



Powys Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 2022-2037

Key Issues, Vision and Objectives (KIVO)

Consultation Draft

January 2024

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



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Introduction

Purpose of this Consultation Document

The purpose of this document is to set out the draft Key Issues, Vision and Objectives (KIVO) of the Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) (2022-2037). For information the existing Adopted Local Development Plan, the Powys Adopted LDP (2011-2026), remains in force until 2026.

This document represents an important step in the Replacement LDP process allowing you the opportunity to comment on the draft KIVO and influence an early stage of the Replacement LDP process. Please note that the Powys Local Planning Authority area does not extend to land within the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park (BBNP).

Structure of this Consultation Document

Section A - provides a list of 20 Key Issues as identified so far for the Replacement LDP.

Section B - provides a draft Vision that has been informed by the Key Issues and sets out what the Plan is trying to achieve over the plan period (2022 to 2037) in response to the specific local needs and challenges of the area.

Section C - sets out 22 proposed Objectives which respond to the Key Issues, and which enable the Plan to deliver on the Vision. The finalised set of Objectives will steer the content of the Replacement LDP and will become part of a later Monitoring Framework to judge its effectiveness.

Section D - is provided for information only. This section includes an assessment matrix to demonstrate how the Objectives, delivering the Vision, align to policy requirements comprising a) Key Planning Principles and National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes of Planning Policy Wales, b) the national Well-being Goals from the Well-being of Future Generations Act, and c) the objectives of the Powys Well-being Plan.

When and How to Comment

The consultation is open for three weeks from 8th - 28th January 2024. We encourage you to comment using the Council's on-line engagement hub – Have Your Say:

<https://www.haveyoursaypowys.wales/hub-page/powys-county-council>.

Alternatively, you can submit your views in writing by email to ldp@powys.gov.uk or by letter to Planning Services (FAO: Planning Policy), Powys County Council, County Hall, Spa Road East, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 5LG. **The closing date for comments is 5.00 pm on 28th January 2024.**

What Happens Next?

Comments and feedback will be fully considered by the Council and changes will be made at the Council's discretion. The revised KIVO will be assessed through the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal, before being published as part of the Replacement LDP Pre-Deposit (Preferred Strategy) Consultation scheduled in 2024. The Preferred Strategy will provide further opportunity for comment.

1. Section A: Key Issues

1.1 Introduction:

1.1.1 The Powys Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) (2022–2037) must provide for the future sustainable growth of the county by the consideration of social, economic, environmental, and cultural issues.

1.1.2 The Key Issues proposed for the Replacement LDP are derived from various sources including:

- Internal engagement exercises held during 2022/2023 involving County Councillors, Service and Department Heads and Professional Officers.
- Review of the Issues/Considerations and Objectives of the Powys Adopted LDP (2011-2026).
- Taking account of the performance of the Powys Adopted LDP (2011 -2026), as analysed in the LDP Review Report (February 2022) and Annual Monitoring Reports (2021, 2022 and 2023).
- The current legal/technical framework, especially any changes since the Powys Adopted LDP (2011-2026) was adopted in 2018. For example, the publication, in February 2021, of Future Wales - the National Plan 2040, which set a new overarching national development plan framework.
- Respecting the government’s national ambition to “decarbonise society, to be more prosperous, to grow the Welsh language and to improve health.”
- High-level plans in Powys including the Powys Well-being Plan, the Corporate Strategic and Equality Plan, and the Mid Wales Area Statement.
- The feedback from a questionnaire sent to Town and Community Councils of the LDP’s 58 largest settlements during a Settlement Audit, conducted October 2022.

1.1.3 From the points above, the Council has determined the main drivers for change for the Replacement LDP period (2022-2037) and which issues/considerations of the Powys Adopted LDP (2011-2026) still carry relevance, leading to a draft list of 20 Key Issues for the Replacement LDP to address.

1.2 List of the Key Issues

1.2.1 From work undertaken so far, the following 20 draft Key Issues have been identified for the Powys Replacement LDP (2022-2037) (see Section 1.3 for detailed information on each key issue and context):

1. Responding to Climate Change
2. Supporting Nature Recovery
3. Caring for Resources
4. Promoting Sustainable Transport
5. Responding to Demographic Challenges
6. Planning for Well-being
7. Supporting Healthy Lifestyles
8. Right Development, Right Place
9. Promoting and Protecting the Welsh Language
10. Planning for New Homes
11. Planning for a Vibrant Economy
12. Planning for a Strong Farming and Rural Economy
13. Supporting the Mid Wales Growth Deal (MWGD)
14. Supporting Tourism
15. Local Placemaking
16. Planning Infrastructure and Service Needs
17. Supporting Community Facilities and Community Assets
18. Supporting Powys High Streets
19. Supporting Sustainable Energy: Harnessing Green Power and promoting Energy Efficiency
20. Managing and Reducing Waste

1.3 Key Issues

1.3.1 This section provides further information and context to each of the Key Issues identified. Please note that many of the key issues are interrelated.

