



Powys County Council

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# Powys Replacement Local Development Plan

Integrated Sustainability Appraisal  
Report Appendix A

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





Powys County Council

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# **Powys Replacement Local Development Plan**

Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Report Appendix A

**Type of document (version) Public**

**Project no. 62280832**

**Our Ref. No. 808795-WSP---10\_P05.01**

**Date: July 2024**

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**Powys County Council**

**Integrated Sustainability Appraisal  
of the Replacement Powys Local  
Development Plan**

ISA Scoping Report

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Doc Ref. 808795----1\_P02.02

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No.	Details	Date
1	Draft ISA Scoping Report for consultation	September 2022
2	Final Scoping Report	March 2023
3	Final Scoping Report – update	December 2023

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# Non-Technical Summary

## Overview

This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides an overview of the Scoping Report produced as part of the Integrated Impact Appraisal (ISA) of the Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 2022-2037 that is currently being prepared by Powys County Council (the Council). The ISA is being carried out on behalf of the Council by WSP and will appraise the environmental, social and economic performance of the Local Development Plan and any reasonable alternatives, helping to ensure its contribution towards sustainability.

## Requirements

In undertaking the ISA, the Council is applying a process that incorporates Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA). These assessments (discussed in detail below) are part of the ambition to produce Local Development Plans that help to promote and realise sustainable development, which is at the heart of the development plan process<sup>1</sup>. The National Development Framework (published as Future Wales – the National Plan 2040) further requires developments to be sustainable and for Local Development Plans to achieve this<sup>2</sup>. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires the public bodies within Wales to consider their long-term impacts resulting from their decisions and to improve the social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being of Wales, in-line with this Act's definition of sustainable development<sup>3</sup>:

*"The process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals."*

The seven well-being goals identified by the 2015 Act are:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture & thriving Welsh Language

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<sup>1</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)' Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#) page 63.

<sup>2</sup> Welsh Government (2021) 'Future Wales: The National Plan 2040'. Available at: <https://gov.wales/future-wales-national-plan-2040>

<sup>3</sup> Welsh Government (2015) 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'. Available at: <https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/>

- A globally responsible Wales

The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 (Section 2) further enforces the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and its requirements for sustainable development<sup>4</sup>. The Environment (Wales) Act introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (Section 6 Duty).

### Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

Under Section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is required to carry out a SA of the Replacement Local Development Plan to help guide the selection and development of policies and proposals in terms of their potential social, environmental and economic effects.

National planning policy requires<sup>5</sup> that *“local plans and spatial development strategies should be informed throughout their preparation by a sustainability appraisal that meets the relevant legal requirements”*.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

In undertaking the SA, the Council must also incorporate the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004<sup>6</sup> and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes and the Environmental Impact Assessment (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019<sup>7</sup> (the SEA Regulations). The SEA is confined to considering effects on the environment<sup>8</sup>, with the SA process considering the broader topics of social, cultural and economic factors<sup>9</sup>. The SEA and SA processes therefore will work together within this ISA to ensure all potential effects are considered from the production of the Replacement Local Development Plan. The RTPI published guidance on how the SEA and SA process should be approached and this guidance has and will be used to guide the production of any documents over the lifetime of the ISA process<sup>10</sup>. This guidance seeks to ensure Scoping Reports contain information that helps to identify and quantify issues that exist and are not just long documents of information, whilst also ensuring that a Scoping Report is not just self-contained and effects on other Local Authority areas is considered.

<sup>4</sup> Welsh Government (2015) 'Planning (Wales) Act 2015'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/4/section/2/enacted>

<sup>5</sup> MHCLG (2021) *National Planning Policy Framework*, paragraph 32 available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

<sup>6</sup> Welsh Government (2004) 'The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004'. Available at: [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes \(Wales\) Regulations 2004 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1061/contents/matter).

<sup>7</sup> Welsh Government (2019) 'The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004'. Available at: [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes and the Environmental Impact Assessment \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Wales\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/1061/contents/matter).

<sup>8</sup> “the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors” (SEA Directive 2001/42/EC, Annex I (f))

<sup>9</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)' Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf) page 63

<sup>10</sup> RTPI (2018) 'STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of SEA/SA for land use plans'. Available at: <https://www.rtpi.org.uk/research/2018/january/strategic-environmental-assessment-seasa-for-land-use-plans/>, accessed 15.08.2022

## Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

HRA requires an assessment of likely significant effects on European sites and is required by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017<sup>11</sup>.

These regulations require that competent authorities assess the potential impacts of land use plans on the Natura 2000 network of European protected sites (now known as the National Site Network)<sup>12</sup> to determine whether there will be any 'likely significant effects' (LSE) on any European site as a result of the plan's implementation (either alone or 'in combination' with other plans or projects); and, if so, whether these effects will result in any adverse effects on that site's integrity with reference to the site's conservation objectives. The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 transfers functions from the European Commission to the appropriate authorities in England and Wales due to the UK leaving the EU<sup>13</sup>. All other processes or terms in the 2017 Regulations remain unchanged and existing guidance is still relevant and the aim of the 2019 is not to fundamentally change the 2017 regulations.

The process by which the effects of a plan or programme on European sites are assessed is known as 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA)<sup>14</sup>.

In accordance with the Habitats Regulations, what is commonly referred to as a HRA screening exercise will be undertaken to identify the likely impacts of the Replacement Local Development Plan upon European sites, either alone or 'in combination' with other projects or plans, and to consider whether these effects are likely to be significant. Where there are likely significant effects, a more detailed Appropriate Assessment will be required.

The HRA screening exercise will be reported separately (as advised in planning guidance<sup>15</sup>) from the ISA of the Replacement Local Development Plan at Issues and Options stage but importantly will help inform the appraisal process, particularly in respect of the potential effects of proposals on biodiversity.

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<sup>11</sup> HM Government (2017) 'The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2017/1012/introduction/made>.

<sup>12</sup> Strictly, 'European sites' are any Special Area of Conservation (SAC) from the point at which the European Commission and the UK Government agree the site as a 'Site of Community Importance' (SCI); any classified Special Protection Area (SPA); any candidate SAC (cSAC); and (exceptionally) any other site or area that the Commission believes should be considered as an SAC but which has not been identified by the Government. However, the term is also commonly used when referring to potential SPAs (pSPAs), to which the provisions of Article 4(4) of Directive 2009/147/EC (the 'new wild birds directive') are applied; and to possible SACs (pSACs) and listed Ramsar Sites, to which the provisions of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) are applied a matter of Government policy when considering development proposals that may affect them. 'European site' is therefore used in this report in its broadest sense, as an umbrella term for all of the above designated sites

<sup>13</sup> HM Government (2021) 'Changes to the Habitats Regulations 2017'. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017>, accessed 15.08.2022.

<sup>14</sup> 'Appropriate Assessment' has been historically used as an umbrella term to describe the process of assessment as a whole. The whole process is now more usually termed 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA), and 'Appropriate Assessment' is used to indicate a specific stage within the HRA.

<sup>15</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)' Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf)

## Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

The Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 requires a HIA to be carried out by public bodies to assess the likely effect, both short and long term, on physical and mental health<sup>16,17</sup>.

Within the context of the Local Development Plan, the aim is to assess the main health and wellbeing impacts of policies and proposals in order to identify any opportunities for the emerging planning policies to the benefits and avoid any potential adverse impacts. Guidance on the broad approach to be taken as part of its integration with the SA process has been published in the Health Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide<sup>18</sup>. This guidance provides the following description for the outcomes of the HIA process<sup>19</sup>:

*“HIA is a process that considers how the health and well-being of a population may be affected by a proposed action, be it a policy, programme, plan, project or a change to the organisation or delivery of a particular public service.”*

Guidance published by the Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit (WHIASU) provides the following description for HIA and its outcomes<sup>20</sup>:

*“a combination of procedures, methods and tools by which a policy, program or project may be judged as to its potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population.”*

Further specific guidance relating to the LDP process is provided Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Local Development Plans (LDPs): A Toolkit for Practice (August 2021), which aims to support spatial planners and public health officers to maximise any opportunities that may present themselves to enable healthy planning and development as part of the LDP preparation process.

## Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

An EqIA is not a statutory requirement but is a tool to assist the Council in complying with requirements under the UK Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty which require public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities. Legislation identifies nine protected characteristics and the EqIA will consider the potential for effects on these. In addition, the Socio-Economic Duty places a legal responsibility on public bodies when they are taking strategic decisions, to have due regard to the need to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage. The Welsh Government published statutory guidance aimed at helping those public bodies to deliver the

<sup>16</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)' Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf) page 63

<sup>17</sup> Welsh Government (2017) 'Public Health (Wales) Act 2017'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2017/2/contents/enacted>

<sup>18</sup> Health Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide. Available at: <https://phw.nhs.wales/publications/publications1/health-impact-assessment-hia-and-local-development-plans-ldps-a-toolkit-for-practice/>

<sup>19</sup> Public Health Wales (No date) 'Health Impacts Assessment: A Practical Guide'. Available at: <https://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/522/Whiasu%20Guidance%20Report%20%28English%29%20V2%20WEB.pdf>, page 2

<sup>20</sup> WHIASU (2020) 'Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Overview'. Available at: [https://phwwhocc.co.uk/whiasu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/05/WHIASU\\_HIA\\_Overview.pdf](https://phwwhocc.co.uk/whiasu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/05/WHIASU_HIA_Overview.pdf)



requirements of the duty, which must be taken into account by public bodies when deciding how to fulfil the duty.

## Welsh Language

It is required to consider the potential effects of the development plan on the use of the Welsh Language, which is fundamental to the culture of Wales<sup>21</sup>. Technical Advice Note 20 (TAN20): 'Planning and the Welsh Language'<sup>22</sup> provides guidance on the consideration of Welsh language as part of the development plan and SA processes.

The preservation and expansion of the Welsh language is one of the well-being goals established by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015: "Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language"<sup>23</sup>.

The ISA process will consider how the scale and location of growth, the vision, objectives, policies and proposals of the Replacement LDP, individually and in combination, impact on the Welsh language.

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 seeks to ensure that the Welsh Language has equal legal status with English and is not treated less favourably<sup>24</sup>. It also established the Welsh Language Standards, which has a requirement for new policies or the reviewing of policies to carefully consider how it might provide opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and not result in the Welsh language being treated less favourably than English.

Most recently, the Welsh Language Commissioner's *Policy Making Standards (Consultation Documents)* – *guidance for public organisations* as presented by the Commissioner's legal advisors in an on-line seminar on 21 November 2023<sup>25</sup> sets out guidance on how the Welsh language is to be treated in policy-making:

- Bodies must demonstrate "conscientious effort" and not adopt 'a tick box approach' to considering the possible effects of the policy decision on the Welsh language.
- The threshold for "conscientious effort" will depend on the circumstances and require more scrutiny:
  - in an area of sensitivity or significance for the Welsh language
  - as the number and/or extent of the possible effects on the Welsh language increases
  - if there is local policy or guidance (e.g. in the planning or education contexts) that requires an assessment of possible effects on the Welsh language.

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<sup>21</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)' Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#), page 65-66

<sup>22</sup> Welsh Government (2017) 'Technical advice note (TAN) 20: planning and the Welsh language'. Available at: [Technical advice note \(TAN\) 20: planning and the Welsh language | GOV.WALES](#)

<sup>23</sup> Welsh Government (2015) 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'. Available at: <https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/>

<sup>24</sup> Welsh Government (2011) 'Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/1/contents/enacted>, accessed 15.08.2022

<sup>25</sup> A recording of the seminar on Policy Making Standards (Consultation Documents) – guidance for public organisations and copies of the power point slides are available on the Welsh Language Commissioner's website here: [Advice documents \(welshlanguagecommissioner.wales\)](#)

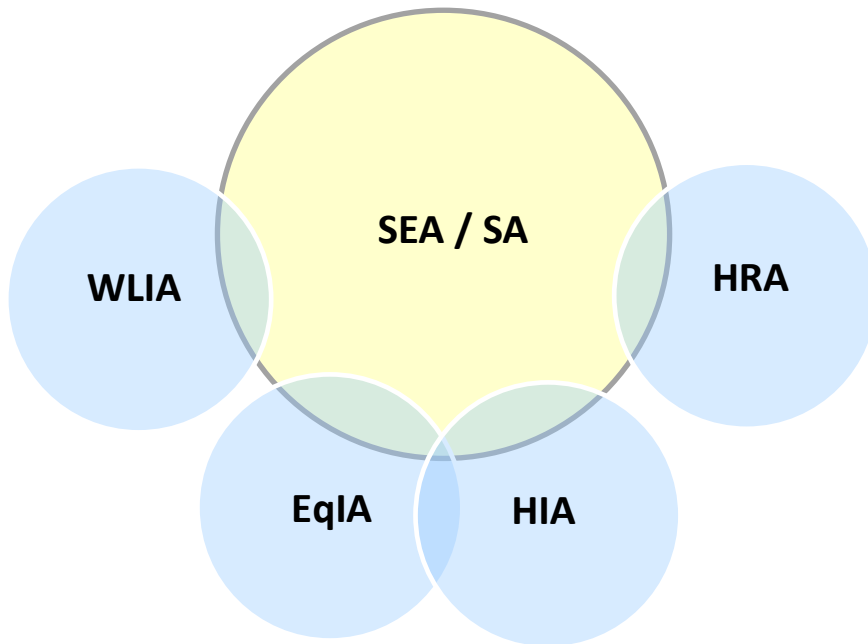
- “Conscientious effort” will be more likely if a wide range of positive, negative and neutral (direct and indirect) effects are considered.
- It is expected that public bodies will need to strengthen internal guidance to refer to the need to make a “conscientious effort” to consider the possible effects.
- Treating Welsh language effects under a single “headline” in an integrated impact assessment is inadequate. The Welsh language should have the same status as environmental effects and be presented in a separate, stand-alone document.
- Bodies should move away from the over-simplistic approach of asking “what is the “net” effect on the Welsh language”? The effects on the Welsh language are complex and multidimensional as are the effects on the environment. Consequently, the various positive and negative effects on Welsh now need to be considered separately. Conflating these into a simple + or – net effect is not an appropriate approach because to do so is too simplistic.

## Integration

The ISA brings together into a single framework the SA, SEA, HIA, EqIA and WLIA to present a common and integrated assessment of the Replacement Local Development Plan strategy and policies (**Figure NTS1**). In order to demonstrate compliance with the individual requirements, a separate output, presented in Appendices to the ISA Report will be published containing EqIA. The HRA will be published as a separate report.

The ISA will appraise the environmental, social and economic performance of the Replacement Local Development Plan and any reasonable alternatives. In doing so, it will help to inform the selection of the options for the Replacement Local Development Plan concerning (in particular) the quantum, distribution and location of future development in Powys. The ISA process will also identify measures to avoid, minimise or mitigate any potential negative effects that may arise from the Plan’s implementation as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of the Local Development Plan towards sustainability.

Figure NTS1 Overlaps between the different forms of assessment within the ISA



## Purpose of this Scoping Report

This Scoping Report represents the first formal output of the ISA of the Replacement Local Development Plan. The purpose of the Scoping Report is to provide sufficient information to consultees to enable them to comment on the proposed scope of the ISA. More specifically, this Scoping Report sets out:

- an overview of the Replacement Local Development Plan;
- a review of relevant international, national, regional, sub-regional and local policy and programmes;
- baseline information for the Powys LDP area across key sustainability topics;
- key economic, social and environmental issues relevant to the appraisal of the Replacement Local Development Plan;
- the proposed approach to undertaking the appraisal of the Replacement Local Development Plan including a draft ISA Framework (comprising appraisal objectives, guide questions and appraisal matrices); and
- an overview of the next steps in the ISA process including the proposed structure of future ISA Reports.

## The Replacement Local Development Plan – An Overview

### Scope and Content of the Local Development Plan

The Replacement Local Development Plan will cover the Powys Local Planning Authority Area and include strategic priorities and long-term vision for Powys. It will contain a Spatial Strategy which identifies locations for delivering housing and other strategic development needs such as

employment, retail, leisure, green and blue infrastructure, and community development. It also will also include strategic policies, site allocation policies, development management policies, and a Proposals Map for determining all forms of planning applications.

The Replacement Local Development Plan 2022-2037 will assess and make changes where necessary in order to:

- ensure the Local Development Plan is up-to-date and has full weight in the determination of planning applications;
- accommodate additional development growth requirements;
- take into account new legislation and national policy requirements;
- ensure the plan would result in the creation of sustainable development, wellbeing and support the Welsh language; and
- reflect any new strategic priorities.

## **Stages in the Sustainability Appraisal Process**

There are five key stages in the SA process. The first stage has led to the production of this Scoping Report.

Based on the review of other plans and programmes, baseline analysis and identification of key sustainability issues for the Plan area, this Scoping Report sets out the proposed approach to the integrated assessment of the Local Development Plan.

The revised ISA Framework will be used to appraise the effects of the emerging Replacement Local Development Plan in terms of the key plan components (the Plan vision, objectives, spatial strategy including level of growth, policies and site allocations, including reasonable alternatives) (Stage B). This stage is iterative and will involve the development and refinement of the Local Development Plan by testing the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the emerging Plan options. In this respect, ISA will be undertaken throughout the preparation of the Replacement Local Development Plan with the findings presented in a series of interim ISA Reports to accompany the publication and consultation of the various iterations of the draft Replacement Local Development Plan.

A final ISA Report will be prepared to accompany the submission Replacement Local Development Plan. This will be prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the SEA Directive and will be available for consultation alongside the Deposit draft Replacement Local Development Plan itself prior to consideration by an independent planning inspector at Examination in Public (EiP)

Following EiP, and subject to any significant changes to the draft Replacement Local Development Plan that may require appraisal as a result of the EiP, the Council will issue a Post Adoption Statement as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Replacement Local Development Plan. This will set out the results of the consultation and ISA process and the extent to which the findings of the ISA have been accommodated in the adopted Replacement Local Development Plan. During the period of the Replacement Local Development Plan, the Council will monitor its implementation and any significant social, economic and environmental effects.

## The Proposed Appraisal Framework

The main purpose of the scoping stage of the ISA is to identify the framework for the appraisal of the Replacement Local Development Plan. The framework contains a series of objectives and guide questions developed to reflect both the current socio-economic and environmental issues which may affect (or be affected by) the Replacement Local Development Plan and the objectives contained within other plans and programmes. The topics, key issues and proposed objectives for the assessment of the draft Replacement Local Development Plan are summarised below. An indication of the relevant national well-being goals is also provided.

### **SEA Topic: Population & Communities**

#### *Key Issues:*

- Overall, the need to create sustainable places where people want to live and work.
- The need to enable housing growth and identify the minimum number of homes to be planned for and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types.
- The need to make best use and improve the quality of the existing housing stock.
- The need to support the delivery of specialist forms of housing for older people and people with disabilities.
- The need to provide affordable housing to contribute towards addressing local needs and housing pressures.
- The need to promote a range of functions which contribute to the vibrancy of local service centres.
- The need to safeguard existing community facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities to meet needs arising from new development which will contribute to sustainable communities.

### **ISA Objective 1: To provide good quality homes and community infrastructure to meet identified needs**

#### *Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Meet the identified housing needs, including affordable and specialist requirements?
- Ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures to meet the needs of all sectors of the community?
- Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?
- Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A Wales of cohesive communities; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales

## **SEA Topic: Economy & Employment**

### *Key Issues:*

- The need to deliver a range of employment sites to support economic growth.
- The need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development.
- The need to support economic development across Powys.
- The need to maintain and enhance the vitality of Powys' hierarchy of settlements.
- The need to provide good quality sustainable employment and training opportunities.
- The need to maintain and raise educational attainment and skills in the local labour force.
- The need to reduce out-commuting by encouraging businesses to invest and set up within Powys.

## **ISA Objective 2: To create and support a strong, diverse and resilient economy and workforce**

### *Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Provide sufficient land for businesses to grow?
- Support the creation of accessible new jobs and training opportunities?
- Ensure the capacity of educational facilities keep pace with population growth?
- Enhance the vitality and resilience of communities?
- Safeguard existing employment areas?
- Create opportunities for and promote sustainable tourism, sensitively capitalising on environmental, cultural, heritage and leisure assets?
- Create opportunities for enhancements to the rural economy and rural diversification (including agriculture, forestry, small and medium sized employers (SMEs), micro businesses and the development of digital connectivity)?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities

## **SEA Topic: Equality, Diversity & inclusion**

### *Key Issues:*

- The need to raise incomes and especially for those whose incomes are in the lowest quartile.
- The need to provide good quality sustainable employment and training opportunities.
- The need to tackle pockets of deprivation that exist in the area.
- The need to safeguard and maintain and enhance access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities.
- The need to improve peoples' awareness of services and how to access them.

- The need to maintain and raise educational attainment and skills in the local labour force.

### **ISA Objective 3: To reduce poverty and inequality; tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Assist with providing employment and training opportunities for those most in need?
- Help to tackle poverty and inequality to support well-being?
- Address directly and indirectly areas suffering deprivation and/or decline?
- Help to provide better education opportunities and attainment?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities

### **SEA Topic: The Welsh Language**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to continue to nurture interest and learning in the Welsh language (especially people outside of school age).
- The need to increase the number of people who can speak Welsh.
- The need to increase the number people who speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh.
- The need to increase opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language.
- The need to treat the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.
- The need to safeguard the identity of existing communities.
- The need to safeguard and maintain and enhance access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities.
- The need to improve peoples' awareness of services and how to access them.

### **ISA Objective 4: To protect, promote and enhance the Welsh language and culture**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Affect the number who can speak Welsh and/or opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language daily (both positive and/or adverse effects)?
- Affect the sustainability of Welsh speaking communities (both positive and/or adverse effects)?
- Affect Welsh medium education and Welsh learners of all ages, including adults (both positive and/or adverse effects)?

- Affect services available in Welsh (both positive and/or adverse effects)? (e.g. health and social services, transport, housing, digital, youth, infrastructure, environment, local government etc.)

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language; A Wales of cohesive communities

### **SEA Topic: Health & Well-Being**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to protect the health and wellbeing of Powys' population.
- The need to promote healthy lifestyles and in particular address obesity and levels of physical activity.
- The need to plan for an ageing population.
- The need to address health inequalities.
- The need to protect and enhance accessible open space provision.
- The need to support high quality design that creates safe and secure communities.
- The need to safeguard existing health care facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities and services to meet needs arising from new development.
- The need to improve peoples' awareness of services and how to access them.
- The need to ensure that new development is designed and constructed to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

### **ISA Objective 5: To improve the health and well-being of all sectors of society**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Contribute towards an improvement in access to health and social care services especially in isolated/rural areas?
- Contribute towards a reduction in health inequalities amongst different groups in the community including specifically children and older people?
- Contribute towards healthy lifestyles and promote well-being including walking and cycling?
- Contribute towards improving access to natural green space, wildlife, open space including opportunities for play, leisure and recreation?
- Contribute towards an increase in green infrastructure?
- Ensure new development is designed to reduce crime and the fear of crime?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities



## **SEA Topic: Land Use, Soils & Geology**

### *Key Issues:*

- The need to make efficient and effective use of land.
- The need to protect the Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.
- The need to protect and restore soil and peat resources as important carbon sinks and their role in increasing resilience of the natural environment against the effects of climate change.
- Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to:
  - Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment.
  - Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry & manure stores).
  - Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services.

## **ISA Objective 6: To make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings and protect higher grade agricultural land**

### *Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Create opportunities to develop previously developed land where this will have no adverse impacts on Open Mosaic Habitats?
- Protect the Best and Most Versatile land from development?

## **Supporting National Well-Being Goals: A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales**

## **SEA Topic: Water**

### *Key Issues:*

- The need to protect and enhance the quality of water sources across Powys to ensure resilient public water supply and improve the quality of the natural environment
- The need to promote the efficient use of water resources.
- The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.
- Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to:
  - Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment
  - Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry & manure stores)

- Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services
- Manage our water resources to improve the quality and quantity of available water, without causing detriment to the natural environment
- Help to create adaptive and resilient communities in response to adverse weather events and climate change
- Support new ideas around developing Nature Based Solutions - for example, using Natural Flood Risk Management

### **ISA Objective 7: To conserve, protect and enhance water quality and water resources**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Reduce water consumption?
- Ensure an adequate supply of water can be provided considering current and future projections of water availability and water use?
- Be delivered without causing deterioration in water quality in rivers and streams?
- Lead to an improvement in water quality in the SAC river catchments?
- Reduce the potential for agricultural practices to contribute towards nutrient-based pollution of waterbodies and courses?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales

### **SEA Topic: Air**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to minimise the emissions of pollutants to air.
- The need to improve air quality, particularly in areas vulnerable to pollution.
- Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to:
  - Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment
  - Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry & manure stores)
  - Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services

### **ISA Objective 8: To minimise or reduce the sources and effects of air pollution**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Reduce the need to travel?

- Encourage journeys to be made by sustainable means (active travel or public transport)?
- Avoid any adverse effects on air quality and for people exposed to poor air quality?
- Improve air quality in areas identified as of concern?
- Promote and facilitate the use of electric vehicles?
- Promote and facilitate enhancements to green infrastructure networks to facilitate increased absorption and dissipation of NOx and other pollutants?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A globally responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Waste & Resource Use**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling.
- The need to address capacity gaps for waste management that currently exist and are forecast to exist.
- The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources.
- The need to ensure the protection of Powys' mineral resources from inappropriate development.

### **ISA Objective 9: To minimise waste generation, encourage re-use and recycling and promote efficient use of mineral resources**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Promote the remediation of contaminated land and prevention of further contamination?
- Create opportunities to increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use?
- Promote opportunities to use recycled and secondary materials in construction?
- Promote the use of locally sourced sustainable materials?
- Safeguard mineral resources?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales; A globally responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Climate Change**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to respond to the declared climate emergency.
- The need to ensure that new development is adaptable to the effects of climate change.
- The need to increase woodland and tree cover and other measures to help mitigate and adapt to climate change.

- The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change.
- The need to ensure the timely provision of flood defence/management infrastructure.
- The need to protect and restore soil and peat resources as important carbon sinks and their role in increasing resilience of the natural environment against the effects of climate change.

**ISA Objective 10: To support the resilience of Powys to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding and other extreme events**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change?
- Increase resilience of the built and natural environment to the effects of climate change?
- Ensure that the potential risks associated with climate change are considered in new developments?
- Improve and extend green infrastructure networks to support climate change adaptation?
- Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsible Wales

**SEA Topic: Climate Change**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to respond to the declared climate emergency.
- The need to mitigate climate change including through maximising renewable energy provision at site and Powys-wide scales.

**ISA Objective 11: To reduce the contribution to climate change from greenhouse gas emissions**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria?
- Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable sources?
- Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources?
- Reduce the need to travel or the number of journeys made?
- Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?

- Ensure that development does not contribute towards further increases in high energy use and unsustainable travel?
- Improve the provision of nature-based solutions to adapt and mitigate climate change?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Transport & Movement**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to enhance the connectivity of more remote settlements.
- The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the private car.
- The need to ensure that new development is accessible to community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.

### **ISA Objective 12: To promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Reduce the need to travel through sustainable patterns of land use and development?
- Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel?
- Enable transport infrastructure improvements?
- Support the uptake of low carbon transport?
- Contribute towards the electric vehicle (EV) charging network?
- Facilitate working from home and remote working?
- Provide improvements to and/or reduce congestion on the existing highway network?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language; A globally responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Historic Environment**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to protect and enhance Powys' historic environment including its diversity, and local distinctiveness.
- The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets and their settings, and address heritage at risk.
- The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect where appropriate enhance these where possible.
- The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscape, including the Welsh language and culture and health and well-being.

### **ISA Objective 13: To preserve and enhance the Powys' heritage resource, including built and archaeological assets**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Conserve and enhance the significance of buildings and structures of architectural, historic and cultural interest, both designated and non-designated, and their setting?
- Conserve and enhance the special interest, character and appearance of Conservation Areas and their settings?
- Ensure that Welsh place names are recognised as integral features of the cultural and historic landscape of Wales?
- Conserve and enhance archaeological remains, and archaeologically sensitive areas?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language

### **SEA Topic: Biodiversity, Green Infrastructure & Geodiversity**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to respond to the declared biodiversity emergency.
- The need to protect, enhance and restore Powys' biodiversity through providing net benefits to biodiversity where possible.
- The need to maintain, restore and expand Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan habitats.
- The need to protect and enhance the multifunctional green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.
- The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their ecological and geological interest.
- Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to:
  - identify the main causes of the nature emergency including what needs to be done, by whom and where
  - improve the Favourable Conservation Status of designated sites
  - identify opportunities for connectivity between those sites and other areas
  - make nature a priority through planning, policy, and practical measures.

### **ISA Objective 14: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net benefits where possible?

- Protect and enhance ecological networks, including those that cross administrative boundaries?
- Protect geologically valuable sites, including their setting?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A Resilient Wales; A Healthier Wales; A Globally Responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Landscape & Townscape**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to conserve and where appropriate enhance Powys' landscape and townscape character.
- The need to promote high quality design that respects local character.
- The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of built environments, and the use of historic place names, including Welsh names.
- The need to protect landscapes from incompatible development.

### **ISA Objective 15: To protect the quality and diversity of designated and local landscapes and townscapes**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Ensure that Powys' valued landscapes and townscapes are conserved and enhanced?
- Ensure that Welsh place names are recognised as integral features of the cultural and historic landscape of Wales?
- Ensure that design quality is considered as part of all development activity?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A Prosperous Wales; A Resilient Wales; A Healthier Wales; A More Equal Wales; A Wales of Cohesive Communities; A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language; A Globally Responsible Wales

### **How will the ISA be Undertaken?**

The ISA will appraise the following parts of the draft Replacement Local Development Plan (and reasonable alternatives where these exist):

- Vision and Objectives;
- Spatial Strategy (in respect of the amount and distribution of development);
- Policies (including strategic policies and detailed development management policies); and
- Site Allocations (including strategic sites and smaller scale allocations).

It is proposed that each part of the Replacement Local Development Plan will be appraised using the ISA Framework. The vision and objectives of the draft Replacement Local Development Plan will be tested for their compatibility with the objectives that are contained in the ISA Framework using a compatibility matrix. The spatial strategy (including reasonable alternatives) and plan policies (by plan chapter) will be appraised using an appraisal matrix. This matrix will include:

- the ISA objectives;
- a score indicating the nature of the effect for each spatial strategy option/policy;
- a commentary on likely significant effects (including consideration of the cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects as well as the geography, duration, temporary/permanence and likelihood of any effects) and on any assumptions or uncertainties; and
- recommendations, including any mitigation or enhancements measures.

Definitions of significance will be used to guide the appraisal and to determine the type and scale of effects of Review of the Adopted Local Plan proposals on the ISA objectives. The findings of the appraisals will be presented in a matrix.

Following an initial screening exercise, site allocations (including reasonable alternatives) will be appraised using tailored appraisal criteria with associated thresholds of significance to determine the type and magnitude of effect against each ISA objective. Reflecting their importance to the delivery of the draft Replacement Local Development Plan and capacity to generate significant effects, strategic sites will be subject to more detailed appraisal using a matrix similar to that used in the appraisal of the spatial strategy and plan policies.

Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) will be incorporated within the ISA. The HRA is subject to a separate process.

## **What are the Next Steps in the ISA Process?**

The appraisal will be an iterative process and will involve the development and refinement of the Review of the Replacement Local Development Plan by testing the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the emerging Plan options with the findings presented in a series of ISA Reports. Each ISA Report will consist of:

- A Non-Technical Summary;
- A chapter setting out the scope and purpose of the appraisal and including an overview of the emerging Replacement Local Development Plan;
- A chapter detailing the evolution of the Replacement Local Development Plan to-date;
- A chapter summarising the key objectives of other plans and programmes and socio-economic and environmental issues relevant to the Replacement Local Development Plan;
- A chapter setting out the approach to appraisal and any difficulties encountered;
- A chapter outlining the likely effects of the implementation of the Replacement Local Development Plan and reasonable alternatives, including cumulative effects, mitigating



measures, uncertainties and risks. The reasons for selecting the preferred Replacement Local Development Plan options and rejection of alternatives will be explained;

- A chapter presenting views on implementation and monitoring.

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 Powys County Council (the “Council”) is preparing a Replacement Local Development Plan which will set out the vision, objectives, planning policies and site allocations that will guide development in the local planning authority area to 2037. The Council adopted the current Local Development Plan in April 2018 which covers the period 2011-2026; the Council has a duty to ensure its Local Development Plan is up to date and is required to review their Plans at least once every four years.
- 1.1.2 WSP has been commissioned by the Council to undertake an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) of the Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 2022-2037.

## 1.2 Requirements

- 1.1.3 In undertaking the ISA, the Council is applying a process that incorporates Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA). These assessments (discussed in detail below) are part of the ambition to produce Local Development Plans that help to promote and realise sustainable development, which is at the heart of the development plan process<sup>26</sup>. The National Development Framework (published as Future Wales – the National Plan 2040) further requires developments to be sustainable and for Local Development Plans to achieve this<sup>27</sup>. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires the public bodies within Wales to consider their long-term impacts resulting from their decisions and to improve the social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being of Wales, in-line with this Act’s definition of sustainable development<sup>28</sup>:

*“The process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals.”*

- 1.1.4 The seven well-being goals identified by the 2015 Act are:
- A prosperous Wales
  - A resilient Wales
  - A more equal Wales
  - A healthier Wales

<sup>26</sup> Welsh Government (2020) ‘Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)’ Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#) page 63.

<sup>27</sup> Welsh Government (2021) ‘Future Wales: The National Plan 2040’. Available at: <https://gov.wales/future-wales-national-plan-2040>

<sup>28</sup> Welsh Government (2015) ‘Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015’. Available at: <https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/>

- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture & thriving Welsh
- A globally responsible Wales

1.1.5 The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 (Section 2) further enforces the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and its requirements for sustainable development<sup>29</sup>. The Environment (Wales) Act introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (Section 6 Duty).

### Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

1.1.6 Under Section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is required to carry out a SA of the Replacement Local Development Plan to help guide the selection and development of policies and proposals in terms of their potential social, environmental and economic effects.

1.1.7 National planning policy requires<sup>30</sup> that “local plans and spatial development strategies should be informed throughout their preparation by a sustainability appraisal that meets the relevant legal requirements”.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

1.1.8 In undertaking the SA, the Council must also incorporate the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004<sup>31</sup> and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes and the Environmental Impact Assessment (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019<sup>32</sup> (the SEA Regulations). The SEA is confined to considering effects on the environment<sup>33</sup>, with the SA process considering the broader topics of social, cultural and economic factors<sup>34</sup>. The SEA and SA processes therefore will work together within this ISA to ensure all potential effects are considered from the production of the Replacement Local Development Plan. The RTPi published guidance on how the SEA and SA process should be approached and this guidance has and will be used to guide the production of any documents over the lifetime of the ISA process<sup>35</sup>. This guidance seeks to ensure Scoping Reports contain information

<sup>29</sup> Welsh Government (2015) ‘Planning (Wales) Act 2015’. Available at:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/4/section/2/enacted>

<sup>30</sup> MHCLG (2021) *National Planning Policy Framework*, paragraph 32 available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

<sup>31</sup> Welsh Government (2004) ‘The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004’. Available at: [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes \(Wales\) Regulations 2004 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1000/contents/matter).

<sup>32</sup> Welsh Government (2019) ‘The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004’. Available at: [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes and the Environmental Impact Assessment \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(Wales\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/1000/contents/matter).

<sup>33</sup> “the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors” (SEA Directive 2001/42/EC, Annex I (f))

<sup>34</sup> Welsh Government (2020) ‘Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)’ Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf) page 63..

<sup>35</sup> RTPi (2018) ‘STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of SEA/SA for land use plans’. Available at: <https://www.rtpi.org.uk/research/2018/january/strategic-environmental-assessment-seasa-for-land-use-plans/>, accessed 15.08.2022.

that helps to identify and quantify issues that exist and are not just long documents of information, whilst also ensuring that a Scoping Report is not just self-contained and effects on other Local Authority areas is considered.

### Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- 1.1.9 HRA requires an assessment of likely significant effects on European-wide protected sites and is required by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017<sup>36</sup>.
- 1.1.10 These regulations require that competent authorities assess the potential impacts of land use plans on the Natura 2000 network of European protected sites (now known as the National Site Network)<sup>37</sup> to determine whether there will be any 'likely significant effects' (LSE) on any European site as a result of the plan's implementation (either alone or 'in combination' with other plans or projects); and, if so, whether these effects will result in any adverse effects on that site's integrity with reference to the site's conservation objectives. The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 transfers functions from the European Commission to the appropriate authorities in England and Wales due to the UK leaving the EU<sup>38</sup>. All other processes or terms in the 2017 Regulations remain unchanged and existing guidance is still relevant and the aim of the 2019 is not to fundamentally change the 2017 regulations.
- 1.1.11 The process by which the effects of a plan or programme on European sites are assessed is known as 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA)<sup>39</sup>.
- 1.1.12 In accordance with the Habitats Regulations, what is commonly referred to as a HRA screening exercise will be undertaken to identify the likely impacts of the Replacement Local Development Plan upon European sites, either alone or 'in combination' with other projects or plans, and to consider whether these effects are likely to be significant. Where there are likely significant effects, a more detailed Appropriate Assessment will be required.
- 1.1.13 The HRA screening exercise will be reported separately (as advised in planning guidance<sup>40</sup>) from the ISA of the Replacement Local Development Plan at Issues and Options stage but

<sup>36</sup> HM Government (2017) 'The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2017/1012/introduction/made>.

<sup>37</sup> Strictly, 'European sites' are any Special Area of Conservation (SAC) from the point at which the European Commission and the UK Government agree the site as a 'Site of Community Importance' (SCI); any classified Special Protection Area (SPA); any candidate SAC (cSAC); and (exceptionally) any other site or area that the Commission believes should be considered as an SAC but which has not been identified by the Government. However, the term is also commonly used when referring to potential SPAs (pSPAs), to which the provisions of Article 4(4) of Directive 2009/147/EC (the 'new wild birds directive') are applied; and to possible SACs (pSACs) and listed Ramsar Sites, to which the provisions of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) are applied a matter of Government policy when considering development proposals that may affect them. 'European site' is therefore used in this report in its broadest sense, as an umbrella term for all of the above designated sites

<sup>38</sup> HM Government (2021) 'Changes to the Habitats Regulations 2017'. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017>, accessed 15.08.2022.

<sup>39</sup> 'Appropriate Assessment' has been historically used as an umbrella term to describe the process of assessment as a whole. The whole process is now more usually termed 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA), and 'Appropriate Assessment' is used to indicate a specific stage within the HRA.

<sup>40</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)' Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf)



importantly will help inform the appraisal process, particularly in respect of the potential effects of proposals on biodiversity.

### Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

- 1.1.14 The Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 requires a HIA to be carried out by public bodies to assess the likely effect, both short and long term, on physical and mental health<sup>41,42</sup>.
- 1.1.15 Within the context of the Local Development Plan, the aim is to assess the main health and wellbeing impacts of policies and proposals in order to identify any opportunities for the emerging planning policies to the benefits and avoid any potential adverse impacts. Guidance on the broad approach to be taken as part of its integration with the SA process has been published in the Health Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide<sup>43</sup>. This guidance provides the following description for the outcomes of the HIA process<sup>44</sup>:

*“HIA is a process that considers how the health and well-being of a population may be affected by a proposed action, be it a policy, programme, plan, project or a change to the organisation or delivery of a particular public service.”*

- 1.1.16 Guidance published by the Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit (WHIASU) provides the following description for HIA and its outcomes<sup>45</sup>:

*“a combination of procedures, methods and tools by which a policy, program or project may be judged as to its potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population.”*

- 1.1.17 Further specific guidance relating to the LDP process is provided Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Local Development Plans (LDPs): A Toolkit for Practice (August 2021), which aims to support spatial planners and public health officers to maximise any opportunities that may present themselves to enable healthy planning and development as part of the LDP preparation process.

### Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 1.1.18 An EqIA is not a statutory requirement but is a tool to assist the Council in complying with requirements under the UK Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty which require public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities. Legislation identifies nine protected characteristics and the EqIA will consider the potential for effects on these. In addition, the Socio-Economic Duty

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<sup>41</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)' Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf) page 63.

<sup>42</sup> Welsh Government (2017) 'Public Health (Wales) Act 2017'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2017/2/contents/enacted>

<sup>43</sup> Health Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide. Available at: <https://phw.nhs.wales/publications/publications1/health-impact-assessment-hia-and-local-development-plans-ldps-a-toolkit-for-practice/>

<sup>44</sup> Public Health Wales (No date) 'Health Impacts Assessment: A Practical Guide'. Available at: <https://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/522/Whiasu%20Guidance%20Report%20%28English%29%20V2%20WEB.pdf>, page 2.

<sup>45</sup> WHIASU (2020) 'Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Overview'. Available at: [https://phwwhocc.co.uk/whiasu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/05/WHIASU\\_HIA\\_Overview.pdf](https://phwwhocc.co.uk/whiasu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/05/WHIASU_HIA_Overview.pdf)

places a legal responsibility on public bodies when they are taking strategic decisions, to have due regard to the need to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage. The Welsh Government published statutory guidance aimed at helping those public bodies to deliver the requirements of the duty, which must be taken into account by public bodies when deciding how to fulfil the duty.

## Welsh Language

- 1.1.19 It is required to consider the potential effects of the development plan on the use of the Welsh Language, which is fundamental to the culture of Wales<sup>46</sup>. Technical Advice Note 20 (TAN20): 'Planning and the Welsh Language'<sup>47</sup> provides guidance on the consideration of Welsh language as part of the development plan and SA processes.
- 1.1.20 The preservation and expansion of the Welsh language is one of the well-being goals established by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015: "Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language"<sup>48</sup>.
- 1.1.21 The ISA process will consider how the scale and location of growth, the vision, objectives, policies and proposals of the Replacement LDP, individually and in combination, impact on the Welsh language.
- 1.1.22 The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 seeks to ensure that the Welsh Language has equal legal status with English and is not treated less favourably<sup>49</sup>. It also established the Welsh Language Standards, which has a requirement for new policies or the reviewing of policies to carefully consider how it might provide opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and not result in the Welsh language being treated less favourably than English.
- 1.1.23 Most recently, the Welsh Language Commissioner's *Policy Making Standards (Consultation Documents)* – guidance for public organisations as presented by the Commissioner's legal advisors in an on-line seminar on 21 November 2023<sup>50</sup> sets out guidance on how the Welsh language is to be treated in policy-making:
- Bodies must demonstrate "conscientious effort" and not adopt 'a tick box approach' to considering the possible effects of the policy decision on the Welsh language.
  - The threshold for "conscientious effort" will depend on the circumstances and require more scrutiny:
    - in an area of sensitivity or significance for the Welsh language
    - as the number and/or extent of the possible effects on the Welsh

<sup>46</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Development Plans Manual (Edition 3)' Available at: [development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#), page 65-66.

<sup>47</sup> Welsh Government (2017) 'Technical advice note (TAN) 20: planning and the Welsh language'. Available at: [Technical advice note \(TAN\) 20: planning and the Welsh language | GOV.WALES](#)

<sup>48</sup> Welsh Government (2015) 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'. Available at: <https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/>

<sup>49</sup> Welsh Government (2011) 'Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/1/contents/enacted>, accessed 15.08.2022.

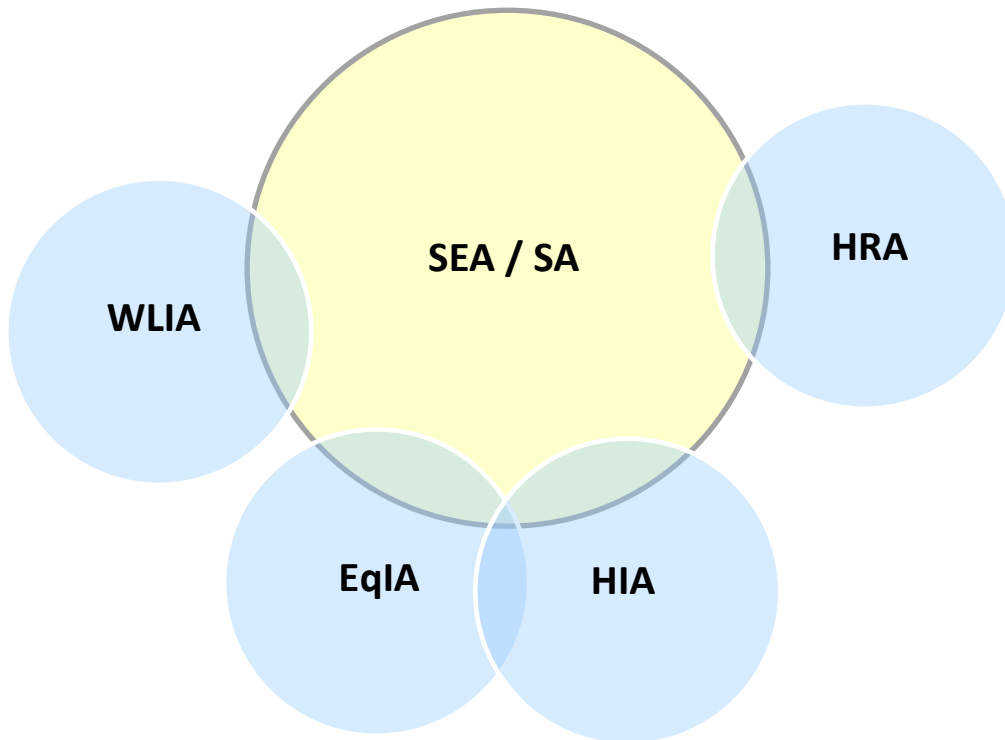
<sup>50</sup> A recording of the seminar on Policy Making Standards (Consultation Documents) – guidance for public organisations and copies of the power point slides are available on the Welsh Language Commissioner's website here: [Advice documents \(welshlanguagecommissioner.wales\)](#)

- language increases
  - if there is local policy or guidance (e.g. in the planning or education contexts) that requires an assessment of possible effects on the Welsh language.
- “Conscientious effort” will be more likely if a wide range of positive, negative and neutral (direct and indirect) effects are considered.
- It is expected that public bodies will need to strengthen internal guidance to refer to the need to make a “conscientious effort” to consider the possible effects.
- Treating Welsh language effects under a single “headline” in an integrated impact assessment is inadequate. The Welsh language should have the same status as environmental effects and be presented in a separate, stand-alone document.
- Bodies should move away from the over-simplistic approach of asking “what is the “net” effect on the Welsh language”? The effects on the Welsh language are complex and multidimensional as are the effects on the environment. Consequently, the various positive and negative effects on Welsh now need to be considered separately. Conflating these into a simple + or – net effect is not an appropriate approach because to do so is too simplistic.

## Integration

- 1.1.24 The ISA brings together into a single framework the SA, SEA, HIA, EqIA and WLIA to present a common and integrated assessment of the Replacement Local Development Plan strategy and policies (**Figure 1.1**). In order to demonstrate compliance with the individual requirements, a separate output, presented in Appendices to the ISA Report will be published containing the EqIA. The HRA will be published as a separate report.
- 1.1.25 The ISA will appraise the environmental, social and economic performance of the Replacement Local Development Plan and any reasonable alternatives. In doing so, it will help to inform the selection of the options for the Replacement Local Development Plan concerning (in particular) the quantum, distribution and location of future development in Powys. The ISA process will also identify measures to avoid, minimise or mitigate any potential negative effects that may arise from the Plan’s implementation as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of the Local Development Plan towards sustainability.

Figure 1-1 Overlaps between the different forms of assessment within the ISA



## 1.2 Purpose of this Scoping Report

1.2.1 This Scoping Report represents the first formal output of the ISA of the Replacement Local Development Plan. The purpose of the Scoping Report is to provide sufficient information to consultees to enable them to comment on the proposed scope of the ISA. More specifically, this Scoping Report sets out:

- an overview of the Replacement Local Development Plan;
- a review of relevant international, national, regional, sub-regional and local policy and programmes;
- baseline information for the Powys LDP area across key sustainability topics;
- key economic, social and environmental issues relevant to the appraisal of the Replacement Local Development Plan;
- the proposed approach to undertaking the appraisal of the Replacement Local Development Plan including a draft ISA Framework (comprising appraisal objectives, guide questions and appraisal matrices); and
- an overview of the next steps in the ISA process including the proposed structure of future ISA Reports.

## 1.3 The Replacement Local Development Plan – An Overview

### Requirement to Prepare a Replacement Local Development Plan

1.3.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 establishes the requirement for a Local Development Plan and for them to be updated or replaced as needed. The Planning (Wales) Act 2015, Part 3, Section 68A updated the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to require the updating of Local Development Plans in light of new National Development Frameworks and Strategic Development Plan (if applicable) produced, if necessary (out of synch with the requirements of the National Development Framework or Strategic Development Plan)<sup>51</sup>.

### Scope and Content of the Local Development Plan

1.3.2 The Replacement Local Development Plan will cover the Powys LDP administrative area and include strategic priorities and long-term vision for Powys. It will contain a Spatial Strategy which identifies locations for delivering housing and other strategic development needs such as employment, retail, leisure, green and blue infrastructure, and community development. It also will also include strategic policies, site allocation policies, development management policies, Proposals Map and a Policies Map for determining planning applications.

1.3.3 The Replacement Local Development Plan 2022-2037 will assess and make changes where necessary in order to:

- ensure the Local Development Plan is up-to-date and has full weight in the determination of planning applications;
- accommodate additional development growth requirements;
- take into account new legislation and national policy requirements;
- ensure the plan would result in the creation of sustainable development, wellbeing and support the Welsh language; and
- reflect any new strategic priorities.

### Preparation of the Replacement Local Development Plan

1.3.4 Following a review of the Powys Local Development Plan<sup>52</sup>, which identified the need for a Replacement Local Development Plan, the Council created the Powys Replacement Local Development Plan 2022-2037 Delivery Agreement (2022)<sup>53</sup> to outline how the Council would replace the Adopted Local Development Plan. The timetable for production of a Replacement Local Development Plan is identified in **Table 1.1**.

<sup>51</sup> Welsh Government (2015) 'The Planning (Wales) Act 2015'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/4/part/3/enacted>

<sup>52</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Local Development Plan 2011-2026 Review Report'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/12866/Replacement-Local-Development-Plan-2022---2037>

<sup>53</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Delivery Agreement for the Powys Replacement Local Development Plan (2022-2037)'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/12866/Replacement-Local-Development-Plan-2022---2037> page 38-43

1.3.5 The Regulations refer to: The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 as amended by The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015.

Table 1.1 Preparation of the Replacement Local Development Plan Milestones

Stage	Details	Purpose	Resulting Documents
<b>1</b>	The Delivery Agreement (Regulations 5-10)	To agree an appropriate Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme for RLDP preparation. Sustainability Appraisal (SA/ISA)	An Approved Delivery Agreement
<b>2</b>	Evidence Gathering and Stakeholder Involvement	To gather information and evidence to understand the context for and issues to be addressed in the RLDP.  To make a Call for Candidate Sites and prepare a Candidate Sites Register.  To generate a vision and objectives for the Replacement Local Development Plan  SA/ISA: Scoping stage: Set the context, establish the baseline and decide on the SA/SEA scope and objectives	Background Evidence Papers  Minutes/Notes/Action Points from Stakeholder Engagement Exercises  Candidate Sites Assessment Methodology and Candidate Sites Application Pack  The SA/ISA Scoping Report
<b>Within Stage 2</b>	Pre-Deposit Participation (Regulation 14)	To develop and assess strategic options, test alternatives, and agree a preferred strategy for the RLDP, drawing on all the evidence gathered in Stage 2	Internally a Draft Preferred Strategy will be prepared (initially for Council approval processes)
<b>3</b>	Pre-Deposit Consultation (Regulations 15 and 16)  Consult on the Initial SA Report	To consult widely on the preferred strategy, strategic options and their associated assessments. SA/ISA: Appraisal of alternatives stage: Develop and refine reasonable alternatives and assess effects, Prepare the Initial SA Report	Preferred Strategy setting out the vision, objectives, preferred strategy and key policies. The Candidate Sites Register  Supporting documents  Publish SA/ISA of proposals and alternatives in the Initial SA Report
<b>4</b>	Publish and Consult on Deposit LDP and supporting documents, make available for inspection. (Regulation 17)  Consult on SA Report	To allow for formal representations to be made on the Council's proposals.  SA/ISA: Assessment of the Deposit Plan and preparation of SA Report	Deposit Plan and supporting documents  Initial Consultation Report  The Updated Candidate Sites Register will include new and alternative sites  Publish SA/ISA of proposals in The SA Report

Stage	Details	Purpose	Resulting Documents
5	<p>Submission of LDP to Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate* for Independent Examination (Regulation 22)</p> <p>Make available relevant Documentation</p> <p>Council will follow published guidance on preparation/procedures for submission and examination).</p>	<p>Provision of RLDP, the Council's opinion on representations made in stage 4 and other supporting documents (including updated Consultation Report) to the Welsh Government prior to formal examination.</p>	<p>Publicise the submission and make documentation available</p>
6	<p>Independent Examination conducted by PEDW (Regulation 23)</p>	<p>To provide an impartial planning view on the soundness of the LDP</p> <p>At the Examination Stage SA/ISA continues to ensure any changes made to the deposit plan (Focussed Changes, Matters Arising Changes during examination, or those required by the Inspector) are sustainable.</p>	<p>During the Examination Stage any Proposed Post Deposit Changes (Matters Arising Changes) will be made available for consultation (including the SA/ISA assessment associated with them).</p>
7	<p>Inspector's Report (Regulation 24)</p>	<p>Receipt of the Inspector's findings from the Independent Examination.</p>	<p>The Council will be provided with and will publish the Inspector's Report on or before Plan adoption.</p>
8	<p>Adoption (Regulation 25)</p>	<p>To make operative the LDP as the statutory Development Plan for the Local Planning Authority's area (LDP and Adoption Statement sent to Welsh Government).</p> <p>LDP made available for inspection, adoption statement is produced and published SA/ISA: Finalise</p> <p>SA Report and /Environmental Statement</p>	<p>The Replacement Local Development Plan (2022- 2037)</p> <p>An Adoption Statement</p> <p>The SA/ISA Report The Consultation Report</p> <p>Within 6 weeks of adoption: A Post Adoption Statement on the SA framework</p>
9	<p>Annual Monitoring and Review (Regulation 37 and 41(1))</p>	<p>Production of an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Inclusive of Monitoring under Regulation 17 of the SEA Regulations of significant environmental effects' and submit to Welsh Government.</p> <p>Commence Development Plan review at least every 4 years</p>	<p>AMR for the RLDP due in 2027 (provided adopted RLDP covers the first full financial year 1 April to 31 March) and annually thereafter.</p> <p>1st Statutory Review within 4 years of adoption date, by April 2030.</p>





Figure 1-2 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Well-being Goals and Ways of Working<sup>57</sup>



1.4.3 The Planning (Wales) Act 2015<sup>58</sup> also seeks to ensure development within Wales is sustainable, fair and resilient.

1.4.4 The Future-Wales – The National Plan 2040<sup>59</sup> establishes the Welsh governments aspirations for planning and development within Wales. Sustainable development is at its heart and the policies of this document, which seeks to ensure it is experienced across

<sup>57</sup> Welsh Government (2016) Shared Purpose: Shared Future Statutory guidance on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-02/spsf-1-core-guidance.PDF>

<sup>58</sup> Welsh Government (2015) 'Planning (Wales) Act 2015'. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/4/section/2/enacted>

<sup>59</sup> Welsh Government (2021) 'Future Wales: The National Plan 2040' <https://gov.wales/future-wales-national-plan-2040>

Wales. Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)<sup>60</sup> also provides planning policies for Wales and **Figure 1.3** identifies the sustainable outcomes such policies wish to achieve.

Figure 1-3 Planning Policy Wales Outcomes<sup>61</sup>



1.4.5 Due to the continued short and long-term effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Welsh Government published the Building Better Places – The Planning System Delivering

<sup>60</sup> Welsh Government (2021) ‘Planning Policy Wales Edition 11’ [https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11\\_0.pdf](https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11_0.pdf)

<sup>61</sup> Welsh Government (2021) ‘Planning Policy Wales Edition 11’ [https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11\\_0.pdf](https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11_0.pdf)

Resilient and Brighter Futures (Placemaking and the Covid-19 recovery)<sup>62</sup>. This document identifies that Local Plans should be updated or replaced to reflect the local needs that have arisen due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This document also establishes the following eight issues:

1. Staying local: creating neighbourhoods
2. Active travel: exercise and rediscovered transport methods
3. Revitalising our town centres
4. Digital places – the lockdown lifeline
5. Changing working practices: our future need for employment land
6. Reawakening Wales’s tourism and cultural sectors
7. Green infrastructure, health and well-being and ecological resilience
8. Improving air quality and soundscapes for better health and well-being

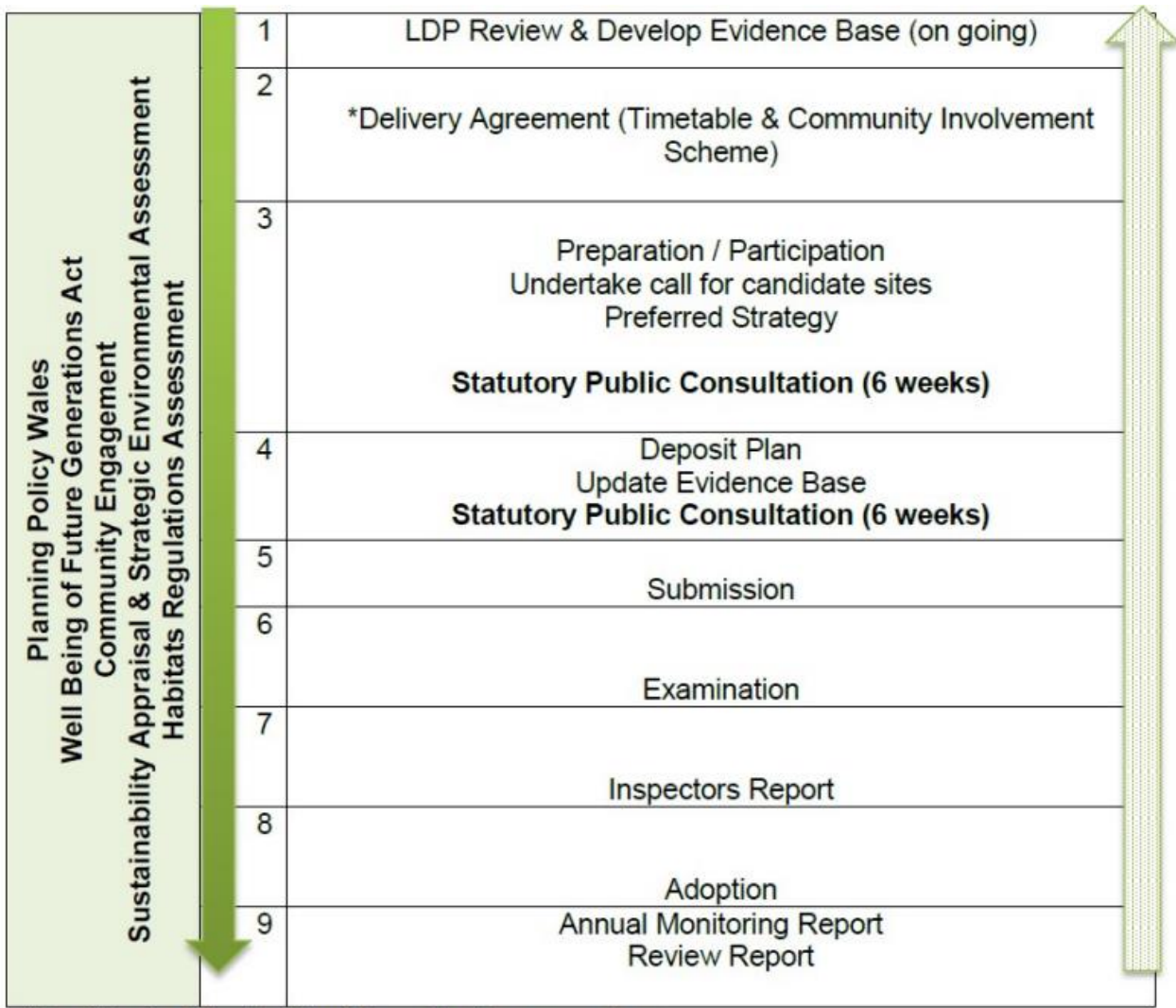
1.4.6 SA will therefore be an integral part of the preparation of the Replacement Local Development Plan process will help to ensure that the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the Plan are identified, described, appraised and communicated. This will form a core part of the ISA process. Where negative effects are identified, measures will be proposed to avoid, minimise or mitigate such effects. Where any positive effects are identified, measures will be considered that could enhance such effects. SA will also help to inform the selection of plan options by appraising reasonable alternatives in respect of, in particular, different volumes of growth, spatial distributions and site allocations whilst at the same time helping to make the decision making process more transparent.

1.4.7 **Figure 1.4** illustrates the stages of the LDP preparation process and the ongoing relationship with ISA.

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<sup>62</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Building Better Places: The Planning System delivering Resilient and Brighter Future'. Available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-07/building-better-places-the-planning-system-delivering-resilient-and-brighter-futures.pdf>, page 13.

