



Powys Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) (2022-2037)

Self-Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Tests of Soundness Background Paper

August 2024



CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	2
2. SELF-ASSESSMENT OF THE PREFERRED STRATEGY AGAINST THE TESTS OF SOUNDNESS.....	3
DEVELOPMENT PLANS MANUAL (EDITION 3, MARCH 2020) PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS: 3	
TEST 1: DOES THE PLAN FIT? (I.E. IS IT CLEAR THAT THE LDP IS CONSISTENT WITH OTHER PLANS?)	5
TEST 2: IS THE PLAN APPROPRIATE? (I.E. IS THE PLAN APPROPRIATE FOR THE AREA IN THE LIGHT OF THE EVIDENCE?)	9
TEST 3: WILL THE PLAN DELIVER? (IS IT LIKELY TO BE EFFECTIVE?)	13
3. APPENDICES	16
APPENDIX 1: COMPARISON OF REPLACEMENT LDP STRATEGIC POLICIES AGAINST THE REPLACEMENT LDP OBJECTIVES	16
APPENDIX 2: POWYS REPLACEMENT LDP PREFERRED STRATEGY – GENERAL CONFORMITY WITH FUTURE WALES: THE NATIONAL PLAN 2040 ASSESSMENT	26
APPENDIX 3: RELEVANT BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS.....	51

1. Introduction

This Background Paper has been published alongside the Powys Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 2022-2037, Preferred Strategy. A key element of the development plan preparation process is to demonstrate that the Plan is 'sound'. This Background Paper assesses the draft Preferred Strategy against the tests of soundness set out by the Welsh Government as detailed in the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3).

The Background Paper also outlines the relationship between the Strategic Policies and the Replacement LDP Objectives set out in the Plan. In assessing the link between the Replacement LDP Strategic Policies and the Objectives, the extent to which the Strategy is reflective of the Key Planning Principles from Planning Policy Wales (PPW) has also been considered.

A detailed assessment of the Preferred Strategy's conformity with Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (Welsh Government, February 2021) has also been undertaken and can be found at Appendix 2.

It is considered that the self-assessment conducted by the Council demonstrates that the Preferred Strategy, stages undertaken, and the processes followed to reach this stage are 'sound'. This self-assessment of the Preferred Strategy against the three Tests of Soundness is set out below. The overall soundness of the Plan will continue to be assessed against these tests as it progresses and eventually at an Examination by a Planning Inspector.

2. Self-Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Tests of Soundness

This self-assessment has been undertaken to monitor consistency with the Tests of Soundness at the Preferred Strategy stage of the Replacement Local Development Plan process. It has also helped identify future requirements as the Council progresses towards the preparation of the Deposit LDP.

Development Plans Manual (Edition 3, March 2020) Preparation Requirements:

Has preparation of the plan complied with legal and regulatory procedural requirements? (LDP Regulations, CIS, SEA Regulations, SA, HRA etc.?)

The Preferred Strategy has been prepared in accordance with the necessary procedural requirements. In particular, it is important to note the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) and the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) which have been published to support the Preferred Strategy. Both of these background documents build upon the ISA Scoping Report (2023) and Initial Habitats Regulations Assessment Scoping Report (2023) prepared earlier in the Replacement LDP process.

Scheduled consultation arrangements and documents are in accordance with the LDP Regulations (2005 as amended 2015). The scope and method of consultation is consistent with the Community Involvement Scheme, which includes engagement with a range of stakeholders including the public, elected members, internal Council departments, neighbouring authorities, developers and statutory consultees.

The use of virtual engagement methods adopted during the COVID-19 pandemic have been retained in order to provide the chance for stakeholders to engage with various Replacement LDP consultations in a virtual manner through the use of the Replacement LDP consultation database, attendance at online workshops and the completion of online surveys alongside scheduled face to face drop-in sessions at strategic locations. Full details of the Preferred Strategy consultation can be viewed on the Council's website.

Prior to consulting on the Preferred Strategy for the Replacement LDP, non-statutory consultation exercises and workshops were undertaken with various stakeholders to enhance the Council's understanding of the key issues, aspirations and options relevant to the authority. Comments received from these engagement exercises have significantly influenced the Vision and Objectives as well as the selected Spatial and Growth Options for the Preferred Strategy.

Full details of the consultation methods undertaken will be set out in the Initial Consultation Report prepared to accompany the Deposit Plan. In the meantime, the Preferred Strategy is accompanied by a background paper that details all engagement undertaken to date.

The timetable in the approved Delivery Agreement identified that consultation on the Preferred Strategy would take place during May and June 2023. However, the preparation of the supporting evidence for the Preferred Strategy has taken longer than anticipated which has meant that production of the Draft Preferred Strategy has been delayed beyond the agreed three-month slippage period. The Welsh Government have agreed an extension to the Delivery Agreement (July 2024), which rescheduled the Preferred Strategy public consultation to between August 2024 and October 2024.

Is the plan in general conformity with the NDF (now referred to as Future Wales: The National Plan 2040) and/or SDP? (when published or adopted respectively?)

In February 2021, the Welsh Government published Future Wales - the National Plan 2040, the Welsh Government's national development framework. On publication, Future Wales came into force with immediate effect and now forms part of the development plan system in Wales, it must be considered alongside LDPs in development management decisions.

The policy framework set out in the Preferred Strategy is in general conformity and supports the objectives of Future Wales. The detail associated with many of Future Wales' policies will be pursued through the preparation of a Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the Mid Wales Region, which has yet to formally commence. An assessment of the Preferred Strategy against the policies of Future Wales has been undertaken and is attached in Appendix 2.

Future Wales Policies 1 and 25 (Where Wales Will Grow, and Regional Growth Areas – Mid Wales) recognise the importance of parts of Powys for growth. Within the Regional Growth Areas, the focus is on meeting the regional housing, employment and social needs of Mid Wales. Elsewhere Welsh Government supports development to meet local needs and support rural communities (Policy 4) and the rural economy (Policy 5). It is considered that the Preferred Strategy aligns with these policies by focusing the majority of growth to settlements in Regional Growth Area Clusters, enabling lower levels of growth within settlements in Local Clusters; and facilitating development elsewhere that is proportionate and appropriate, focused on achieving sustainable rural communities, meeting local aspirations and identified needs.

The level of growth set out in the Preferred Strategy is in general conformity with Future Wales' overall strategy. The evidence base has reflected on the low estimated need for housing as set out in Future Wales for the Mid Wales Region; but has demonstrated that the proposed level of growth is essential to deliver local and regional aspirations, to address local evidence-based issues and objectives and to ensure the Replacement LDP is 'sound'. It is supported by policies 1, 4, 5 and 7 of Future Wales, which support the delivery of affordable housing, achieving demographically balanced rural communities, and meeting the needs of the rural economy.

More generally, the overarching policy framework of the Preferred Strategy is considered to align with the policy aims of Future Wales, with many common policy themes running through both. Examples of this include the Strategic Policies for Affordable and Specialist Homes (SP5), Climate Change (SP12), Sustainable Transport (SP13 and SP14), Good Design (SP16), and Nature Recovery (SP18). In this respect the Preferred Strategy is considered to set the strategic framework for delivering many of the policy objectives of Future Wales at a local level.

Test 1: Does the plan fit? (i.e. is it clear that the LDP is consistent with other plans?)

The formulation of the Preferred Strategy has been prepared with full regard to the relevant plans and strategies, whilst recognising that it will need to respond and develop as it progresses through its preparatory process. The national, regional and local plans, are where relevant, identified within the Preferred Strategy but also within the background papers and supporting documents and within the in-combination considerations of the ISA and HRA Reports. The ISA process reviews the relevant policies, plans and programmes and considers their implications in relation to the growth levels and spatial options considered and have subsequently informed the Preferred Strategy and associated Strategic Policies.

Each of the Soundness Test 1 questions are discussed in turn below:

Does it have regard to national policy (PPW and Future Wales)?
The Preferred Strategy considers the national policy and guidance set out in Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12) and the associated Technical Advice Notes (TANs). The Preferred Strategy and supporting documents refer to relevant sections of Planning Policy Wales, specific to the issue being discussed, and the policy requirements of Planning Policy Wales have been considered and incorporated where relevant in the preparation of the Strategic Policies. The Preferred Strategy's conformity with Future Wales is explored in detail in Appendix 2 of this report. The Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy is recognised as a key mechanism in delivering the planning policy priorities identified in national policy.
Does it have regard to the Well-being Goals?
The Preferred Strategy has full regard to the provision of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and the well-being goals, as well as the five ways of working as demonstrated by the non-statutory consultation and engagement undertaken on the Issues, Vision and Objectives and the Growth and Spatial Options. Appendix 1 of this report illustrates the relationship between the Replacement LDP Strategic Policies and Replacement LDP Objectives; the links between the Replacement LDP objectives and the Wellbeing goals are clearly set out in Appendix 9 of the Preferred Strategy.
Does it have regard to the Welsh National Marine Plan?
The Strategic Policies of the Preferred Strategy span a number of key themes and issues which complement the Welsh National Marine Plan. In particular, Strategic Policies SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy which references the undeveloped coast, SP12 – Climate Change, SP15-Flood Risk, SP16 – Good Design, SP20 – Green Infrastructure and SP19 – Natural Environment are particularly relevant to and supportive of the objectives and policies of the Welsh National Marine Plan in that they seek to direct new development away from areas of flood-risk, deliver high-quality, sustainable placemaking adapt to and mitigate the causes and impacts of Climate Change and protect and enhance green infrastructure and biodiversity. The preparation of detailed policies to be included within the Deposit LDP will further enhance the Strategy's relationship with the National Marine Plan.