Key Issue 1 (KI.1): Responding to Climate Change

1.3.2 Context: Climate change presents a hugely significant challenge to society, in addressing the climate challenge there is a need for both climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation. The science of climate change is now well understood with the need to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels if catastrophic climate impacts are to be avoided (The Climate Crisis - A Guide for Local Authorities on Planning for Climate Change, TCPA, RTPI, Jan 2023).

1.3.3 Adverse impacts include extreme weather events, increased flooding, rising sea levels, and water scarcity. The Powys Well-being Plan (2023) identifies that climate action is essential stating that “the window of opportunity to maintain a liveable planet for humans and nature as we know it is closing very rapidly”.

1.3.4 Climate change is a strategic priority for national policy across all parts of the UK. Powys County Council declared a climate emergency in September 2020 following the 2019 Welsh Government declaration (with its commitment to net zero by 2050). Climate change is recognised as an imperative issue in both the Council’s Corporate Strategic and Equality Plan (“the Corporate Plan”) 2023 and the Powys Well-being Plan. The Council shares the ambition of the Welsh public sector to reduce its carbon emissions to net zero by 2030.

1.3.5 The Council has a Climate Change Strategy (2021-2030) and, as a partner in the Powys Public Service Board (PSB), is involved in the county wide Carbon Positive Strategy. The Powys Well-being Plan (produced by the PSB) makes significant pledges on climate action.

1.3.6 Accepting the climate emergency as a priority integrates with the approach taken by Welsh Government in both Planning Policy Wales and Future Wales and aligns to the identification of Climate Change as a core theme in the Mid Wales Area Statement produced by Natural Resources Wales (NRW). This Key Issue is cross-cutting with a relationship to many, if not all, of the other Key Issues identified for the Replacement LDP.

Key Issue 2 (KI.2): Supporting Nature Recovery

1.3.7 Context: The planning system has long held a key role in ensuring the continued safeguarding and protection of designated sites of nature conservation value and in seeking to maintain biodiversity. However, the evidence is telling us that there are increasing environmental pressures and, with many ecosystems across the UK in decline.

1.3.8 The Council declared a nature emergency in October 2022. As part of the Powys Nature Partnership, the Council has published the Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) (2022-2032), which highlights how biodiversity is declining at an unprecedented rate due to a number of key pressures. Biodiversity means biological diversity and it is the variety of life on earth and the habitats in which they are found.

1.3.9 This Key Issue is related to KI.3, Caring for Resources. Welsh Government’s Natural Resources Policy is a response to the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 which sets out the requirement for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (SMNR) in Wales. It is recognised that everyone has a role to play in ensuring that natural resources are sustainably managed. One of the main challenges highlighted is the improvement of ecosystem resilience.

1.3.10 Public authorities are subject to the Section 6 ‘Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty’ under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in the exercise of their functions. This means development must work alongside nature, provide a net benefit for biodiversity, and improve the resilience of ecosystems.

1.3.11 Future Wales identifies nine broad areas of National Natural Resources where nationally important ecological networks/green infrastructure exist, including the Cambrian Mountains, the Black Mountains and the Bannau Brycheiniog /Brecon Beacons. The areas should be seen as a basis for promoting action to protect and enhance biodiversity and improve the resilience of ecosystems connected to strategically important green infrastructure.

1.3.12 Future Wales (Policy 9) highlights how resilient ecological networks are vital for nature recovery. Resilient ecological networks are defined as “networks of habitat in good ecological condition linking protected sites and other biodiversity hotspots across the wider landscape, providing maximum benefit for biodiversity and well-being”.

Key Issue 3 (KI.3): Caring for Resources

1.3.13 Context: Powys contains a wealth of resources of international, national, regional, and local importance within its physical, social, and cultural environment.

1.3.14 Powys is known for its varied and beautiful landscapes, valued by residents, attracting tourists, and providing places where both people and nature can thrive. The plan area is connected to a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve (Dyfi) and has a Dark Sky Park (Elan Valley). There are numerous nationally and locally designated nature and geodiversity sites within the plan area. Powys also has a notable historic environment.

1.3.15 Planning Policy Wales (Chapter 6, updated in October 2023) cites the need to protect and enhance the natural and historic environment as well as other components of the natural world, such as water resources or air quality. The planning system therefore must look to the long-term protection and enhancement of the special characteristics and intrinsic qualities of the natural, historic, and built environments. Given the breadth of relevant matters for Key Issue 3 across Powys, the resources are divided into two categories:

i) Natural Environment Resources

including:

- land, air, water, and soil
- animals, plants, and other organisms
- designated (statutory and non-statutory) sites of nature conservation
- landscapes and landscape character, geological features, and dark skies
- the value of the countryside as a carbon sink
- peatlands
- habitats, biodiversity hotspots, ecological networks and green infrastructure
- trees, woodlands, hedgerows (including ancient and semi-natural woodlands)
- land designated for the Wales National Forest
- the best and most versatile agricultural land
- mineral deposits
- river floodplains
- safeguarding of common land.