Figure 1-4 The Local Development Plan Preparation Process<sup>63</sup>



\*See Chapter 8 for the Short Form Revision procedure

### Stages in the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Process

1.4.8 The ISA process comprises five stages:

- A. Scoping
- B. Developing and Refining Alternatives and Assessing Effects
- C. Preparing the ISA Report
- D. Consultation on the ISA Report and Assessing Significant Changes
- E. Monitoring Significant Effects

<sup>63</sup> Welsh Government, Development Plans Manual Edition 3, 2020

- 1.4.9 The first stage (**Stage A**) of the ISA process has led to the production of this Scoping Report. The scoping stage itself comprises five tasks that are listed below:
1. Review of other relevant policies, plans, programmes and strategies (hereafter referred to as 'plans and programmes').
  2. Collation and analysis of baseline information.
  3. Identification of key sustainability issues.
  4. Development of the ISA Framework.
  5. Consultation on the scope of the appraisal (this Scoping Report).
- 1.4.10 Based on the review of other plans and programmes, baseline analysis and identification of key sustainability issues for the Plan area, this Scoping Report sets out the proposed approach to the integrated assessment of the Replacement Local Development Plan.
- 1.4.11 The revised ISA Framework will be used to appraise the effects of the emerging Replacement Local Development Plan in terms of the key plan components (the Plan vision, objectives, spatial strategy including level of growth, policies and site allocations, including reasonable alternatives) (**Stage B**). This stage is iterative and will involve the development and refinement of the Replacement Local Development Plan by testing the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the emerging Plan options. In this respect, SA will be undertaken throughout the preparation of the Replacement Local Development Plan with the findings presented in a series of interim ISA Reports to accompany the publication and consultation of the various iterations of the draft Replacement Local Development Plan.
- 1.4.12 At **Stage C**, a final SA Report will be prepared to accompany the submission draft Replacement Local Development Plan. This will be prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the SEA Directive and will be available for consultation alongside the draft Replacement Local Development Plan itself prior to consideration by an independent planning inspector at Examination (**Stage D**).
- 1.4.13 Following Examination, and subject to any significant changes to the draft Replacement Local Development Plan may require appraisal as a result of the Examination, the Council will issue a Post Adoption Statement as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Replacement Local Development Plan. This will set out the results of the consultation and ISA process and the extent to which the findings of the ISA have been accommodated in the adopted Replacement Local Development Plan. During the period of the Replacement Local Development Plan, the Council will monitor its implementation and any significant social, economic and environmental effects (**Stage E**).

## 1.5 Scoping Report Structure

- 1.5.1 Reflecting the five scoping tasks set out in **Section 1.4** above, this Scoping Report is structured as follows:
- **Non-Technical Summary** - Provides a summary of the Scoping Report, including information on both the Replacement Local Development Plan and the proposed approach to the ISA;

- **Section 1: Introduction** - Includes a summary of the Replacement Local Development Plan;
- **Section 2: Review of Plans, Programmes and Strategies** - Provides an overview of the review of those plans and programmes relevant to the Replacement Local Development Plan and ISA that is contained at **Appendix B**;
- **Section 3: Baseline Analysis** - Presents the baseline analysis of Powys' social, economic and environmental characteristics and identifies the key sustainability issues that have informed the ISA Framework;
  - ▶ Section 3.3: Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure/Open Space
  - ▶ Section 3.4: Population and Community
  - ▶ Section 3.5: Health and Wellbeing
  - ▶ Section 3.6: Transport and Accessibility
  - ▶ Section 3.7: Land Use, Soils & Geology
  - ▶ Section 3.8: Water
  - ▶ Section 3.9: Air Quality
  - ▶ Section 3.10: Climate Change
  - ▶ Section 3.11: Material Assets
  - ▶ Section 3.12: Cultural Heritage
  - ▶ Section 3.13: Landscape
- **Section 4: Approach to the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal** - Outlines the proposed approach to the ISA of the Replacement Local Development Plan including the ISA Framework;
- **Section 5: Next Steps** - Details the next steps in the appraisal process including a proposed ISA Report structure.

1.5.2 This Scoping Report has been prepared to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive and associated Regulations. It fulfils the requirements of Stage A, as outlined within the Quality Assurance Checklist presented at **Appendix A**.

## 2. Review of Plans, Programmes and Strategies

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The SEA Regulations require that plans, programmes and strategies are reviewed in order to identify the environmental and wider sustainability objectives relevant to the plan being assessed. Specifically, an environmental report which is required under the SEA Regulations should include as per Schedule 2, Regulation 12(3) should include:

*"1. An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship (if any) with other relevant plans and programmes.*

*2. The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme."*

2.1.2 Plans, programmes and strategies relevant to the Replacement Local Development Plan include those at an international/ European, UK, national, regional, sub-regional or local level. The review of relevant plans, programmes and strategies aims to identify the relationships between the Replacement Local Development Plan and these other documents, i.e. how the Replacement Local Development Plan could be affected by the other plans' and programmes' aims, objectives and/or targets, or how it could contribute to the achievement of their objectives. The review also ensures that the relevant environmental protection and sustainability objectives are integrated into the SEA. Additionally, reviewing plans and programmes can provide appropriate information on the baseline for the plan area and help identify the key environmental issues.

2.1.3 This section provides a summary of the key messages arising from the review of the plans, programmes and strategies and how they are reflected within the assessment objectives of the SEA (as set out in **Section 5**).

### 2.2 Plans, Programmes and Strategies Reviewed - Summary of Objectives, Key Policy Messages and Implications for the ISA

2.2.1 Over 200 PPPs were reviewed as part of the preparation of the ISA. This review of PPPs considered objectives of plans and programmes at an International, Community, Member State, Wales and Powys level

2.2.2 **Table 2.1** provides a summary of the key objectives arising from the review of plans, programmes and strategies as set out in Appendix B and how they are reflected within the assessment objectives of the ISA.

Table 2.1 Summary of Key Policy Messages from the Review of Plans, Programmes and Strategies

Key Policy Messages	Implications for the ISA	Relevant Future Wales ISA Objectives
<p><b>Biodiversity (incl. Flora and Fauna)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance biodiversity<sup>64</sup>, including designated sites, priority species, habitats and ecological networks<sup>65</sup>.</li> <li>Responding to the declared nature emergency, use the Mid Wales Area Statement<sup>66</sup> to help to co-ordinate the key issues faced by the natural environment, seek further opportunities and work collaboratively with partners and the public enhance natural resources within the area. Measures will include: identifying the main causes of the nature emergency including what needs to be done, by whom and where; improving the Favourable Conservation Status of designated sites; identifying opportunities for connectivity between those sites and other areas; making nature a priority through planning, policy, and practical measures.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include a specific objective to protect, enhance and restore all designated sites of nature conservation in the plan area and to protect and enhance all species and habitats, including their connectivity, as set out in the Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan 2022-2032 and the Mid Wales Area Statement.</p>	<p>16. To create opportunities for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity</p>
<p><b>Population and Human Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address the need for market, affordable and special needs housing locating housing opportunities throughout Powys in accordance with the sustainable settlement hierarchy.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include objectives which seek to enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services</p>	<p>1.To encourage and support improvements in educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society to help</p>

<sup>64</sup> Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystem Duty (Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales) Planning Policy Wales includes the planning system response to the Section 6 Duty by setting out a framework for planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of their functions (providing a net benefit for biodiversity). "A net benefit for biodiversity, whilst similar in concept to Net Gain, includes a distinct reference to ecosystem resilience and how the site relates to surrounding ecosystems and biodiversity. As such it encourages proposals to pro-actively maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems with a focus on avoidance, minimisation and mitigation of impacts within the context of the site with offsite mitigation seen as a last resort in considering the resilience of ecosystems, their diversity, extent, condition, connectivity and adaptability" (Ministerial Letter, 20 December 2022)

<sup>65</sup> Demonstrating Net Benefits for Biodiversity

Any planning proposal must demonstrate that it has both maintained and enhanced biodiversity and built resilient ecological networks. Biodiversity enhancements that achieve NBB must be delivered following (i.e. additionally to) implementation of the stepwise approach of firstly avoiding, then minimising, mitigating and as a last resort compensating for, adverse impacts on the environment in a development. Finally, where the adverse effect on the environment clearly outweighs other material considerations, the development should be refused. This process is detailed in Planning Policy Wales (para. 6.4.21, p. 142). A net benefit for biodiversity can be achieved through a range of actions, ranging from bat and bird boxes to large-scale creation, and/or restoration or long term management of habitats. The Chief Planner's letter highlights that this does not "need to be onerous", and should be proportional to the extent and impact of development, to contribute to a bigger, better, more joined up approach to a resilient and biodiverse ecological network in Wales. This will mean some small or low impact developments can deliver NBB relatively easily, others will need to invest in delivering land area for NBB and long-term maintenance of habitats. Source: [Net-Benefits-briefing.pdf \(cieem.net\)](#)

<sup>66</sup> Area Statements, produced by Natural Resources Wales, set out the natural resources present in each of seven areas covering Wales, opportunity maps for building ecosystem resilience where available, the benefits these provide, and the main challenges and opportunities for these natural resources. Area Statements could be used to broadly inform what type of land could be scoped for purchase, followed by checks of designated sites, semi-natural habitats, Green Infrastructure Assessments and habitat networks, to identify land that can deliver the most benefits for biodiversity or other ecosystem services and reduce risks of negative impacts on existing high-biodiversity/ecosystem service value areas. Source: [Net-Benefits-briefing.pdf \(cieem.net\)](#)



Key Policy Messages	Implications for the ISA	Relevant Future Wales ISA Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address the need for improvements to transport infrastructure, enabling active lifestyles, provision of housing opportunities, services and facilities.</li> <li>• Address energy efficiency, energy generation and good design principles.</li> <li>• Support measures to improve the quality of life in rural areas by safeguarding and promoting access to services, facilities and employment opportunities.</li> <li>• Enable active lifestyles and improve access to services, jobs and facilities.</li> <li>• Sustain and enhance the natural and built environments of Powys.</li> <li>• Enable the provision of high quality training and learning opportunities.</li> <li>• Allow Powys residents to gain access to a choice of services from a range of integrated agencies and community organisations.</li> <li>• Ensure Powys is an attractive location for graduates and young families.</li> <li>• Ensure social equality and prosperity for all.</li> <li>• Ensure that there is an adequate supply of employment land to meet local needs and to attract inward investment.</li> <li>• Encourage rural diversification and support rural economic growth.</li> <li>• Promote improvements to health and well-being.</li> <li>• Promote healthier lifestyles.</li> <li>• Recognise the importance of the LDP supporting health improvements and enabling the provision of health and social care facilities.</li> <li>• Improve the provision of housing, employment and educational opportunities to reduce inequalities in health.</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the development of areas of open space for recreation, amenity or conservation.</li> <li>• Increase opportunities to walk and cycle.</li> <li>• Address opportunities for reconnecting people and places through the Mid Wales Area Statement.</li> </ul>	<p>to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).</p> <p>The links between health and well-being and opportunities to promote more sustainable lifestyles should be identified.</p> <p>ISA objectives should also promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement in community safety.</li> <li>• Improvement in human health and opportunities for healthy living.</li> <li>• Prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.</li> </ul>	<p>to improve opportunities for life</p> <p>2.To contribute to an improvement in physical, mental and social health and well-being for all, including contributing towards a reduction in health inequalities across Wales</p> <p>3.To create opportunities for an increase in employment across the country and promote economic inclusion</p> <p>4.To create opportunities for sustainable economic growth, diversity and business competitiveness</p> <p>10. To create opportunities for the improved connectivity of communities and sustainable access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups</p> <p>11. To create the opportunities within which an improvement in social cohesion and equality can be achieved</p> <p>12.To create opportunities for the provision of good quality, safe, affordable housing that meets identified needs</p>
<p><b>Soil</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage the use of previously developed (brownfield) land where this will have no adverse impacts on Open Mosaic Habitats.</li> <li>• Promote the re-use of derelict land and buildings.</li> <li>• Reduce land contamination.</li> <li>• Protect soil quality and minimise the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include objectives relating to the protection of soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture and also the prevention of contamination of land</p>	<p>17.To create opportunities for the sustainable management and use of natural resources, taking into account their benefits and intrinsic value</p>

Key Policy Messages	Implications for the ISA	Relevant Future Wales ISA Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote high quality design.</li> <li>• Minimise loss of peatland and increase restoration of peatland.</li> <li>• Address natural resource protection and enhancement through the mechanism of the Mid Wales Area Statement.</li> <li>• Respond to the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment</li> <li>○ Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry &amp; manure stores)</li> <li>○ Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services</li> <li>○ Help to create adaptive and resilient communities in response to adverse weather events and climate change</li> <li>○ Support new ideas around developing Nature Based Solutions - for example, using Natural Flood Risk Management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>(support to be given to remediation of land as part of new development).</p>	
<p><b>Water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote development in sustainable settlements, where the levels of growth will be within environmental limits and would be timed to accord with infrastructure upgrades where necessary.</li> <li>• Improve water quality and efficiency</li> <li>• Use development advice maps when considering which land to allocate as part of the LDP.</li> <li>• Consider the Impact of the Replacement LDP on the Dyfi Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, River Wye and Usk SAC's, and the Severn Estuary, SAC, SPA and Ramsar site.</li> <li>• Consider the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared as part of the LDP.</li> <li>• Promote the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</li> <li>• Ensure timely investment in water management infrastructure to accommodate new development.</li> <li>• Avoid development in areas of flood risk.</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of flooding arising from new development.</li> <li>• Address natural resource protection and enhancement through the mechanism of the Mid Wales Area Statement.</li> <li>• Respond to the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement including:</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include specific objectives relating to maintaining and improving water quality and quantity as well as: investing in the prevention of flooding.</p>	<p>9.To create opportunities to protect and enhance the quality and quantity of water features and resources</p> <p>17.To create opportunities for the sustainable management and use of natural resources, taking into account their benefits and intrinsic value</p>

Key Policy Messages	Implications for the ISA	Relevant Future Wales ISA Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment</li> <li>○ Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry &amp; manure stores)</li> <li>○ Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services</li> <li>○ Manage our water resources to improve the quality and quantity of available water, without causing detriment to the natural environment</li> <li>○ Help to create adaptive and resilient communities in response to adverse weather events and climate change</li> <li>○ Support new ideas around developing Nature Based Solutions - for example, using Natural Flood Risk Management</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Air</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ensure that air quality is maintained or enhanced and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum.</li> <li>● Address natural resource protection and enhancement through the mechanism of the Mid Wales Area Statement.</li> <li>● Respond to the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment</li> <li>○ Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry &amp; manure stores)</li> <li>○ Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services</li> <li>○ Help to create adaptive and resilient communities in response to adverse weather events and climate change</li> <li>○ Support new ideas around developing Nature Based Solutions - for example, using Natural Flood Risk Management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The ISA Framework should include a specific objective to protect and improve air quality in Powys.</p>	<p>8.To create opportunities to encourage the protection and improvement of air quality</p>
<p><b>Climatic Factors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Respond to the declared climate emergency</li> <li>● Promote measures which reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure that new development responds to the requirements of climate change adaptation and mitigation.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include objectives relating to the need to address climate change through mitigation and adaption,</p>	<p>6. To create opportunities within which greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced and limited and encourage energy</p>

Key Policy Messages	Implications for the ISA	Relevant Future Wales ISA Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take account of flooding issues.</li> <li>• Be aware of costs of mitigation and the need to avoid the most severe effects of climate change.</li> <li>• Encourage the provision of renewable energy.</li> <li>• Move towards a low carbon economy.</li> <li>• Address the declared climate emergency through the mechanism of the Mid Wales Area Statement.</li> <li>• Respond to the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment</li> <li>○ Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry &amp; manure stores)</li> <li>○ Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services</li> <li>○ Manage our water resources to improve the quality and quantity of available water, without causing detriment to the natural environment</li> <li>○ Help to create adaptive and resilient communities in response to adverse weather events and climate change</li> <li>○ Support new ideas around developing Nature Based Solutions - for example, using Natural Flood Risk Management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>engaging with the net zero carbon agenda.</p>	<p>efficient and sustainable Design</p> <p>7.To contribute to the reduction and management of flood risk</p>
<p><b>Material Assets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the efficient and sustainable use of mineral resources.</li> <li>• Ensure the adequate provision of waste management facilities.</li> <li>• Ensure timely provision of infrastructure to support new development.</li> <li>• Ensure the protection of location-specific infrastructure from incompatible development.</li> <li>• Promote the waste hierarchy as set out in the Powys Waste Strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include objectives to protect mineral resources from development that would preclude extraction and also objectives to protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development that may prejudice their function/operation or future projects that are key to delivering growth.</p>	<p>17.To create opportunities for the sustainable management and use of natural resources, taking into account their benefits and intrinsic value</p>
<p><b>Cultural Heritage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise the importance and quality of Powys' historic environment and that development should protect, conserve and, where possible enhance it,</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include specific objectives to understand, value, protect and enhance Powys' historic</p>	<p>5.To contribute towards the future well-being of the Welsh Language</p>

Key Policy Messages	Implications for the ISA	Relevant Future Wales ISA Objectives
<p>whilst paying particular attention to distinctiveness, sense of place and setting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider archaeological heritage.</li> <li>• Consider the urban historic environment in Powys by protecting conservation areas, listed building designations and the protection of registered parks and gardens.</li> <li>• Consider the Welsh language and cultural issues.</li> <li>• Encourage tourism.</li> <li>• Maintain and enhance access to cultural heritage assets.</li> <li>• Improve the quality of the built environment.</li> </ul>	<p>environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage.</p> <p>Specific objectives and/or guide questions should be included relating to the protection and enhancement of the Welsh language and culture.</p>	<p>14. To create opportunities for the protection, conservation and enhancement of the historic environment, historic assets and their settings</p> <p>15.To create the opportunities for the protection and promotion of Welsh culture</p>
<p><b>Landscape</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carefully manage development that impacts on landscape character.</li> <li>• Promote the use of LANDMAP and the Powys Landscape Character Assessment in assessing development proposals.</li> <li>• Consider landscapes of special historical and/or archaeological value when assessing new development proposals.</li> <li>• Promote access to the countryside.</li> <li>• Promote high quality design that respects and enhances local character.</li> <li>• Consider designated landscapes and dark sky areas.</li> <li>• Address natural resource protection and enhancement through the mechanism of the Mid Wales Area Statement.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of the rich natural landscape in Powys.</p>	<p>13.To create opportunities for the protection and enhancement of the local distinctiveness of our landscapes, townscapes and seascapes</p>
<p><b>Geodiversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise the importance of Powys' landscapes and geodiversity.</li> <li>• Recognise that development that impacts on the landscape should be carefully managed.</li> <li>• Protect Powys' landscape.</li> <li>• Assess RIGS sites as part of the LDP process.</li> <li>• Avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should include a specific objective relating to the protection of RIGS from incompatible development.</p>	<p>16.To create opportunities for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity</p>

## 3. Baseline Analysis

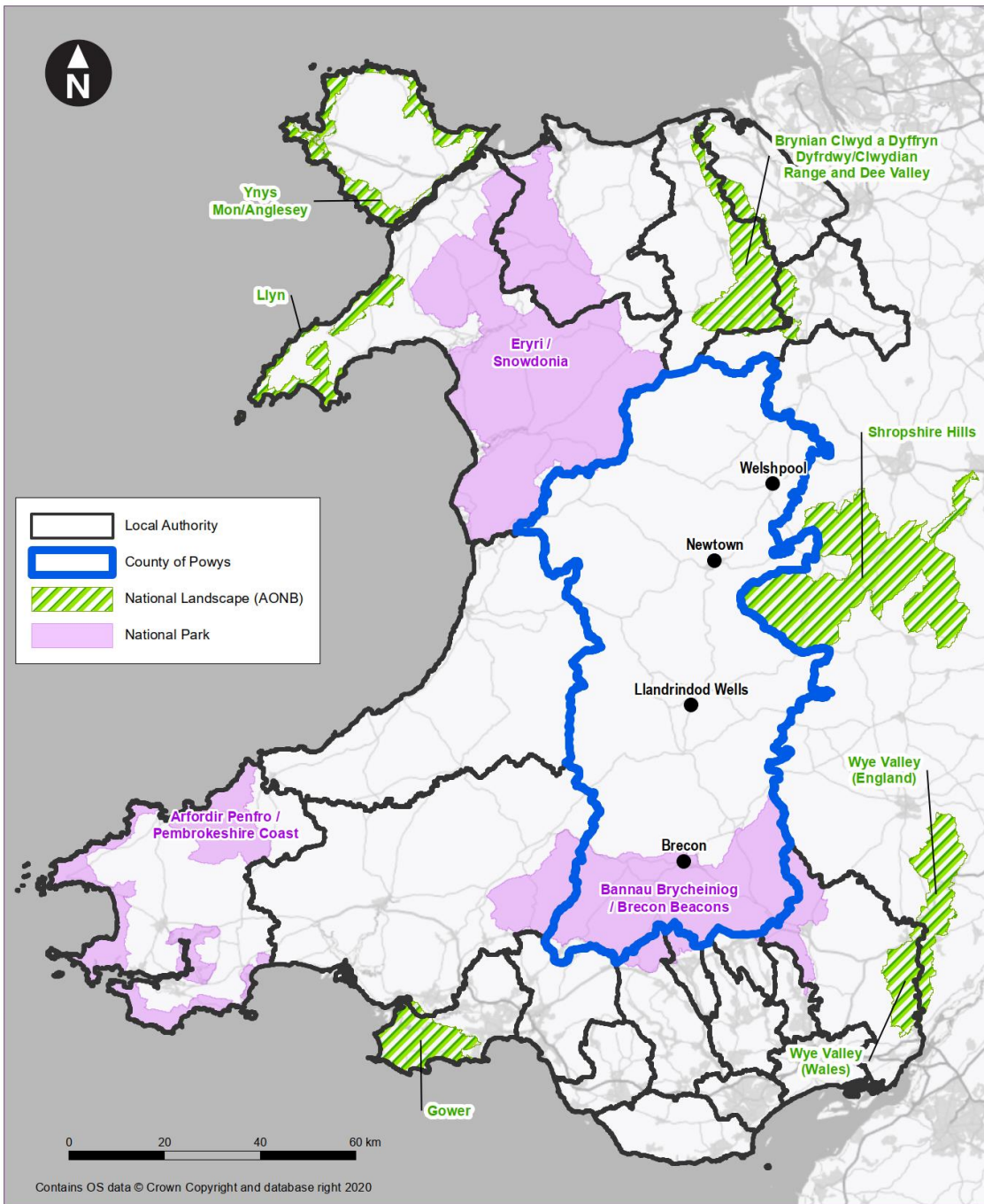
### 3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 An essential part of the ISA process is the identification of current baseline conditions and their likely evolution. It is only with a knowledge of existing conditions, and a consideration of their likely evolution, can the effects of the Replacement Local Development Plan be identified and appraised and its subsequent success or otherwise be monitored. The SEA Regulations also requires that the evolution of the baseline conditions of the plan area (that would take place without the plan or programme) is identified, described and taken into account.
- 3.1.2 This section of the Scoping Report identifies and characterises current socio-economic (including health and equality) and environmental baseline conditions for Powys, along with how these are likely to change in the future. The baseline analysis is presented for the following topic areas:
- Section 3.3: Biodiversity, Green Infrastructure and Open Space
  - Section 3.4: Population and Community
  - Section 3.5: Health and Wellbeing
  - Section 3.6: Transport and Accessibility
  - Section 3.7: Land Use, Soils & Geology
  - Section 3.8: Water
  - Section 3.9: Air Quality
  - Section 3.10: Climate Change
  - Section 3.11: Material Assets
  - Section 3.12: Cultural Heritage
  - Section 3.13: Landscape
- 3.1.3 Additionally, this section presents a high level overview of the Powys LDP area.
- 3.1.4 To inform the analysis, data has been drawn from a variety of sources.
- 3.1.5 The key sustainability issues arising from the review of baseline conditions are summarised at the end of each topic.

### 3.2 Powys: An Overview

3.2.1 The following section provides a summary of the environmental context of Powys. Powys is known as the green heart of Wales, covering approximately a quarter of Wales’ land mass, adjoining ten other local planning authorities that include the English counties of Hereford and Shropshire (see **Figure 3.1**).

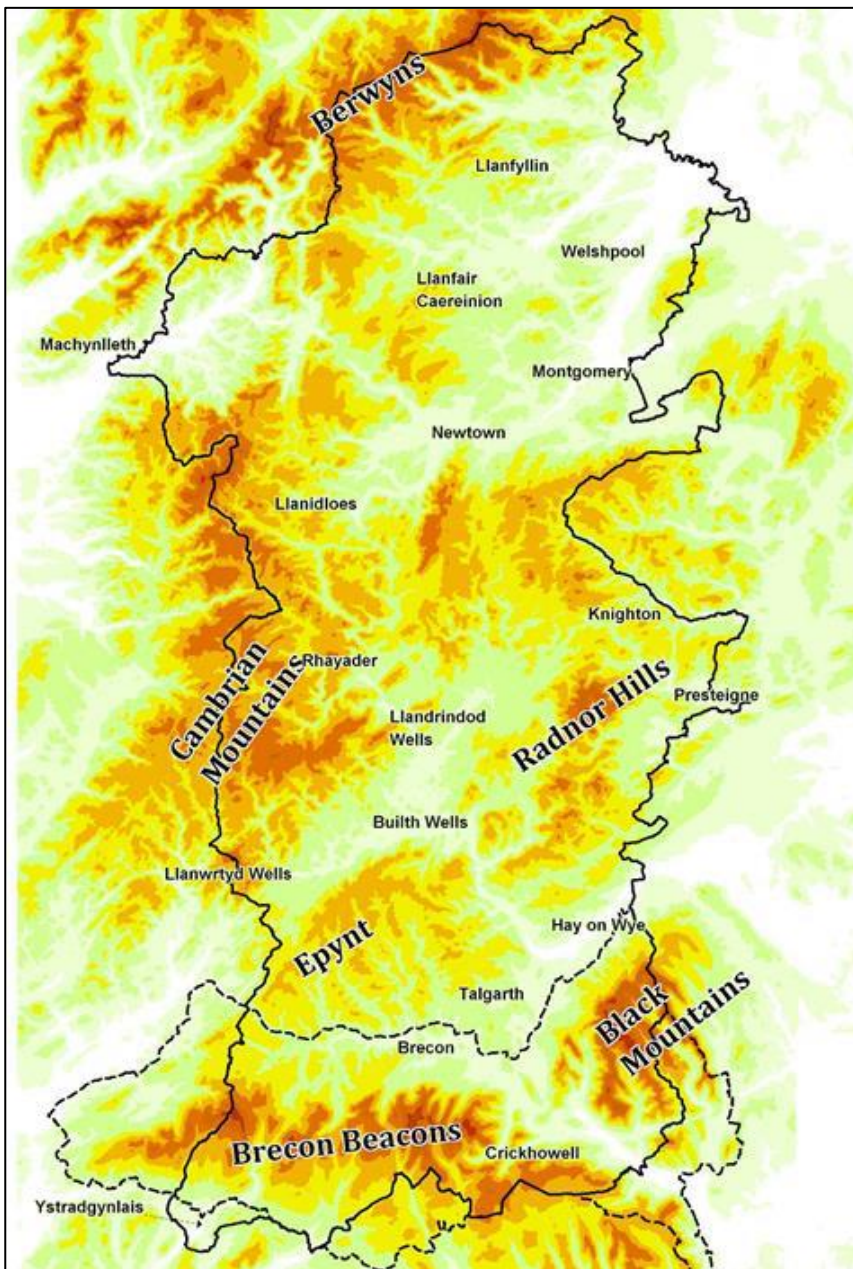
Figure 3-1 The Geography of Powys<sup>67</sup>



<sup>67</sup> Welsh Government DataMapWales at: [Home | DataMapWales \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/DataMapWales)

- 3.2.2 Powys is a largely upland and rural County covering over 5,000 square kilometres. The Brecon Beacons National Park covers approximately 16% of Powys' area and is a local planning authority in its own right.
- 3.2.3 **Figure 3.2** shows the topography of Powys and demonstrates how Powys' upland areas such as the Berwyns and Cambrian Mountains are dissected by the valleys of many rivers, including the Severn, Vyrnwy, Tanant, Wye, Usk, Irfon, Ithon, Dyfi, Teme, Tawe and the Lugg.