<p>Does it have regard to the relevant Area Statement?</p>
<p>Along with Ceredigion and BBNP, the Powys LDP area falls within the area covered by the Mid Wales Area Statement which was published by Natural Resources Wales in March 2020. The Preferred Strategy has regard to the Area Statements strategic themes of: Improving Biodiversity, Sustainable Land, Water and Air, Reconnecting People and Places, Forest Resources and the Climate Emergency, through the Strategic Policies which seek to achieve many of the outcomes associated with each theme. Examples of this include Strategic Policies SP18 Nature Recovery, SP19 Natural Environment and SP20 Green Infrastructure which seek to protect and enhance biodiversity and the resilience of natural ecosystems and maximise green infrastructure provision throughout the Plan area which is consistent with the outcomes of the Area Statement.</p> <p>Similarly Strategic Policies SP12 Climate Change, SP13 and SP14 Sustainable Transport, and SP16 Good Design, SP17 Creating Healthy Places and SP22 Protecting Strategic Resources are consistent in their aims of responding to climate change, improving health and well-being and sustainable land, water and air, across the Plan area. It is therefore considered that the Preferred Strategy is consistent with the key themes and objectives of the Mid Wales Area statement.</p>
<p>Future Wales: The National Plan 2024 (February 2021)</p>
<p>Conformity with Future Wales is discussed above and in Appendix 2.</p>
<p>Is the plan in general conformity with relevant SDP (when adopted)?</p>
<p>The preparation of an SDP for the region has not yet formally commenced. However, Powys County Council has been actively involved in the discussions and agreements put in place to date and the Council has formally resolved to be part of the SDP.</p>
<p>Is it consistent with regional plans, strategies and utility programmes?</p>
<p>The Preferred Strategy has been prepared within the context of the relevant regional plans, strategies and utility provider programmes, with Appendix 3 of the Preferred Strategy, associated background papers and the supporting commentary of the Strategic Policies providing details of the documents that have been considered. Specific reference is made to the Mid Wales Growth Deal and the role the Powys LDP can play in contributing to its main objectives and programmes. The Initial Sustainability Assessment (ISA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) also consider the in-combination effects of the Preferred Strategy along with other plans and strategies in the region and conclude that the Strategy is in line with both regional and local environmental protection objectives.</p> <p>The preparation of the Preferred Strategy has involved a regional and coordinated approach to the collection of key pieces of evidence, such as the Development Viability Model and the Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment. Regular meetings have taken place with BBNP and Ceredigion to discuss issues and progress with the LHMA; and the Planning Authorities of Powys, Ceredigion and the BBNP alongside Welsh Government jointly commissioned a Mid Wales Region Employment Sites and Premises Needs and Action Plan to inform the Mid Wales Growth Deal.</p> <p>Elsewhere regard has been given to methodologies and terminology used by neighbouring authorities in the preparation of evidence. This approach enables a consistent and comparable approach to the development of evidence, that can be replicated as other neighbouring authorities start to progress LDPs and at the regional level. This approach will continue through the preparation of the Deposit Plan. Long standing regional working methods associated with areas such as waste and minerals are continued and are reflected in the Preferred Strategy.</p>

Utility companies have been involved from an early stage in the development of an Infrastructure Plan background paper and in the undertaking of a Settlement Audit. Both pieces of evidence have informed the Preferred Strategy and ensure consistency with utility provider's programmes. Extensive discussions have taken place between the Council and Dŵr Cymru / Welsh Water to identify solutions to the phosphate's constraints affecting River SAC catchments in Powys, as well as with other utility companies such as Western Power to understand capacity for growth. In terms of riverine water quality, Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water has committed £60m to addressing the phosphate water quality issues in Welsh SAC rivers, including committed investment in some Waste Water Treatment Works. Details regarding permits, capacity and phosphate stripping improvements are included in a Phosphate Position Statement published alongside the Preferred Strategy. For other utility programmes, details are included within the Infrastructure Plan background paper. These issues have influenced the new spatial strategy. Further detailed discussions with utility providers will follow as part of the assessment on candidate sites and the preparation of the Deposit Plan.

Is it compatible with the plans of neighbouring authorities?

The Preferred Strategy takes into account cross-border issues and the plans of neighbouring authorities and reflects the discussions and agreements reached relating to cross-border issues. In recognition of the value of working with neighbouring authorities, and in response to Planning Policy Wales and the Development Plans Manual emphasis on collaborative working, the Council has worked on several pieces of key evidence in partnership with adjoining authorities. These include: a Development Viability Model and a Regional Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment, together with the joint commissioning of a Mid Wales Region Employment Sites and Premises Needs and Action Plan to inform the Mid Wales Growth Deal

Some of the evidence collated has been prepared at the County wide level to include the BBNP area within Powys, this includes the LHMA and the Edge Demographics Report giving the Preferred Strategy an understanding of needs and challenges beyond the Powys LDP boundary. The settlement assessment, small settlement assessment and the cluster analysis gave full recognition to cross boundary relationships, particularly with regards to settlements in the south of the Powys LDP area that use Talgarth and Brecon as service centres, noting the status of Talgarth and Brecon in the settlement hierarchy of the BBNP Adopted LDP (2007-2022). Another example is the Preferred Strategy Town Centre Hierarchy (Strategic Policy SP9 – Town Centre Hierarchy) which has been designed to align with the retail hierarchy recommended for Ceredigion in the South West Wales Regional Retail Study (2017).

Long standing regional working methods associated with areas such as waste and minerals are continued and reflected in the Preferred Strategy.

Regular discussions take place with neighbouring authorities to establish common approaches to various elements of Plan preparation, including the procurement and development of a consultation website / database, the candidate site process and key evidence. Where possible the methodologies and terminologies employed by neighbouring authorities have been used. This includes those developed by SEWSPG, which has enabled the usage of established common approaches to various elements of Plan preparation such as the settlement assessment and the candidate site assessment methodology.

Moving forward, consideration will be given to the emphasis on regional working in light of provisions for Strategic Development Plans.

Does it reflect the Single Integrated Plan (SIP) Well-being Plan or the National Park Management Plan (NPMP)?

The Powys Well-being Plan was prepared by the Public Service Board and approved in June 2023. The Replacement LDP Issues, Vision and Objectives are drawn from and reflect the Powys Well-being Plans wellbeing objectives, particularly that: “People in Powys will live happy, healthy and safe lives” and that “Powys is a county of sustainable places and communities”. This approach reflects Welsh Government guidance which recognises the significance of local well-being plans as a key evidence source for LDP preparation. In this respect, the Well-being Plan has been an integral part of the Preferred Strategy preparation ensuring it seeks to address key issues identified for Powys.

As well as producing the Well-being Plan, the Public Services Board are a key stakeholder and have had the opportunity to engage in the preparation of the Preferred Strategy via the various engagement exercises undertaken.

The Preferred Strategy has also been informed by Powys County Council’s Corporate Plan, for 2023 – 2027. In particular, this document influenced the preparation of the Replacement LDP Vision and Objectives.

Has the LPA demonstrated it has exhausted all opportunities for joint working and collaboration on both plan preparation and the evidence base?

As demonstrated above, some of the evidence base has been commissioned on a regional basis. On-going meetings and collaboration are pursued through officer discussions and the longstanding Planning Officers Society Wales (POSW).

Consideration of any opportunities for the joint working of an LDP were given in the Review Report where it was recognised that the Powys LDP area shares its administrative boundary with eight other Welsh Local Planning Authorities (LPAs). At the time the Review Report was published most of the adjacent LPAs were at different stages in the LDP process to Powys, with the exception of Neath Port Talbot and Gwynedd.

However, it was concluded that whilst Neath Port Talbot and Gwynedd LPA’s plans were operating at a similar timescale to the Powys LDP, the geographical and functional linkages with these LPAs were limited to localised areas in the south-west (Ystradgynlais area) and north-west (north of Machynlleth) extremities of the Powys LDP area, with most of the north-west boundary of the plan area bordering the Snowdonia National Park. Therefore, it was not considered appropriate to progress with a Joint LDP at the plan level with these LPAs.

Powys sits within the Mid Wales region, along with the BBNP LPA and Ceredigion LPA. The BBNP and Ceredigion LPAs paused their Replacement LDP processes, due to the impacts from the Covid-19 pandemic and phosphates on Riverine Special Area of Conservation (SAC) catchments. This position has limited opportunities for joint working and for regional evidence to be prepared between the three LPAs, beyond the evidence listed above. However, it looks likely that the BBNP LPA will be restarting the process of preparing a Replacement LDP in the near future. Consideration will be given to whether this creates any new opportunities to prepare joint evidence.

A Regional background paper has been prepared which explains the relationship between the three authorities and the collaboration undertaken to date, this collaboration will continue as the Replacement LDP develops.

Test 2: Is the plan appropriate? (i.e. is the plan appropriate for the area in the light of the evidence?)

Is it locally specific?

The Preferred Strategy builds upon the objectives of the Well-being Plan, and the Corporate Plan of tackling inequality, responding to the nature and climate emergencies and enabling the people of Powys to live well connected, healthy lives. Along with a series of non-statutory engagement exercises with local stakeholders, these locally specific Plans have informed the key issues for the Replacement LDP and directly influenced the Vision and Objectives within the Preferred Strategy.

The Preferred Strategy has been informed by a robust and locally specific evidence base including the following background papers:

- Issues, Vision and Objectives (2024)
- Local Housing Market Assessment (January 2024)
- Housing Land Supply (April 2024)
- Second Homes and Short-Term Holiday Lets (January 2024)
- Vacancy Rate (January 2024)
- Specialist Housing (March 2024)
- Settlement Assessment (November 2023)
- Small Settlement Assessment (November 2023)
- Cluster Analysis (November 2023)
- Rural Approach (November 2023)
- Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023)
- Growth Options (2024)
- Spatial Options (2024)
- Draft Infrastructure Plan (2024)

And other Evidence Base Documents:

- Settlement Profiles
- Viability Assessment Position Statement (2024)
- Powys Retail Needs Assessment (2024)
- Powys Retail Review (2023)
- Employment Needs Assessment (2024)
- Landscape Character Assessment (2022)
- Renewable Energy Assessment (2024)
- Demographic Evidence Report (2024)
- Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment (2022)
- Local Housing Market Assessment (2024)
- Welsh Language Study (2024)

The Preferred Strategy responds to the locally specific issues and objectives, identified within corporate and well-being plans together with challenges that have been identified following stakeholder engagement. The Preferred Strategy proposes a level and distribution of growth that contributes towards meeting the key challenges and issues facing the Powys Replacement LDP Plan area.

