statutorily designated sites for nature conservation. These are obtainable from CCW. 	



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>f. Locally designated sites of importance for Nature Conservation (Wildlife Sites).</p> <p><u>Independent Examination:</u> Insert "Stakeholders" and "the Public" in Column 4. Under the new arrangements, as set out in the "A Framework for Assessing the Soundness of LDP's" (PINS 2005), the Inspector can call those who did not make representations to appear at the Examination.</p> <p>The list of consultees does not include any residents' group set up to oppose specific development proposals or proposed and/or adopted allocations in the UDP.</p>	<p>Noted. Reference should be included to 'others' at the invitation of the Inspector.</p> <p>Noted. As indicated in the document, should new stakeholder groups emerge the Authority will accommodate them wherever possible.</p>
South Wales Police	Q1	Realistic	Noted
South Wales Police	Q2	No comment	Noted
South Wales Police	Q3	No comment	Noted
South Wales Police Architectural Liaison Officer	Q1	The draft timetable is appropriate	Noted
South Wales Police Architectural Liaison Officer	Q2	The draft community Involvement Scheme allows wide scope for consultation as appropriate	Noted



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
South Wales Police Architectural Liaison Officer	Q3	<p>As the South Wales Police Architectural Liaison Officer advise on planning issues for South Wales Police, we would like to be included in consultation, and we will liaise with and provide advice to the local Police Commander. We would welcome the opportunity to be involved at the LDP Key stakeholders group or Technical Officer Group. Having been consulted on other Welsh LDP's, the impact of Crime and Disorder and the way planning can assist in 'Designing out Crime' has not received due consideration at the initial stage and we would seek to prevent this in the Neath Port Talbot LDP.</p>	<p>Comments noted, due regard will be given to including the requirement to Design out crime at an early stage in the plan process by discussing this issue with Stakeholders. The ALO will also be involved in plan preparation.</p>
Swansea Canal Society	Q1	No comment	Noted
Swansea Canal Society	Q2	Page 59 - Canal Owners - Swansea Canals managed by British Waterways on behalf of the Government. The Swansea Canal Society and Neath and Tennant Canal Society are both community amenity groups with a vested interest in the canals of NPTCBC, not canal owners	<p>Noted. Reference to [canal] 'owners' in Appendix 7 has been deleted accordingly, so that it now reads as 'Canal and Navigation Authorities and Amenity Groups'</p>
Swansea Canal Society	Q3	No comment	Noted
Welsh Assembly Government	Q1	No comment	Noted



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
Welsh Assembly Government	Q2	<p>The Public, page 18: Suggest that Appendix 3 is cross referenced, not Appendix 2</p> <p>Hard to Reach Groups, page 21: We note the proposed engagement with hard to reach groups through the Key Stakeholder Group, but it is not clear how the Authority will engage with the identified groups if they do not respond to the initial invitation to be part of the Key Stakeholder Group.</p> <p>The Candidate Sites Register, page 24: Suggest that you provide a cross reference in the paragraph on candidate sites to Appendix 3, which sets the timescale for the submission of candidate sites.</p>	<p>Noted. Cross reference to Appendix 3 included in text</p> <p>There are existing fora that would be used to engage with groups such as the black and minority ethnic forum, older persons council etc and through the partnership with the Community plan themes. The Authority will use its best endeavours to reach as many groups as possible.</p> <p>Noted. Cross reference to Appendix 3 included in text</p> <p>Noted. Reference to the purpose of the Delivery Agreement timetable included at page 5 and Appendix 3 accordingly Noted.</p> <p>Introduction - Page 5, Paragraph 2 and Appendix 3: It is suggested that you state that an essential purpose of the Delivery Agreement is to set out the timetable for Local Development Plan (LDP) production, which will form a necessary project management tool for the Authority</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		<p>Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), page 10: Suggest further comment is made on consultation processes for SPG and that you check that the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) protocols are applicable to SPG production. If not, insert any necessary stages or procedures, as paragraph 5.3 of LDP Wales makes it clear that SPG should be prepared in accordance with the Authority's CIS.</p>	<p>Additional text inserted at page 10 to provide further detail on SPG consultation processes. i.e. "Where SPG will assist the understanding of the LDP it will be prepared and consulted on as an intrinsic part of the process of engagement as set out in this Delivery Agreement. For each SPG a report of consultation and engagement will be produced and made available with the approved guidance".</p> <p>All of the groups identified in Appendix 5 have been invited to form part of the Key Stakeholder Group. This is stated in the explanatory paragraph at the start of the Appendix. The headings have been re-worked in order to further clarify this.</p> <p>Noted. Reference to acronyms replaced with full terminology and references to DEIN and Department for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills updated accordingly</p>