- need to have regard to the statutory purposes of adjoining National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty designated for special qualities including of landscape and scenery.

Issues and current concerns relating to natural environment resources include pollution, soil run-off, flooding and water management, planting the right tree in the right place, the security of food and water supplies and declining biodiversity. Some of the issues are impacted by Climate Change.

ii) Historic and Built Environment Resources

including the:

- distinctive and special character of towns and villages and their rural settings.
- historic environment and its settings (including listed buildings, conservation areas, historic assets of special local interest, historic parks and gardens, townscapes, historic landscapes, and archaeological remains).
- transport infrastructure including roads, railways, canals, recreational trails, public rights of way, and active travel routes/networks.
- safeguarding of disused rail infrastructure; existing public transport interchanges and identified future transport infrastructure and related services.
- safeguarding of Ministry of Defence Training Area(s).

Key Issue 4 (KI.4): Promoting Sustainable Transport

1.3.16 Context: In line with national policy, the priorities set out in Llwybr Newydd: the Wales Transport Strategy are an important consideration for the Replacement LDP. These include reducing the need to travel and the implementation of the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy, reducing reliance on the private car by promoting Active Travel, public transport, and the use of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs). This approach supports decarbonisation efforts, addresses the climate and nature emergencies, and tackles inequalities.

1.3.17 It is recognised that public transport and active travel opportunities are more limited within many rural communities.

Key Issue 5 (KI.5): Responding to Demographic Challenges

1.3.18 Context: Powys has an increasing ageing population and faces the issue of an unbalanced population between older and younger demographics. The increasing retired, non-working population relative to the working age population is a challenge facing Powys as recognised in both the Powys Well-being Plan and the Corporate Plan.

1.3.19 Some older residents have increasing specialist housing and care requirements and need access to appropriate accommodation and services.

1.3.20 To support more age-balanced communities, there will be a need for the Plan to create jobs, homes and opportunities to increase the working age population.

Key Issue 6 (KI.6): Planning for Well-being

1.3.21 Context: The Replacement LDP must be consistent with the seven national well-being goals and the objectives of the Powys Well-being Plan. There are three priorities in the Powys Well-being Plan:

- People in Powys will live happy, healthy, and safe lives.

- Powys is a county of sustainable places and communities.
- An increasingly effective Public Service for the people of Powys.

1.3.22 Many aspects of the Replacement LDP can support these priorities including: planning the right amount and type of new homes and jobs in the right places and ensuring there is local infrastructure to support them; encouraging healthy, active lifestyles; and creating and safeguarding green spaces, which all contribute to well-being whilst decarbonising the economy in response to the climate and nature emergencies.

1.3.23 The Replacement LDP will also need to support new models of intervention such as integrated services within new facilities e.g. the North Powys Health and Well-being hub. These types of development projects provide for the integration of care and well-being bringing together medical, health, community, social and other services.

Key Issue 7 (KI.7): Supporting Healthy Lifestyles

1.3.24 Context: The location and design of new development plays a significantly important role in supporting and encouraging active and healthy lifestyles, including tackling levels of obesity. Healthier lifestyles can be supported by locating development close to Active Travel routes, by providing access to green infrastructure and public open spaces (including allotments and growing spaces).

Key Issue 8 (KI.8): Right Development, Right Place

1.3.25 Context: Achieving the right development in the right place is a Key Planning Principle set out in Planning Policy Wales.

1.3.26 This issue means that the growth and spatial distribution of new development needs to be founded upon resilient location and design choices, having regard to many considerations including natural environment resources and health and well-being. A revised Sustainable Settlement Hierarchy (an update to that in the Adopted LDP) will need to be developed to inform the distribution of growth in a sustainable manner. Furthermore, Future Wales identifies Regional Growth Areas within Mid Wales and Powys including:

- Brecon and the Border.
- The Heart of Wales (including Llandrindod Wells and Builth Wells).
- Bro Hafren, (including Welshpool and Newtown).

1.3.27 The Regional Growth Areas must be treated as the focal points for sustainable growth and development and will be expected to accommodate the regional housing, employment and social needs. Further growth in sustainable locations, to meet local needs, will need to be enabled outside of the Regional Growth Areas.

1.3.28 Right Development, Right Place is a critical issue in supporting the promise of the Corporate Plan to ensure that Powys is “Developing Prosperous Towns and Villages.”

Key Issue 9 (KI.9): Promoting and Protecting the Welsh Language

1.3.29 Context: Nationally it is predicted that the Welsh speaking population in Wales will increase in line with the Welsh Government’s target to reach one million Welsh speakers by 2050 (Cymraeg 2050: Welsh Language Strategy, Welsh Government).