<p>Does it address the key issues?</p>
<p>The Preferred Strategy has been developed to address the key issues identified through the plan preparation process. This includes those identified in national, regional and local policy objectives, through stakeholder engagement and in the preparation of evidence together with the findings from the Adopted LDP (2011-2026) Review Report and Annual Monitoring Reports.</p> <p>The growth and spatial options that form the basis of the Preferred Strategy are considered to best address the key issues affecting Powys, including; mitigating and adapting to climate change, protecting the environment and supporting nature recovery, responding to demographic challenges, addressing housing needs, supporting long term economic wellbeing and the rural economy and promoting active and sustainable travel choices.</p> <p>Each Strategic Policy also links to the RLDP’s overarching Objectives, as explained by Appendix 1.</p>
<p>Is it supported by robust, proportionate and credible evidence?</p>
<p>Extensive evidence has been undertaken to support the Preferred Strategy. A full breakdown is provided in Appendix 3 of the Preferred Strategy. In addition to these, further studies and evidence will be or are currently being undertaken and commissioned, including Viability Modelling, an update to the Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment, and an update to the Open Space Assessment. A Renewable Energy Assessment, Green Infrastructure Assessment and site search process to meet the identified Gypsy and Traveller accommodation need are ongoing. Further work will be undertaken during the Plan preparatory process as appropriate and necessary.</p>
<p>Can the rationale behind the plan’s policies be demonstrated?</p>
<p>The evidence gathered has informed the preparation of the strategic policies, which need to be read in conjunction with one another in order to gain an understanding of the overall policy direction of the Plan. Each strategic policy has a reasoned justification which explains and justifies the approach set out in the policy. Appendices 1 – 2 below illustrate how each policy relates to the overarching objectives of the Replacement LDP, together with the conformity of the strategic policies within Future Wales – The National Plan 2040.</p>
<p>Does it seek to meet assessed needs and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development?</p>
<p>The Replacement LDP evidence base assesses the Plan area’s needs, especially with regard to housing (market and affordable), employment, and areas of land to be protected.</p> <p>Population and household modelling has been completed, resulting in a number of housing and economic growth options being considered. In addition to this, the Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) provides key evidence on the need for both open market and affordable housing within Powys. The LHMA identifies a requirement for 2,682 new dwellings, of which 1,036 are affordable to be delivered over the 15-year plan period.</p> <p>An Employment Needs Assessment has also been undertaken to establish the employment land requirement for the Plan period, based on Welsh Government Guidance</p>

on building an Economic Development evidence base. The balance between catering to the need for homes and jobs, and the need to protect land for biodiversity, agricultural, conservation and recreational uses is a key focus of the Replacement LDP and is considered to have been addressed by the Preferred Strategy's growth and spatial strategy which seek to address needs and to deliver growth via a sustainable settlement hierarchy prioritising settlements in a Regional Growth Area Cluster or Local Cluster.

Sustainable development is at the heart of the Preferred Strategy and its policies, with the 'Sustainable Growth' strategy seeking to ensure that new development is located in sustainable places that are well served by public transport and active travel and ensuring that the right development is in the right location. In addition to sustainable transport, the policy framework, vision and objectives address a number of other facets of sustainable development including climate change mitigation and adaptation, green infrastructure, nature recovery, placemaking and sustainable waste management.

The Integrated Sustainability Appraisal process is integral to the Plan. It has and will continue to monitor the sustainability of the Replacement LDP's performance throughout its preparation.

The Sustainable Settlement Hierarchy has been developed taking into account the sustainability credentials of each settlement. The hierarchy acknowledges the availability of services and facilities, together with sustainable transport and employment opportunities. This work, as part of the Settlements Assessment, Small Settlement Assessment, Cluster Analysis and Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy background papers has informed the spatial strategy, with development being directed to the most sustainable settlements, whilst meeting identified needs.

Are the vision and the strategy positive and sufficiently aspirational?

The Replacement LDP Vision has been developed to take into account the key challenges and opportunities for change, whilst being aspirational and positive enough to seek a reversal to the otherwise projected decline in job numbers and younger age groups present in the Plan area. The vision for growth is a positive one which seeks to create well connected communities with prosperous towns and villages, whilst supporting existing businesses, an expanded economy and better job prospects. The vision seeks to achieve age balanced communities, nature recovery and climate change adaptation with a transition towards net zero.

The Preferred Strategy takes a positive, yet realistic approach to achieving growth within the context of Powys and tackling key national and local issues, such as the provision of, tackling climate change, supporting nature recovery, meeting housing and employment needs and creating sustainable places to live and work in. The Replacement LDP is considered to present a balanced approach to growth by putting forward a strategy that is aspirational enough to address a number of key issues facing the Powys whilst also having regard to alignment with Future Wales and phosphorus water quality issues associated with the River Wye and River Usk.

Have the 'real' alternatives been properly considered?

As part of the preparation of the Preferred Strategy, four realistic spatial strategy options were considered for the Plan area. These were:

- Continuation of the Adopted Powys LDP (2011-2026) Strategy.
- Affordable Housing Led.
- Population Apportionment (Dispersed Growth).

- Regional Growth Area Led (Focussed Growth).

An analysis of these four alternatives is conducted within the Spatial Options Background Paper which provides greater details on the four options considered and the reasons why the Regional Growth Area Led has been identified by the Council as the basis for the emerging Replacement LDP.

In terms of growth, the Demographic Evidence report gave consideration to a total of 12 different growth scenarios, of these only six were considered to be realistic and used to generate the Lower, Medium and Higher Growth options. The six scenarios included four population and demographic scenarios and two dwelling led scenarios.

- **Higher growth:** 3,960 to 4,320 housing requirement and 40 hectares of employment land provision, (Dwelling-led 5 Year and 10 Year alternative scenarios).
- **Medium growth:** 3,045 to 3,300 housing requirement and 32 hectares of employment land provision, (PG-Long Term and LHMA 15-year migration population and demographic scenarios).
- **Lower growth:** 2,580 to 2,682 housing requirement and 32 hectares of employment land provision, (PG-Short Term and LHMA higher variant population and demographic scenarios).

Following assessment of the six scenarios, the Council considered that the projected housing and demographic forecasting presented by the 10 Year Dwelling Led scenario would represent the appropriate growth option for the Preferred Strategy. Employment growth was based on past take up rates guided by the Employment Needs Assessment; however, this was balanced by the projected growth in the labour force calculated for each of the scenarios. Further detail is provided within the Growth Options Background Paper.

All of the above options were evaluated against the ISA objectives through the ISA process; the outcomes of this assessment can be found in the Initial ISA of the Replacement LDP which is available to view on the Council's website.

Is it logical, reasonable and balanced?

The Preferred Strategy has been informed by a clear understanding of the key themes and issues at a national, regional and local level. Its preparation has considered a range of growth and spatial options for the Plan area and has incorporated views expressed during a number of engagement exercises undertaken with various stakeholders and it has been informed by a robust and detailed evidence base. It is considered to be logical and reasonable within the context of Powys and the key issues the authority faces. Furthermore, the Preferred Strategy is considered to offer a balanced approach that is reflective of national planning policy and guidance and the need to produce a sustainable and deliverable Replacement LDP whilst also integrating cohesively with other local, regional and national plans and strategies.

Is it coherent and consistent?

The Preferred Strategy sets the strategic direction that the Council will take in managing development within Powys up until 2037. It has been informed by, and is consistent with, the Replacement LDP Vision, Objectives, strategic growth and spatial options, the wider Replacement LDP evidence base and the principles for sustainability and placemaking set out in national guidance.

Is it clear and focused?

The Preferred Strategy has been set out in a clear and logical format that illustrates the links between the various elements of the strategy whilst incorporating all the elements prescribed by national planning policy and guidance. It provides a clear focus of its purpose, identifying the Vision and Issues associated with the Plan and how the Preferred Strategy will seek to address these.

Test 3: Will the plan deliver? (Is it likely to be effective?)

Will it be effective?

The Preferred Strategy's objectives have emerged from an understanding of the challenges and needs of Powys as well as a sound, logical and robust evidence base. The strategy seeks to integrate and reflect other plans and strategies as part of an integrated approach to delivery, maximising its opportunities to be effective in its implementation.

The Preferred Strategy makes provision for approximately 3,975 - 4,810 homes (3,975 plus 21% flexibility) over the Plan period, including the provision of approximately 1,036 affordable homes. This level of growth will enable the provision of market and affordable housing and provides the opportunity to address the unbalanced demography and meet the needs of communities across the Plan area.

In order to meet the housing provision figure of 4,810, the Replacement LDP will need to make new allocations for 1,343 new homes reflecting the number of units that already have planning permission or that will be delivered via other housing supply streams, such as windfall sites. These new allocations provide the Council with the opportunity to address housing need across the Housing Market Areas, support sustainable communities and to respond to demographic challenges. Additionally, the new allocations will enable the Replacement LDP to align and deliver against the policies in Future Wales together with implementing place-making and climate change principles.

The Preferred Strategy also provides the planning policy framework to facilitate employment growth, providing 40 hectares of employment land for B1/B2/B8 Use Classes to be delivered over the Plan period. This will support the Mid Wales Growth Deal and provide job opportunities to the anticipated increase of 2,295 people into the workforce, reducing the need for commuting. This level of employment growth has been informed by a variety of different scenarios and influenced by a wide range of factors. However, it is considered to effectively align with the projected population and housing growth. The Replacement LDP will also include a policy framework to support job growth from other key employment sectors including farm diversification, retail, leisure and tourism.

Can it be implemented?

The Preferred Strategy has been prepared with the clear intention that it will be implemented and that its policies and proposals will be delivered within the Plan period 2022-2037. The Preferred Strategy puts forward a realistic and deliverable spatial framework and strategic growth which is based on sustainability principles and responds to the needs of the Powys LDP Plan area. The policies and proposals (both strategic and eventually specific within the Deposit Plan) will provide the framework through which the Plan's objectives will be implemented and the decision-making process undertaken.

More detailed assessment work, covering issues such as viability, phasing and deliverability of sites will be undertaken to support the preparation of the Deposit Plan.

The provision of 1,036 affordable dwellings will meet affordable housing needs identified in the Local Housing Market Assessment, whilst supporting and delivering against the Council's social housing priorities, outlined in the latest Programme Delivery Plan. However, it is also reflective of viability constraints, with regards to seeking contributions from developers and that there may be changes to the availability of Social Housing Grant beyond 2026.

As part of the preparation of the Deposit LDP an effective and appropriate monitoring framework will be developed and included within the Plan. This will form the basis for undertaking the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR will represent the main method for measuring and assessing the progress in the implementation of the policies and proposals of the adopted Replacement LDP and will include appropriate indicators and triggers against which the success of the Replacement LDP will be assessed.

Is there support from the relevant infrastructure providers both financially and in terms of meeting relevant timescales?

Infrastructure providers are an important component in developing the Replacement LDP and are key stakeholders in developing the new Plan. In this respect they have and will continue to be engaged throughout the Replacement LDP preparation process. Infrastructure delivery has been carefully considered in the preparation of the Preferred Strategy as documented in the Settlement Profiles and the Infrastructure Plan background paper.

Discussions are ongoing with relevant infrastructure and utility providers including Dwr Cymru Welsh Water, Hafren Dyfrdwy and SP Energy Networks to ensure that plan development is fully evidenced and supported and to ensure that it is compatible with their development programmes and their ability to accommodate new development.

The cost of site-specific infrastructure such as highways improvements and education provision will be identified as part of the ongoing candidate site and viability work.