Figure 3-2 The Topography of Powys<sup>68</sup>

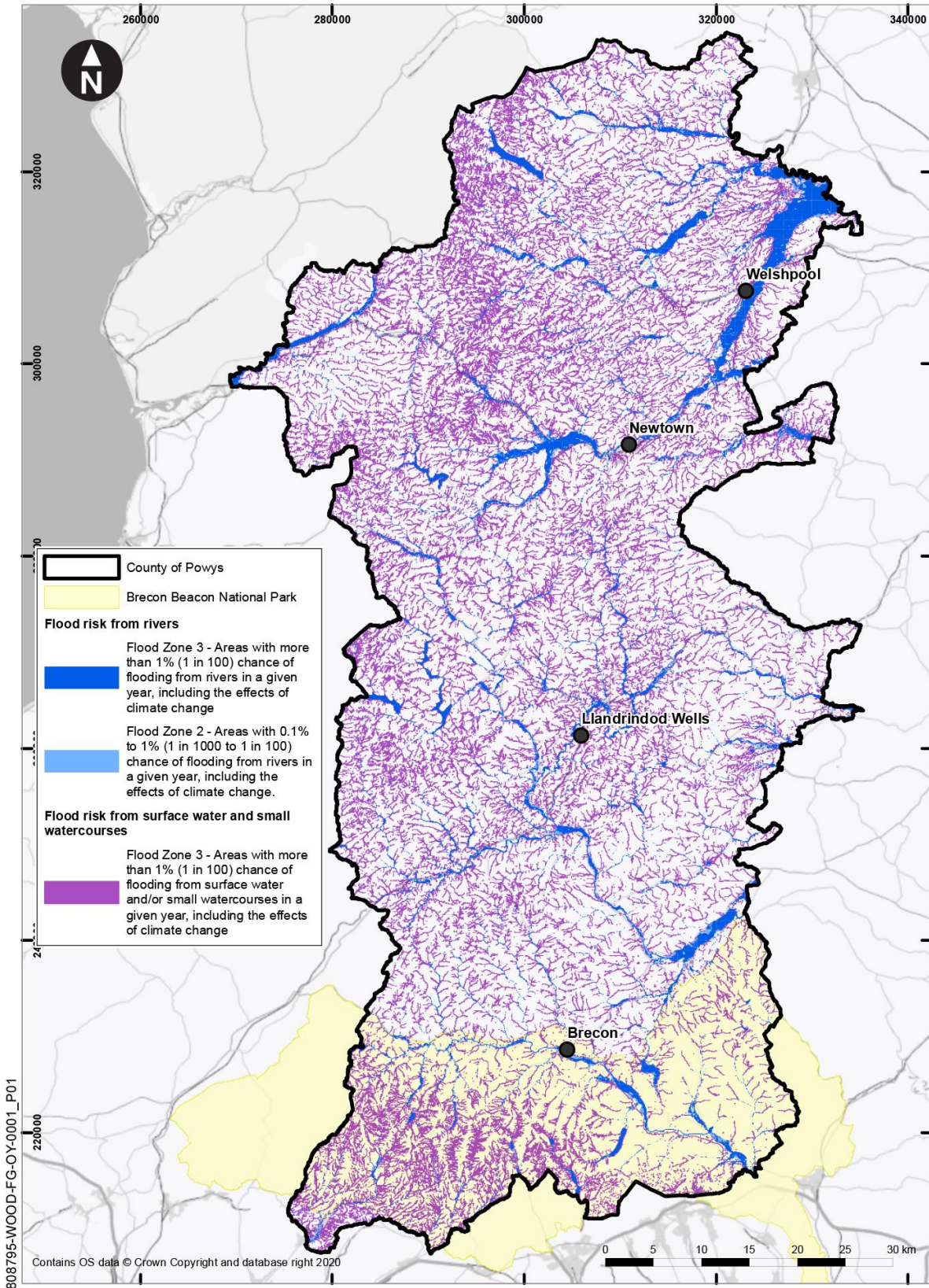


<sup>68</sup> Powys County Council (2018) Powys Local Development Plan at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4898/Adopted-LDP-2011---2026>



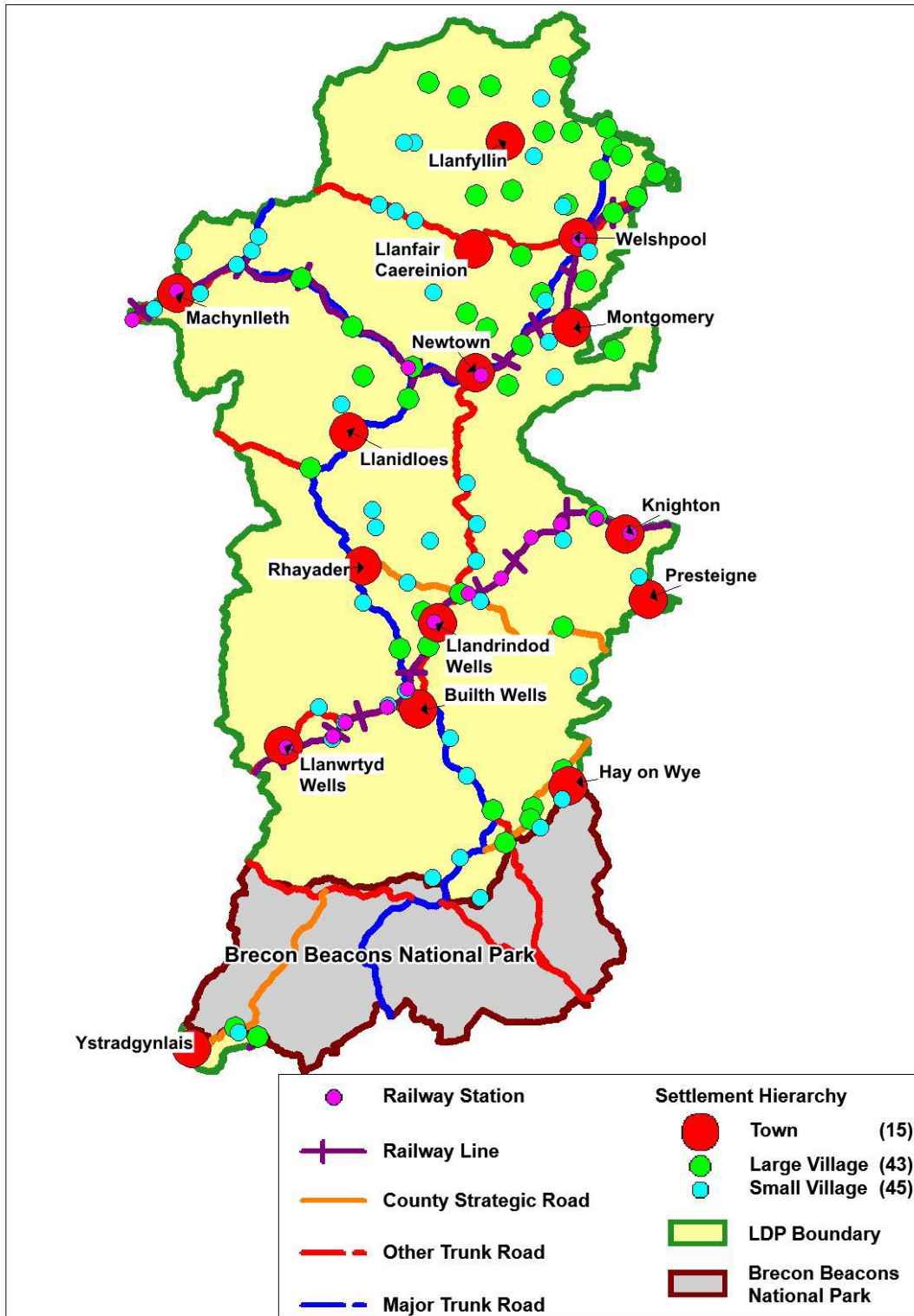
- 3.2.4 Powys' topography means that many of its settlements and main transport routes are located in valleys at important river crossings and as a result, many settlements are partially constrained by flood risk (see **Figure 3.3** and a detailed assessment in **Section 3.8**). The infrastructure of Powys is identified in **Figure 3.4** below:
- 3.2.5 The largest towns within Powys' are Newtown, Ystradgynlais, Brecon, Welshpool, Llandrindod Wells and Knighton. Reflecting the size of Powys, the region's topography and its rural nature/communities, the population of Powys is widely dispersed across it in small towns and settlements. The villages and settlements of Powys are small comparative to the norm for such built environments in the rest of Wales and England.

Figure 3-3 Flood Zones 2 and 3 in Powys<sup>69</sup>



<sup>69</sup> NRW (2022) Flood Map for Planning at: <https://naturalresources.wales/flooding/flood-map-for-planning-development-advice-map/?lang=en>

Figure 3-4 Core Infrastructure in Powys<sup>70</sup>



<sup>70</sup> Powys County Council (2018) Powys Local Development Plan at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4898/Adopted-LDP-2011---2026>

- 3.2.6 Powys' key strengths – its location at the heart of Wales, interconnectivity to the rest of Wales, a strong rural economy and ready access to the countryside and many unique landscapes – are accompanied by issues which need to be addressed to ensure the area's long term sustainability, including: pockets of deprivation, highly dispersed population, topography, the size of Powys, high commuting levels and environmental constraints such as flood risk. These strengths and issues are discussed in greater detail in the following sections.

### 3.3 Biodiversity, Green Infrastructure and Open Space

#### Biodiversity

- 3.3.1 Biodiversity is defined as the variety of plants (flora) and animals (fauna) in an area, and their associated habitats. The importance of preserving biodiversity is recognised from an international to a local level. Biodiversity is important in its own right and has value in terms of quality of life and amenity.
- 3.3.2 Powys has a rich and varied natural environment including a range of sites designated for their habitat and conservation value. As the green heart of Wales and due to the County's sheer size, it benefits from having a large quantity of deciduous and coniferous woodlands, hedgerows, heathland, parkland, streams, rivers, canals, lakes, ponds, peat bogs, cliffs and rock outcrops, meadows and grassland, arable farmland and also urban environments. Despite being landlocked, the County also benefits from a small stretch of coastland along the tidal riverbank at the head of the Dyfi estuary. Alongside this rich natural environment, the County benefits from a wide range of biodiversity assets and habitats. This wealth of natural resources means that the habitats within Powys are interconnected and intermingling, albeit briefly intercut by occasional infrastructure and other built development.
- 3.3.3 The mountains within Powys are the source of many rivers in England and Wales including the Wye, Severn and Vyrnwy.
- 3.3.4 The County is home to a significant diversity of wildlife, including protected species such as the dormouse, otter, red kite, Atlantic salmon and globeflower, plus fewer familiar species such as wood ants, waxcap fungi, freshwater crayfish and river jelly lichen. Many habitats and species are protected at a UK-wide level under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- 3.3.5 However, Powys is experiencing issues that are prevalent across wider Wales and the UK as a whole, which is habitat decline and the loss of species, as well as the introduction of Invasive and Non-Native Species (INNS). As **Figure 3.5** below identifies, since the 1970's there has been a decrease in the wildlife of Wales, though certain species are doing better than they were in 1970. The Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan (2022)<sup>71</sup>, notes that: *In Wales, the 2020 State of Natural Resources Report*<sup>72</sup> *estimated that 1 in 6 of Wales' species*

<sup>71</sup> <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/2573/Powys-Nature-Recovery-Action-Plan>

<sup>72</sup> Natural Resources Wales (2020) State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) for Wales 2020 Available at: <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/state-of-natural-resources-report-sonarr-for-wales-2020/?lang=en>

are at risk of extinction. Since scientific monitoring began in the 1970s, 73 species have already gone extinct in Wales and a further 666 species are threatened with extinction.”

Figure 3-5 Wildlife in Wales 1970's to Present<sup>73</sup>



3.3.6 The SoNARR for Wales (2020) (Executive Summary pp.41/42) identifies under Aim 2 Ecosystem resilience that: *“Most habitat types have seen a reduction in diversity over the last 100 years, with the rate of decline increasing from the 1970s onwards. This indicates that ecosystems are not resilient, and many species are not recovering. If diversity continues to be lost, then it may result in the collapse of ecosystems and the services they provide.”* Supporting evidence indicates that:

- *“Only 31% of Wales is considered to be semi-natural habitat. At least 40% of Welsh habitats are spread out in such small patches that this implies low resilience.*
- *Very few Welsh habitats are reported as being in good condition due to a number of pressures. Freshwater habitats, for example, are mainly affected by nutrient enrichment and physical modifications.*
- *In Wales [habitat] connectivity is at its lowest in lowland habitats where the landscape has been simplified by the loss of semi-natural habitats and intensively managed land dominates.”*

3.3.7 **Figure 3.6** shows designated nature conservation sites within Wales whilst **Figure 3.7** shows such sites in Powys.

3.3.8 Sites of European importance (Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)) are designated to conserve natural habitats and species of wildlife which are rare, endangered or vulnerable in the European Community (EC). In the UK, these formally formed part of the ‘Natura 2000’ network of sites protected under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and now form part of the UK national site network following the UK’s departure from the European Union.

<sup>73</sup> Ibid.

3.3.9 Powys also benefits from containing or partially containing the following Statutory Designated Sites and Non-Statutory Designated Sites<sup>74</sup>:

Statutory Sites:

- 17 SACs
- 3 SPAs
- 267 SSSIs
- 1 Ramsar
- 12 National Nature Reserves

Non-Statutory Sites:

- County Wildlife Sites and candidate Wildlife Sites
- 1 Biosphere Reserve UNESCO Dyfi Biosphere Reserve
- 2 RSPB Reserves
- Nature Reserves/Local Wildlife Sites

3.3.10 **Table 3.1** below highlights the European sites located within or partially within Powys and as of 2020, according to NRW's protected sites baseline information, the 162 conservation features associated within these designations were in the following condition<sup>75</sup>:

- Favourable 20%
- Unfavourable 53%
- Unknown 27%

Table 3.1 European Sites Located wholly within or partially within County of Powys Boundary<sup>76</sup>

European Sites Located wholly within or partially within County of Powys Boundary
Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains SAC
Berwyn SPA
Brecon Beacons SAC
Coedydd Llawr-y-Glyn SAC
Coedydd Nedd a Mellte SAC
Cors Fochno and Dyfi Ramsar

<sup>74</sup> Natural Resources Wales (2022) 'Protected Areas of Land and Sea'. Available at: <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/wildlife-and-biodiversity/protected-areas-of-land-and-seas/find-protected-areas-of-land-and-sea/?lang=en> accessed 08.07.2022.

<sup>75</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 174. To be published October 2022.

<sup>76</sup> Powys County Council (2018) 'Powys Local Development Plan'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4898/Adopted-LDP-2011---2026>

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**European Sites Located wholly within or partially within County of Powys Boundary**

Drostre Bank SAC
Dyfi Estuary SPA
Elan Valley Woodlands SAC
Elenydd SAC
Elenydd - Mallaen SPA
Granllyn SAC
Llangorse Lake SAC
Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC
Montgomery Canal SAC
Mynydd Epynt SAC
Rhos Goch SAC
River Usk SAC
River Wye SAC
Tanat and Vyrnwy Bat Sites SAC
Usk Bat Sites SAC

3.3.11 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 establishes a requirement for the sustainable management of natural resources and identifies habitats and species that are of principal importance (Section 7 lists) which replaces the duty for the identification and conservation of such assets that was originally enshrined in Section 42 of the NERC Act 2006.

3.3.12 The Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan Part 3 – Species Action Plans, Amphibians and Reptiles states the following<sup>77</sup>:

*“The UK has six native amphibian species (excluding the recently reintroduced pool frog) and six native reptile species. Of these, nine species have been confirmed within Powys with eight confirmed as Locally Important species by local experts:*

- *Adder*
- *Common Lizard*
- *Common Toad*
- *Grass Snake*

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<sup>77</sup> Powys Nature Partnership (No date) ‘Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan Part 3 – Species Action Plans, Amphibians and Reptiles’. Available at: [Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan – Powys County Council](#), accessed 16.08.2022, page 2.

- *Great Crested Newt*
- *Palmate Newt*
- *Slow-worm*
- *Smooth Newt*

3.3.13 With regard to the amphibians and reptile species on the Section 7 lists, which are required to be updated and revised to ensure habitats of key importance are identified and maintained, Powys has six species currently identified as priority species<sup>78</sup>:

- Common Toad
- Common Lizard
- Grass Snake
- Great Crested Newt
- Slow Worm
- Adder

3.3.14 With regard to bat species, the Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan Part 3 – Species Action Plans, Bats Species states the following<sup>79</sup>:

*“In the UK, there are 18 known bat species, with 17 known to be breeding. Of these species 12 have been recorded in Powys, all of these are also considered as Locally Important species apart from Daubenton’s Bat and Noctule...:*

- *Barbastelle*
- *Brandt’s Bat*
- *Brown Long-eared Bat*
- *Common Pipistrelle*
- *Daubenton’s Bat*
- *Greater Horseshoe Bat*
- *Lesser Horseshoe Bat*
- *Nathusius’ Pipistrelle*
- *Natterer’s Bat*
- *Noctule*
- *Soprano Pipistrelle*
- *Whiskered Bat*

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<sup>78</sup> Ibid, page 2.

<sup>79</sup> Powys Nature Partnership (No date) ‘Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan Part 3 – Species Action Plans, Bat Species’. Available at: [Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan – Powys County Council](#), accessed 16.08.2022, page 2.



3.3.15 The following bat species within Powys are classified as priority species<sup>80</sup>:

- Barbastelle
- Noctule
- Common Pipistrelle
- Soprano Pipistrelle
- Brown Long-eared
- Greater Horseshoe Bat
- Lesser Horseshoe Bat

3.3.16 The twelve National Nature Reserves within Powys are identified below and span a considerable area of the County and often cross local authority boundaries:

- Y Berwyn National Nature Reserve
- Roundton Hill National Nature Reserve
- Stanner Rocks National Nature Reserve
- Rhos Goch National Nature Reserve
- Craig y Cilau National Nature Reserve
- Ogof Ffynnon Ddu National Nature Reserve
- Dan yr Ogof National Nature Reserve
- Craig Cerrig Gleisiad a Fan Frynych National Nature Reserve
- Cors y Llyn National Nature Reserve
- Nant Irfon National Nature Reserve
- Claerwen National Nature Reserve
- Gregynog National Nature Reserve

3.3.17 Powys contains 18 Wildlife Trust Reserves, many of which allow access to the public in order for them to experience nature. Several of these Natures Reserves and not open to the public to help better maintain the habitats and species that use them and ensure they are not compromised. These sites range from 2 hectares to over 17 hectares in size and include former hillforts, a site of a former sewage treatment works to 400 year old ancient woodland, ponds and meadows, reflecting the diverse nature of the ecology and biodiversity of the County. The 18 Wildlife Trust Reserves are listed below:

- Coed Pendugwm
- Cors Dyfi
- Cwm y Wydden

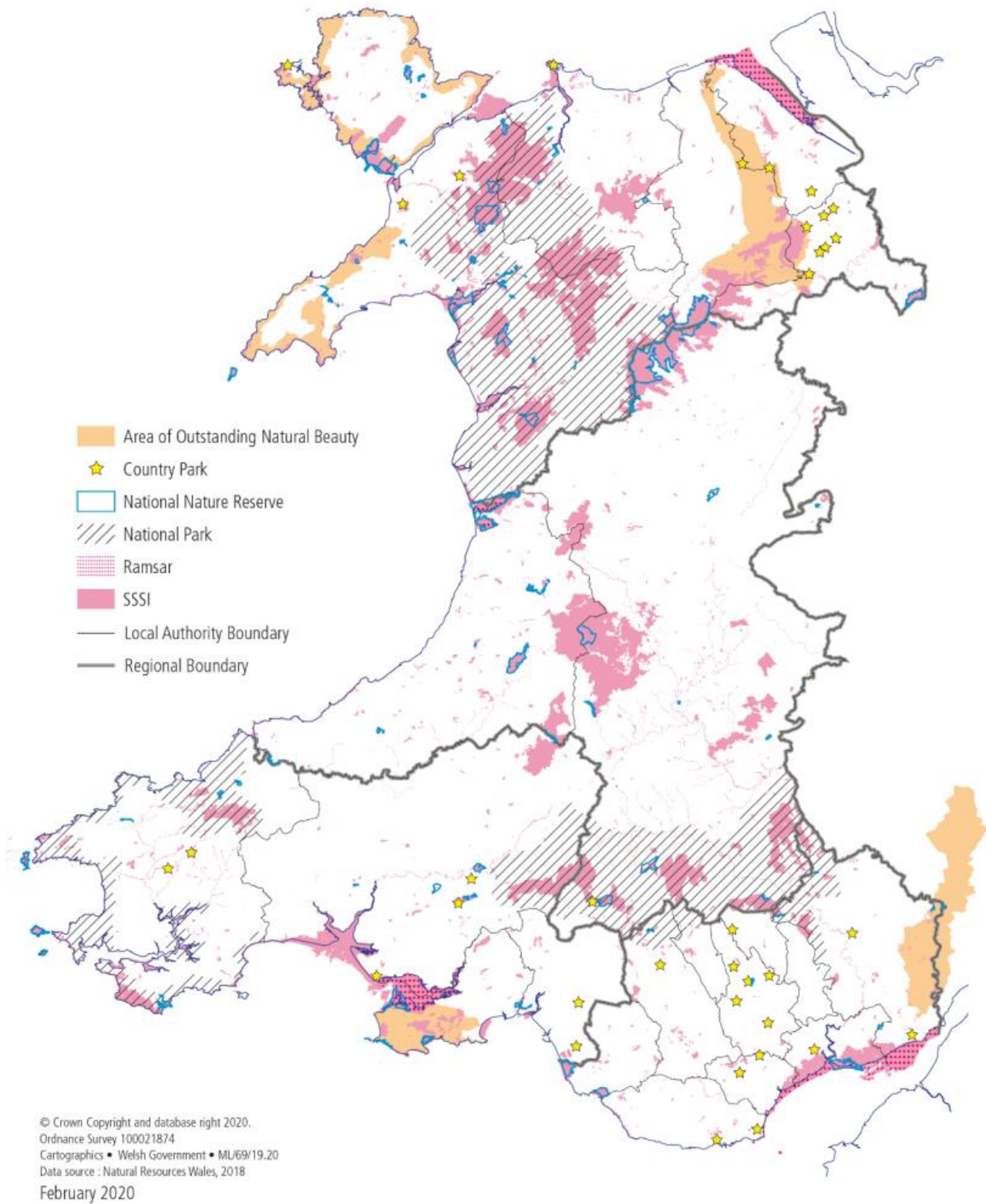
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<sup>80</sup> Ibid, page 2.

- Dolforwyn Woods
- Dolydd Hafren
- Dyfnant Meadows
- Glaslyn
- Llandinam Gravels
- Llanmerewig Glebe
- Llyn Coed y Dinas
- Llyn Coed y Dinas
- Morfa Dyfi William Condry
- Pwll Penarth
- Red House
- Roundton Hill
- Severn Farm Pond
- Ty Brith

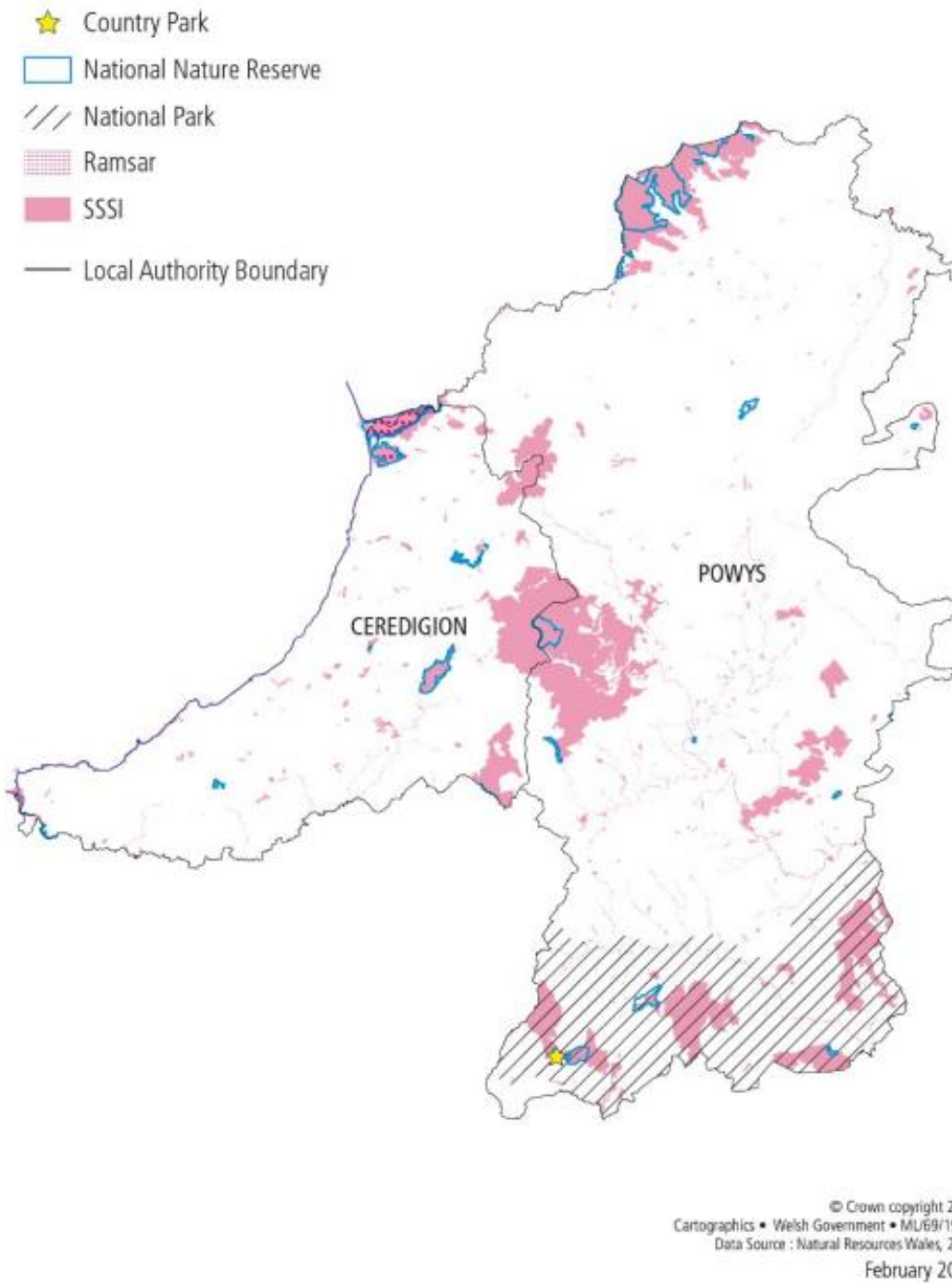
3.3.18 Powys has 106 County Wildlife Sites and 45 Local Wildlife Sites. Such sites are non-statutory sites of importance for nature conservation value, but which play a fundamental role in the conservation of the area's biodiversity.

Figure 3-6 Designated Nature Conservation Sites - Wales<sup>81</sup>



<sup>81</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Summary statistics for mid Wales region 2020'. Available at: <https://gov.wales/summary-statistics-regions-wales-2020>

Figure 3-7 Designated Nature Conservation Sites - Powys<sup>82</sup>



<sup>82</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Summary statistics for mis Wales region 2020'. Available at: <https://gov.wales/summary-statistics-regions-wales-2020>

## Green Infrastructure & Open Space

- 3.3.19 Green infrastructure encompasses all “green” assets in an authority area, including parks, river corridors, canals, street trees, managed and unmanaged sites and designed and planted open spaces.
- 3.3.20 Powys County Council’s Open Space Study<sup>83</sup> has identified the existing provision of open space within Powys as set out in **Table 3.2**.

Table 3.2 Existing Open Space<sup>84</sup>

Typology	Existing provision (ha)	Recommended provision (ha)
Designated Equipped Playing Space	12.09	16.46
Outdoor Sports Pitches	79.50	79.02
Informal Open Space (all)	553.85	131.70
Informal Open Space – Public Parks and Gardens	51.78	n/a
Informal Open Space – Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	326.46	n/a
Informal Open Space – Amenity greenspace	130.02	n/a
Informal Open Space – Cemeteries and Churchyards	45.6	n/a
Allotments	8	n/a

- 3.3.21 As of 2018, 63% of the residents of Powys’ LDP area settlements live within the recommended distance to an equipped play area<sup>85</sup>. 73% of the settlements of Powys were identified as having sufficient equipped play areas<sup>86</sup>. The provision for outdoor sports pitches within the Powys LDP area is considerable. There are 29 (51%) settlements where every single household is within the recommended distance of an outdoor sports pitch, and 39 (68%) settlements where 75% of the population are within the recommendations<sup>87</sup>. One settlement only scored as 50% of its residents being within in range of an outdoor sports pitch, with 18 settlements having no access to one at all<sup>88</sup>.
- 3.3.22 The composition of different outdoor sports pitches is identified in **Figure 3.8**, although it should be noted that this figure only identifies the primary use of the pitch, whilst in reality, a pitch can be used for many different types of sports and activities.

<sup>83</sup> Powys County Council (2018) ‘Powys Local Development Plan Open Space Assessment’. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4902/Open-Space-Assessment-2018>, accessed 11.07.2022.

<sup>84</sup> Ibid, various.

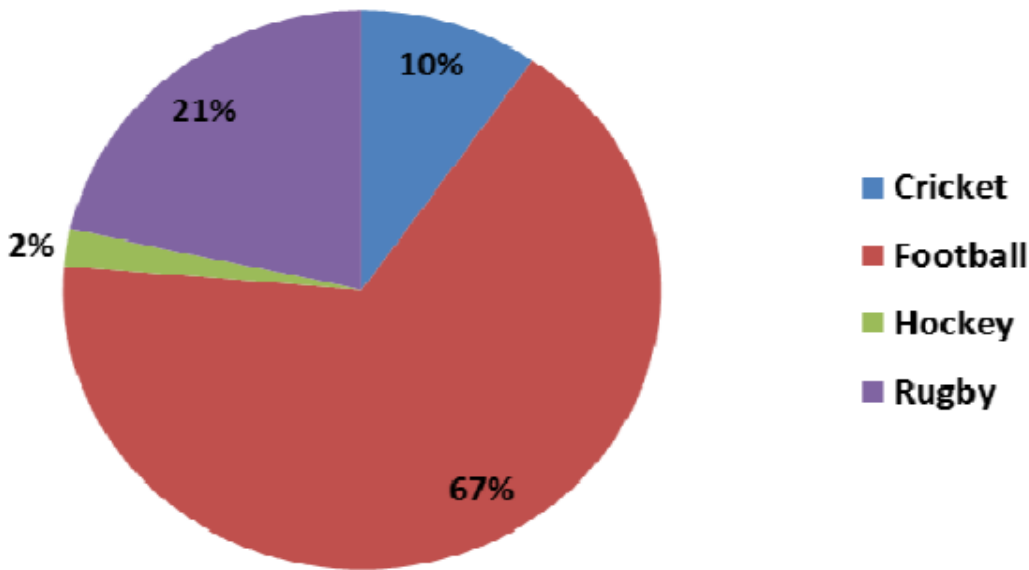
<sup>85</sup> Ibid, page 13.

<sup>86</sup> Ibid, page 13.

<sup>87</sup> Ibid, page 23

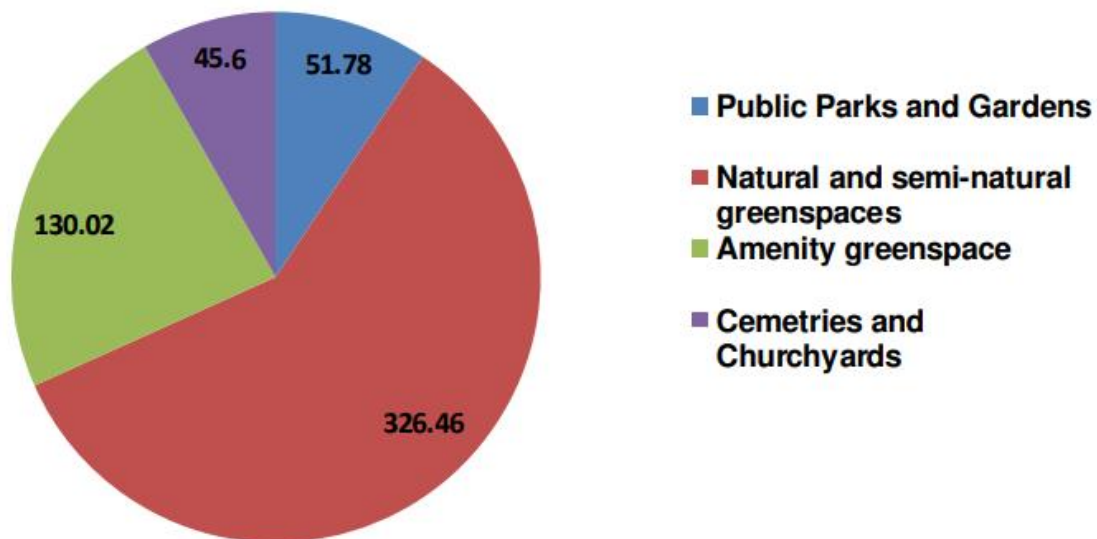
<sup>88</sup> Ibid, page 24.

Figure 3-8 Composition of Outdoor Sports Pitches<sup>89</sup>



3.3.23 Powys benefits from a considerable quantity of informal open space and the composition of this type of space is provided in **Figure 3.9** below. However, 17 of Powys’ settlements only benefit from having easy access to informal open space that is of the cemetery and churchyard typology, which is a typology in which many active activities would be considered unacceptable<sup>90</sup>. There are also 4 settlements that have no informal open space, though it should be noted that the Open Space Assessment 2018 only looked at amenity open space that is above 0.2ha in size, meaning these settlements could have existing access to small areas of informal open space<sup>91</sup>.

Figure 3-9 Open Space Category<sup>92</sup>



<sup>89</sup> Ibid, page 20.

<sup>90</sup> Ibid, page 31.