1.3.30 The use of Welsh language varies considerably across Powys, with traditional Welsh Speaking Strongholds in the north-west and south-west communities. In these areas, Welsh language and Welsh culture is an integral part of the social fabric. The 2021 Census found that overall the number of Welsh speakers in Powys decreased slightly over the ten year period 2011-2021.

1.3.31 Powys County Council is committed to promoting the Welsh language and making it easier for residents to use. To facilitate this the Council follows Welsh Language Standards, has a Welsh Language Promotion Strategy and a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

1.3.32 There is a significant link to the role of the education system in Powys which is a major player in increasing the opportunities for children and young people to become bilingual.

Key Issue 10 (KI.10): Planning for New Homes

1.3.33 Context: There is a need to plan new homes to meet the varying needs of communities. New homes are necessary to serve a growing population (resulting from natural change and/or net migration) and to accommodate the trend of reducing average household size (meaning more households are being created).

1.3.34 Powys has a primarily low-wage economy which impacts upon the affordability of new homes to local people. Average house prices in Powys have increased at a higher rate than average incomes resulting in an increased need for affordable housing. The Council as the Strategic Housing Authority manages a Common Housing Register (CHR) in conjunction with Registered Social Landlords, which captures the demand for social housing.

1.3.35 In addition to market housing, it is recognised that the demand for new homes includes specialist needs housing such as independent living, sheltered or extra-care housing, supported living, and the needs of the gypsy and traveller communities. Bespoke schemes such as community-led housing and self-build can address the needs arising from local communities. Given the importance of the agricultural and rural economy in Powys the needs of farms and rural enterprises must also be fully considered.

Key Issue 11 (KI.11): Planning for a Vibrant Economy

1.3.36 Context: Powys has a wide economic base focussed on agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, the public sector and services, and supports a high number of Small to Medium Enterprises with few large private sector companies.

1.3.37 There is a need to provide employment sites and supportive policies to meet the employment needs and demands of businesses in Powys. This will help to deliver a prosperous local economy and stronger communities.

1.3.38 It is recognised that Powys faces a challenge in attracting and retaining the working-age population and a strong, vibrant, and diverse economy, providing for new jobs and skills, is considered essential in helping to address this. Better paid jobs would help reverse the issue of the low-wage economy which is present in Powys.

Key Issue 12 (KI.12): Planning for a Strong Farming and Rural Economy

1.3.39 Context: As a predominantly rural county, farming and forestry activities remain important for supporting rural livelihoods and communities in Powys and providing local jobs as well producing food and providing food security for the nation. Agriculture has shaped the Powys landscape and

supported market towns for generations, but it is necessary for the modern farming economy to respond and adapt to meeting the challenges of climate change and nature recovery.

1.3.40 There are ongoing changes in the farming subsidy regime which will be increasingly based on the principles of sustainable land management and environmentally responsible farming. This may lead to wider diversification of the rural economy. Wales' rural economy has been diversifying for decades to unlock opportunities beyond traditional agricultural practices. Diversification of the rural economy creates opportunities for entrepreneurship, innovation and wealth creation which are vital both for a healthy economy and sustainable rural communities. Future Wales identifies that local food and drink processing of agricultural and horticultural products is a growing industry and planning authorities are expected to support new development and opportunities to improve or develop rural supply chains and distribution networks.

Key Issue 13 (KI.13): Supporting the Mid Wales Growth Deal (MWGD)

1.3.41 Context: The regional vision of "[Growing Mid Wales](#)" states, by 2035, Mid Wales will be:

"An enterprising and distinctive region delivering economic growth driven by innovation, skills, connectivity and more productive jobs supporting prosperous and bilingual communities".

1.3.42 The Mid Wales Growth Deal (MWGD) is set within the broader Vision for Growing Mid Wales and complements other strategies and investments from the public and private sector to bring prosperity to the communities and businesses of the region. The Deal will play a key role in supporting economic recovery and growth in the Mid Wales economy, with the aim of supporting job creation and increasing productivity and wider societal and environmental ambitions.

1.3.43 The MWGD includes a set of programmes and projects covering a range of investment proposals across the themes of digital, tourism, agriculture, food and drink, research and innovation and supporting enterprise. The sites and premises work programme aims to stimulate property investment in the Mid Wales region to support varied industry sectors ensuring the right supply and location to meet business needs.

1.3.44 Working with the Welsh and UK Governments and other stakeholders, the Council already supports the aims and objectives of the Growth Deal and the Replacement LDP will be used as part of the solution towards ensuring the Deal is delivered successfully and achieves its desired outcomes.

Key Issue 14 (KI.14): Supporting Tourism

1.3.46 Context: Tourism is an integral part of the Powys economy. Visitors to Powys are drawn to the area for its outstanding scenery, cultural and heritage offerings and recreational opportunities which are often centred on the outdoors. Tourism is part of Powys' foundational economy and there is potential for further sustainable tourism development especially, as highlighted by Future Wales, in active, green, and cultural tourism.