Discussions have taken place between the Council and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water and NRW to identify workable solutions to the phosphates water quality issue. The outcome of these ongoing discussions and how it influences the strategy of the Replacement LDP is outlined in the Phosphates Position Statement.

Will development be viable?

The need for development to be viable is an important aspect in the preparation of the Plan and will be evidenced in relation to the identification of sites or the development of specific policies. Work is currently being undertaken on a High-Level Viability Assessment to determine viability across the 13 Housing Market Areas. The High-Level Viability Assessment will determine the levels of affordable housing contributions that can be sought from open market development.

The High-Level Viability Assessment sits alongside viability modelling at a site-specific level ensuring that viability assessments submitted with candidate sites are appropriately informed by local conditions and policy and are robustly evidenced. In seeking to address key local issues such as affordable housing contributions on new site allocations and highway and active travel improvements it will be essential to demonstrate that sites are viable and deliverable. A Viability Steering Group has been established to inform the viability process and ensure key inputs reflect market conditions in Powys.

<p>Additional viability work will be undertaken to demonstrate site viability and deliverability of the allocated sites to be included in the Deposit Plan. This will be based on any infrastructure improvements needed at the site level and on policy requirements set out in the Replacement LDP.</p>
<p>Can the sites allocated be delivered?</p>
<p>The Preferred Strategy does not identify any key sites, site-specific allocations will be identified as part of the Deposit plan with their deliverability evidenced accordingly.</p>
<p>Is the plan sufficiently flexible? Are there appropriate contingency provisions?</p>
<p>The Preferred Strategy provides a flexible policy framework which gives certainty on the level of growth planned and its general distribution throughout Powys but is flexible enough to consider opportunities which may arise during the Plan period, such as windfall developments. The strategy also includes sufficient flexibility to be able to meet changing needs associated with addressing the challenges of an ageing population and sustaining local communities in the Plan area up to 2037.</p> <p>The housing requirement includes a flexibility allowance to ensure that the Plan remains effective in the event of any unforeseen circumstances which might arise through the Plan period for example, the non-delivery of sites or delays. A flexibility allowance of 21% has been proposed for the Replacement LDP. This takes into consideration the flexibility allowance used in the Adopted Powys LDP (2011-2026), the unique factors effecting development in Powys and the rate of delivery that has taken place over the Adopted LDP period.</p>
<p>Is it monitored effectively?</p>
<p>An appropriate monitoring framework will be developed and included within the Deposit Plan which will form the basis for the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR is the primary mechanism for measuring and assessing the progress in the implementation of the policies and proposals of the adopted Replacement LDP and for establishing whether any changes or revisions to the Plan are required. The monitoring framework will include appropriate indicators and triggers against which the implementation of the Plan will be assessed.</p> <p>In the meantime, various annual monitoring exercises will continue to be undertaken to ensure that evidence is up to date. This includes the preparation of an AMR based on the Annual Monitoring Framework set out in the Adopted Powys LDP (2011-2026).</p> <p>Production of the AMR will be in accordance with the Regulations and the AMR will be submitted to the Welsh Government by the 31st October each calendar year.</p>

3. Appendices

Appendix 1: Comparison of Replacement LDP Strategic Policies against the Replacement LDP Objectives

Objectives 1 to 11

	Objective 1: Climate Change	Objective 2: Nature Recovery	Objective 3: Natural, Historic, and Built Environments	Objective 4: Mineral Resources	Objective 5: Sustainable Travel	Objective 6: Placemaking	Objective 7: Sustainable Growth	Objective 8: Health and Well-being	Objective 9: Sustainable Settlements and Communities	Objective 10: Meeting Future Needs	Objective 11: Welsh Language
SP1 – Scale of Growth						Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy	Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SP3 – Distribution of Growth	Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SP4 – Housing Growth						Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
SP5 – Affordable and Specialist Homes						Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
SP6 – Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation						Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	

Powys Replacement LDP (2022 – 2037) – Self Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Test of Soundness

	Objective 1: Climate Change	Objective 2: Nature Recovery	Objective 3: Natural, Historic, and Built Environments	Objective 4: Mineral Resources	Objective 5: Sustainable Travel	Objective 6: Placemaking	Objective 7: Sustainable Growth	Objective 8: Health and Well-being	Objective 9: Sustainable Settlements and Communities	Objective 10: Meeting Future Needs	Objective 11: Welsh Language
SP7 – Employment Growth						Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
SP8 – Retail Growth						Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
SP9 – Town Centre Hierarchy					Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
SP10 – Sustainable Tourism						Yes	Yes				
SP11 – Infrastructure					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	
SP12 – Climate Change	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		
SP13 - Sustainable Transport in Regional Growth Area Cluster and Local Cluster Settlements	Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

Powys Replacement LDP (2022 – 2037) – Self Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Test of Soundness

	Objective 1: Climate Change	Objective 2: Nature Recovery	Objective 3: Natural, Historic, and Built Environments	Objective 4: Mineral Resources	Objective 5: Sustainable Travel	Objective 6: Placemaking	Objective 7: Sustainable Growth	Objective 8: Health and Well-being	Objective 9: Sustainable Settlements and Communities	Objective 10: Meeting Future Needs	Objective 11: Welsh Language
SP14 - Sustainable Transport in Non-Cluster / Rural Settlements and the Open Countryside	Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
SP15 – Flood Risk	Yes	Yes				Yes					
SP16 – Good Design		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		
SP17 – Creating Healthy Places					Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	
SP18 – Nature Recovery	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes					
SP19 – Natural Environment	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes					
SP20 – Green Infrastructure	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes		Yes			

Powys Replacement LDP (2022 – 2037) – Self Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Test of Soundness

	Objective 1: Climate Change	Objective 2: Nature Recovery	Objective 3: Natural, Historic, and Built Environments	Objective 4: Mineral Resources	Objective 5: Sustainable Travel	Objective 6: Placemaking	Objective 7: Sustainable Growth	Objective 8: Health and Well-being	Objective 9: Sustainable Settlements and Communities	Objective 10: Meeting Future Needs	Objective 11: Welsh Language
SP21 – Built and Historic Environment			Yes			Yes					
SP22 – Protecting Strategic Resources			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	
SP23 – Welsh Language and Culture						Yes			Yes		Yes
SP24 – Protecting Social and Community Facilities						Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SP25 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes			Yes	
SP26 – Mineral Resource Management				Yes		Yes				Yes	

Powys Replacement LDP (2022 – 2037) – Self Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Test of Soundness

	Objective 1: Climate Change	Objective 2: Nature Recovery	Objective 3: Natural, Historic, and Built Environments	Objective 4: Mineral Resources	Objective 5: Sustainable Travel	Objective 6: Placemaking	Objective 7: Sustainable Growth	Objective 8: Health and Well-being	Objective 9: Sustainable Settlements and Communities	Objective 10: Meeting Future Needs	Objective 11: Welsh Language
SP27 – Waste Management	Yes				Yes	Yes				Yes	

Objectives 12 to 22

	Objective 12: Housing Needs	Objective 13: Community Facilities and Assets	Objective 14: Vibrant Economy	Objective 15: Economic Development	Objective 16: Mid Wales Growth Deal	Objective 17: Tourism	Objective 18: Town Centres	Objective 19: Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development	Objective 20: Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects	Objective 21: Energy and Decarbonisation	Objective 22: Waste
SP1 – Scale of Growth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes		
SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
SP3 – Distribution of Growth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		
SP4 – Housing Growth	Yes										
SP5 – Affordable and Specialist Homes	Yes										
SP6 – Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	Yes										

Powys Replacement LDP (2022 – 2037) – Self Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Test of Soundness

	Objective 12: Housing Needs	Objective 13: Community Facilities and Assets	Objective 14: Vibrant Economy	Objective 15: Economic Development	Objective 16: Mid Wales Growth Deal	Objective 17: Tourism	Objective 18: Town Centres	Objective 19: Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development	Objective 20: Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects	Objective 21: Energy and Decarbonisation	Objective 22: Waste
SP7 – Employment Growth			Yes	Yes	Yes						Yes
SP8 – Retail Growth				Yes			Yes				
SP9 – Town Centre Hierarchy		Yes		Yes			Yes				
SP10 – Sustainable Tourism				Yes		Yes					
SP11 – Infrastructure		Yes						Yes			
SP12 – Climate Change										Yes	
SP13 - Sustainable Transport in Regional Growth Area Cluster and							Yes	Yes		Yes	

	Objective 12: Housing Needs	Objective 13: Community Facilities and Assets	Objective 14: Vibrant Economy	Objective 15: Economic Development	Objective 16: Mid Wales Growth Deal	Objective 17: Tourism	Objective 18: Town Centres	Objective 19: Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development	Objective 20: Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects	Objective 21: Energy and Decarbonisation	Objective 22: Waste
Local Cluster Settlements											
SP14 - Sustainable Transport in Non-Cluster / Rural Settlements and the Open Countryside								Yes		Yes	
SP15 – Flood Risk											
SP16 – Good Design		Yes					Yes				
SP17 – Creating Healthy Places		Yes					Yes				
SP18 – Nature Recovery											
SP19 – Natural Environment						Yes					

Powys Replacement LDP (2022 – 2037) – Self Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Test of Soundness

	Objective 12: Housing Needs	Objective 13: Community Facilities and Assets	Objective 14: Vibrant Economy	Objective 15: Economic Development	Objective 16: Mid Wales Growth Deal	Objective 17: Tourism	Objective 18: Town Centres	Objective 19: Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development	Objective 20: Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects	Objective 21: Energy and Decarbonisation	Objective 22: Waste
SP20 – Green Infrastructure		Yes				Yes					
SP21 – Built and Historic Environment						Yes					
SP22 – Protecting Strategic Resources		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes			
SP23 – Welsh Language and Culture		Yes									
SP24 – Protecting Social and Community Facilities		Yes						Yes	Yes		
SP25 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation								Yes	Yes	Yes	

Powys Replacement LDP (2022 – 2037) – Self Assessment of the Preferred Strategy Against the Test of Soundness

	Objective 12: Housing Needs	Objective 13: Community Facilities and Assets	Objective 14: Vibrant Economy	Objective 15: Economic Development	Objective 16: Mid Wales Growth Deal	Objective 17: Tourism	Objective 18: Town Centres	Objective 19: Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development	Objective 20: Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects	Objective 21: Energy and Decarbonisation	Objective 22: Waste
SP26 – Mineral Resource Management											
SP27 – Waste Management		Yes						Yes			Yes

Appendix 2: Powys Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy – General Conformity with Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 Assessment

Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (referred to as Future Wales from this point on) was published by Welsh Government in February 2021 to promote development that enhances well-being and quality of life in Wales. It considers the issues significant to Wales's prosperity and well-being, such as the economy, housing, transport, energy, and the environment. It identifies where national developments should take place, where the key growth areas are and what infrastructure and services are needed. It is set in the context of a vision that will help deliver sustainable places across Wales by 2040, by supporting placemaking and ensuring our choices direct development to the right places, making the best use of resources, creating and sustaining accessible healthy communities, protecting our environment and supporting prosperity for all.