<sup>91</sup> Ibid, page 31.

<sup>92</sup> Ibid, page 26.

- 3.3.24 There is unmet demand for allotments within the Powys LDP area and only 18 (32%) of settlements have access to existing and established allotments<sup>93</sup>.
- 3.3.25 The Green Flag Award scheme is used to recognise well managed parks and green spaces.
- 3.3.26 In 2022, Powys had the following Green Flag Community Awards<sup>94</sup>:
- Llangattock Memorial Garden.
  - Llandrindod Pomarium.
  - Gerddi Bro Ddyfi Gardens.
  - Watton Allotment Association.
  - The Warden.
  - Dolwen Fields, Llanwrtyd Wells
- 3.3.27 The Montgomery Canal, along with its towpath, provides direct public access to green and blue infrastructure networks. The canal and towpath provide a range of recreational opportunities, the canal itself being available for canoeing and a range of other water-based activities, and the towpath providing extensive active travel opportunities such as walking and cycling. These activities promote health and wellbeing of the local community, through supporting healthy lifestyles. As well as helping to tackle physical inactivity and obesity, access to waterways promote health and social inclusion through provision of a tranquil space that can aid in personal reflection and stress relief.

### **Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan**

- 3.3.28 The current adopted Local Development Plan has policies that afford protection to designated sites of nature conservation and is supported by relevant Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG).
- 3.3.29 In the absence of a Replacement Local Development Plan, national policy and national and international legislation for the conservation of important biodiversity sites will continue to provide protection for many designated sites. However, a Replacement Local Development Plan will afford protection to the diverse and growing range of locally important sites.
- 3.3.30 Powys County Council is required to have regard to the Mid Wales Area Statement<sup>95</sup> under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The Area Statement is wide-ranging, covering the following four themes: biodiversity, landscape, sustainable land, water and air, forestry resources and reconnecting people and places, linked by the need for adaptation and mitigation in response to the declared climate emergency.
- 3.3.31 In respect of biodiversity, the Mid Wales Area Statement seeks to:

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<sup>93</sup> Ibid, page 34.

<sup>94</sup> Green Flag Award (2022) 'Green Flag Award Winners 2022'. Available at: <https://greenflagaward.org/media/2315/2022-gfa-uk-winners-list.pdf>

<sup>95</sup> Natural Resources Wales (2022) <https://naturalresources.wales/about-us/area-statements/mid-wales-area-statement/introduction-to-mid-wales-area-statement/?lang=en>

- identify the main causes of the nature emergency including what needs to be done, by whom and where
  - improve the Favourable Conservation Status of designated sites
  - identify opportunities for connectivity between those sites and other areas
  - make nature a priority through planning, policy, and practical measures.
- 3.3.32 The biodiversity of Powys is at risk of development as Powys County Council must continue to allocate sites for housing and employment. Encroachment of development into open countryside is likely to be needed to accommodate the population and economic growth of Powys.
- 3.3.33 A Replacement Local Development Plan would also better be able to reflect the fact that the Welsh Government declared a nature emergency in June 2021<sup>96</sup> and better reflect other Welsh Government commitments, such as those contained within the Future Wales: The National Plan 2040<sup>97</sup>.
- 3.3.34 A Replacement Local Development Plan would also be able to capitalise on the Council's drive to ensure that Powys is the green heart of Wales and ensure the provision of accessible open spaces to accompany developments when appropriate.

### Summary of Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites designated for their nature conservation value.
- The need to maintain, restore and expand designated and non-designated habitats.
- The need to continue to tackle species decline.
- The need to address the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, specifically improving the conservation status of designated sites, identifying opportunities for connectivity between those sites and other areas and making nature a priority through planning, policy, and practical measures.
- The need to monitor the large quantity of designated and non-designated biodiversity assets located within the County.
- The need to provide more open (especially equipped) play spaces within existing settlements.
- The need to provide more allotments.
- The need to monitor the quality of publicly accessible green spaces within the County, which could be assessed by the extent to which there is a Green Flag or Green Flag Community award-winning site within easy walking distance of every

<sup>96</sup> Welsh Government (2021) 'Wales Declares Nature Emergency'. Available at: <https://cynnalcywru.com/wales-declares-nature-emergency/> accessed 08.07.2022.

<sup>97</sup> Welsh Government (2021) 'Future Wales: The National Plan 2040'. Available at: <https://cynnalcywru.com/wales-declares-nature-emergency/> accessed 08.07.2022.



home in major settlements, using the methodology in the Greenspace Toolkit (see TAN 16 para 2.18).

### 3.4 Population and Community

*Note: at time of the compilation of this Scoping Report, the full results of the 2021 Census were not available (due Autumn 2022).*

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/initialfindingsfromthe2021censusinenglandandwales>

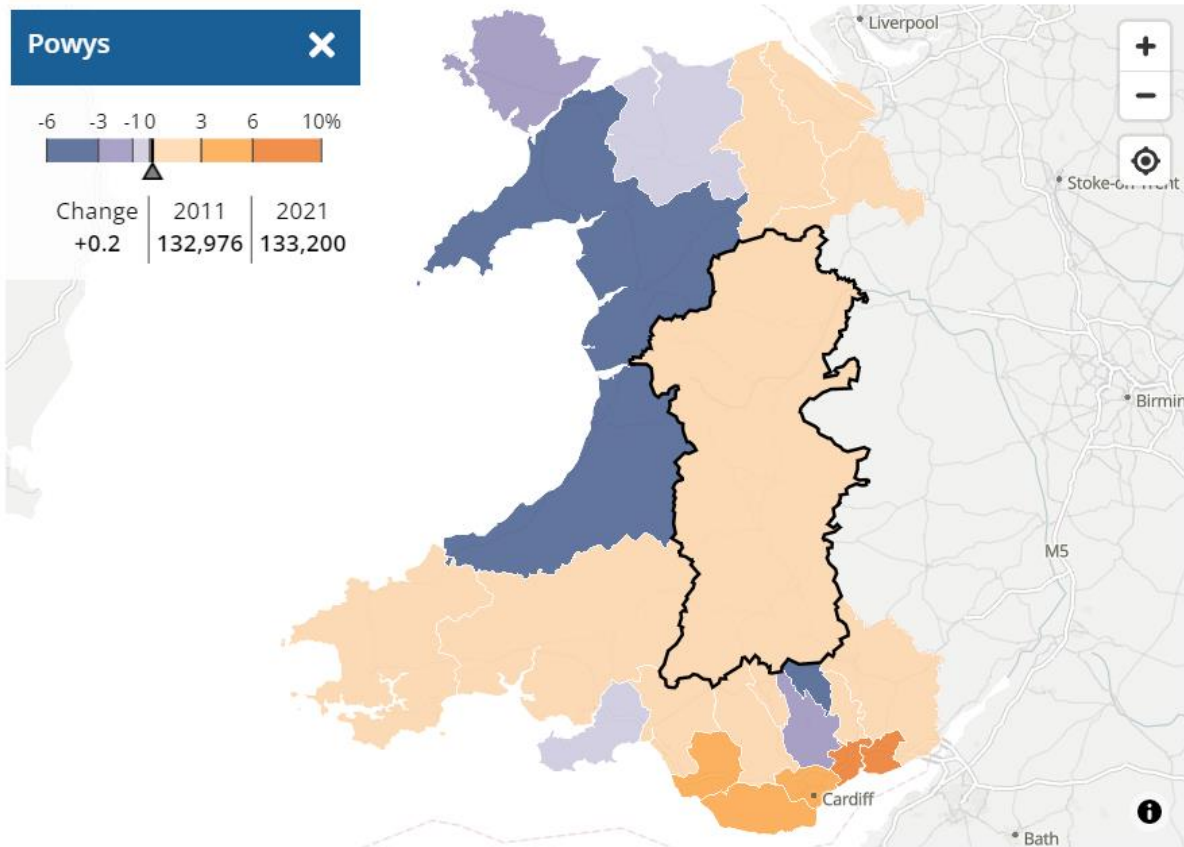
#### Demographics

- 3.4.1 The 2021 Census identified that the overall population of Wales has grown by 44,000 people since the 2011 Census (the last census), when it was 3,063,456. **Figure 3.10** identifies that the population of Powys has grown by 0.2% from 132,976 in 2011 to 133,200 in 2021. This is a small growth but is not unordinary for Wales and also shows that the population in Powys is not experiencing a population decline as some parts of Wales are. 5,500 people migrated out of Powys in 2015, with 5,900 people migrating into Powys<sup>98</sup>.

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<sup>98</sup> Powys Teaching Health Board (2022) 'Integrated Medium Term Plan 2020/2021-2022/2023'. Available at: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/about-us/key-documents/strategies-and-plans/powys-teaching-health-board-integrated-medium-term-plan-2020-2021-to-2022-2023/>, accessed 18.07.2022. Page 10

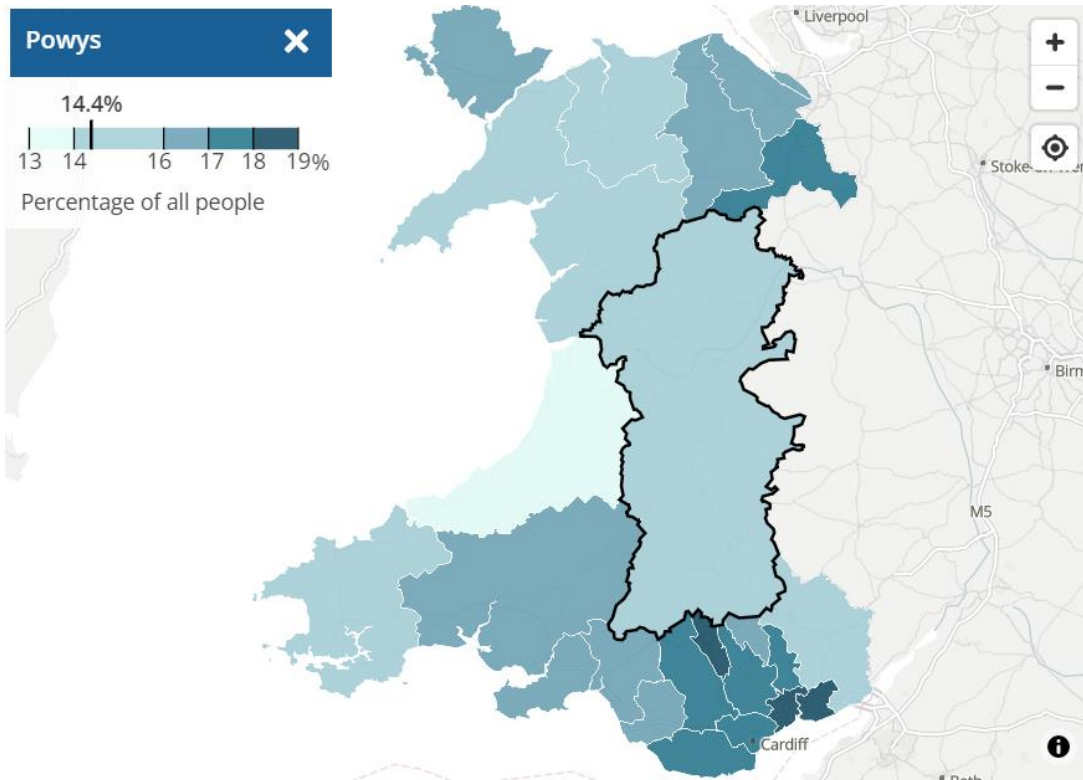
Figure 3-10 Powys Population Growth



Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

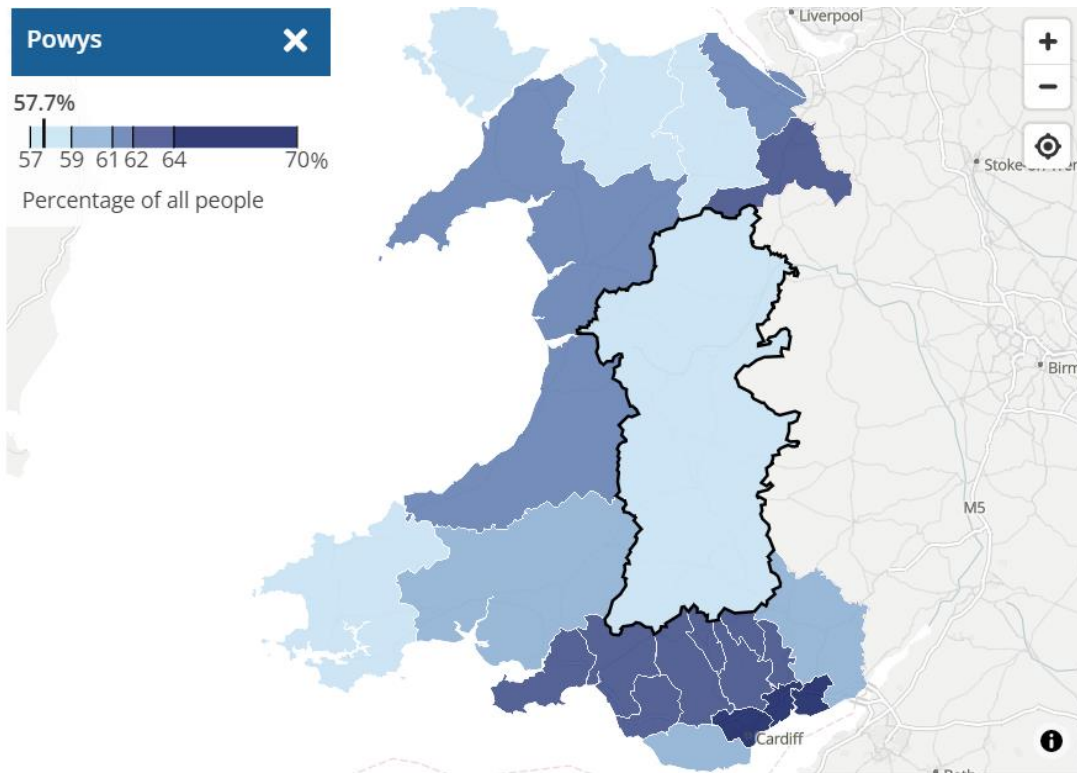
3.4.2 **Figure 3.11** identifies the percentage of Powys' population that is under 15 years old in 2021 (14.4%), with **Figure 3.12** identifies the percentage of Powys' population that is aged between 15 to 64 years old in 2021 (57.7%). **Figure 3.13** highlights how many people in 2021 were aged over 65 in Powys (27.8%). These figures identify that although Powys has a strong population base in the 15 to 64 age bracket (working age), the County does also have a large population above 65 years old, who are likely to not be working and this demographic is growing. Powys has the largest proportion of its population aged over 65 out of all of the areas of Wales, with Conwy a close second at 27.4% of its population and Isle of Anglesey third at 26.4%. As of 2021, 21.3% of Wales's population was aged over 65.

Figure 3-11 Powys Population Under 15 years old



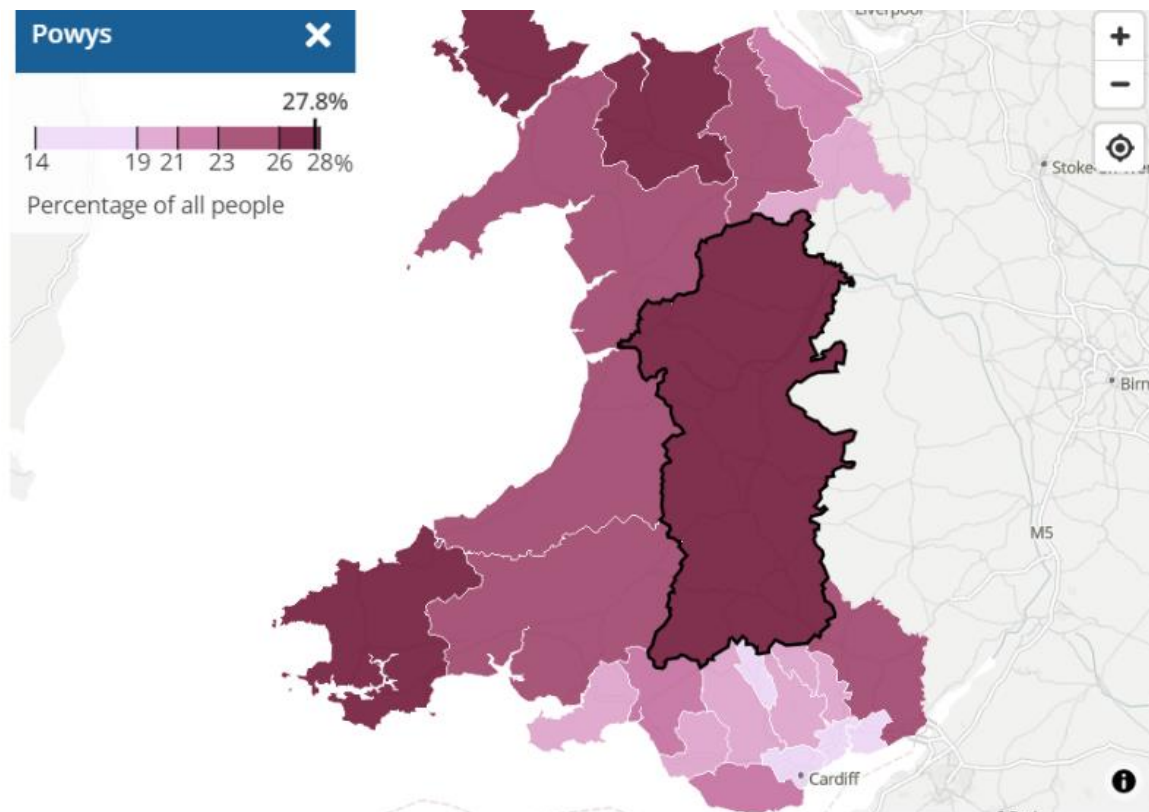
Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

Figure 3-12 Powys Population between 15 to 64 years old (working age)



Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

Figure 3-13 Powys Population 65 years and over



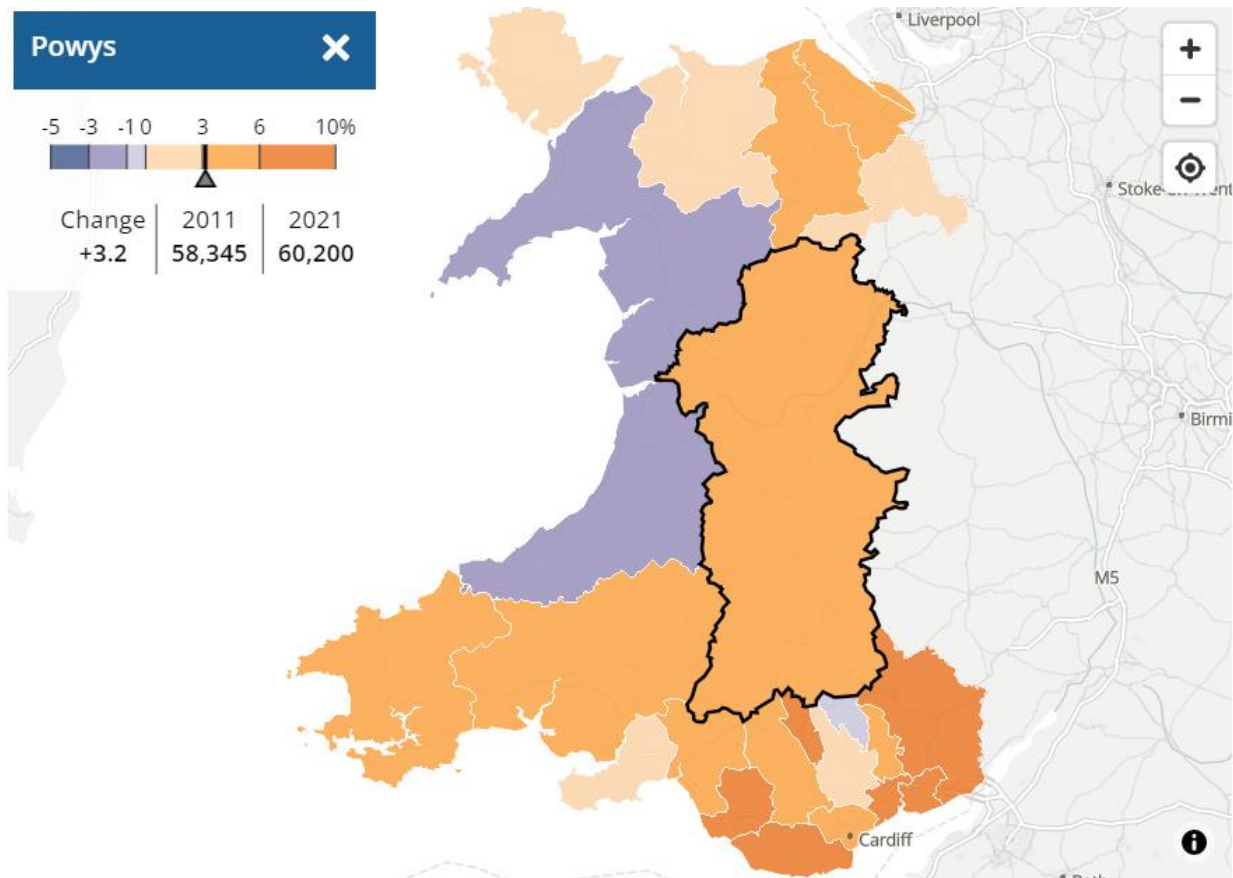
Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

- 3.4.3 In Wales there were 1,586,600 women (51.1% of the overall population) and 1,521,000 men (48.9%) in 2021. This is very similar to the ratio between women (51.0%) and men (49.0%) in England. It is also similar to the ratio in Wales from 2011, when 50.9% (1,559,228) of the population were female and 49.1% (1,504,228) were male<sup>99</sup>.
- 3.4.4 Although the population of Powys has grown slightly, the overall population density of the County (26 people per square km) has remained nearly identically to that recorded in the 2011 Census.
- 3.4.5 **Figure 3.14** identifies that the number of households within Powys has grown from 58,345 in 2011 to 60,200 in 2021.

<sup>99</sup> ONS (2022) 'Census 2021'. Available at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/bulletins/populationandhouseholdestimateswales/census2021#age-and-sex-of-the-population>, accessed 11.07.2022.

Figure 3-14 Changes in number of households between 2011 to 2021



Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

- 3.4.6 Mid-year estimated for Powys in 2018, 2019 and 2020 for the net inflow of younger adults (aged between 20 and 34) were +46, +58 and +58 respectively<sup>100</sup>. This means that during this time period, +162 people of this age group moved into the county, which is important and much needed given the county's aging population.

## Diversity

### Ethnicity

- 3.4.7 Using ONS category descriptions, the population of Powys is predominantly White (98.38% of the population)<sup>101</sup>.

### Religious Belief

- 3.4.8 Christianity is the predominant religion in Powys (61.8%) (see **Table 3.3**). After Christianity, Buddhism is the next most predominant religion in Powys (0.4%), though there is a large number of people with no religion (27.9%).

<sup>100</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 182. To be published October 2022.

<sup>101</sup> Powys County Council (2013) 'Powys 2011 Key Census Statistics'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/2011census>, accessed 11.07.2022.

Table 3.3 Religious Groups in Powys<sup>102</sup>

Religion	Powys Number	Powys(%)
<b>Number of Residents</b>	132,976	100.0
<b>Christian</b>	82,120	61.8
<b>Buddhist</b>	567	0.4
<b>Hindu</b>	324	0.2
<b>Jewish</b>	80	0.1
<b>Muslim</b>	235	0.2
<b>Sikh</b>	49	0.0
<b>Other religion</b>	798	0.6
<b>No religion</b>	37,050	27.9
<b>Religion not stated</b>	11,753	8.8

### Civil Partnerships and Marriage

3.4.9 For the Powys population, aged 16 or over, in the 2011 Census, 20.8% are single (never married), 61.9% are married/cohabiting, 1.1% are in a registered same-sex civil partnership, 1.7% are separated (but still legally married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership), 6.6% are divorced or formally in a registered same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved and 7.9% are widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership.<sup>103</sup>

### Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

3.4.10 In 2011, it was identified that 52 households (128 individuals), identified as a Gypsy, Irish Traveller, or Welsh Traveller, although it should be appreciated that accurate population data on these groups is difficult to acquire. The population of such groups has grown since 2011, and there is a need for a further 15 plots (13 within Powys LDP area & two within the National Park) to accommodate this growth<sup>104</sup>.

<sup>102</sup> ONS (2011) 'Census 2011'. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/localarea?compare=W06000023>, accessed 11.07.2022.

<sup>103</sup> ONS (2011) 'Census 2011'. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/localarea?compare=W06000023>, accessed 11.07.2022.

<sup>104</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment completed by council'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/12389/Gypsy-and-Traveller-Accommodation-Assessment-completed-by-council>, accessed 11.07.2022.

## Deprivation

- 3.4.11 The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) is the Welsh Government's official measure of relative deprivation for small areas in Wales. It is designed to identify those small areas where there are the highest concentrations of several different types of deprivation. Deprivation is the lack of access to opportunities and resources which we might expect in our society. This can be in terms of material goods or the ability of an individual to participate in the normal social life of the community<sup>105</sup>.
- 3.4.12 The Mid Wales region contains 125 Lower Super Output Layers (LSOAs). This is 7 per cent of all the LSOAs within Wales, which is a relatively low number. Considering the 191 most deprived LSOAs across all of Wales in 2019 – i.e. the 10 per cent most deprived, 2 of them are within Mid Wales. This is 2 per cent of all LSOAs within the region, and 1 per cent of the 10 per cent most deprived LSOAs across all of Wales, meaning the Mid Wales region suffers less from deprivation than other areas of Wales, though deprivation should be addressed anywhere<sup>106</sup>.

## Housing

- 3.4.13 As at the 2011 Census, the County of Powys had a total of 63,446 dwellings. The latest Authority Monitoring Report for 2020-21<sup>107</sup> identifies that 315 dwellings were completed between 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. **Table 3.4** identifies the Powys LDP progress against its goal of providing 300 dwellings per year. This table highlights that the Powys region has struggled to meet its annual completion requirements for a number of years and is cumulatively behind on providing housing for its residents, although it has performed better against these targets in the past two years.
- 3.4.14 The latest Authority Monitoring Report for 2020-21<sup>108</sup> identifies that 352.5 (rounded to 353 dwellings) a year should be completed per year in order to address this long-term shortfall in housing provision.

Table 3.4 Annual Net Housing Completions against the Annual Average Requirement (AAR) Figure<sup>109</sup>

Year	Completions	Against AAR (300 units)	Percentage	Against AAR (353 units)	Percentage
<b>2011-2015</b>	622	-578	-48%	n/a	n/a
<b>2015-2016</b>	316	+16	+5%	-38	-10%

<sup>105</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation'. Available at: <https://gov.wales/welsh-index-multiple-deprivation#latest-release>, accessed 11.07.2022.

<sup>106</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Summary statistics by regions of Wales:2020' available at <https://gov.wales/summary-statistics-regions-wales-2020>, accessed 11.07.2022.

<sup>107</sup> Powys County Council (2021) 'Powys LDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2021'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4910/Annual-Monitoring-Report>, accessed 11.07.2022.

<sup>108</sup> Powys County Council (2021) 'Powys LDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2021'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4910/Annual-Monitoring-Report>, accessed 11.07.2022, page 39.

<sup>109</sup> Powys County Council (2021) 'Powys LDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2021'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4910/Annual-Monitoring-Report>, accessed 11.07.2022, page 37.

Year	Completions	Against AAR (300 units)	Percentage	Against AAR (353 units)	Percentage
2016-2017	253	-47	-13%	-93	-28%
2017-2018	195	-105	-38%	-167	-45%
2018-2019	163	-137	-52%	-208	-54%
2019-2020	237	-63	-23%	-123	-33%
2020-2021	315	+15	+5%	-38	-11%
2021-2022 <sup>110</sup>	369	+69	+23%	+16	+5%

3.4.15 In terms of dwelling type, 72.4% of Powys households were detached or semi-detached houses in the 2011 Census. With regard to tenure, owner occupiers accounted for around 68.7% of Powys' stock, 24.8% in shared ownership, 14% socially rented, 14.8% privately rented and 2.2% living rent free<sup>111</sup>.

3.4.16 In April 2022, the average house price for all properties in Powys was £238,189, which has increased by £51,330 (21.55% rise) since 2019 (£186,859). The averages prices for the following types of homes as of April 2022 is provided below:

- Detached: £321,612
- Semi-detached: £210,554
- Terraced: £163,316
- Flats: £97,005

3.4.17 The Powys County Council Programme Delivery Plan Prospectus 2022/23 notes the Powys strategic housing priorities (based on a variety of sources of evidence ), in priority order, are:

- Extra Care accommodation (Brecon, Machynlleth, Builth Wells)
- General needs social rented homes, especially 1-bed homes; this includes wheelchair accessible homes (most towns and large villages)
- 24/7 support accommodation for those who experience homelessness (Newtown, Llandrindod Wells, Ystradgylais)
- Supported housing to address a range of care and support needs (Welshpool, Newtown, Llandrindod Wells, Brecon and Ystradgynlais areas)
- 'Low-cost Home Ownership' opportunities as part of a mixed tenure scheme
- 'Short Breaks' accommodation for respite care

<sup>110</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 40. To be published October 2022.

<sup>111</sup> ONS (2011) 'Census 2011'. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/localarea?compare=W06000023>, accessed 11.07.2022.



- Remodelling of existing homes, without creating additional dwellings

- 3.4.18 Housing need for 1-bed is high in all areas; for 2-bed is high in Machynlleth and Welshpool, low in Knighton/Presteigne; rest medium; for 3-bed is low in all areas, except medium in Crickhowell; and for 4-bed and more is high in all areas.
- 3.4.19 The 2018-based household projections for Powys show a projected increase of 1- and 2-person households between 2022 and 2027 and a decrease of households with 3 or more persons. It is expected this will further contribute to the need for smaller homes in the social rented sector.

## Economy

- 3.4.20 The economy of Powys and Mid Wales (Powys and Ceredigion) is primarily comprised of rural and agricultural employment opportunities. **Table 3.5** identifies seven key economic indicators for the Mid Wales area in, which provides a good overview of Powys economy even if it includes data from Ceredigion.
- 3.4.21 **Table 3.5** also identifies that the Mid Wales experiences less Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI) than the UK average but has more than Wales. GDHI is important to keep economies operational and is important for an economy to grow as people can spend more money on various goods and services. This can also be seen by Mid Wales and Wales both having lower primary income per head and less full-time weekly earnings than the UK, highlighting again how disposable income could be constrained in these areas and indicating that the area is dominated by lower paying jobs.
- 3.4.22 Gross Value Added (GVA) within Mid Wales is considerably lower than Wales and even more so when compared to the UK. GVA is an important productivity measure, and it means that the Mid Wales economy is less productive than both the wider Wales and UK economies. This is not unsurprising given the rural nature of Mid Wales, meaning it is less able to capitalise on economies of scale or mass production/services compared to other areas.
- 3.4.23 Mid Wales, similar to Wales and the UK, benefits from low unemployment and a strong employment rate, highlighting that new employment opportunities are constantly being created in these regions.
- 3.4.24 In spite of these factors, in 2019 it was estimated that 24.6% of the population of Powys was living on a wage that was not considered to be a living wage (living wage is £9.00 per hour in 2019, as defined by the Living Wage Foundation)<sup>112</sup>. As of 2021 the average household income in Powys is £33,458 (Wales: £34,700, UK: £40,257). 55% (33,149) of households in Powys earn below the Welsh average (£34,700) and 37% (22,162) of households earn above the average<sup>113</sup>.