Key Issue (KI.15): Local Placemaking

1.3.47 Context: The Corporate Plan aims to deliver prosperous towns and villages. A positive approach to local placemaking is regarded as key to the issue of delivering locally sustainable and prosperous places where people want to live.

1.3.48 Placemaking is defined in Planning Policy Wales as the creation of "sustainable places which are attractive, sociable, accessible, active, secure, welcoming, healthy and friendly."

1.3.49 Placemaking for local places must follow the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes for:

- Growing our economy in a sustainable manner.
- Making best use of resources.
- Facilitating healthy and accessible environments.
- Creating and sustaining communities.
- Maximising environmental protection and limiting environmental impact

Key Issue 16 (KI.16): Planning Infrastructure and Service Needs

1.3.50 Context: The Powys LDP area is the largest and the most sparsely populated plan area in Wales and its topography and remote nature provide challenges for infrastructure and service provision.

1.3.51 Development needs to be directed to locations that are best served by existing and potential infrastructure and services such as health, education and other services. Future Wales defines Regional Growth Areas as service hubs stating that these areas, “should retain and enhance the commercial and public service base that make them focal points in their areas.”

1.3.52 Utility infrastructure, such as public sewers, waste water treatment works and main gas supply, are not available or are operating at capacity in some parts of the Plan area which can act as a constraint to development.

1.3.53 The need for improved digital communications and better mobile coverage is also an issue. Comprehensive digital infrastructure provides for economic and social opportunities and enables access to digital services through better connectivity.

Key Issue 17 (KI.17): Supporting Community Facilities and Community Assets

1.3.54 Context: Community facilities underpin the economic, social, and cultural fabric of towns, villages, and rural communities. The existence of community facilities and assets can help serve local needs, increase the vibrancy of a settlement, bolster the local economy, minimise social isolation, protect well-being and also reduce dependence on the private car by reducing the need to travel to reach alternative services/facilities.

1.3.55 Supporting the retention and provision of viable community facilities to meet local needs is a crucial component of successful placemaking (KI.15) and is essential in meeting the Corporate Plan aim of ‘Developing Prosperous Towns and Villages’.

Key Issue 18 (KI.18): Supporting Powys High Streets

1.3.56 Context: A mix of complementary uses is needed to make town centres attractive, vital, and viable places, responding to the challenge of high street recovery and the changing nature of offices and the workplace following the global health pandemic of Covid-19.

1.3.57 Most of the towns in the Powys LDP area have either a Place Plan, a Town Centre Investment Plan, or a Placemaking Plan to support thriving and vibrant town centres. The aspirations of these Plans will need to be considered by the Replacement LDP to ensure a co-ordinated approach.

Key Issue 19 (KI.19): Supporting Sustainable Energy: Harnessing Green Power and Promoting Energy Efficiency

1.3.58 Context: It is considered that there is potential to carefully use the County's natural resources to support renewable energy generation and to support economic growth at the same time.

1.3.59 It is important that the Energy Hierarchy in Planning Policy Wales is followed in order that all new development is planned to mitigate the causes of climate change. This means that the energy requirements of new and existing development should be minimised, and energy efficiency measures included.

Key Issue 20 (KI.20): Managing and Reducing Waste

1.3.60 Context: The sustainable management of waste, where waste is minimised, reused, recycled, and successfully diverted away from landfill sites is critical for achieving a sustainable economy. There is a need to ensure the provision of a wide range and choice of different sites, in terms of character, size and location, across the county to accommodate the full range of different waste management facilities. The Replacement LDP will need to support the national waste hierarchy, and facilitate waste reduction, recycling and composting, and energy from waste.

1 Section B: Vision

2.1 Proposed Vision

2.1.1 In response to the Key Issues, the following Vision is proposed for the Replacement LDP:

“By 2037, the Powys plan area ...

Will be a place of prosperous, vibrant, and well-connected communities including thriving towns and villages, accommodating the growth of both new homes and jobs, and providing good access to services and employment opportunities. It will offer stronger job prospects based on innovation allied to a skilled workforce. Its rural areas will consist of strong and sustainable places supported by a diverse rural economy.

All communities will have developed in a way which enable and support:

- **Nature and biodiversity to flourish.**
- **The transition towards net zero.**
- **Age-balanced communities in places which meet social, economic, Welsh language and cultural needs.**

Residents will live safer, healthier, and greener lives within an outstanding physical and cultural environment. Resources will be sustainably managed and resilient ecosystems and ecological networks will underpin a sustainable land-use legacy for the benefit of future generations. The wealth of resources within the natural, built and historic environments, including iconic landscapes, will be safeguarded and valued.”