The requirement for a development plan to be in general conformity with the upper tier statutory development plan in Wales is set out in primary legislation. Planning Policy Wales 12 (2024) and the Development Plans Manual (March 2020) provide additional guidance on how to assess general conformity. Paragraph 2.18 of the Development Plans Manual notes that "the fact that a development plan may be inconsistent with one or more policies in the upper tier plan, either directly or through the omission of a policy/proposal, does not, by itself, mean that the plan is not in general conformity. Rather, the fundamental point is how significant the inconsistency is from the point of view of delivery of the upper tier plan". It goes on to note in paragraph 2.19 "whilst it would be acceptable for the lower tier plan to provide further detail in relation to making it more locally distinctive, it fundamentally must not undermine the overarching strategy, policies or proposals in the upper tier plan(s)". The requirement to be in general conformity with Future Wales is also a test of soundness and will be tested through the examination process.

The purpose of this Appendix is to demonstrate that the Powys Preferred Strategy (August 2024) assists in the delivery of the Future Wales policies and is in general conformity with its overarching strategy.

The following section assesses whether the Replacement LDP objectives and Strategic Policies set out in the Preferred Strategy are considered to be in general conformity with Future Wales Policies using the traffic light model below:

Replacement LDP / Preferred Strategy is considered to be in general conformity with the Future Wales 2040 policy objective.	Green
Replacement LDP / Preferred Strategy is considered to make a neutral contribution to the Future Wales 2040 policy objective.	Amber
Replacement LDP / Preferred Strategy is not considered to be in general conformity with the Future Wales 2040 policy objective.	Red

Future Wales Policy: Policy 1 – Where Wales will grow	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government supports sustainable growth in all parts of Wales. In three National Growth Areas there will be growth in employment and housing opportunities and investment in infrastructure. The National Growth Areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiff, Newport and the Valleys • Swansea Bay and Llanelli • Wrexham and Deeside <p>The National Growth Areas are complemented by Regional Growth Areas which will grow, develop and offer a variety of public and commercial services at regional scale. There are Regional Growth Areas in three regions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The South West • Mid Wales • The North <p>Development and growth in towns and villages in rural areas should be of appropriate scale and support local aspirations and need.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs • Objective 12 – Housing Needs • Objective 14 – Vibrant Economy • Objective 15 – Economic Development <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP1 – Scale of Growth • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP4 – Housing Growth • Strategic Policy SP7 – Employment Growth 	<p>The Powys LDP area sits within the Mid Wales Region and hosts two Regional Growth Areas. The presence of the two Regional Growth Areas is a fundamental element of the Preferred Strategy determining where up to 55% of housing and employment growth will be located.</p> <p>Outside of the Regional Growth Area Cluster settlements, lower levels of growth are enabled in higher tiered settlement clusters. Whilst in other parts of the plan area, identified as rural, growth will be proportionate and appropriate focused on achieving sustainable rural communities and meeting local aspirations and needs.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy growth option reflects what has been delivered in recent years and is considered to be realistic, deliverable and suitably ambitious; whilst reflecting the Powys LPA's role within the wider Mid Wales Region.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 2 – Shaping Urban Growth and Regeneration – Strategic Placemaking	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The growth and regeneration of towns and cities should positively contribute towards building sustainable places that support active and healthy lives, with urban neighbourhoods that are compact and walkable, organised around mixed-use centres and public transport, and integrated with green infrastructure.</p> <p>Urban growth and regeneration should be based on the following strategic placemaking principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creating a rich mix of uses; • providing a variety of housing types and tenures; • building places at a walkable scale, with homes, local facilities and public transport within walking distance of each other; • increasing population density, with development built at urban densities that can support public transport and local facilities; • establishing a permeable network of streets, with a hierarchy that informs the nature of development; • promoting a plot-based approach to development, which provides opportunities for the development of small plots, including for custom and self-builders; and • integrating green infrastructure, informed by the planning authority’s Green Infrastructure Assessment. <p>Planning authorities should use development plans to establish a vision for each town and city. This should be supported by a spatial framework that guides growth and regeneration and establishes a structure within which towns and cities can grow, evolve, diversify and flourish over time.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 5 – Sustainable Travel • Objective 6 – Placemaking • Objective 8 – Health and Well-being • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 18 – Town Centres <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP9 – Town Centre Hierarchy • Strategic Policy SP13 - Sustainable Transport in Regional Growth Area Cluster and Local Cluster Settlements • Strategic Policy SP16 – Good Design • Strategic Policy SP17 – Creating Healthy Places • Strategic Policy SP20 – Green Infrastructure 	<p>The Strategic Policy Framework seeks to ensure development contributes to the creation of sustainable places that focus on delivering placemaking and ensuring Powys’s communities are sustainable in the long terms and are attractive places to live, work and visit.</p> <p>The policy framework set out in the Preferred Strategy is considered to reflect the policy objectives of the Future Wales policy and provide the basis to make a significant contribution to placemaking objectives at the local level within Powys.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 3 – Supporting Urban Growth and Regeneration – Public Sector Leadership	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government will play an active, enabling role to support the delivery of urban growth and regeneration. The Welsh Government will assemble land, invest in infrastructure and prepare sites for development. We will work with local authorities and other public sector bodies to unlock the potential of their land and support them to take an increased development role.</p> <p>The public sector must show leadership and apply placemaking principles to support growth and regeneration for the benefit of communities across Wales.</p> <p>The public sector’s use of land, developments, investments and actions must build sustainable places that improve health and well-being.</p> <p>Planning authorities must take a proactive role and work in collaboration with the Welsh Government and other public sector bodies to identify the best locations for growth and regeneration, and provide certainty about how they should be developed.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 6 – Placemaking • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs • Objective 12 – Housing Needs • Objective 16 – Mid Wales Growth Deal • Objective 19 – Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development • Objective 20 – Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP4 – Housing Growth • Strategic Policy SP5 – Affordable and Specialist Homes • Strategic Policy SP7 – Employment Growth • Strategic Policy SP11 – Infrastructure • Strategic Policy SP24 – Social and Community Facilities 	<p>The Preferred Strategy seeks to deliver a sustainable level of growth supported by appropriate infrastructure across the plan period. A policy framework to support delivery of this ambition has also been established to ensure that such growth can be achieved whilst also addressing the key issues and challenges facing Powys.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy includes sufficient growth and flexibility to deliver and support both the social house building programme and the Mid Wales Growth Deal in Powys. Additionally, the growth and spatial strategy supports and will enable other public sector projects such as the development of a North Powys Wellbeing Hub.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 4 – Supporting Rural Communities	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government supports sustainable and vibrant rural communities. Strategic and Local Development Plans must identify their rural communities, assess their needs and set out policies that support them. Policies should consider how age balanced communities can be achieved, where depopulation should be reversed and consider the role of new affordable and market housing, employment opportunities, local services and greater mobility in tackling these challenges.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP5 – Affordable and Specialist Homes • Strategic Policy SP14 - Sustainable Transport in Non-Cluster / Rural Settlements and the Open Countryside 	<p>The issues identified in Policy 4 of Future Wales are of particular relevance to a large proportion of the Powys LDP plan area and the issues and challenges that the Powys Replacement LDP is seeking to address. The Preferred Strategy proposes a level and distribution of growth that provides the opportunity to address the County’s key issues including those associated with demographic challenges.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy is considered to offer a significant contribution to achieving the objectives of Policy 4 of Future Wales whilst also achieving the Replacement LDP vision and objectives.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 5 – Supporting the rural economy	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government supports sustainable, appropriate and proportionate economic growth in rural towns that is planned and managed through Strategic and Local Development Plans.</p> <p>Strategic and Local Development Plans must plan positively to meet the employment needs of rural areas including employment arising from the foundational economy; the agricultural and forestry sector, including proposals for diversification; start-ups and micro businesses.</p> <p>The Welsh Government also strongly supports development of innovative and emerging technology businesses and sectors to help rural areas unlock their full potential, broadening the economic base, and creating higher paid jobs.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs • Objective 14 – Vibrant Economy • Objective 15 – Economic Development • Objective 16 – Mid Wales Growth Deal • Objective 17 – Tourism • Objective 20 – Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP1 – Scale of Growth • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP7 – Employment Growth • Strategic Policy SP10 – Sustainable Tourism 	<p>A key issue for Powys is the need to sustain and regenerate the County’s rural economy consistent with the policy aims of Policy 5 of Future Wales. The Preferred Strategy provides the policy framework to allow for an appropriate amount of diversification and enterprise in rural areas as well as promoting the infrastructure both physical and digital to facilitate this.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy also recognises the role the agricultural and forestry, tourism and leisure sectors play in the Powys economy and seeks to facilitate their growth at an appropriate scale.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 6 – Town Centre First	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>Significant new commercial, retail, education, health, leisure and public service facilities must be located within town and city centres. They should have good access by public transport to and from the whole town or city and, where appropriate, the wider region.</p> <p>A sequential approach must be used to inform the identification of the best location for these developments and they should be identified in Strategic and Local Development Plans.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 5 – Sustainable Travel • Objective 6 – Placemaking • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 18 – Town Centres • Objective 19 – Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP8 – Retail Growth • Strategic Policy SP9 – Town Centre Hierarchy 	<p>The Preferred Strategy sets out the Plan Areas retail hierarchy in line with PPW12, intending to maintain and enhance the retail, commercial and service centres in Powys as vibrant places.</p> <p>The hierarchy assists the implementation of the sequential approach and Town Centre First principle by directing retail and commercial development to the appropriate position in the hierarchy.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 7 – Delivering Affordable Homes	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government will increase delivery of affordable homes by ensuring that funding for these homes is effectively allocated and utilised.</p> <p>Through their Strategic and Local Development Plans planning authorities should develop strong evidence-based policy frameworks to deliver affordable housing, including setting development plan targets based on regional estimates of housing need and local assessments. In response to local and regional needs, planning authorities should identify sites for affordable housing led developments and explore all opportunities to increase the supply of affordable housing.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs • Objective 12 – Housing Needs <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP1 – Scale of Growth • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP4 – Housing Growth • Strategic Policy SP5 – Affordable and Specialist Homes 	<p>The Preferred Strategy establishes a policy framework that seeks to achieve an affordable housing target of 1,036 affordable homes across the plan period, in response to the need identified in the Local Housing Market Assessment (20022-2037).</p> <p>This will be done through establishing affordable housing percentage thresholds for large housing sites and supporting the social house building programme by identifying affordable housing led sites.</p> <p>Additionally, the Replacement LDP will include a framework for the provision of single affordable dwellings to meet local needs</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 8 – Flooding	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>Flood risk management that enables and supports sustainable strategic growth and regeneration in National and Regional Growth Areas will be supported. The Welsh Government will work with Flood Risk Management Authorities and developers to plan and invest in new and improved infrastructure, promoting nature-based solutions as a priority. Opportunities for multiple social, economic and environmental benefits must be maximised when investing in flood risk management infrastructure. It must be ensured that projects do not have adverse impacts on international and national statutory designated sites for nature conservation and the features for which they have been designated.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 – Climate Change • Objective 6 – Placemaking <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change • Strategic Policy SP15 – Flood Risk 	<p>The Preferred Strategy seeks to ensure new development considers current and future flood risk and the need to incorporate appropriate measures to mitigate this risk across the authority.</p> <p>Policy SP15 of the Strategy makes a policy commitment to avoid locating development in areas at risk of flooding and ensures that new development avoids increasing the risk of flooding elsewhere. Where infrastructure is required to alleviate flood risk, the strategy prioritises nature-based solutions.</p> <p>In co-operation with the other planning authorities in the Mid Wales region, a Regional Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment (SFCA) has been undertaken. This assessment has been used to inform the Preferred Strategy.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 9 – Resilient Ecological Networks and Green Infrastructure	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>To ensure the enhancement of biodiversity, the resilience of ecosystems and the provision of green infrastructure, the Welsh Government will work with key partners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify areas which should be safeguarded and created as ecological networks for their importance for adaptation to climate change, for habitat protection, restoration or creation, to protect species, or which provide key ecosystems services, to ensure they are not unduly compromised by future development; and • identify opportunities where existing and potential green infrastructure could be maximised as part of placemaking, requiring the use of nature-based solutions as a key mechanism for securing sustainable growth, ecological connectivity, social equality and well-being. <p>Planning authorities should include these areas and/or opportunities in their development plan strategies and policies in order to promote and safeguard the functions and opportunities they provide. In all cases, action towards securing the maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity (to provide a net benefit), the resilience of ecosystems and green infrastructure assets must be demonstrated as part of development proposals through innovative, nature-based approaches to site planning and the design of the built environment.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 – Climate Change • Objective 2 – Nature Recovery • Objective 3 – Natural, Historic, and Built Environments • Objective 8 – Health and Well-being <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change • Strategic Policy SP16 – Good Design • Strategic Policy SP18 – Nature Recovery • Strategic Policy SP19 – Natural Environment • Strategic Policy SP20 – Green Infrastructure 	<p>Powys has significant Green Infrastructure, landscape, biodiversity and nature conservation resources. The need to protect and enhance these resources is a key focus of the Replacement LDP.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy recognises the multifunctional role green infrastructure has in delivering active travel, placemaking, ecosystem resilience, climate change mitigation and improving general health and well-being.</p> <p>Strategic Policies SP18, SP19 and SP20 seek to promote nature recovery, protect, maintain and enhance biodiversity, and to secure green infrastructure. The Preferred Strategy has been informed by a Green Infrastructure Assessment (included as Appendix 7 to the Preferred Strategy). Further policy will be included in the Deposit LDP and SPG will be prepared following the adoption of the LDP.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 10 – International Connectivity	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government identifies the following Strategic Gateways to facilitate international connectivity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiff Airport • Holyhead Port • Haven Waterway, including the Ports of Milford Haven and Pembroke Dock • Fishguard Port <p>The Welsh Government will work with the operators, investors and local authorities to support Strategic Gateways and maintain their international connectivity roles. Strategic and Local Development Plans should support the Strategic Gateways by maximising the benefits they provide to their respective regions and Wales. New development around the Strategic Gateways should be carefully managed to ensure their operation is not constrained or compromised.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <p>Strategic Policies:</p>	<p>There are no Strategic Gateways to facilitate international connectivity identified in the Powys Plan area. The Replacement LDP is therefore considered to have a neutral impact on the achieving the Future Wales policy.</p>	<p>Amber</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 11 – National Connectivity	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government will support and invest in improving national connectivity. Our priorities are to encourage longer-distance trips to be made by public transport, while also making longer journeys possible by electric vehicles. The Welsh Government will work with Transport for Wales, local authorities, operators and partners to support the delivery of the following measures to improve national connectivity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rail Network – Transform the rail network and improve the quality of rail services for passengers. • Bus Network – Invest in the development of the national bus network, fully integrated with regional and local bus networks, to increase modal share of bus travel and improve access by bus to a wider range of trip destinations. • Strategic Road Network – Invest in road improvements to reduce journey times, deliver a safer and more resilient road network, and improve air and noise quality. <p>Create a network of rapid-charging points to enable longer distance travel by electric vehicles throughout Wales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Cycle Network – Revitalise the National Cycle Network to create a network of traffic-free paths connecting cities, towns and countryside across Wales. 	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 5 – Sustainable Travel • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 19 – Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development • Objective 20 – Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects • Objective 21 – Energy and Decarbonisation <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP11 – Infrastructure • Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change • Strategic Policy SP13 - Sustainable Transport in Regional Growth Area Cluster and Local Cluster Settlements • Strategic Policy SP14 - Sustainable Transport in Non-Cluster / Rural Settlements and the Open Countryside 	<p>The Preferred Strategy seeks to promote sustainable forms of transport, reduce the need to travel, increase provision for walking and cycling and improve public transport provision. The spatial strategy of the Replacement LDP is to focus development in those locations that provide the best opportunities for achieving sustainable development, which offer a choice of transport modes and contribute towards the development of a sustainable transport network and provide opportunities to enhance and connect to the Active Travel Networks.</p> <p>Enhancing the use of ultra-low emission vehicles through the provision of sufficient charging infrastructure is also recognised as a key contributor to improving sustainable national connectivity given to the rural character of Powys.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP promotes the concept of ‘living locally’, which recognises that there is a need to travel further distances to access jobs and key services compared to urban areas, but ensuring that sustainable transport opportunities are available to facilitate such journeys.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 11 – National Connectivity	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>Planning authorities should support developments associated with improvements to national connectivity and, where appropriate, maximise the opportunities that arise from them.</p> <p>Planning authorities must ensure that, where appropriate, new development contributes towards the improvement and development of the National Cycle Network and key links to and from it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP22 – Protecting Strategic Resources 	<p>Powys is predominantly a rural County and as set out in Future Wales Policy 5, it is recognised that there are significant disparities between urban areas with regard to the feasibility of delivering effective public transport systems and active travel routes. The Replacement LDP recognises that proposals in rural areas will need to demonstrate innovative solutions to connect rural locations to services and facilities.</p>	