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<sup>112</sup> Ibid.

<sup>113</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, accessed 12.07.2022, page 27.

Table 3.5 Seven Key Economic Indicators – Mid Wales<sup>114</sup>

Economic Indicator	Mid Wales	Wales	UK
<b>GDHI per head (2019)</b>	£17,854	£17,263	£21,433
<b>GVA per head (2020)</b>	£17,818	£21,842	£29,909
<b>Employment rate (2021)</b>	75.2%	73.1%	74.7%
<b>Economic inactivity rate (2021)</b>	21.6%	23.6%	21.8%
<b>Primary income per head (2019)</b>	£17,118	£17,972	£24,392
<b>Full-time weekly earnings (2021)</b>	£553.90	£562.80	£610.70
<b>Unemployment rate (2021)</b>	3.9%	4.2%	4.4%

3.4.25 **Table 3.6** identifies the types of employment in Powys in 2021. Powys demonstrates a strong and balanced job market, with no one occupation band dominating its economy. However, Powys in 2020 did have 20% of its working age population (16-64 year olds) economically inactive<sup>115</sup>.

Table 3.6 Employment by occupation (Jan 2021-Dec 2021) - Powys<sup>116</sup>

2021	Powys (Numbers)	Powys (%)	Wales (%)	Great Britain (%)
<b><u>Soc 2010 Major Group 1-3</u></b>				
Managers and senior officials / professional occupations / associate professional and technical	26,900	45.0	44.7	49.7
<b><u>Soc 2010 Major Group 4-5</u></b>				
Administrative and secretarial / skilled trades	13,500	22.6	20.3	19.0
<b><u>Soc 2010 Major Group 6-7</u></b>				

<sup>114</sup> Welsh Government (2022) 'Welsh economy in numbers: interactive dashboard'. Available at: <https://gov.wales/welsh-economy-numbers-interactive-dashboard>, accessed 12.07.2022.

<sup>115</sup> Ibid, page 27.

<sup>116</sup> Nomis (2022) 'Labour Market Profile – Powys'. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157389/report.aspx?town=powys>, accessed 12.07.2022.

Caring, leisure and other service occupations / sales and customer service	10,200	17.0	17.9	16.2
<b>Soc 2010 Major Group 8-9</b>				
Process plant and machine operatives / elementary occupations	9,200	15.4	17.1	15.1

- 3.4.26 Job density figures represent the ratio of total jobs to population aged 16-64 (working age). Powys scored a 0.87 job density score in 2020, which is higher than Wales (0.76) and Great Britain (0.84), highlighting there are a large number of job opportunities for each Powys resident<sup>117</sup>.
- 3.4.27 **Table 3.7** highlights the size and scale of the businesses that operate within Powys and Wales by identifying the number of businesses within these areas for 2021. As this table shows, Powys is primarily comprised of micro enterprises and local units scale businesses, which is similar to Wales as a whole.

Table 3.7 UK Business Counts (2021)<sup>118</sup>

Business Size	Powys (Numbers)	Powys (%)	Wales (Numbers)	Wales(%)
<b>Enterprises</b>				
Micro 0 to 9	8,035	92.8	95,995	89.6
Small 10 to 49	545	6.3	9,305	8.7
Medium 50 to 249	70	0.8	1,470	1.4
Large 250+	10	0.1	315	0.3
Total	8,660	-	107,085	-
<b>Local Units</b>				
Micro 0 to 9	8,645	89.7	108,110	83.6
Small 10 to 49	865	9.0	17,400	13.5
Medium 50 to 249	110	1.1	3,270	2.5
Large 250+	10	0.1	510	0.4
Total	9,635	-	129,295	-

<sup>117</sup> Ibid.

<sup>118</sup> Nomis (2022) 'Labour Market Profile – Powys'. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157389/report.aspx?town=powys>, accessed 12.07.2022.

3.4.28 In 2022, around 71,500 people formally or informally interact with the health and care economy of Powys<sup>119</sup>.

3.4.29 The Growing Mid Wales Partnership was established in 2015 and combines public and private sector groups and individuals to grow the economy of the Mid Wales area and identified the following strengths and primary drivers of the Mid Wales economy<sup>120</sup>:

- Agriculture
- Food & Drink
- Tourism
- Higher-value manufacturing
- Defence & security assets

Figure 3-15 Business births and deaths over time - Powys<sup>121</sup>



3.4.30 **Figure 3.15** identifies the number of new businesses created within Powys alongside the number of businesses that failed. It highlights that for the past 4-5 years, the number of business deaths and births within the County has been relatively stable.

<sup>119</sup> Powys Teaching Health Board (2022) 'Integrated medium Term Plan 2020/2021-2022/2023'. Available at: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/about-us/key-documents/strategies-and-plans/powys-teaching-health-board-integrated-medium-term-plan-2020-2021-to-2022-2023/>, accessed 18.07.2022, page 8.

<sup>120</sup> Growing Mid Wales (2015) 'Economy at a glance'. Available at: <http://growingmidwales.co.uk/oureconomy>, accessed 12.07.2022.

<sup>121</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'The number and size of businesses in Powys. The number of business births, deaths and active businesses over time'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/11124/Wellbeing-Information-Bank-View-information-about-business-statistics>, accessed 12.07.2022.

## Skills and Education

- 3.4.31 Powys' residents are well educated (40.7% attaining NVQ 4 and above) and have a high level of some form of educational attainment (94.3%) as **Table 3.8** identifies.
- 3.4.32 Educational attainment within Powys has continued to improve, generally, each year. Only 5.6% of the population of Powys has no form of education, which is lower than the score for Wales (8.2%) and Great Britain (6.6%) in 2021, with Powys managing to reduce those with no qualifications by 2.8% since 2016. Powys has been able to grow, educate and skill-up its population since 2016 and compares better than or at least favourably to Wales and Great Britain in terms of educational attainment.

Table 3.8 Qualifications in Powys Wales and Great Britain 2016 – 2021<sup>122</sup>

Level	Powys (numbers)	Powys (%)	Wales (%)	Great Britain (%)
<b>2016</b>				
NVQ 4 and above	29,500	38.9	35.2	38.2
NVQ 3 and above	44,200	58.4	54.3	56.9
NVQ 2 and above	58,600	77.4	73.4	74.3
NVQ 1 and above	65,800	86.9	84.3	85.3
Other qualifications	3,600	4.8	6.1	6.6
No qualifications	6,300	8.4	9.6	8.1
<b>2021</b>				
NVQ 4 and above	29,500	40.7	38.7	43.5
NVQ 3 and above	44,200	60.9	58.2	61.5
NVQ 2 and above	58,000	80.0	75.4	78.2
NVQ 1 and above	64,700	89.2	85.8	87.6
Other qualifications	3,700	5.1	5.9	5.9
No qualifications	4,100	5.6	8.2	6.6

## Community Facilities and Services

- 3.4.33 Due to the rural and dispersed nature of Powys' population, its community facilities and services are also widely dispersed across the County, which is of considerable size. However, due to this it can be difficult for every community within Powys to have access to needed services and facilities. The topography of the County can also make service and

<sup>122</sup> Nomis (2022) 'Labour Market Profile – Powys'. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157389/report.aspx?town=powys>, accessed 12.07.2022.

facility development and accessibility difficult. Most of Powys is poor for access to services (just under half of Powys areas are in the worst 20% in Wales in terms of access to services)<sup>123</sup>.

- 3.4.34 There are 16 leisure centres in Powys offering a range of facilities and classes to the public to help maintain a healthy lifestyle, though this is not enough to provide full coverage to the County due to its size<sup>124</sup>.
- 3.4.35 Powys benefits from a strong culture within its residents of volunteering, with 32.1% (nearly a third) of its residents volunteering<sup>125</sup>. These volunteers help to create a range of communities, support groups and facilities, which encompasses everything from sporting groups to mental health support groups. Community transport initiatives are common in Powys to aid those with mobility issues or those lacking modes of transport being transported by volunteers.
- 3.4.36 In Powys, there are 77 primary schools, broken down into 13 catchment areas. The Powys school catchment areas are identified within **Figure 3.16**. 15% of pupils in Powys are eligible for free school meals, which is lower than the national average of 22%. 33% of children and young people in Powys who are eligible for free school meals are currently not receiving them (Wales 35%)<sup>126</sup>. Powys also contains 11 secondary schools, three special schools and 214 pupils on Elective Home Education (home-schooling)<sup>127</sup>. Nine of Powys' 11 secondary schools were below the Welsh average in 2021, as reported in the Well-being Assessment published in March 2022<sup>128</sup>.
- 3.4.37 There are many food banks in Powys, some are run by the Trussell Trust, while others are community-led. The Child Poverty Action Group identified the following figures for Powys in terms of the use of food banks<sup>129</sup>:
- 2,065 parcels were given to adults in 2019/20 and 3,871 parcels in 2020/21. This is an 87% increase (+1,806 parcels) in 2020/21.
  - 971 parcels were given to children in 2019/20 and 2,883 parcels in 2020/21. This is an 197% increase (+1,912 parcels) in 2020/21.
  - 3,306 parcels were given in total in 2019/20 and 6,754 parcels in 2020/21. This is an 84% increase (+3,718 parcels) in 2020/21.

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<sup>123</sup> Ibid, 133.

<sup>124</sup> Ibid, 133.

<sup>125</sup> Ibid, 133.

<sup>126</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis> page 67.

<sup>127</sup> Ibid, page 64.

<sup>128</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, page 64.

<sup>129</sup> Ibid, pages 117-118.

Figure 3-16 Powys School Catchments<sup>130</sup>

## Welsh Language

- 3.4.38 The Welsh language is important to the culture and history of Wales. **Figure 3.17** identifies the total number of Welsh speakers in Mid Wales in 2021.
- 3.4.39 The latest Powys Annual Monitoring Report identifies the following proportion of the Powys LDP area's population as being able to speak Welsh (people aged three and over)<sup>131</sup>:
- 2018 - 29.9%

<sup>130</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>.

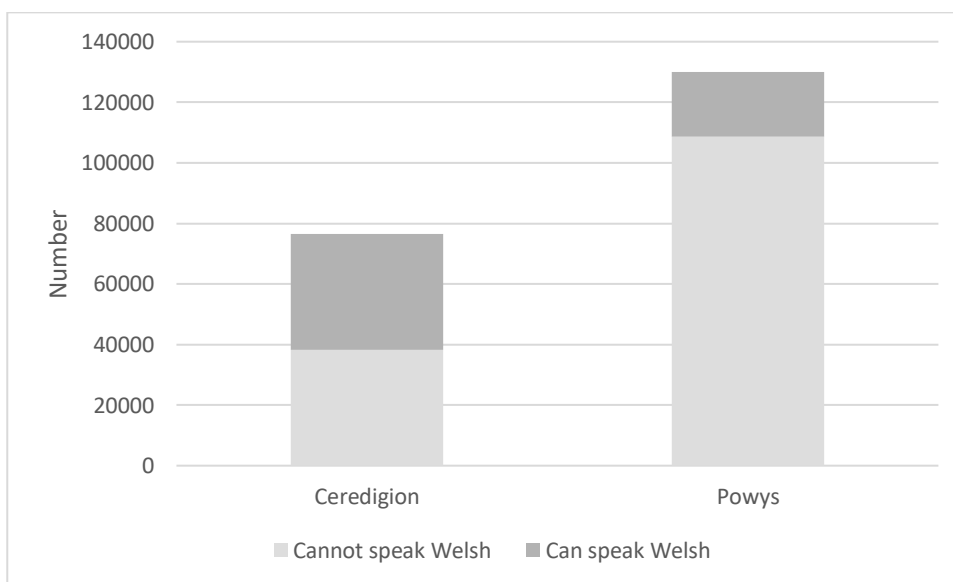
<sup>131</sup> Powys County Council (2023) Annual Monitoring Report 2023. Available at: [Annual Monitoring Report 2023.pdf](#).

- 2019 – 27.3%
- 2020 – 23.3%
- 2021 – 27.0%
- 2022 – 30.7%

3.4.40 The average percentage of students educated through the medium of Welsh in Powys primary schools is 21% and 12% in secondary schools<sup>132</sup>. Some 28.9% (422) of children in 2020/21 who accessed Early Years Education attended early years provision through the medium of Welsh<sup>133</sup>.

3.4.41 Children have better access and ability to learn Welsh, this means that it is estimated that the number of Welsh speakers within Powys and Wales will increase significantly by 2050, especially given the generational passing on of language that will occur as current children have families.

Figure 3.17 Total number of Welsh speakers in Mid Wales 2021<sup>134</sup>



3.4.42 The Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2017-2022 provides an outline of how Powys County Council aimed to restore and strengthen the Welsh language during this time period. It outlines aims to promote and support the language, make it easier for residents to use the language, and ensure it is considered in the development of policies<sup>135</sup>. The achievements of this and forthcoming plan will be outlined in Powys County Council's forthcoming Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2023-27.

<sup>132</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis> page 64..

<sup>133</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, page 73.

<sup>134</sup> ONS (2022) 'Welsh language skills (speaking)'. Available at: [Welsh language skills \(speaking\) - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/people-in-the-uk/language-and-ethnicity/welsh-language-skills).

<sup>135</sup> Powys County Council (2017) Welsh Language Promotion Strategy. Available at: [Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2017-22 - Powys County Council](https://www.powys.gov.uk/Document/123456789)



## Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan

- 3.4.43 The population of Powys is growing although it is growing slowly. In 2018 it was predicted that Powys would have a population of 132,836, though the population of Powys passed this in reality in 2021 (133,200)<sup>136</sup>. However, the population of Powys is estimated to remain around 130,000 to 135,000 people.
- 3.4.44 Educational attainment within Powys is strong and the County does benefit from a wide range of schools located across the County to service its populations needs. However, nine of Powys' 11 secondary schools did not meet the Welsh average standard in 2021. This decline would continue without a new Replacement Local Development Plan, though a new Replacement Local Development Plan could help to better combat this decline by providing updated secondary school facilities.
- 3.4.45 Powys only has two of the 191 most deprived LSOA areas of Wales within it. Powys does not experience wide ranging deprivation or many areas of extreme deprivation. A new Replacement Local Development Plan would ensure that the few areas of deprivation with Powys are more likely to be regenerated and prevent other areas falling into deprivation.
- 3.4.46 Whilst the economy and employment opportunities within Powys are strong, the County does experience lower than the Welsh and UK average for productivity as well as the County having lower wages than the UK average. Businesses within Powys are overwhelmingly small scale and as of 2020, the County had a positive business birth vs business death ratio (though this is not considering the full effects of Covid-19).
- 3.4.47 Powys is seeing a continued growth in the speaking and understanding of the Welsh language and this growth is anticipated to continue.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- Overall, the need to create sustainable places where people want to live, work and relax.
- The need to enable housing growth, meeting housing needs and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types.
- The need to deliver a range of employment sites to support economic growth.
- The need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development that suits the needs of the County's rural population.
- The need to address the proportion of the County's working age population not in work.
- The need to raise incomes and especially for those whose incomes are in the lowest quartile.
- The need to tackle pockets of deprivation that exist in the area.

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<sup>136</sup> Welsh Government (2018) 'Population projections by local authority and year'. Available at: <https://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Projections/Local-Authority/2018-based/populationprojections-by-localauthority-year>

- The need to maintain the strong education attainment within the County, whilst address issues with its secondary schools.
- The need to safeguard existing community facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities to meet needs arising from new development.
- The need to safeguard the identity of existing communities.
- The need to safeguard and maintain and enhance access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities.
- The need to continue to nurture interest and learning in the Welsh language (especially people outside of school age).
- The need to continue to nurture interest and learning in the Welsh language (especially people outside of school age).
- The need to increase the number of people who can speak Welsh.
- The need to increase the number people who speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh.
- The need to increase opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language.
- The need to treat the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

## 3.5 Health and Wellbeing

### Health

#### Population Health

- 3.5.1 The life expectancy at birth of Powys' men and women is some of the highest in Wales as identified by **Figure 3.18**. Powys also has relatively high levels of healthy life expectancy **Figure 3.19**.

Figure 3.18 Life expectancy at birth of men and women in Powys<sup>137</sup>

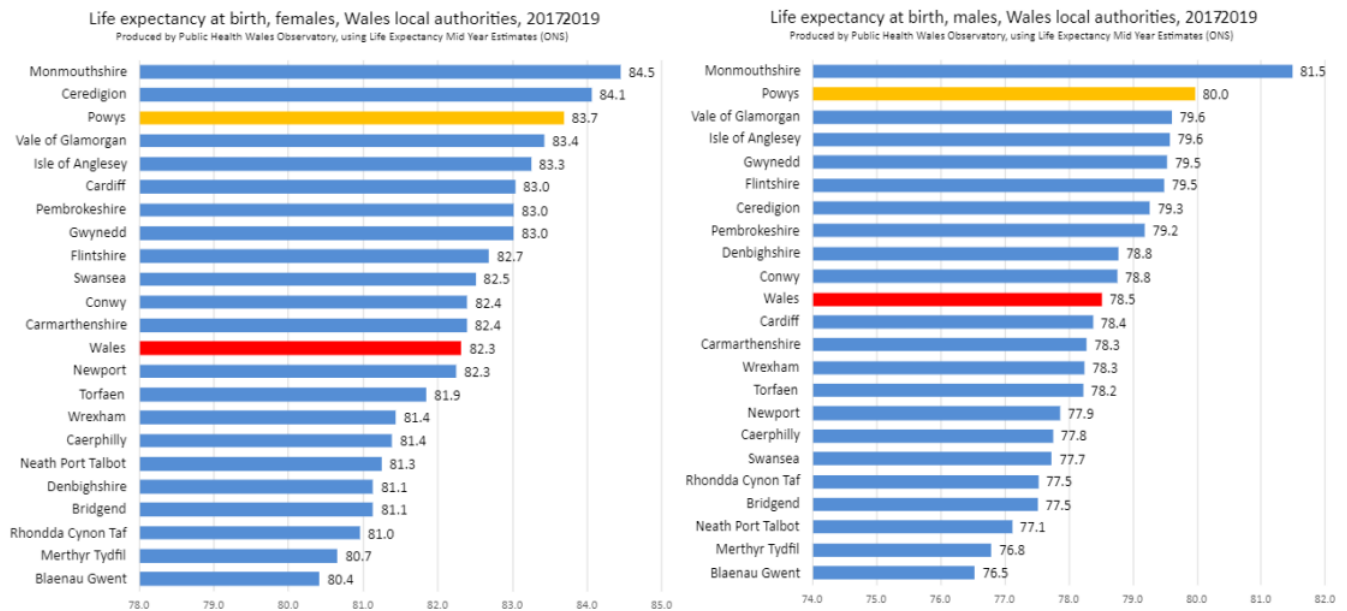
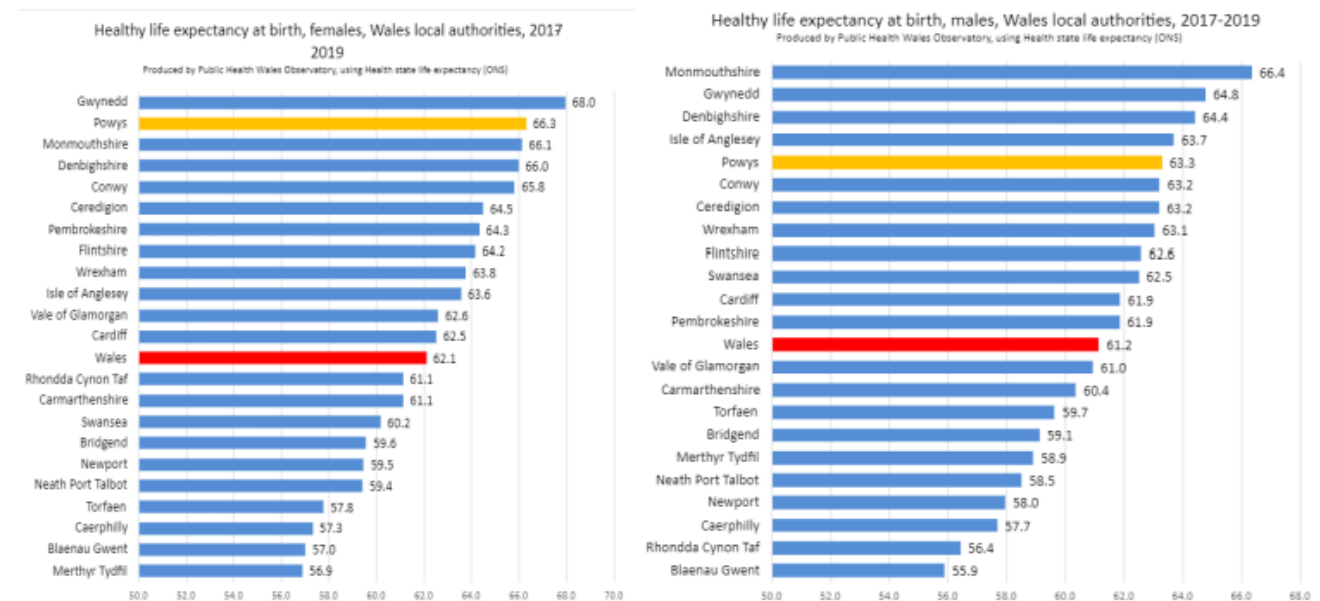


Figure 3.19 Healthy life expectancy at birth, men and women in Powys<sup>138</sup>



3.5.2 Although Powys does not suffer from high levels of deprivation compared to many other parts of Wales, there are pockets of deprivation which still have an impact upon the life expectancy of its population. The health impacts of living in a deprived area can be considerable. It is estimated that a woman born in the least affluent parts of Powys can

<sup>137</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, accessed 12.07.2022, page 46.

<sup>138</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, accessed 12.07.2022, page 47.

expect to live 5.6 years less and a male 6.5 years less than someone not born in these areas<sup>139</sup>.

### Lifestyle behaviours and wellbeing

- 3.5.3 In 2014, 78% of children aged 11 to 16 years old were rated as being in excellent or good health<sup>140</sup>. Some 24.5% of 5 year olds in Powys were overweight and obese in 2017/18, the same rate as Wales. In Powys, it is estimated that nearly 6 in every 10 adults is obese and this trend is anticipated to continue, alongside children also becoming more obese.
- 3.5.4 In 2021-22, 69% of adults age 16+ in Powys were active for at least 150 minutes in the previous week. This is higher than the Welsh average (56%) and the highest in Wales along with Cardiff and Vale Health Board area. In relation to sporting activity, 29.2% of adults participated in sporting activities three or more times a week (below the Welsh average, 32.2%) during 2019-20. Some 48% of children and young people participated in sporting activities three or more times a week during 2019-20. Women tend to participate in sport less than men<sup>141</sup>. Powys further benefits from its rural nature, ensuring its population has ready and easy access to natural places to enjoy an active lifestyle. An active lifestyle is important for physical and mental health.
- 3.5.5 The target for the uptake of all childhood vaccinations in Wales to ensure good levels of protection is 95%.<sup>142</sup> In 2021/22, by their fourth birthday, 87.0% of children in Wales were up to date with their vaccinations, in Powys this was 89.2%.
- 3.5.6 In 2021-22, 11% of adults in Powys smoked (Wales 13%) and 35% of adults were ex-smokers (Wales 29%)<sup>143</sup>. 16% of adults in Powys have a weekly average alcohol consumption over guidelines (above 14 units), with 15% consuming hazardous amounts of alcohol (14-50 units) and 2% consuming harmful quantities of alcohol weekly (over 50 units)<sup>144</sup>. Smoking and excessive drinking can have serious short and long-term negative health effects.
- 3.5.7 This is further identified in **Figures 3.20** and **Figures 3.21**, which show working age adults of a healthy weight and children of a healthy or underweight (aged 5).

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<sup>139</sup> Ibid, page 49.

<sup>140</sup> Powys Teaching Health Board (2014) 'The Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People in Powys'. Available at: <http://www.powysthb.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/1145/Powys%20Public%20Health%20Annual%20Report%202013-2014.pdf>, page 36.

<sup>141</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, page 133.

<sup>142</sup> Powys Teaching Health Board (2014) 'The Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People in Powys'. Available at: <http://www.powysthb.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/1145/Powys%20Public%20Health%20Annual%20Report%202013-2014.pdf>, page 30.

<sup>143</sup> Regional Partnership Board (2022) 'Population Needs Assessment'. Available at: [Population Needs Assessment \(powysrpb.org\)](https://www.powysrpb.org) page 49-50.

<sup>144</sup> Regional Partnership Board (2022) 'Population Needs Assessment'. Available at: [Population Needs Assessment \(powysrpb.org\)](https://www.powysrpb.org) page 50.

Figure 3.20 Working age adults of a healthy weight Wales 2017/18-2019/20<sup>145</sup>

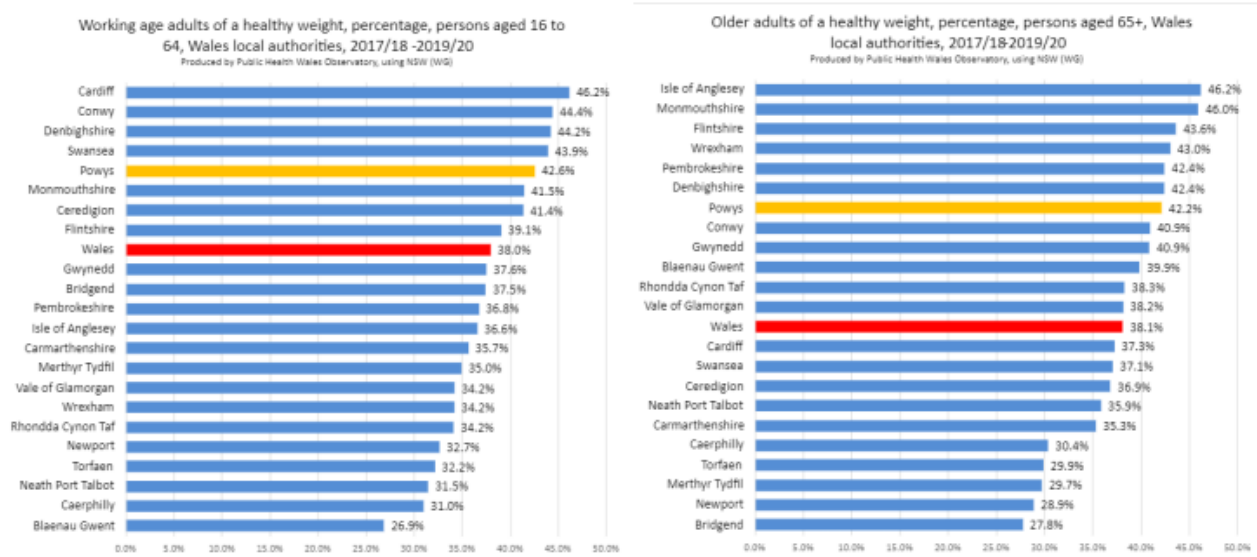
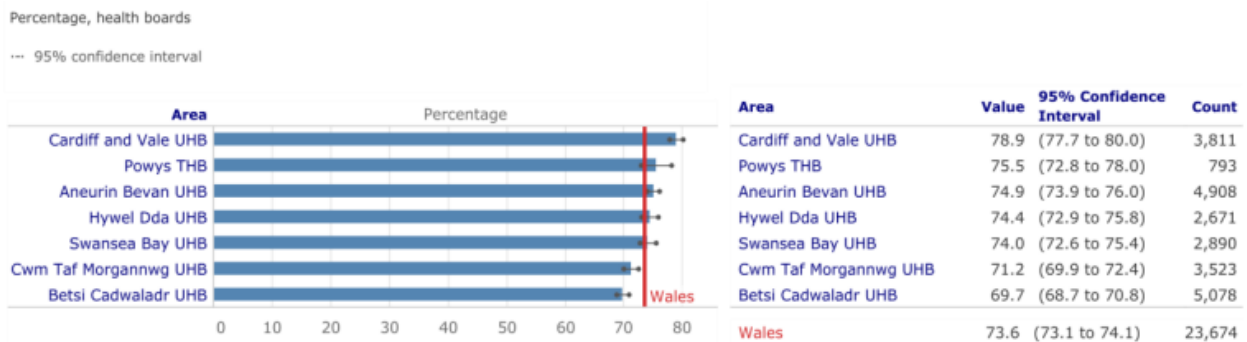


Figure 3.21 Children aged 5 of healthy weight or underweight 2017/18<sup>146</sup>



### Mental Health

- 3.5.8 Mental health is just as important as physical health for the long-term overall health of a person. Improving mental health at all levels of society and at all ages results in an overall improvement in a populations health.
- 3.5.9 Powys, the UK and the world is experiencing considerable ill-effects to its population due to the ongoing and long-term effects of Covid-19. As of January 2022, mental and emotional health services, including primary, secondary and Third Sector care and support are experiencing unprecedented requests for help across Wales, for mild to moderate depression, anxiety, bereavement and lingering effects of grief, social isolation and loneliness. The number of people accessing crisis services are also increasing, with emerging needs relating to eating disorders, psychosis, and complex needs (including substance misuse and risks of homelessness and debt) all becoming more prevalent<sup>147</sup>.

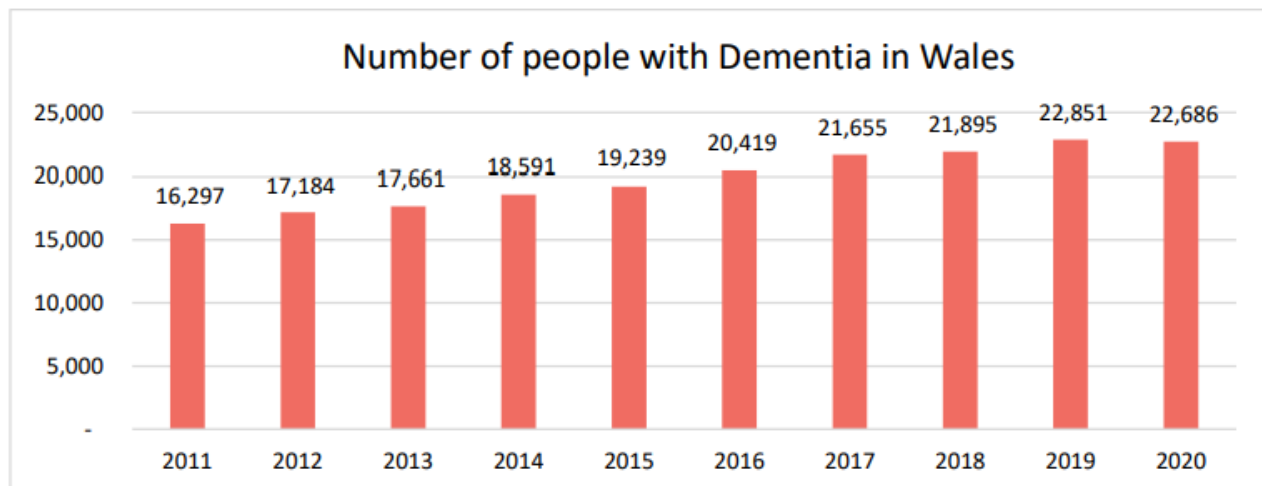
<sup>145</sup> Ibid, page 61.