Respondent	Question No	Representation	LPA Response
		Appendix 11: State what the base date for information on population characteristics is.	Noted. Base date included at Appendix 11
		Consultation Report: The consultation report needs to be included or cross referred to in the final Delivery Agreement. Reference could also be made to the consultation report as a feedback / reporting mechanism in Appendix 3.	Noted final version will be cross referenced
West Wales Chamber of Commerce	Q1	No comment	Noted
West Wales Chamber of Commerce	Q2	Although all are already Community Plan invitees (App 5) the following should be specifically contacted because of the huge (potential) involvement with NPT - NPT College; D'arcy Developments; Swansea University; Corus and ABP	Noted. The LDP Regulations stipulate the Specific Consultation Bodies that must be consulted throughout the LDP process – these are set out at Appendix 6. NPT College, D'arcy Developments, Swansea University, Corus and ABP are all identified as Key Stakeholders at Appendix 5, and as such will be consulted at all key stages of the plan process and encouraged to play a full part in its preparation
West Wales Chamber of Commerce	Q3	Very well prepared	Noted

Note of Questions:

- Q1** Do you have any comments on the draft timetable for LDP preparation?
- Q2** Do you have any comments on the draft Community Involvement Scheme?
- Q3** Do you have any other comments on the draft Delivery Agreement?



Appendix 9: Budget for the Preparation of the LDP [Revised May 2011]

In addition to all staffing costs the following budget is available for the LDP preparation process over the following years.

Year	Budget
2008 / 2009	£75,000
2009 / 2010	£155,000
2010 / 2011	£105,000
2011 / 2014	£558,000
Total	£893,000



Appendix 10: Glossary of Terms

The Act – The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Annual Monitoring Report – Report to assess the extent to which policies in the adopted LDP are being successfully implemented.

Appropriate Assessment – A requirement of the European Habitats Directive, the purpose of which is to assess the impacts of Plans and projects on internationally designated nature conservation sites.

Children and Young Persons Plan – The defining statement of strategic planning intent and priorities for all children and young people's services in an area.

Citizens Panel – A randomly selected, representational number of residents who agree to be consulted on a range of local issues and services on a regular basis.

Community – People who live in a defined geographical area or who share other interests and therefore form communities of interest.

Community / Area based Stakeholder Groups – A group of stakeholders with an interest in the development of the community /

area concerned.

Community Involvement Scheme – Part of the Delivery Agreement which sets out the Council's scheme for involving local communities in the Plan preparation process.

Community Plan – Local authorities are required by the Local Government Act 2000 to prepare Community Plans with the aim of improving the social, environmental and economic well being of their areas. Through the Community Plan, authorities are expected to co-ordinate the actions of local public, private, voluntary and community sectors.

Community Plan Partnership – Comprises a range of partner organisations from across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors.

Consensus Building – A process of dialogue between stakeholder groups to understand relevant viewpoints and to seek agreement on the Preferred Strategy.

Consultation – A formal process in which comments are invited on a particular topic / set of topics or a draft document.



Consultation Exercise – A single consultation project focused on a defined objective and usually part of an overall consultation programme.

Delivery Agreement – A document comprising the Authority's timetable for the preparation of the LDP together with its Community Involvement Scheme, submitted to the Assembly Government for agreement.

Deposit LDP – The formal six week stage in which individuals and organisations can make representations on the Plan.

Deposit Locations – Those places where the relevant LDP documentation may be viewed, such as main Council offices.

Engagement – Proactive attempt to involve any given group / section of the community.

Environmental Consultation Bodies – An authority with environmental responsibilities concerned by the effects of implementing plans and programmes and which must be consulted under SEA Regulations – i.e. Environment Agency, Countryside Council for Wales and Cadw.

Evidence Base – Interpretation of information / data to provide the foun-

dation for the Plan's policy.

Examination in Public – A process whereby an independent Inspector considers whether the Deposit LDP is 'sound' and any representations / objections to it.

General Consultation Bodies - Means voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the LPA's area; bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the LPA's area; bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the LPA's area; bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the LPA's area; bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the LPA's area; and bodies which represent the interests of Welsh culture in the LPA's area.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) – Any plan or programme which could affect a Natura 2000 site (a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA)) or Ramsar site will be subject to the Habitats Directive and will require HRA. This involves assessing whether the Plan is likely to have any significant effect on the SAC, SPA or Ramsar site. If so, a full Appropriate Assessment (AA) will have to be undertaken to assess in detail the likely effects.



Health, Social Care and Well Being Strategy – Local authorities have a statutory duty to formulate and implement a strategy for the health and well-being of their local populations and to have regard to the strategy in exercising their functions. Its main purpose is to assist in improving people's health, social care and well-being in all communities in an area.

Inspector – The person appointed by the Planning Inspectorate to consider the LDP and undertake the Examination in Public.

Inspector's Report – Report of the Inspector specifying precise recommendations identifying required changes to the LDP, together with reasons for the changes. It will focus on whether the LDP is 'sound'.

Involvement – Generic term to include both participation and consultation techniques.

Local Development Plan (LDP) – The required statutory Development Plan to be produced by each local authority in Wales under Part 6 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. LDP documents means: the Deposit LDP; the Sustainability Appraisal report; the initial Consultation Report; such supporting documents as in the

opinion of the LPA are relevant to the preparation of the LDP.

Local Housing Strategy – Local authorities have a statutory duty to formulate and implement a Local Housing Strategy for their area. Its purpose is to articulate a locally agreed direction for addressing housing requirements, problems and opportunities of an area, taking into account national policies and priorities set out in 'Better Homes for People in Wales'.