Future Wales Policy: Policy 12 – Regional Connectivity	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government will support and invest in improving regional connectivity. In urban areas, to support sustainable growth and regeneration, our priorities are improving and integrating active travel and public transport. In rural areas our priorities are supporting the uptake of ultra-low emission vehicles and diversifying and sustaining local bus services.</p> <p>The Welsh Government will work with Transport for Wales, local authorities, operators and partners to deliver the following measures to improve regional connectivity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Travel – Prioritising walking and cycling for all local travel. We will support the implementation of the Active Travel Act to create comprehensive networks of local walking and cycling routes that connect places that people need to get to for everyday purposes. • Bus – Improve the legislative framework for how local bus services are planned and delivered. We will invest in the development of integrated regional and local bus networks to increase modal share of bus travel and improve access by bus to a wider range of trip destinations. • Metros – Develop the South East Metro, South West Metro and North Wales Metro. We will create new integrated transport systems that provide faster, more frequent and joined-up services using trains, buses and light rail. 	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 5 – Sustainable Travel • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 19 – Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development • Objective 20 – Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects • Objective 21 – Energy and Decarbonisation <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP11 – Infrastructure • Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change • Strategic Policy SP13 - Sustainable Transport in Regional Growth Area Cluster and Local Cluster Settlements • Strategic Policy SP14 - Sustainable Transport in Non- 	<p>The Preferred Strategy seeks to promote sustainable forms of transport, reduce the need to travel, increase provision for walking and cycling and improve public transport provision. The spatial strategy of the Replacement LDP is to focus development into those locations (including Regional Growth Areas) that provide the best opportunities for achieving sustainable development, which offer a choice of transport modes and contribute towards the development of a sustainable transport network and provide opportunities to enhance and connect to the Active Travel Networks.</p> <p>Enhancing the use of ultra-low emission vehicles through the provision of sufficient charging infrastructure is also recognised as a key contributor to improving sustainable national connectivity given to the rural character of Powys.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP promotes the concept of ‘living locally’, which recognises that there is a need to travel further distances to access jobs and key services compared to urban areas but ensuring that sustainable</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 12 – Regional Connectivity	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>• Ultra-Low Emission Vehicles – Support the roll-out of suitable fuelling infrastructure to facilitate the adoption of ultra-low emission vehicles, particularly in rural areas.</p> <p>Planning authorities must plan the growth and regeneration of the National and Regional Growth Areas to maximise opportunities arising from the investment in public transport, including identifying opportunities for higher density, mixed-use and car-free development around metro stations.</p> <p>Active travel must be an essential and integral component of all new developments, large and small. Planning authorities must integrate site allocations, new development and infrastructure with active travel networks and, where appropriate, ensure new development contributes towards their expansion and improvement.</p> <p>Planning authorities must act to reduce levels of car parking in urban areas, including supporting car-free developments in accessible locations and developments with car parking spaces that allow them to be converted to other uses over time. Where car parking is provided for new non-residential development, planning authorities should seek a minimum of 10% of car parking spaces to have electric vehicle charging points.</p>	<p>Cluster / Rural Settlements and the Open Countryside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP22 – Protecting Strategic Resources 	<p>transport opportunities are available to facilitate such journeys.</p> <p>Powys is predominantly a rural County and as set out in Future Wales Policy 5, it is recognised that there are significant disparities between urban areas with regard to the feasibility of delivering effective public transport systems and active travel routes. The Replacement LDP recognises that proposals in rural areas will need to demonstrate innovative solutions to connect rural locations to services and facilities.</p>	