<sup>146</sup> Ibid, page 62.

<sup>147</sup> Ibid, page 49.

- 3.5.10 The most common mental health disorders experienced by the working age population is anxiety and depression<sup>148</sup>. Depression is the most prevalent condition for older people and prevalence rises with age. Powys Teaching Health Board conducted a pharmaceutical needs assessment into the pharmaceutical needs of Powys and found the following<sup>149</sup>:
- 25% of older adults have depression requiring an intervention
  - over 40% of those in their 80s are affected by depression
  - depression is the leading cause of suicides in England and Wales each year
  - Suicide is more common in men
  - Substance misuse is more common in men
- 3.5.11 Powys experiences the highest suicide rate within Wales, with someone taking their life every 3.5 weeks within the LDP area, with men aged between 40-44 being the largest demographic likely to commit suicide<sup>150</sup>.
- 3.5.12 In spite of these issues, Powys does have a low level of admissions to mental health facilities (250) for the years 2019-2020, which is a 23% decrease since 2014-2015 and is in-line with a decrease in such admissions across all of Wales for the same time period<sup>151</sup>.
- 3.5.13 Due to the aging population of the County, dementia is becoming a larger problem across it (highest number of residents with dementia in Wales 2010-2018) as well as in Wales as a whole, as identified in **Figure 3.22**<sup>152</sup>.

Figure 3.22 Number of people with Dementia in Wales<sup>153</sup>



<sup>148</sup> Ibid, page 50.

<sup>149</sup> Ibid, page 50.

<sup>150</sup> Samaritans (No date) 'Suicide in Powys'. Available at: [Suicide in Powys | Samaritans](#)

<sup>151</sup> Ibid, page 51.

<sup>152</sup> Ibid, page 51.

<sup>153</sup> Ibid, page 51.

## Disability

- 3.5.14 Those with a form of disability deserve the support and aid they might require ensuring they can live fulfilling lives. Powys in 2019 was estimated to have 35.67 people per 1,000 as having a physical disability, whilst the ratio for Wales was estimated to be 9.17 per 1,000<sup>154</sup>. Powys therefore has a higher than the Welsh average for people with a physical disability living within the County, with only Conwy being similar (35.97 residents per 1,000 population)<sup>155</sup>.
- 3.5.15 In 2021, 2,577 of Powys' residents claimed Disability Living Allowance, with 6,270 residents claiming Personal Independence Payment<sup>156</sup>. Those on the Personal Independence Payment system have experienced a stressful and poor service.
- 3.5.16 Powys also has the highest rate of people registered as severely sight impaired (3.56 people per 1,000 population), which is higher than the Welsh average (2.07 people per 1,000 population)<sup>157</sup>. Powys also scores the highest for the number of people with some form of sensory impairment living within the County (22.36 people per 1,000 population), which is also much higher than the average for Wales (11.83 people per 1,000 population)<sup>158</sup>.

## Healthcare Provision

- 3.5.17 Due to the rural and dispersed nature of Powys' population, its community facilities and services are also widely dispersed across the County meaning that it can be difficult for every community within Powys to have access to the services and facilities they require. The size and topography of the County can also make service and facility development and accessibility difficult. This can be demonstrated by the residents of Powys not having access to a district general hospital and residents are required to travel out of the County to surrounding counties for access to this type of health service<sup>159</sup>. This also causes considerable differences in terms of how long it would take to access hospital services. Residents in the Beguildy LSOA would take approximately 86 minutes to get to a hospital whilst the residents of Crickhowell LSOA could potentially access a hospital in approximately 9 minutes<sup>160</sup>.
- 3.5.18 Current healthcare services within the County are stretched and a large contribution to that is the ongoing effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to various lockdowns, people's desire to not stress the NHS during the height of the pandemic (2020-2021) and social distancing, people delayed visiting health services, which they are now doing<sup>161</sup>.

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<sup>154</sup> Regional Partnership Board (2022) 'Population Needs Assessment'. Available at: [Population Needs Assessment \(powysrpb.org\)](https://powysrpb.org), page 58.

<sup>155</sup> Ibid, page 58.

<sup>156</sup> Ibid, page 59.

<sup>157</sup> Ibid, page 62.

<sup>158</sup> Ibid, page 62.

<sup>159</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, page 41.

<sup>160</sup> Ibid, page 41.

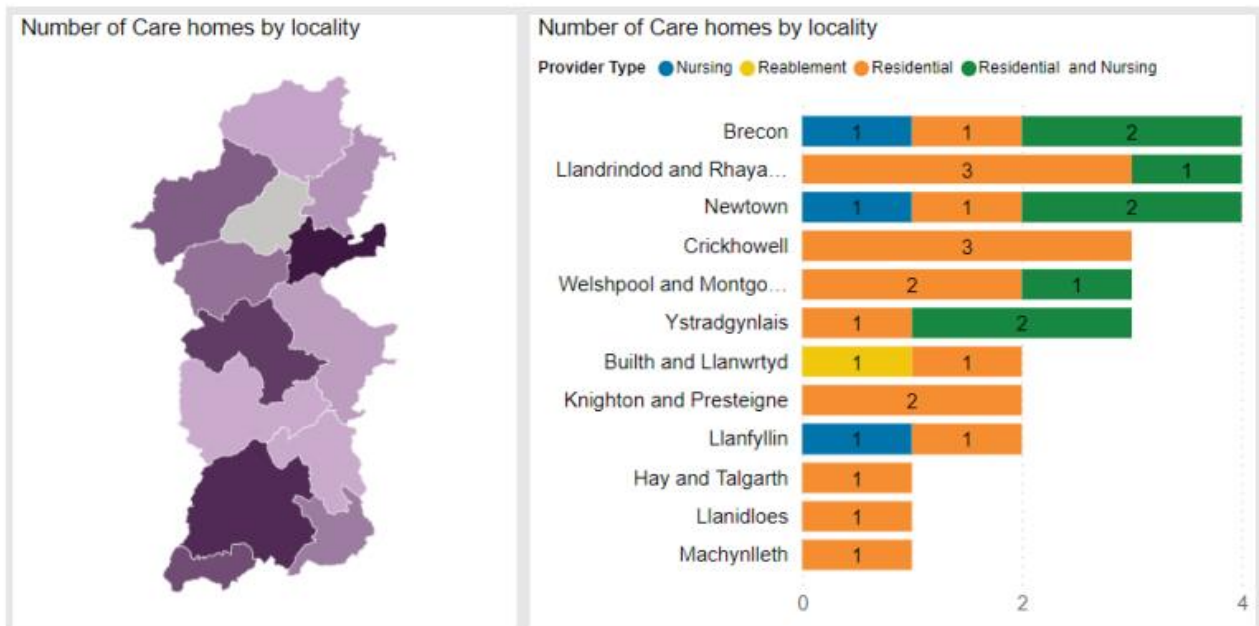
<sup>161</sup> Ibid, page 50.

3.5.19 There are 29 care homes in Powys registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW), 12 of which are Council-owned homes run by Shaw Homes, 17 privately run homes, and 1 reablement unit run by Shaw Homes<sup>162</sup>:

- Three homes provide nursing care only
- 18 homes provide residential care only
- Eight homes provide both residential and nursing care
- One reablement provider

3.5.20 **Figure 3.23** identifies the density of care homes and their locality. In 2022 there are 16,154 carers in Powys, which is an increase of 14% from 2001 and reflect the increasing demand for healthcare services due to the County's aging population<sup>163</sup>.

Figure 3.23 Number of care homes by locality<sup>164</sup>



## Crime

3.5.21 During 2020, 6,906 crimes were committed in Powys, which equates to 375 crimes per 10,000 population. The highest type of crime recorded were violence against the person (113 per 10,000 population) and the least being weapons offences (3 per 10,000 population) and (0 per 10,000 population) Robbery at the bottom of the type of crime committed<sup>165</sup>.

<sup>162</sup> Ibid, page 36.

<sup>163</sup> Powys Teaching Health Board (2022) 'Integrated Medium Term Plan 2020/2021-2022/2023'. Available at: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/about-us/key-documents/strategies-and-plans/powys-teaching-health-board-integrated-medium-term-plan-2020-2021-to-2022-2023/>, accessed 18.07.2022, page 11.

<sup>164</sup> Ibid, page 36.

<sup>165</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, accessed 12.07.2022, page 126.



3.5.22 The number of crimes within Powys increased by 81% between January 2018 and July 2021, with the highest recording of crime in June 2021 with 996 number of offences and the lowest in January 2018 (476)<sup>166</sup>. The reoffending rate within Powys is 19.1%, whilst in Wales it is 1 in 4 (25.2%) and re-offending rate is trending downwards<sup>167</sup>. **Table 3.9** identifies the history of the number of crimes committed in Powys each year and shows a steady increase over time.

Table 3.9 Number of Police Recorded Crimes in Powys<sup>168</sup>

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (September)
<b>Number of recorded crimes</b>	4,263	4,799	5,396	5,979	6,060	6,959	6,906	9,221

3.5.23 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council has statutory obligation under section 17 of the Act to take account of the need to deter and prevent crime in carrying out all its responsibilities, which include planning. Used sensitively, the planning system can be influential in producing active, well managed environments that help to discourage crime and disorder by encouraging developers to adopt designs for new developments.

3.5.24 Prior to submitting detailed proposals, developers are encouraged to seek advice by engaging in pre-application discussions with the Dyfed Powys Police Designing out Crime Officer, with planning applications emphasising and clearly demonstrating the proposed measures taken to design out crime, applying principles and practice which:

- Maximise natural surveillance of areas which may be vulnerable to crime such as publicly accessible spaces, open space, car parking areas and footpaths.
- Have well defined routes, spaces and entrances that provide convenient movement without compromising security.
- Maintain perceptible distinction between public and private spaces through well-defined boundaries and defensible space.
- Provide a good standard of lighting to public spaces and routes while minimising energy use and light pollution.
- Be designed with management and maintenance in mind, to discourage crime in the present and future, notably through the principles of Secured by Design.

3.5.25 Welsh Government's Technical Advice Note 12 states at 5.17.3 that: *"The Safer Place and Secured by Design Initiative provide recognised standards that have been shown to reduce crime (particularly residential burglary) and the impact of crime upon neighbourhoods. It is desirable for the security of all housing developments, public buildings, and all buildings funded by public bodies, to achieve similar measurable standards."*

<sup>166</sup> Ibid, page 127.

<sup>167</sup> Ibid, page 129.

<sup>168</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 184.

## Accidents

- 3.5.26 There were 358 fires in Powys (between April 2018 and July 2021), 48% of these were grass fires and 82% were arson. Powys experienced 9% (216) of all collisions that occurred within Wales (2,864) in 2020, which is a decrease of 135 on the number of collisions in 2019 (351). By September 2021, there had been 223 collisions within Powys<sup>169</sup>.
- 3.5.27 Given Powys' size, rural nature and the need for people to commute through the County, 9% of all collisions within Wales is low<sup>170</sup>. **Table 3.10** highlights the number of casualties in road accidents within Powys by their severity.

Table 3.10 Number of casualties in road accidents by severity in Powys<sup>171</sup>

Severity of Injury	2019	2020	2021 (September)
Slightly injured	230	207	210
Seriously injured	107	81	75
Fatalities	14	4	3

## Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan

- 3.5.28 The Health and Care Strategy for Powys seeks to ensure that its residents start well, live well and age well. In order to achieve this, it identifies the following four key areas that are crucial to the long-term health of the County<sup>172,173</sup>:
- promoting wellbeing
  - offering early help and support to people
  - tackling the big four diseases that limit life (cancer, circulatory diseases, mental health, respiratory diseases)
  - providing joined up care
- 3.5.29 The population of Powys has ready access to nature and open spaces but is still suffering from a growing obesity problem. This trend is likely to continue, and a new Local Plan could aid in encouraging active travel and a healthier lifestyle. There is considerable need to address the long-term physical and mental effects from Covid. Whilst the County does have considerable health services and can rely on surrounding hospital services, health services are stressed due to the population waiting to access such services because of various lockdowns and government policy.

<sup>169</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 184.

<sup>170</sup> Ibid, page 130.

<sup>171</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 184.

<sup>172</sup> Powys Teaching Health Board (2018) 'The health and care strategy for Powys – A vision to 2027 and beyond'. Available at: [33b29e\\_ffdd6752ed804814b7278161dc6fe736.pdf\(powysrpb.org\)](https://www.powysrpb.org/33b29e_ffdd6752ed804814b7278161dc6fe736.pdf) accessed 14.10.2022.

<sup>173</sup> The current strategy relating to the provision of care services is contained within the Powys Market Stability Report. Available at: [Microsoft Word - Market Stability Report Final Draft June 2022 \(modemgov.co.uk\)](https://www.modemgov.co.uk/Microsoft%20Word%20-%20Market%20Stability%20Report%20Final%20Draft%20June%202022), accessed 14.10.2022.

- 3.5.30 Mental health, especially anxiety and depression continues to be a problem within Powys, Wales and the wider UK and a new Local Plan could potentially aid in highlighting the needs and aid in the provision of further mental health services.
- 3.5.31 Crime within Powys is decreasing, though the County does continue to suffer from a high level of fires/arson activity. The Police and Crime Plan for Powys 2021-2025<sup>174</sup> has the following priorities/aims:
- Aim 1: We keep our communities safe, supporting them when there is crime and antisocial behaviour.
  - Aim 2: Our services are accessible to all communities, recognising diversity and Welsh language.
  - Aim 3: We take a public health approach to high community harm problems, including substance misuse, violence against women and girls and mental health.
  - Aim 4: We deliver a policing and justice system that meets our communities' crime prevention needs, protects the public and builds resilience.
  - Aim 5: Our meaningful, far-reaching public engagement drives strategic decision making.
    - Priority 1: Victims are supported
    - Priority 2: Harm is prevented
    - Priority 3: Our justice system is more effective

### Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to protect the health and wellbeing of Powys' population.
- The need to promote healthy lifestyles and in particular reduce obesity and increase levels of physical activity.
- The need to plan for an ageing population.
- The need to address health inequalities, especially for those in the most deprived areas.
- The need to safeguard existing health care facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities and services to meet needs arising from new development.
- The need to address mental health concerns in the County's population, especially those over the age of 80 and address the causes of depression at all ages.
- The need to ensure that Secured by Design principles and practice are incorporated into all new development, implementing Local Development Plan policy.

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<sup>174</sup> Police and Crime Commissioner (2021) 'Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025: A Dyfed-Powys of Safe Communities'. Available at: <https://www.dyfedpowys-pcc.org.uk/en/the-commissioner/the-police-and-crime-plan/>, accessed 12.07.2022, page 4.

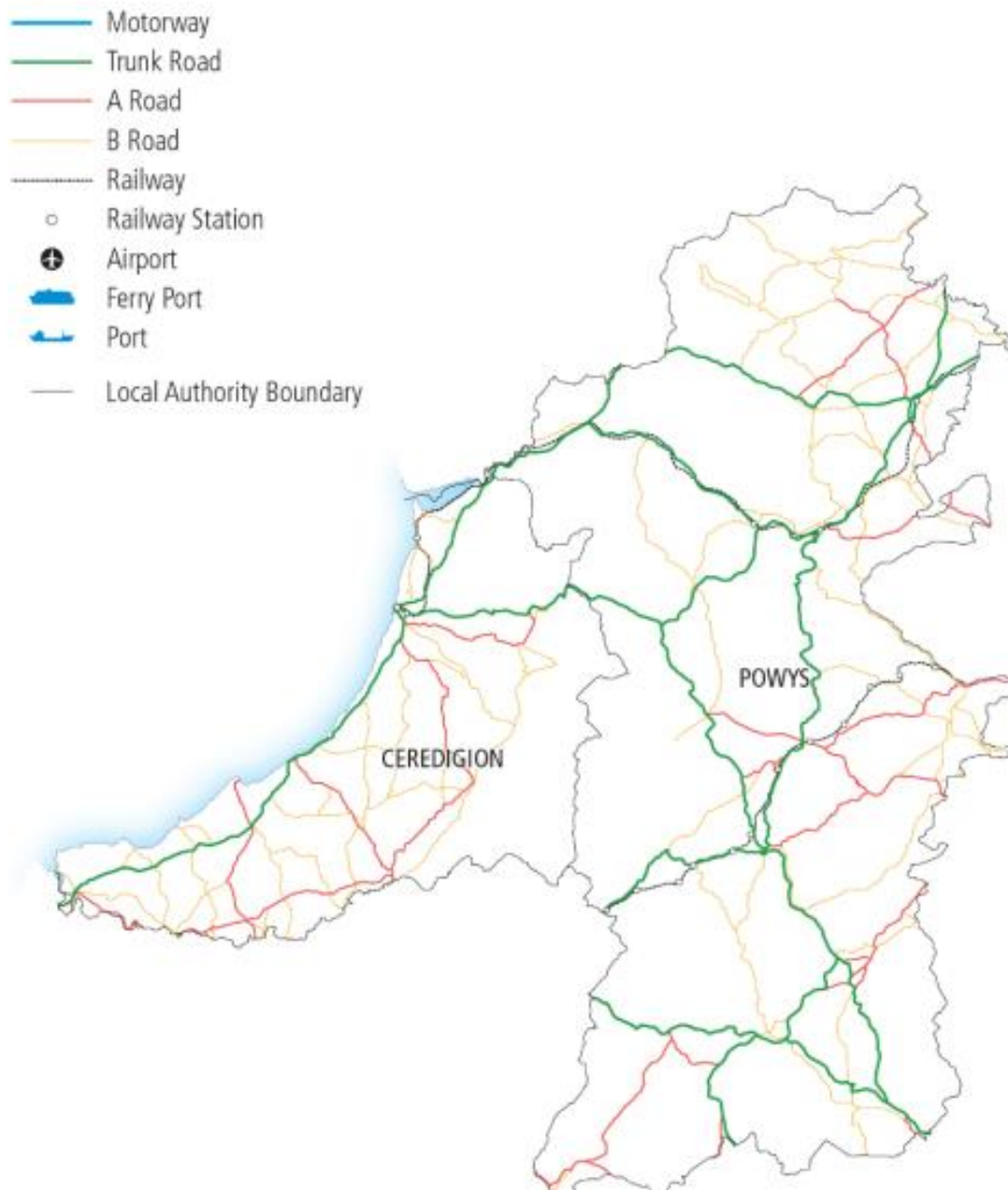
## 3.6 Transport and Accessibility

### Transport Infrastructure

- 3.6.1 Powys benefits from a wide range of infrastructure being located within it. Due to the County's location, it has a large number of trunk roads running through it that interconnect with the surrounding local authorities and cross the border into England. Powys contains the largest road network of the Welsh local authorities. It has the highest proportion of all trunk roads (27.3 per cent), B and C roads (21.1 per cent) and minor surfaced roads (12.1 per cent) and accounts for 15.8 per cent of the total road length of Wales<sup>175</sup>.
- 3.6.2 The infrastructure of Powys therefore is not only important to the running and operation of the County but is fundamental for the transportation of goods and people throughout Wales and the wider British Isles and Europe as **Figure 3.24** identifies.

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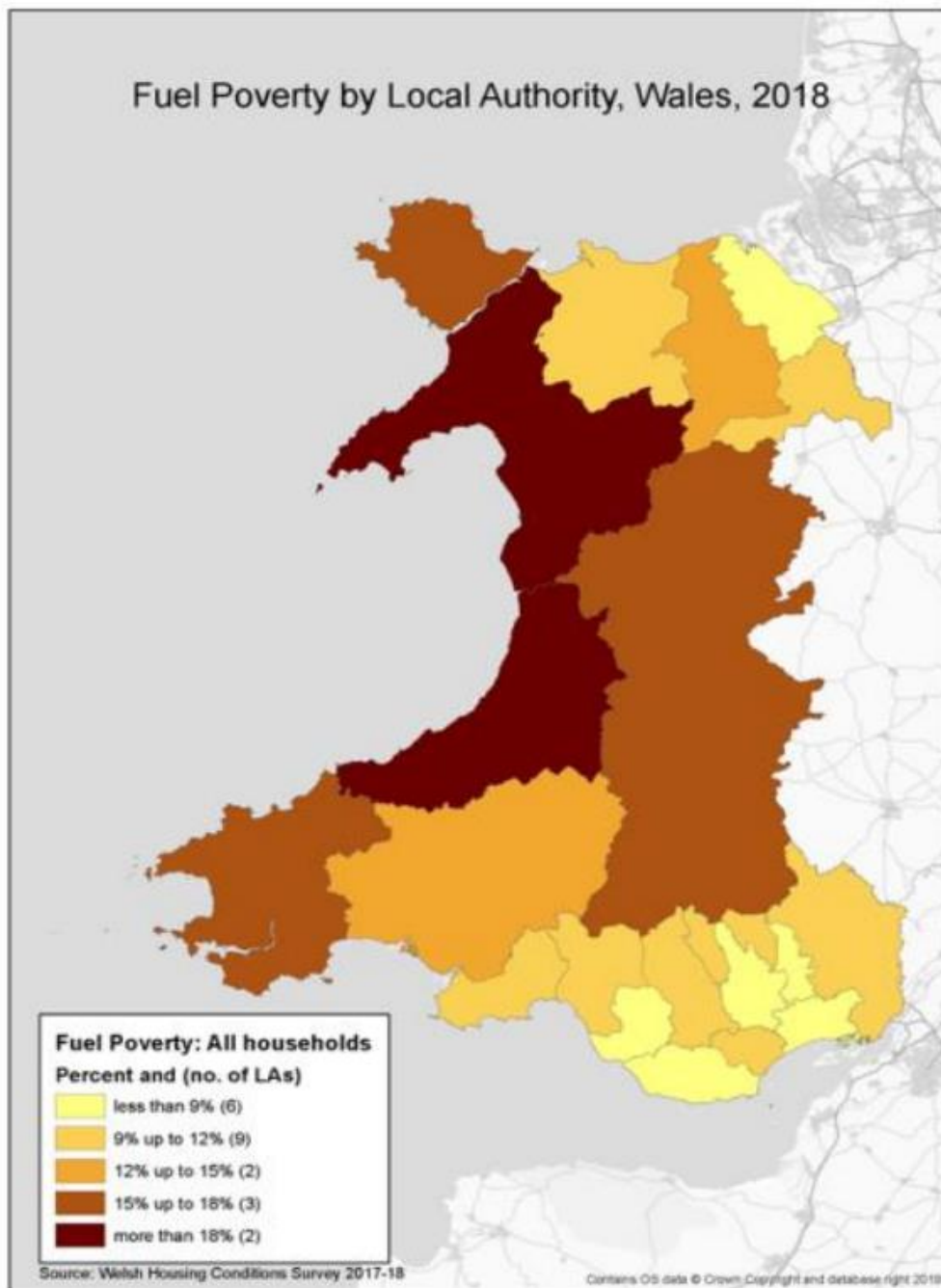
<sup>175</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Summary statistics for Mid Wales region 2020'. Available at: <https://gov.wales/summary-statistics-regions-wales-2020>, accessed 12.07.2022, page 16.

Figure 3.24 Transport Infrastructure in Mid Wales<sup>176</sup>

3.6.3 The percentage of households in Powys who are in fuel poverty was 17% (Welsh average: 12%). Powys ranks third highest amongst all local authorities in Wales (Gwynedd is highest (23%) and Ceredigion second highest (21%) (Welsh Gov, 2018)<sup>177</sup>. **Figure 3.25** highlights fuel poverty in Powys and Wales. Fuel poverty is especially important in Powys given the remoteness of the County's communities and the use of the car as the primary means of transport.

<sup>176</sup> Welsh Government (2020) 'Summary statistics for Mid Wales region 2020'. Available at: <https://gov.wales/summary-statistics-regions-wales-2020>, accessed 12.07.2022, page 16.

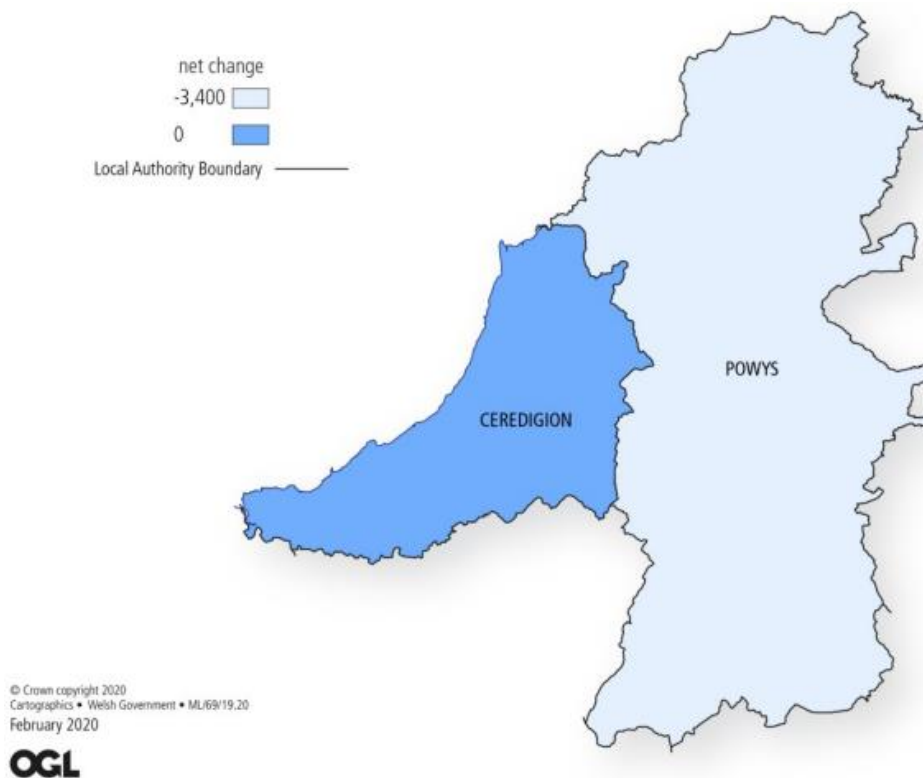
<sup>177</sup> Ibid, page 167.

Figure 3.25 Fuel Poverty by Local Authority, Wales 2018<sup>178</sup>

3.6.4 **Figure 3.26** highlights that in 2018 Powys had more of its residents commuting out of the County to neighbouring local authorities than commute into Powys.

<sup>178</sup> Ibid, page 167.

Figure 3.26 Change in local authority populations in Mid Wales due to people commuting in and out for work, 2018<sup>179</sup>



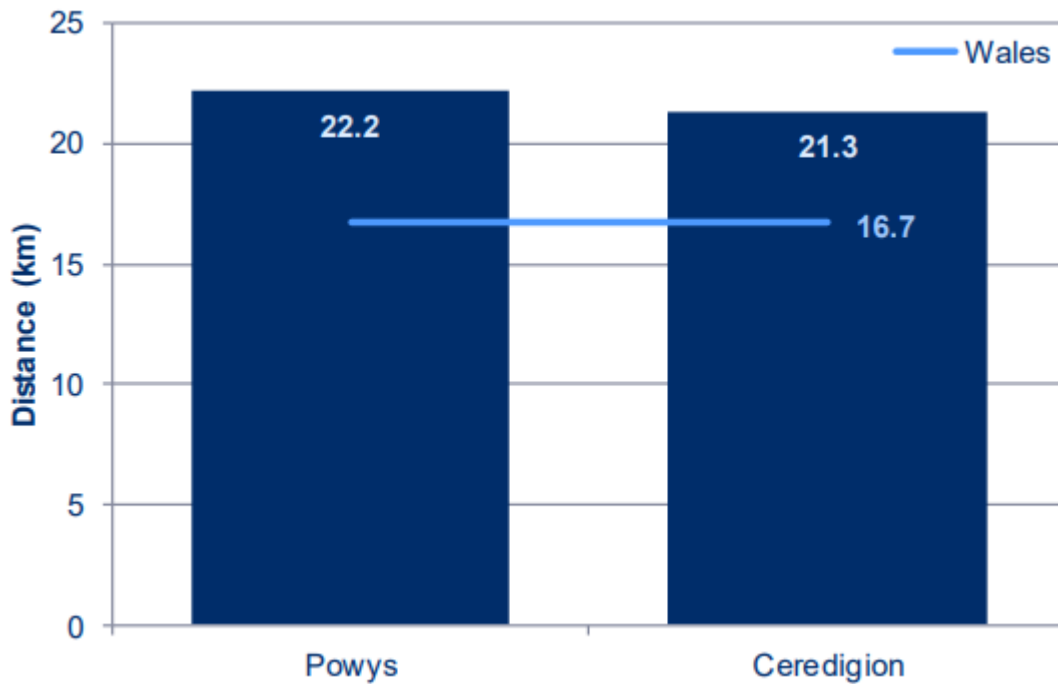
- 3.6.5 Some 68% (65,000) of working-age people travel to work using their own vehicle, while 16% (15,000 persons) walk or bike and 2% (2,000 persons) travel by public transport (ONS, 2011)<sup>180</sup>. Between 2018-2019 it is estimated that around half the residents of Powys walked for more than 10 minutes as a means of transport once a month and 8% used a bicycle as a means of transport once a month<sup>181</sup>.
- 3.6.6 The 2011 Census highlights that the residents of Powys not only have the highest average travel distance for residents of the Mid Wales region to work but also had larger travel times than the average for Wales (**Figure 3.27**).

<sup>179</sup> Ibid, page 14.

<sup>180</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Powys Well-being Assessment'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5794/Full-Well-being-assessment-analysis>, accessed 12.07.2022, page 41.