3. Section C: Objectives

3.1 Objective Setting

3.1.1 To meet the Vision, 22 Objectives are proposed for the Replacement LDP. The Objectives have been grouped under the following topics which derive from the Key Issues and set out the broad intentions for managing development up to 2037.

- Climate Change.
- Nature Recovery and the Sustainable Management of Resources.
- Key Planning Principles, Placemaking, Health and Well-being.
- Sustainable Communities, Housing and Services.
- A Sustainable and Vibrant Economy.
- Infrastructure, Energy and Waste.

3.2 Replacement LDP Objectives

3.2.1 Climate Change

Key Issue:

- **KI.1 Responding to Climate Change**

Objective 1 – Climate Change

To ensure that new development and land uses are resilient to the effects of climate change, and to actively address the causes and impacts of a changing climate through minimisation, adaptation and mitigation in support of the transition to achieving net zero.

3.2.2 Nature Recovery and the Sustainable Management of Resources

Key Issues:

- **KI.2 Supporting Nature Recovery**
- **KI.3 Caring for Resources**

Objective 2 – Nature Recovery

To support nature recovery and address biodiversity decline by protecting, managing, maintaining, and enhancing the resilience of Powys's natural environment including habitats, biodiversity and geodiversity, the health and resilience of ecosystems, improving green infrastructure and the connectivity of ecological networks.

Objective 3 – Natural, Historic and Built Environments

To sustainably manage Powys's natural resources and to protect, conserve and enhance the natural and built environment and to protect the special landscape characteristics of the Plan area and those of adjoining areas including National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Through placemaking, new development will be required to respect and respond to local distinctiveness and character, deliver a net benefit for biodiversity protect, provide green infrastructure and protect environmental qualities such as clean air, open spaces, and water quality.

Objective 4 – Mineral Resources

To safeguard mineral deposits from sterilisation and to provide positively for the sustainable working of mineral resources to meet society's needs now and in the future, ensuring an adequate supply of minerals is available long term.

3.2.3 Key Planning Principles, Placemaking, Health and Well-being

Key Issues:

- **KI.4 Promoting Sustainable Transport**
- **KI.6 Planning for Well-being**
- **KI.7 Supporting Healthy Lifestyles**
- **KI.8 Right Development, Right Place**
- **KI.15 Local Placemaking**

Objective 5 – Sustainable Travel

To ensure that new development is located and designed to reduce the need to travel and enable a choice of sustainable transport options for all. This includes providing active travel opportunities

such as cycling and walking routes to encourage healthier lifestyles, and using good design to ensure that routes connecting users to services and facilities are permeable, legible, direct, convenient, attractive, and safe.

Objective 6 - Placemaking

To promote “right development, right place” through a placemaking focussed strategy which shapes sustainable growth and resilient places. New development will respond to the issues of local character, Welsh language and culture, inclusive access, ease of movement, community cohesiveness, safe and healthy environments, and environmental sustainability.

Objective 7 – Sustainable Growth

To provide a framework for sustainable growth across Powys which safeguards resources and enables communities to thrive. Significance will be given to the Regional Growth Areas within a sustainable settlement hierarchy that balances the provision of homes, jobs, services, and facilities and promotes sustainable travel patterns.

Objective 8 – Health and Well-being

To support the health and well-being of Powys residents by ensuring that places change and develop to increase opportunities for active lifestyles including for active travel, sport, recreation, and amenity. This includes creating access to a network of green infrastructure for the benefit of people and wildlife and a well-designed public realm that promotes social interactions alongside spaces for quiet reflection.

3.2.4 Sustainable Communities, Housing and Services

Key Issues:

- **KL.5 Responding to Demographic Challenges**
- **KL.9 Promoting and Protecting the Welsh Language**
- **KL.10 Planning for New Homes**
- **KL.17 Supporting Community Facilities and Community Assets**

Objective 9 – Sustainable Settlements and Communities

To support stronger, safer, healthier, and more connected and vibrant communities by considering the needs of all elements of society, including all age groups and the implications of an ageing population. New development will lead to beneficial economic, social, cultural, and environmental outcomes creating aged-balanced, sustainable places which optimise community health and well-being, and address issues of high deprivation and social exclusion.

Objective 10 – Meeting Future Needs

To build stronger, fairer, and greener communities across Powys’s towns, villages and the rural areas by meeting the identified needs for homes and jobs with the provision of new and improved opportunities for people to come to live and work in Powys.

Objective 11 – Welsh Language

To foster the Welsh language including protecting areas of Welsh language significance and supporting Welsh cultural, education and language initiatives.

Objective 12 – Housing Needs

To meet Powys's housing needs by ensuring the right number, range and mix of high-quality new homes are provided during the Plan period. This includes the supply of affordable and open market homes, homes which meet specialist housing needs arising from the population and the facilitation of community-led and self-build housing schemes.

Objective 13 – Community Facilities and Assets

To support resilient and robust places and the well-being of communities, by safeguarding public open spaces and the supply of key facilities and local assets, whilst securing enhanced provision or improvement as part of new development.