Future Wales Policy: Policy 13 – Supporting Digital Communications	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government supports the provision of digital communications infrastructure and services across Wales.</p> <p>Planning authorities must engage with digital infrastructure providers to identify the future needs of their area and set out policies in Strategic and Local Development Plans to help deliver this.</p> <p>New developments should include the provision of Gigabit capable broadband infrastructure from the outset.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 19 – Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development Objective 20 – Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Policy SP11 – Infrastructure Strategic Policy SP15 – Flood Risk 	<p>Given the rural character of Powys, the Replacement LDP recognises the importance of ensuring the provision of adequate digital infrastructure to enhancing the County’s economic and community connectivity and communication needs and reducing the need to travel.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 14 – Planning in Mobile Action Zones	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government supports increased mobile phone coverage and the associated economic and social benefits it brings.</p> <p>The Welsh Government will identify Mobile Action Zones, showing locations where there is little or no mobile telecommunications coverage. The Welsh Government, planning authorities and mobile telecommunications operators must work together to achieve increases in mobile coverage within Mobile Action Zones.</p>		<p>Future Wales does not identify the Mobile Action Zones, although it is identified that the Welsh Government is working to establish the location of the zones and will engage with key stakeholders to finalise their exact whereabouts. Most Mobile Action Zones will be in areas where there is no mobile 4G coverage from any mobile network provider but where there is ‘latent’ demand such as homes, businesses, roads, rail, community and tourism sites. At this stage the RLDP is considered to have a neutral impact on achieving the policy aims, but this will be reviewed once the Mobile Action Zones are published.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amber</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 15 – National Forest	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government is committed to developing a national forest through the identification of appropriate sites and mechanisms. Action to safeguard proposed locations for the national forest will be supported.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 – Climate Change • Objective 2 – Nature Recovery • Objective 3 – Natural, Historic, and Built Environments <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change • Strategic Policy SP18 – Nature Recovery • Strategic Policy SP19 – Natural Environment • Strategic Policy SP20 – Green Infrastructure • Strategic Policy SP22 – Protecting Strategic Resources 	<p>In 2020 Welsh Government made a commitment to developing a National Forest for Wales. This initially consisted of 14 woodland blocks that were part of the Welsh Government Woodland Estate managed and maintained by Natural Resources Wales.</p> <p>In 2023 Welsh Government launched the National Forest Status Scheme. This enabled woodland sites beyond the woodland estate to join the National Forest. Since then, the National Forest has continued to grow to include a network that consists of over 100 woodland sites. The National Forest will continue to expand to form a network of connected woodlands stretching the length and breadth of Wales.</p> <p>There are several woodlands within the Powys LDP area that form part of the National Forest. These include the Dyfi, Dyfnant, Hafren and Irfon forests together with Nash Wood near Presteigne. The Replacement LDP is supportive of protecting and enhancing these and any future Green Infrastructure Assets in consistence with the aims of Policy 15 of Future Wales.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 16 – Heat Networks	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>Within Priority Areas for District Heat Networks planning authorities should identify opportunities for District Heat Networks and plan positively for their implementation.</p> <p>Large scale mixed-use development should, where feasible, have a heat network with a renewable / low carbon or waste heat energy source. Planning applications for such development should prepare an Energy Masterplan to establish whether a heat network is the most effective energy supply option and, for feasible projects, a plan for its implementation.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 1 – Climate Change Objective 21 – Energy and Decarbonisation <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change Strategic Policy SP25 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation 	<p>There are no Priority Areas for District Heat Networks identified within the Powys LDP area within Future Wales. The Replacement LDP does, however, establish the strategic policy framework to support the development of renewable and low/zero carbon energy generation.</p> <p>A Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Assessment of the potential for renewable energy generation, using the Welsh Government Toolkit, is in the process of being undertaken and will inform the Deposit Plan in terms of any need for specific local search areas for renewable and low/zero carbon energy technologies. The assessment will also review the potential for District Heat Networks in Powys.</p>	<p>Green</p>
Future Wales Policy: Policy 17 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and Associated Infrastructure	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government strongly supports the principle of developing renewable and low carbon energy from all technologies and at all scales to meet our future energy needs.</p> <p>In determining planning applications for renewable and low carbon energy development, decision-makers must give significant weight to the need to meet</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 1 – Climate Change Objective 21 – Energy and Decarbonisation <p>Strategic Policies:</p>	<p>As evidenced by the Regional Strategic Diagram in Future Wales, there are several Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy within the Powys LDP area.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy outlines the Council’s policy framework for developing the utilisation of</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 17 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and Associated Infrastructure	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>Wales’ international commitments and our target to generate 70% of consumed electricity by renewable means by 2030 in order to combat the climate emergency.</p> <p>In Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy the Welsh Government has already modelled the likely impact on the landscape and has found them to be capable of accommodating development in an acceptable way. There is a presumption in favour of large-scale wind energy development (including repowering) in these areas, subject to the criteria in policy 18.</p> <p>Applications for large-scale wind and solar will not be permitted in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and all proposals should demonstrate that they will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the environment.</p> <p>Proposals should describe the net benefits the scheme will bring in terms of social, economic, environmental and cultural improvements to local communities.</p> <p>New strategic grid infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of energy should be designed to minimise visual impact on nearby communities. The Welsh Government will work with stakeholders, including National Grid and Distribution Network Operators, to transition to a multi-vector grid network and reduce the barriers to the implementation of new grid infrastructure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change • Strategic Policy SP25 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation 	<p>renewable energy across the authority throughout the plan period. In particular, Policy SP25 seeks to maximise the opportunities for renewable energy development.</p> <p>Furthermore, a renewable energy assessment is being undertaken, using the Welsh Government Toolkit, to identify how Powys can contribute to ensuring that by 2030, 70% of Wales’ electricity is generated from renewable sources. Initial results indicate that an additional 232MW of renewable and low carbon energy technologies could be potentially delivered by the most common technologies during the Plan period, including DNS projects.</p> <p>Further detail regarding these contributions and how the Replacement LDP can help achieve them will be detailed in the Deposit Plan.</p>	

Future Wales Policy: Policy 18 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments of National Significance	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy projects (including repowering) qualifying as Developments of National Significance will be permitted subject to policy 17 and the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. outside of the Pre-Assessed Areas for wind developments and everywhere for all other technologies, the proposal does not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the surrounding landscape (particularly on the setting of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty); 2. there are no unacceptable adverse visual impacts on nearby communities and individual dwellings; 3. there are no adverse effects on the integrity of Internationally designated sites (including National Site Network sites and Ramsar sites) and the features for which they have been designated (unless there are no alternative solutions, Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI) and appropriate compensatory measures have been secured); 4. there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on national statutory designated sites for nature conservation (and the features for which they have been designated), protected habitats and species; 5. the proposal includes biodiversity enhancement measures to provide a net benefit for biodiversity; 6. there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on statutorily protected built heritage assets; 7. there are no unacceptable adverse impacts by way of shadow flicker, noise, reflected light, air quality or electromagnetic disturbance; 8. there are no unacceptable impacts on the operations of defence facilities and operations (including aviation and radar) or the Mid Wales Low Flying Tactical Training Area (TTA-7T); 	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 – Climate Change • Objective 21 – Energy and Decarbonisation <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change • Strategic Policy SP25 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation 	<p>Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy developments of national significance will be assessed in line with the criteria outlined within Policy 18 of Future Wales. Therefore, as there is already a framework for assessing such proposals prescribed by the Welsh Government, the Preferred Strategy is deemed as having a neutral impact on the delivery of Policy 18.</p> <p>However, it is important to note that to inform the Replacement LDP a Renewable Energy Assessment is being conducted. The outcomes of this assessment will inform the detailed policies to be included within the Deposit Plan.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 18 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments of National Significance	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>9. there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on the transport network through the transportation of components or source fuels during its construction and/or ongoing operation;</p> <p>10. the proposal includes consideration of the materials needed or generated by the development to ensure the sustainable use and management of resources;</p> <p>11. there are acceptable provisions relating to the decommissioning of the development at the end of its lifetime, including the removal of infrastructure and effective restoration.</p> <p>The cumulative impacts of existing and consented renewable energy schemes should also be considered.</p>			