Local Planning Authority (LPA) – A planning authority responsible for the preparation of a LDP – i.e. a County or Borough Council or National Park Authority.

Participation – The interaction of stakeholders and the community with plan makers.

Pre-deposit documents – Includes the Preferred Strategy, options and proposals for the LDP and the SA Report.

Pre-deposit Stage – Refers to the Strategic Options and Preferred Strategy stage of LDP preparation.

Representor – Person who makes a representation at any formal consultation stage of the local development plan.



Scoping – The process of deciding the scope and level of detail of an SA, including the sustainability effects and options which need to be considered, the assessment methods to be used, and the structure and contents of the SA Report.

Significant Effect – Effects which are significant in the context of the Plan. (Annex II of the SEA Directive gives criteria for determining the likely environmental significance of effects).

Site Allocation Representations – Representations to the Deposit LDP which seek alternative / new site allocations. These are advertised by the Authority prior to the submission of the Deposit LDP to the Inspector for Examination.

Specific Consultation Bodies – Means the Countryside Council for Wales; the Environment Agency; insofar as the Secretary of State exercises functions previously exercisable by the Strategic Rail Authority; the National Assembly; a relevant authority any part of whose area is in or adjoins the area of the LPA; any person to whom the electronic communication code applies by virtue of a direction given under section 106(3)(a) of the Communications Act 2003, and who owns or controls electronic apparatus situated in any part of the

area of the LPA (where known); if it exercises functions in any part of the LPA's area – a Local Health Board; a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 6(1)(b) of or (c) of the Electricity Act 1989; a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 7(2) of the Gas Act 1986; a sewerage undertaker; a water undertaker.

Stakeholder – Individual, group or body whose interests are directly affected by the LDP.

Strategic Environmental Assessment – Generic term used internationally to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) requires a formal 'environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use'.

Supplementary Planning Guidance – Provide supplementary information with regard to policies in a local development plan. SPG do not form part of the development plan and are not subject to independent examination but must be consistent with it and with national planning policy.

Sustainability Appraisal – Tool for appraising policies to ensure they



reflect sustainable development objectives – i.e. social, economic and environmental factors. Each LPA is required by S62(6) of the Act to undertake SA of the LDP. This form of SA fully incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive and Regulations.

Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) – A plan prepared and approved by the National Assembly for Wales which sets out a strategic framework to guide future development and policy interventions, whether or not these relate to formal land use planning control. Section 62(5)(b) of the Act requires LPAs to have regard to the WSP in preparing a local development plan.



Appendix 11: Population Characteristics of Neath Port Talbot

Population		Economic Inactivity (aged 16-74)	
Total	134468	% males econ. inactive	36.75%
Male	64968	% females econ. inactive	43.79%
Female	69500	% inactive males:	
Age Structure (%)		Retired	14.27%
0-4	5.38%	Student	3.56%
5-15	14.26%	Look after family/home	1.33%
16-19	4.9%	Permanently sick/disabled	14.26%
20-29	10.46%	Other	3.33%
30-44	41.33%	Long term unemployed	31.18%
45-64	25.3%	% inactive females:	
65-74	9.51%	Retired	17.01%
Over 75	8.81%	Student	3.56%
Ethnicity (%)		Look after family/home	12.17%
White	98.95%	Permanently sick/disabled	12.93%
Black	0.11%	Other	4.97%
Asian	0.41%	Long term unemployed	35.24%
Chinese/ other	0.18%	Health & provision of long term care	
Mixed	0.39%	%people with long term	
Economic Activity (aged 16-74)		limiting illness	29.37%
Total Males	47207	%working age with long term	
Total Females	49016	limiting illness	24.11%
% males econ. active	63.32%	%people whose health was:	
% females econ. active	49.38%	Good	59.69%
%males who are:		Fairly good	23.95%
Working full time	46.69%	Not good	16.36%
Working part time	2.77%	All people who provided unpaid care:	
Self employed	7.22%	1-19 hrs/week	56.13%
Unemployed	5.17%	20-49 hrs/week	13.95%
Full time student	1.47%	Over 50 hrs/week	29.92%
% females who are:		Household Size	
Working full time	23.58%	Persons per household	2.31
Working part time	18.9%		
Self employed	2.33%		
Unemployed	2.72%		
Full time student	1.85%		



Marital Status	
All people aged 16+	108068
Single (never married)	25.55%
Married	45.7%
Remarried	7.21%
Separated (but still married)	1.88%
Divorced	9.21%
Widowed	10.45%
Tenure	
All households	57609
Owns outright	35.15%
Owns with mortgage	35.8%
Shared ownership	0.35%
L.Auth rental	16.57%
Housing Association rental	3.68%
Private rental	5.09%
Other	3.36%

Welsh Speakers	
Aged 3+	17.78%
Car Ownership (households %)	
No car/van	30.23%
1 car/van	46.54%
2 cars/vans	19.11%
3 cars/vans	3.33%
4 cars/vans	0.78%
Total cars/vans	56616
Lone parent households	
% households with dependent children	7.9%

Source: 2001 Census