3.2.5 A Sustainable and Vibrant Economy

Key Issues:

- **KI.11 Planning for a Vibrant Economy**
- **KI.12 Planning for a Strong Farming and Rural Economy**
- **KI.13 Supporting the Mid Wales Growth Deal (MWGD)**
- **KI.14 Supporting Tourism**
- **KI.18 Supporting Powys High Streets**

Objective 14 – Vibrant Economy

To support economic prosperity and meet employment needs, including safeguarding the range and supply of employment sites, encouraging innovation and the upskilling of the workforce, helping Powys to deliver strong local communities and to retain and attract a more age-balanced and competitive workforce.

Objective 15 – Economic Development

To support new economic development which meets the needs of local businesses including proposals which strengthen the foundational economy, such as agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, and construction, and development proposals that support sustainable rural diversification and add value to local produce.

Objective 16 – Mid Wales Growth Deal

To support economic growth by contributing to the aims of Growing Mid Wales and facilitating proposals arising from the Mid Wales Growth Deal.

Objective 17 - Tourism

To support sustainable tourism, including active, green, and cultural tourism, ensuring the safeguarding of tourism-related resources and assets, such as the natural, built and historic environment, national trails, public rights of ways, the national cycle network, dark skies, distinctive landscapes and open spaces.

Objective 18 – Town Centres

To promote vibrant, attractive and viable high streets and thriving town centres by ensuring new retail and commercial development is directed to town centres in the first instance, safeguarding existing frontages and encouraging a mix of complementary uses. Proposals outlined in Town Centre Investment Plans, Place/Placemaking Plans or other local initiatives will be supported in principle.

3.2.6 Infrastructure, Energy and Waste

Key Issues:

- **KI.16 Planning Infrastructure and Service Needs**
- **KI.19 Supporting Sustainable Energy: Harnessing Green Power and promoting Energy Efficiency**
- **KI.20 Managing and Reducing Waste**

Objective 19 – Infrastructure Provision and New Development

To ensure that appropriate physical and digital infrastructure, including utilities and services such as health and education are in place or can be provided to accommodate the needs arising from new development. To locate the majority of growth in places that are best served by existing or planned infrastructure and services, including places identified within Regional Growth Areas.

Objective 20 – Infrastructure and Digital Connectivity Projects

To support the provision of new infrastructure and services to meet the future needs of Powys communities. This includes the provision and upgrading of connections for digital and mobile phone operations enabling a comprehensive coverage of digital infrastructure across the Plan area.

Objective 21 – Energy and Decarbonisation

To reduce the energy demand of new development, promote energy efficiency and support renewable energy generation, whilst minimising the use of non-renewable resources, encouraging decarbonisation, and preventing the generation of waste and pollution.

Objective 22 - Waste

To provide a range of sites suitable for waste management facilities including those which increase the reuse and recycling of waste as an alternative to landfill, together with reducing the amount of waste generated from development during construction and use.

3.3 Cross Referencing Objectives with Key Issues

3.3.1 Tables 1 to 6 below are arranged by topic heading and summarise how each Key Issue is being addressed by one or more of the Objectives.

Table 1. Climate Change - Issues and Objectives

OBJECTIVE REF. NO.	KEY ISSUE REF.NO.	KEY ISSUE TITLE
Objective 1	KI.1	Responding to Climate Change

Table 2. Nature Recovery and the Sustainable Management of Resources - Issues and Objectives

OBJECTIVE REF. NO.	KEY ISSUE REF.NO.	KEY ISSUE TITLE
Objective 2	KI.2	Supporting Nature Recovery
Objectives 3 and 4	KI.3	Caring for Resources

Table 3. Key Planning Principles, Placemaking, Health and Well-being - Issues and Objectives

OBJECTIVE REF. NO.	KEY ISSUE REF.NO.	KEY ISSUE TITLE
Objectives 5 and 7	KI.4	Promoting Sustainable Transport
Objectives 5, 6, 7 and 8	KI.6	Planning for Well-being
Objectives 5, 6 and 8	KI.7	Supporting Healthy Lifestyles
Objective 6	KI.8	Right Development, Right Place
Objectives 5, 6, 7 and 8	KI.15	Local Placemaking

Table 4. Sustainable Communities, Housing and Services - Issues and Objectives

OBJECTIVE REF. NO.	KEY ISSUE REF.NO.	KEY ISSUE TITLE
Objectives 9, 10 and 12	KI.5	Responding to Demographic Challenges
Objective 11	KI.9	Promoting and Protecting the Welsh Language
Objectives 10 and 12	KI.10	Planning for New Homes
Objective 13	KI.17	Supporting Community Facilities and Community Assets