Future Wales Policy 19 – Strategic Policies for Regional Planning	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>Strategic Development Plans should embed placemaking as an overarching principle and should establish for the region (and where required constituent Local Development Plans):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a spatial strategy; 2. a settlement hierarchy; 3. the housing provision and requirement; 4. the gypsy and traveller need; 5. the employment provision; 6. the spatial areas for strategic housing, employment growth and renewable energy; 7. the identification of green belts, green corridors and nationally important landscapes where required; 8. the location of key services, transport and connectivity infrastructure; 9. a framework for the sustainable management of natural resources and cultural assets; 10. ecological networks and opportunities for protecting or enhancing the connectivity of these networks and the provision of green infrastructure; and 11. a co-ordinated framework for minerals extraction and the circular economy, including waste treatment and disposal. <p>The Welsh Government requires the adoption of Strategic Development Plans in the North, Mid Wales, South West and South East regions.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs • Objective 15 – Economic Development • Objective 16 – Mid Wales Growth Deal <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP1 – Scale of Growth • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP4 – Housing Growth • Strategic Policy SP7 – Employment Growth • Strategic Policy SP9 – Town Centre Hierarchy • Strategic Policy SP11 – Infrastructure • Strategic Policy SP13 - Sustainable Transport in Regional Growth Area Cluster and Local Cluster Settlements • Strategic Policy SP26 – Mineral Resource Management • Strategic Policy SP27 – Waste Management 	<p>Although a Strategic Development Plan is yet to be prepared for the Mid Wales Region, the preparation of the Powys Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy has included consideration of the regional context in the development of the evidence base. Furthermore, recognised methodologies have been used that can be easily replicated across the region. This allows for a consistent basis on which to consider the evidence and its implications on a regional basis, as well as locally. Where possible evidence has been collated at the regional level with jointly commissioned pieces such as the Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment.</p> <p>Long standing regional methods associated with waste and minerals are continued and reflected in the Preferred Strategy.</p> <p>The approach taken to many of the policy areas within the Replacement LDP will provide an evidence base for the preparation of the Strategic Development Plan in the future.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 25 – Regional Growth Areas – Mid Wales	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government supports sustainable growth and development in a series of inter-connected towns across the region. Development in these Regional Growth Areas should meet the regional housing, employment and social needs of Mid Wales. The Regional Growth Areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Teifi Valley, including Cardigan, Newcastle Emlyn, Llandysul and Lampeter • Brecon and the Border • The Heart of Wales, including Llandrindod Wells and Builth Wells • Bro Hafren, including Welshpool and Newtown • Aberystwyth <p>The Welsh Government supports development in all parts of the region in meeting local needs. Strategic and Local Development Plans will determine the most appropriate locations for growth in Mid Wales and should demonstrate how a regional approach has informed decisions on future growth.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 6 – Placemaking • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs • Objective 12 – Housing Needs • Objective 14 – Vibrant Economy • Objective 15 – Economic Development • Objective 16 – Mid Wales Growth Deal <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP1 – Scale of Growth • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP4 – Housing Growth • Strategic Policy SP7 – Employment Growth • Strategic Policy SP8 – Retail Growth 	<p>The Powys LDP area includes two of the Mid Wales Regional Growth Areas the Preferred Strategy identifies that the settlements within Regional Growth Area clusters should accommodate the majority of growth (55%). This approach is consistent with Policy 25 of Future Wales.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy’s selected growth option is considered to be sufficiently ambitious to reflect the role Powys plays in the Mid Wales Region, without competing for growth with the other LPAs in the Region.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 26 – Growing the Mid Wales Economy	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government supports the growth and development of existing and new economic opportunities across Mid Wales.</p> <p>The Welsh Government will work with local authorities, communities, stakeholders and businesses to ensure that its investments and policies support a strong regional economy.</p> <p>Strategic and Local Development Plans must develop policies that support agricultural and land based traditional rural enterprises; and provide a flexible framework to support the development of new, innovative and emerging technologies and sectors.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities • Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs • Objective 14 – Vibrant Economy • Objective 15 – Economic Development • Objective 16 – Mid Wales Growth Deal • Objective 17 – Tourism • Objective 18 – Town Centres <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP1 – Scale of Growth • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP3 – Distribution of Growth • Strategic Policy SP7 – Employment Growth • Strategic Policy SP8 – Retail Growth • Strategic Policy SP10 – Sustainable Tourism 	<p>Within the Vision the Preferred Strategy aspires to the Powys LDP area being a place of vibrant, thriving and well-connected communities that accommodate the sustainable growth of both new homes and jobs and provide good access to services and employment opportunities. This includes the Powys LDP area being part of a more productive, enterprising and distinctive region that supports existing businesses, an expanded economy, and better job prospects that are based on innovation and allied to a skilled workforce.</p> <p>With regards to the foundational economic sectors, including farming, tourism, and recreation and leisure, the Preferred Strategy proposes that they continue their key roles, and that the rural economy should be resilient and diverse.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy supports the delivery of this vision through its objectives and strategic policies which include supporting the delivery of the Mid Wales Growth Deal. Furthermore, detailed policies that support agricultural and land based traditional rural enterprise will be included within the Deposit Plan.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Future Wales Policy: Policy 27 – Movement in Mid Wales	Relevant Objectives and Strategic Policies	General Conformity with Future Wales Strategy	Assessment
<p>The Welsh Government will work with local and regional authorities to ensure transport investments improve accessibility across Mid Wales and strengthen cross-border transport links.</p> <p>Strategic and Local Development Plans should support improved transport links within the region and with other regions and England. Planning authorities should plan growth and regeneration to maximise the potential opportunities arising from better regional connectivity.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 5 – Sustainable Travel • Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth • Objective 19 – Infrastructure, Utility and Service Provision Required for New Development • Objective 20 – Provision of Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects • Objective 21 – Energy and Decarbonisation <p>Strategic Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Policy SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy • Strategic Policy SP11 – Infrastructure • Strategic Policy SP12 – Climate Change • Strategic Policy SP13 - Sustainable Transport in Regional Growth Area Cluster and Local Cluster Settlements • Strategic Policy SP14 - Sustainable Transport in Non-Cluster / Rural Settlements and the Open Countryside • Strategic Policy SP22 – Protecting Strategic Resources 	<p>The Preferred Strategy seeks to promote sustainable forms of transport, reduce the need to travel, increase provision for walking and cycling and improve public transport provision. The spatial strategy of the Replacement LDP is to focus development into those locations (including Regional Growth Areas) that provide the best opportunities for achieving sustainable development, which offer a choice of transport modes and contribute towards the development of a sustainable transport network and provide opportunities to enhance and connect to the Active Travel Networks.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy recognises the importance of cross-border transport links, including roads, bus services and the Cambrian train line connecting Powys communities to Aberystwyth and the West Midlands and the Heart of Wales train line which connects Powys communities to South Wales and the West Midlands.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Green</p>

Appendix 3: Relevant Background Documents

Replacement LDP Strategic Policies	Relevant Background Papers / Supporting Evidence
<p>SP1 – Scale of Growth</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Local Housing Market Assessment (January 2024) • Housing Land Supply (April 2024) • Second Homes and Short-Term Holiday Lets (January 2024) • Vacancy Rate (January 2024) • Specialist Housing (March 2024) • Growth Options (2024) • Infrastructure Plan <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Needs Assessment (2024) • Demographic Evidence Report (2024) • Powys Retail Needs Assessment (February 2024) • Initial High Level Viability Assessment • Local Housing Market Assessment • Initial Consultation Report / Engagement to Date <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Report (February 2022) • Annual Monitoring Report (2023)
<p>SP2 – Sustainable Growth Strategy</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Local Housing Market Assessment (January 2024) • Settlement Assessment (November 2023) • Small Settlement Assessment (November 2023) • Cluster Analysis (November 2023) • Rural Approach (November 2023) • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) • Spatial Options (2024) • Infrastructure Plan <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Needs Assessment (2024) • Local Housing Market Assessment • Initial Consultation Report / Engagement to Date • Settlement Audit / Settlement Profiles • Powys Retail Review (2023) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Report (February 2022) • Annual Monitoring Report (2023)

Replacement LDP Strategic Policies	Relevant Background Papers / Supporting Evidence
<p>SP3 – Distribution of Growth</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Local Housing Market Assessment (January 2024) • Housing Land Supply (April 2024) • Settlement Assessment (November 2023) • Second Homes and Short-Term Holiday Lets (January 2024) • Vacancy Rate (January 2024) • Specialist Housing (March 2024) • Settlement Assessment (November 2023) • Small Settlement Assessment (November 2023) • Cluster Analysis (November 2023) • Rural Approach (November 2023) • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) • Spatial Options (2024) • Infrastructure Plan <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Needs Assessment (2024) • Local Housing Market Assessment • Initial Consultation Report / Engagement to Date • Settlement Audit / Settlement Profiles • Powys Retail Review (2023) • Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment • Initial High Level Viability Assessment <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Report (February 2022) • Annual Monitoring Report (2023)
<p>SP4 – Housing Growth</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Local Housing Market Assessment (January 2024) • Housing Land Supply (April 2024) • Second Homes and Short-Term Holiday Lets (January 2024) • Vacancy Rate (January 2024) • Specialist Housing (March 2024) • Growth Options (2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Housing Market Assessment • Initial Consultation Report / Engagement to Date • Initial High Level Viability Assessment <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)

Replacement LDP Strategic Policies	Relevant Background Papers / Supporting Evidence
<p>SP5 – Affordable and Specialist Housing</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Local Housing Market Assessment (January 2024) • Housing Land Supply (April 2024) • Second Homes and Short-Term Holiday Lets (January 2024) • Vacancy Rate (January 2024) • Specialist Housing (March 2024) • Growth Options (2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Housing Market Assessment • Initial Consultation Report / Engagement to Date • Initial High Level Viability Assessment <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP6 – Gypsy and Traveller Provision</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Position Statement <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (2021) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP7 – Employment Growth</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Growth Options (2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Needs Assessment (2024) • Mid Wales Growth Deal – Sites and Premises Programme <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP8 – Retail Growth</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Growth Options (2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powys Retail Needs Assessment (February 2024)

Replacement LDP Strategic Policies	Relevant Background Papers / Supporting Evidence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powys Retail Review (2023) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
SP9 – Town Centre Hierarchy	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Growth Options (2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powys Retail Needs Assessment (February 2024) • Powys Retail Review (2023) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
SP10 – Sustainable Tourism	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Second Homes and Short-Term Holiday Lets (January 2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape Character Assessment (March 2022) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
SP11 – Infrastructure	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) • Infrastructure Plan • Phosphate Position Statement • Viability Assessment Position Statement • Candidate Site Assessment Methodology (November 2022) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settlement Profiles • Initial High Level Viability Assessment <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
SP12 – Climate Change	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) • Candidate Site Assessment Methodology (November 2022)

Replacement LDP Strategic Policies	Relevant Background Papers / Supporting Evidence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure Plan <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable Energy Assessment • Green Infrastructure Assessment • Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment • Initial Consultation Report / Engagement to Date <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP13 - Sustainable Transport in Regional Growth Area Cluster and Local Cluster Settlements</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) • Cluster Analysis (November 2023) • Candidate Site Assessment Methodology (November 2022) • Infrastructure Plan <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settlement Profiles • Initial Consultation Report / Engagement to Date <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP14 - Sustainable Transport in Non-Cluster / Rural Settlements and the Open Countryside</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) • Rural Approach (November 2023) • Candidate Site Assessment Methodology (November 2022) • Infrastructure Plan <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Consultation Report / Engagement to Date <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP15 – Flood Risk</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment <p>Other Documents:</p>

Replacement LDP Strategic Policies	Relevant Background Papers / Supporting Evidence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP16 – Good Design</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Spatial Options (2024) • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) • Infrastructure Plan <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Infrastructure Assessment • Settlement Profiles • Landscape Character Assessment (March 2022) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP17 – Creating Healthy Places</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Spatial Options (2024) • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) • Infrastructure Plan <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Infrastructure Assessment • Settlement Profiles <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP18 – Nature Recovery</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Infrastructure Assessment <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powys Nature Recovery Plan
<p>SP19 – Natural Environment</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Infrastructure Assessment • Landscape Character Assessment (March 2022)

Replacement LDP Strategic Policies	Relevant Background Papers / Supporting Evidence
	<p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powys Nature Recovery Plan
<p>SP20 – Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Infrastructure Assessment <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powys Nature Recovery Plan • Open Space Assessment (2018) (to be updated for Deposit Plan)
<p>SP21 – Built and Historic Environment</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022) • Existing Supplementary Planning Guidance
<p>SP22 – Protecting Strategic Resources</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Integrated Planning and Transport Strategy (November 2023) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Infrastructure Assessment • Landscape Character Assessment (March 2022) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP23 – Welsh Language and Culture</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Language Study <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
<p>SP24 – Protecting Social and Community Facilities</p>	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p>

Replacement LDP Strategic Policies	Relevant Background Papers / Supporting Evidence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settlement Profiles <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
SP25 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable Energy Assessment <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
SP26 – Mineral Resource Management	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Minerals Background Paper <p>Supporting Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Technical Statement – 2nd Review (2020) <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)
SP27 – Waste Management	<p>Background Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues, Vision and Objectives - Consultation Version (January 2024) • Waste Background Paper <p>Other Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Monitoring Report (2023) • Review Report (February 2022)