Table 5. A Sustainable and Vibrant Economy - Issues and Objectives

OBJECTIVE REF. NO.	KEY ISSUE REF.NO.	KEY ISSUE TITLE
Objectives 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18	KI.11	Planning for a Vibrant Economy
Objectives 15 and 17	KI.12	Planning for a Strong Farming and Rural Economy
Objective 16	KI.13	Supporting the Mid Wales Growth Deal (MWGD)
Objectives 15 and 17	KI.14	Supporting Tourism
Objective 18	KI.18	Supporting Powys High Streets

Table 6. Infrastructure, Energy and Waste - Issues and Objectives

OBJECTIVE REF. NO.	KEY ISSUE REF.NO.	KEY ISSUE TITLE
Objectives 19 and 20	KI.16	Planning Infrastructure and Service Needs
Objective 21	KI.19	Supporting Sustainable Energy: Harnessing Green Power and promoting Energy Efficiency
Objective 22	KI.20	Managing and Reducing Waste

4. Section D: Assessment Matrix

4.1 Assessment of how the Vision and Objectives Align to Policy Requirements.

4.1.1 The Development Plans Manual (Edition 3) requires Local Planning Authorities to demonstrate the relationship between the development plan's overarching Vision and Objectives and the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes as well as the local Well-being Objectives. This section includes an assessment matrix (Table 7) to demonstrate how the Replacement LDP draft Objectives, in delivering the Vision, align with:

- The National Well-being Goals from the Well-being of Future Generations Act.
- Key Planning Principles and National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes from Planning Policy Wales.
- The objectives of the Powys Well-being Plan.

4.1.2 National Well-being Goals and the Five Ways of Working

4.1.3 The [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#) requires the Council, as a public body, to ensure its work is “maximising the contribution to the achievement of the seven Well-being goals” and to use of the five Ways of Working”.

4.1.4 Key Planning Principles and National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes of Planning Policy Wales

4.1.5 The Key Planning Principles set out in [Planning Policy Wales](#), represent Welsh Government's guiding vision for all development plans, including Future Wales. These principles support the culture change required to embrace placemaking and ensure that planning facilitates the right development in the right place.

4.1.6 The National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes must be used to inform the preparation of development plans and the assessment of development proposals. The Outcomes provide a framework containing the factors considered to be the optimal outcome of development plans and individual developments.

4.1.7 Local Well-being Goals

4.1.8 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 makes local Well-being Plans a statutory requirement. [The Powys Well-being Plan](#) is produced by the Powys Public Service Board (PSB), which comprises: Powys County Council, Powys Teaching Health Board, Mid and West Wales Fire Service, and Natural Resources Wales. The objectives of the Well-being Plan shape the work of the PSB to deliver the Well-being Plan vision of a Fair, Sustainable and Healthy Powys.

4.1.9 The Powys Well-being Plan objectives are:

- People in Powys live happy, healthy, and safe lives.
- Powys is a County of sustainable places and communities.
- An increasingly effective Public Service for the people of Powys.

4.2 Integrated Sustainability Appraisal

4.2.1 A separate Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) of the Plan and all its components will be undertaken throughout the Plan's preparation process. This will ensure that opportunities are taken to improve the content of the Plan in achieving the goal of sustainable development.

Table 7. Assessment of draft Replacement LDP Objectives against Policy Requirements

Objective	WBG ¹ : A Prosperous Wales	WBG: A Resilient Wales	WBG: A More Equal Wales	WBG: A Healthier Wales	WBG: A Wales of Cohesive Communities	WBG: A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language	WBG: A Globally Responsible Wales	NSPO ² and KPP ³ : Creating and Sustaining Communities	NSPO and KPP: Making Best Use of Resources	NSPO and KPP: Maximising Environmental Protection and Limiting Environment Impact	NSPO and KPP: Facilitating Accessible and Healthy Environments	NSPO and KPP: Growing Our Economy in a Sustainable Manner	LWG ⁴ : People in Powys Live Happy, Healthy and Safe Lives	LWG: Powys is a County of Sustainable Places and Communities	LWG: An Increasingly Effective Public Service for the People of Powys
Objective 1	✓	✓					✓			✓			✓	✓	✓
Objective 2		✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Objective 3		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Objective 4	✓	✓					✓		✓					✓	
Objective 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	
Objective 6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	
Objective 7	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Objective 8	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Objective 9	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
Objective 10	✓		✓					✓				✓		✓	
Objective 11						✓		✓						✓	
Objective 12			✓		✓			✓			✓			✓	
Objective 13				✓	✓			✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
Objective 14	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓				✓		✓	
Objective 15	✓		✓				✓	✓				✓		✓	
Objective 16	✓		✓				✓	✓				✓		✓	
Objective 17	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Objective 18	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Objective 19	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Objective 20	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Objective 21	✓						✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Objective 22	✓						✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓

¹ WBG: National Well-being Goal

² NSPO: National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes

³ KPP: Key Planning Principles

⁴ LWG: Powys Local Well-being Goal (Objective)