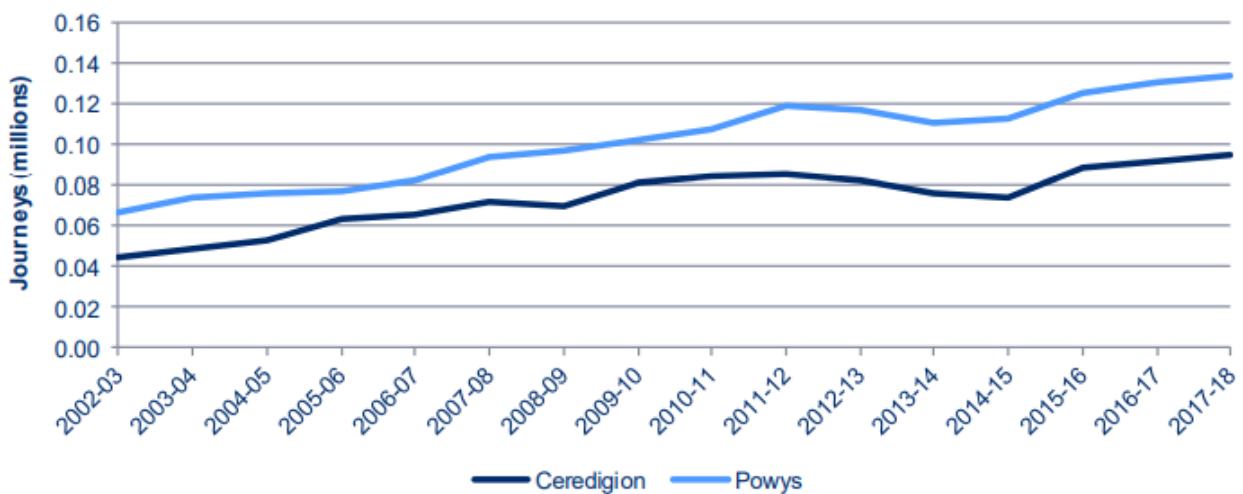
<sup>181</sup> Ibid, page 17.

Figure 3.27 Average distance travelled to work (km) by workers aged 16-74 in 2011, by local authority of residence<sup>182</sup>



3.6.7 Rail travel is an important form of travel for the population of Powys. **Figure 3.28** highlights the number of rail journeys taken between 2002 to 2018. The figure highlights a general trend of use of rail travel as a means of transport increasing. There are 19 rail stations in the Mid Wales. The Covid-19 pandemic resulted in a cessation of rail travel intermittently between 2020 to 2021 and passenger numbers are likely still recovering from all restrictions relating to Covid-19 having been removed.

Figure 3.28 Rail journeys made in Mid Wales 2002/3 – 2017/18, by local authority<sup>183</sup>



<sup>182</sup> Ibid, page 14.

<sup>183</sup> Ibid, page 18.



- 3.6.8 Opportunities for active travel in Powys include the Montgomery Canal and its towpath, which can be utilised for walking, cycling, canoeing and other modes of transport. This space provides safe, traffic-free routes for people to travel and exercise. More information is available in Sections 3.3 and 3.12

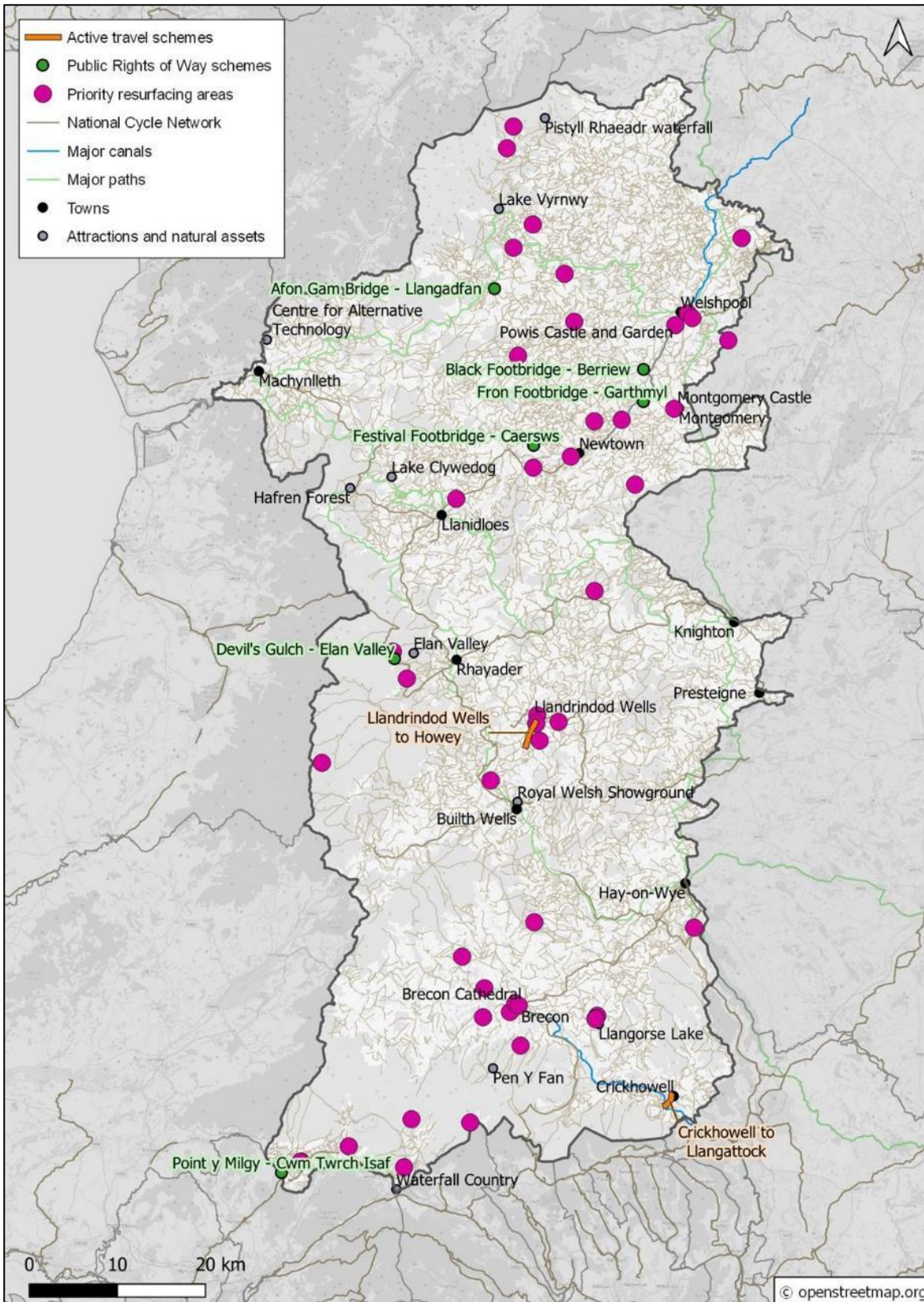
### **Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan**

- 3.6.9 In 2021, Powys County Council submitted a bid to the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund in order to acquire funds to promote active travel, improve several Public Rights of Way (identified below) and complete extensive highway resurfacing across the County as identified in **Figure 3.29**. Powys has been successful in its bid for these funds (£27 million). This process has identified several longstanding issues with the infrastructure of Powys that the Council is actively seeking to rectify. A new Replacement Local Development Plan could incorporate these goals into it, increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of their implementation and allow for the council to identify other sources of investment to deliver multiple infrastructure/built environment related benefits at the same time. Given the importance of Powys' infrastructure for the connectivity of Wales (especially connecting Wales and England), the improvements/repairs highlighted by this bid and any extant issues are important to be addressed.

#### Public Rights of Way in need of repair

- Afon Gam Bridge, Llangadfan
  - Black footbridge, Berriew
  - Fron footbridge, Garthmyl
  - Festival footbridge, Caersws
  - Devil's Gulch (Elan Valley)
  - Pont y Milgu footbridge, Cwm Twrch
- 3.6.10 It is possible that more should be done to ensure more workers do not have to commute out of Powys for work, though the ability of a new Local Plan to achieve this is limited, (especially given the size of the County) as no one local authority can service the employment needs of its population absolutely. However, the creation of more opportunities within Powys could aid in reducing the average travel times to work for the County and make active travel and public transport more reasonable methods of transportation. Similarly, the ability of the Replacement Local Development Plan to directly address this trend is limited as the issues is very much a product of the topography, size and dispersed nature of the County's population.

Figure 3.29 Powys Levelling Up Fund Bid – Round 2 Proposal Map<sup>184</sup>



<sup>184</sup> Have Your Say Powys (2022) Powys Levelling Up Fund Bid - Round 2 at: <https://www.haveyoursaypowys.wales/powys-levelling-up-fund-bid-round-2>

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services.
- The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including park and ride sites, active travel and use of public transport.
- The need to ensure that new development is accessible to a range of community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.
- The need to reduce out-commuting by creating a stronger employment market within the Powys.
- The need to encourage walking and cycling.
- The need to encourage the use of public transport, and in particular key transport interchanges between different modes, namely bus and rail.
- The need to support the existing car sharing schemes.
- The need to investigate more innovative and creative ways to tackle behaviour change, rather than simply the monitoring of travel patterns.

## 3.7 Land Use, Soils & Geology

### Land Use & Soils

- 3.7.1 Soil is an important resource. Soils identified as high quality for the purposes of agriculture by DEFRA and soils recognised as important for carbon storage should be protected from incompatible development. Further, threats to soil through degradation including erosion, contamination and loss of nutrients should be remediated.
- 3.7.2 The Agricultural Land Classification System of England and Wales<sup>185</sup> identifies Grades 1, 2 and 3a as the best and most versatile agricultural land. PPW states that land in Grades 1, 2, and 3a should only be developed if there is an overriding need for development and that previously developed land or agricultural land of poorer quality is unavailable. If land in Grades 1, 2 or 3a does need to be developed, and there is a choice between sites of different grades, development should be directed to land of the lowest grade.
- 3.7.3 The eastern side of Powys contains four areas that are of Grade 2 land quality and a number of areas that are Grade 3 land quality. Powys has a high proportion of its land being of very poor agricultural quality - 95% is grade 4 or 5 (more than any other rural County in Wales) and 86% is severely disadvantaged, a level only exceeded by two South Wales valleys authorities. Powys as of 2017 contained the following hectareage for agricultural land, which was better suited for grazing livestock than growing crops<sup>186</sup>:
- New Grass = 32,985

<sup>185</sup> <https://gov.wales/agricultural-land-classification-predictive-map>

<sup>186</sup> StatsWales (2017) 'Types of Agricultural Land (Hectares) by area'. Available at: <https://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Agriculture/Agricultural-Survey/Area-Survey-Results/type-of-agricultural-land-to-area>, accessed 16.06.2022.

- Permanent Grass = 281,247
- Rough Grazing = 68,153
- Woodland = 25,094
- All Other Land = 3,167

3.7.4 In 2017, Powys contained the following quantities of livestock living within it<sup>187</sup>:

- Total Cattle & Calves 194,070
- Total Pigs 6,273
- Total Sheep and Lambs 3,928,913
- Total Fowls 3,777,970

3.7.5 Out of all of the regions that comprise Wales, Powys contains the largest quantity of livestock by a considerable margin in every category identified.

3.7.6 **Table 3.11** identifies the hectareage of land used for different types of crops within Powys and highlights that the amount of land used for crops has increased between the period of 2007 to 2017.

3.7.7 The Central Wales area has some of the highest carbon density soils in Wales, the protection of these soils is important for protecting carbon stores and limiting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

3.7.8 The use of soil carbon mapping should inform the spatial distribution of development in LDPs (page 94. of the Low Carbon Wales Resource Bank) as well as prioritising areas for preservation and restoration. Work has been done on carbon mapping by Natural Resources Wales which can be used to assist in the LDP process.

3.7.9 Mid Wales (and Powys) hosts a significant commercial forestry resource considerable areas of which are in public ownership<sup>188</sup> in turn committed to the principles of Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (SMNR)<sup>189</sup>.

3.7.10 Contamination of land can occur as a result of previous industrial use and can also arise from natural sources as well as from human activity. The presence of contamination can represent risks to human health, property and the environment, including long-term limitations on the use of soils.

Table 3.11 Crops (Hectares) by Area – Powys 2007 & 2017<sup>190</sup>

Crop Type	2007	2017
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<sup>187</sup> StatsWales (2017) 'Total Livestock in Wales by Areas'. Available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Agriculture/Agricultural-Survey/Area-Survey-Results/total-livestock-in-wales-by-area>, accessed 18.07.2022.

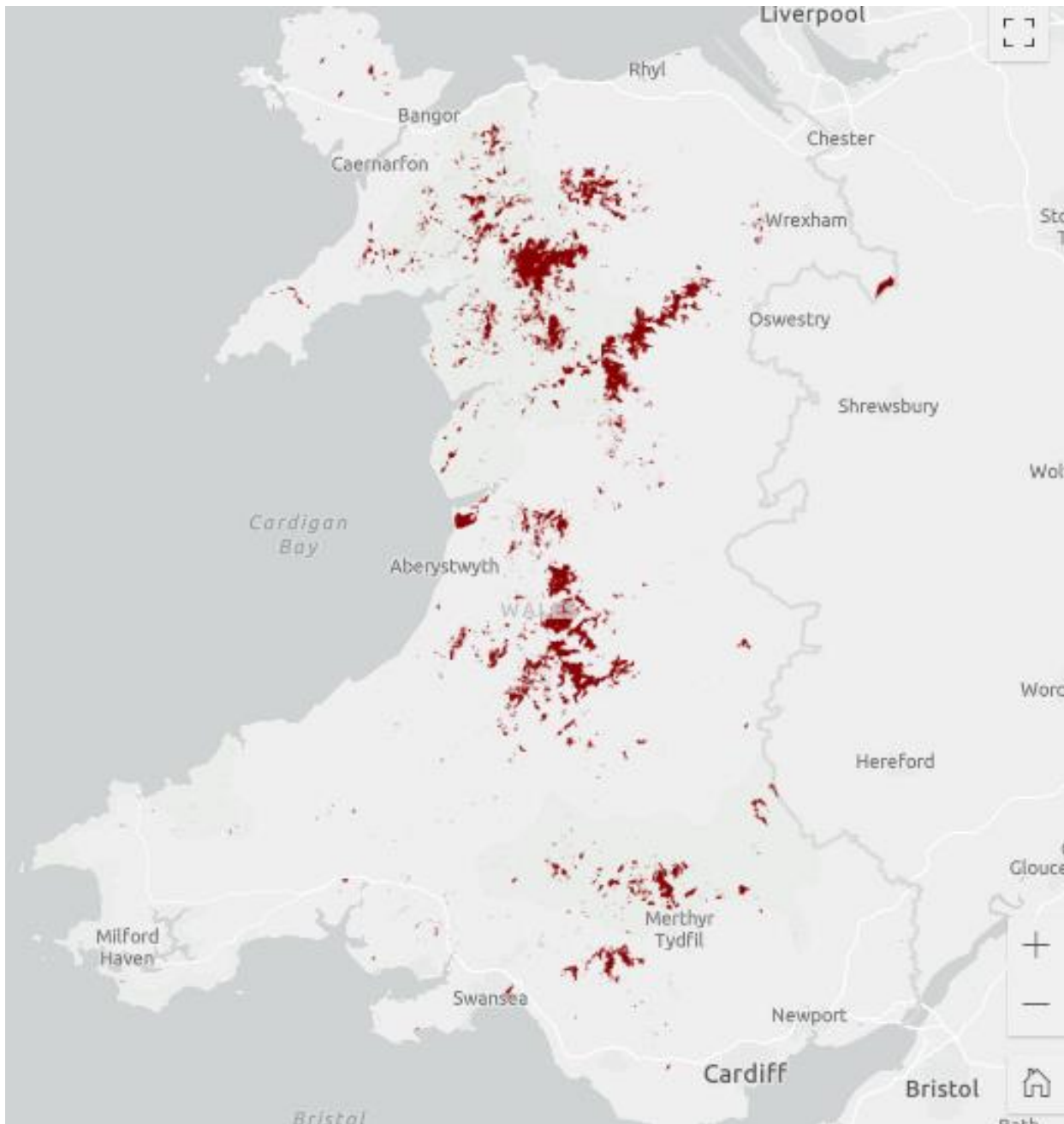
<sup>188</sup> See [https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/691525/niwt\\_mid.pdf](https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/691525/niwt_mid.pdf)

<sup>189</sup> <https://naturalresources.wales/about-us/area-statements/mid-wales-area-statement/forestry-resources/?lang=en>

<sup>190</sup> StatsWales (2017) 'Crops (Hectares) by Area'. Available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Agriculture/Agricultural-Survey/Area-Survey-Results/crops-in-hectares-by-area>, accessed 18.07.2022.

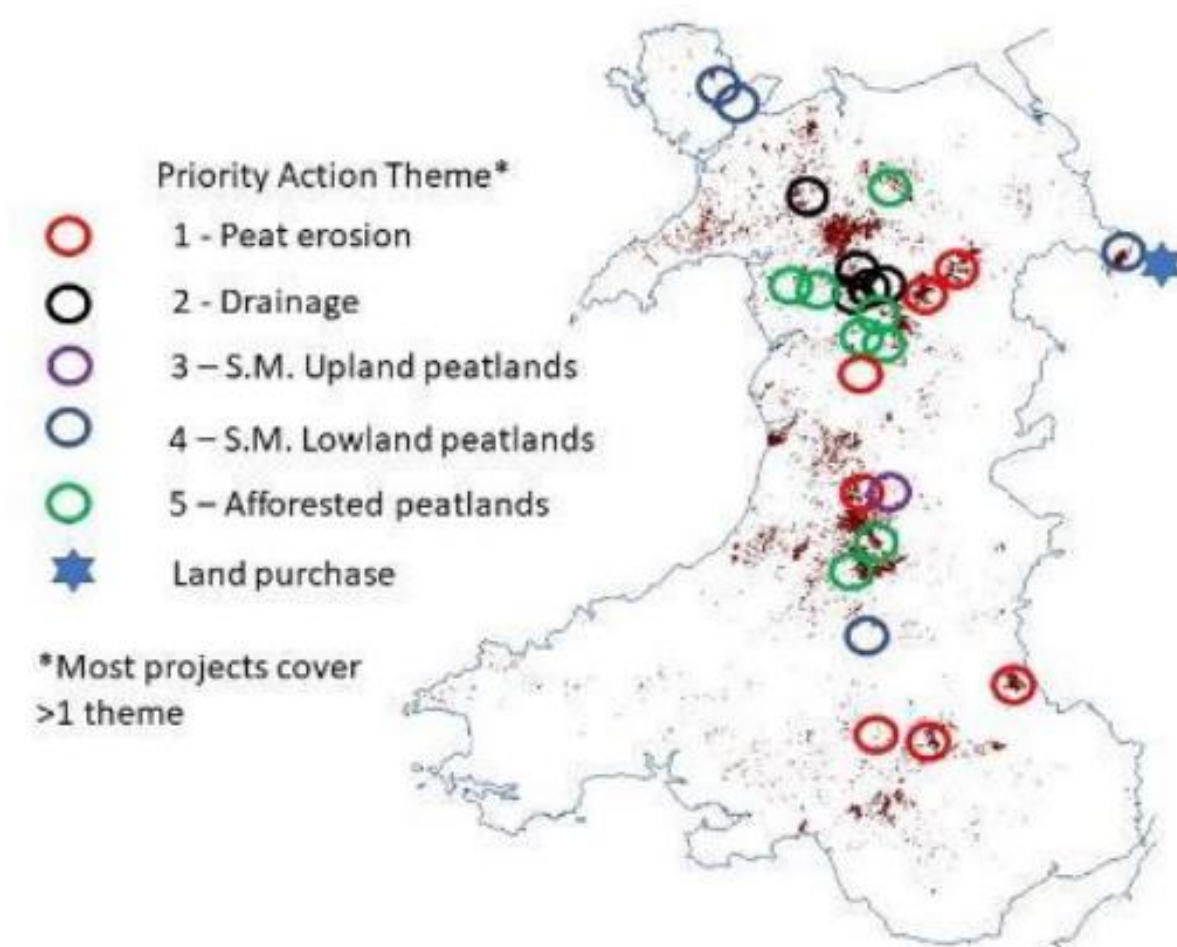
<b>Wheat</b>	2,872	3,938
<b>Winter Barley</b>	1,118	1,165
<b>Spring Barley</b>	1,282	1,892
<b>Oats</b>	996	1,210
<b>Other Cereals for combining</b>	217	178
<b>Potatoes harvested by 31 July</b>	21	4
<b>Potatoes harvested after 31 July</b>	343	322
<b>Crops for Stockfeeding</b>	1,342	4,161
<b>Field Beans &amp; Peas</b>	78	174
<b>Maize</b>	1,017	1,653
<b>Oilseed rape</b>	490	349
<b>Other Crops</b>	231	364
<b>Bare Fallow</b>	202	262
<b>Total of Arable Crops &amp; Bare Fallow</b>	10,211	15,671

3.7.11 Peat is an important soil resources alongside being an important store of Carbon Dioxide and **Figure 3.30** identifies the location of peat within Powys and the surrounding local authorities. The peatlands of Wales are in various states of decay and **Figure 3.31** identifies what areas of peatland received restorative care in 2021-2021, many of which were within Powys.

Figure 3.30 Peat Map of Wales<sup>191</sup>

<sup>191</sup> Natural Resources Waste (2021) 'Welsh Peatland Data Portal'. Available at: [Welsh Peatland Data Portal | Wales Environmental Information Portal \(arcgis.com\)](#), accessed 18.07.2022.

Figure 3.31 Map showing the location of restoration sites in 2020/21 and the main type of restoration activity at each overlain on the Unified Peat Map<sup>192</sup>



## Geology

3.7.12 Powys benefits from considerable geological resources given the size of the County and its mountainous and hilly nature. Powys contains 78 Regionally Important Geological Sites, which are important to the local area even if they do not have statutory protection. They are often home to natural assets that are statutorily protected (such as SSSI). The Regionally Important Geological Sites located within central Wales are generally in good condition Geological Conservation Review sites<sup>193</sup> and many have been designated as a SSSI.

3.7.13 Geology Wales provides an assessment of all of the Regionally Important Geological Sites for central Wales and provides the following summary of the geology of this area<sup>194</sup>:

*"Much of Central Wales is made up of Ordovician and Silurian marine sedimentary rocks, deposited in the Lower Palaeozoic Welsh Basin when Wales, as part of Avalonia,*

<sup>192</sup> Natural Resources Wales (2021) 'National Peatland Action Programme: Year 1 Report 2020-2021'. Available at: [National Peatlands Action Programme, 2020-2025 \(cyfoethnaturiol.cymru\)](https://www.naturalresources.wales/national-peatland-action-programme-2020-2025), accessed 18.07.2022.

<sup>193</sup> <https://lle.gov.wales/catalogue/item/GCRSiteBoundaries/?lang=en>

<sup>194</sup> Geology Wales (2022) 'About Geodiversity'. Available at: <http://www.geologywales.co.uk/central-wales-rigs/geol.htm>, accessed 18.07.2022.

*lay beneath a shallow sea on the SE side of the great ocean of Iapetus. On its far side lay Scotland and Northern Ireland, both part of the continent of Laurentia.*

*The rocks laid down in the Welsh Basin are dominated by sequences of sandstone, siltstone and mudstone. Many of these sequences are referred to as turbidites, because they were deposited from turbulent, sediment-laden submarine currents, which flowed off the shallower shelf areas onto the deep floor of the basin.*

*Volcanic activity took place locally, notably in the Welshpool and Builth Wells areas. This activity produced basaltic lava flows and dolerite intrusions, some of which have been quarried for building stones and aggregates."*

### **Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan**

- 3.7.14 Farming forms a key part of Powys' economy, culture and landscape. Soil resources are not unlimited, and their effective use needs to be ensured to create economic growth, whilst also protecting the natural environment. A new Replacement Local Development Plan would be able to further protect Powys' important soil resources and ensure the right type of land is used for development.
- 3.7.15 Powys will not have sufficient previously developed sites to accommodate its economic and population growth, primarily due to such sites already having been developed and the dispersed nature of the County's built environment.
- 3.7.16 Due to the mining and agricultural history of the County, it contains many long-term contaminated sites. A new Replacement Local Development Plan could provide the necessary strategic vision to rectify some of these contaminated sites.
- 3.7.17 A new Replacement Local Development plan would also be better able to provide up to date policies that protect the County's soils, land, peat and geological assets.

### **Key Sustainability Issues**

- The need to encourage development on previously developed (brownfield) land assessment of its biodiversity value.
- The need to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land.
- The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their geological interest.
- The need to protect the peatland resources of the County.



## 3.8 Water

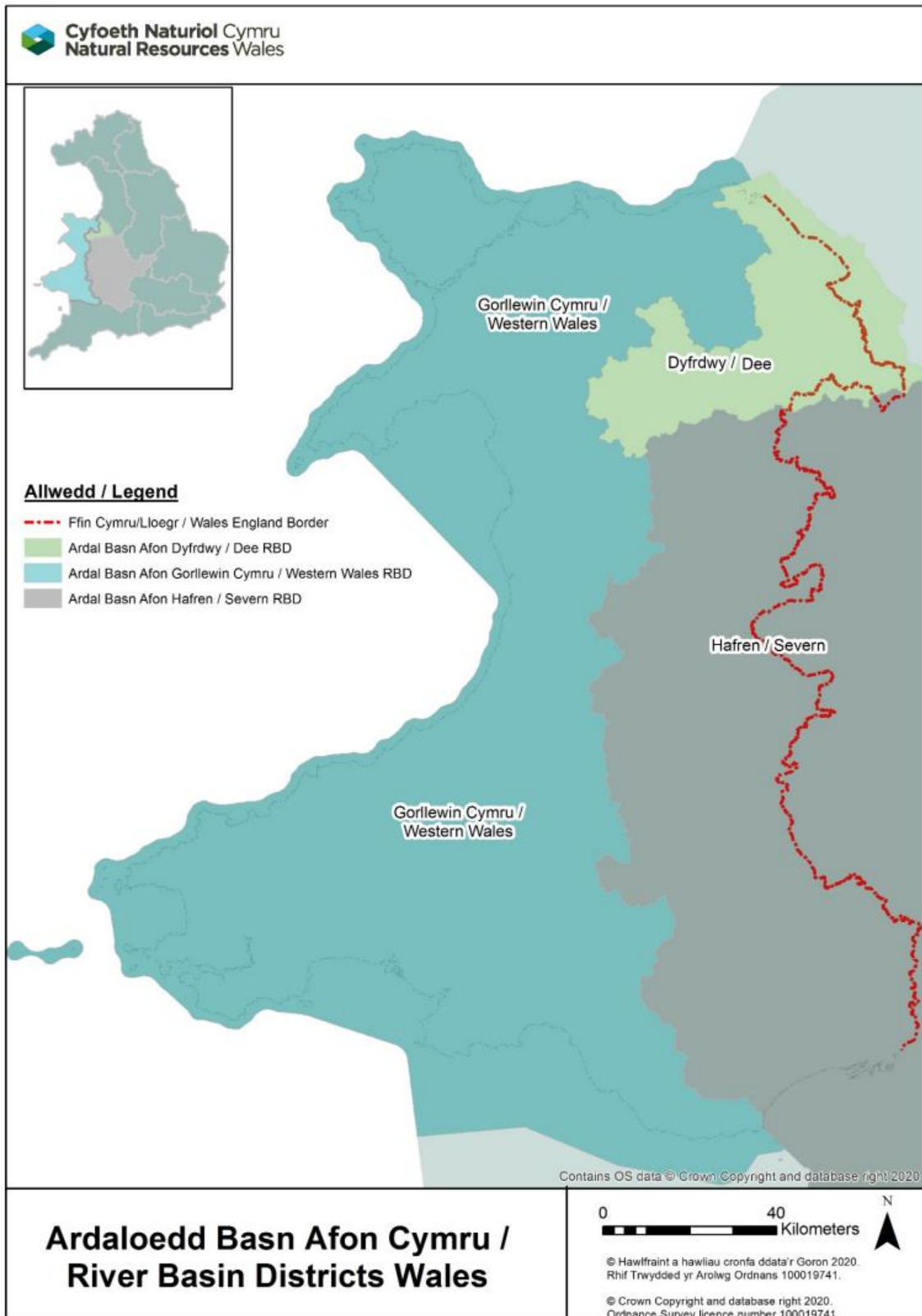
### Water Quality

- 3.8.1 Water quality supports biodiversity and health; and healthy rivers, lakes, streams and other blue spaces are an important recreational amenity, improving wellbeing and boosting the economy. Water quality, resources and flooding are becoming an increasingly important issue in the light of climate change.
- 3.8.2 The main rivers that flow through Powys include the Severn, Vyrnwy, Tanat, Wye, Usk, Irfon, Ithon, Dyfi, Tawe and the Lugg<sup>195</sup>.
- 3.8.3 The Water Framework Directive seeks to improve water quality across the EU. River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) provide information on the quality of waters. Powys has waters in the Severn District RBMP area and in the Western Wales RBMP area. The latest RBMPs were published in 2015, drafts for the next round of plans were put out for consultation between October 2021 and April 2022, with amendments to be made based on the feedback received.
- 3.8.4 Areas in the Severn District RBMP include:
- Severn Uplands;
  - Wye;
  - Usk;
  - Lugg / Teme
- 3.8.5 Area in the Western Wales District RBMP include:
- North West Wales Catchments
  - Ogmore to Tawe Catchment
- 3.8.6 **Figure 3.32** below identifies the river basin districts in Wales.

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<sup>195</sup> Powys County Council (2019) Powys Local Development Plan (2011-2026) Supplementary Planning Guidance. Available at: [Land Drainage and Flooding SPG WG Dec 2019.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#), accessed 8.07.2022.

Figure 3.32 River Basin Districts in Wales<sup>196</sup>



- 3.8.7 Water quality is considered for both surface and ground waters. Surface water quality is monitored for its ecological status and for its chemical status. There are five categories: Bad, Poor, Moderate, Good and High. For surface waters there are two separate classifications for water bodies, ecological and chemical. For a water body to be in overall 'good' status both ecological and chemical status must be at least 'good'.
- 3.8.8 Consideration of groundwater quality is based on the precautionary principle with the aim of minimum anthropogenic impact, with a presumption against direct discharge to groundwater. There is a requirement for abstraction to be less than the rate of recharge.
- 3.8.9 Quantity is measured on a good or bad status. There are two separate classifications for groundwater bodies; chemical status and quantitative status. Each must be reported in addition to the overall groundwater body status. For a groundwater body to be at good status overall both chemical status and quantitative status must be good. In addition to assessing status, there is also a requirement to identify and report where the quality of groundwater is deteriorating because of pollution, and which may lead to a future deterioration in status.
- 3.8.10 The Severn District River Basin Management Plan (2015) identifies several significant water management issues facing the River Severn Basin district<sup>197</sup>:
- Physical modifications - affecting 27% of water bodies in this river basin district
  - Pollution from waste water – affecting 29% of water bodies in this river basin district
  - Pollution from towns, cities and transport - affecting 12% of water bodies in this river basin district
  - Changes to the natural flow and level of water - affecting 7% of water bodies in this river basin district
  - Negative effects of invasive non-native species - affecting <1% of water bodies in this river basin district
  - Pollution from rural areas - affecting 40% of water bodies in this river basin district
  - Pollution from abandoned mines - affecting 2% of water bodies in this river basin district'
- 3.8.11 As of 2015, of the 755 surface water bodies that comprise the River Severn Basin District, 8 scored bad, 134 scored poor, 462 scored moderate and 151 scored good in terms of their ecological status or potential<sup>198</sup>. The chemical status for these water bodies is split between 35 failing and 720 receiving a good rating<sup>199</sup>. In terms of groundwaters (comprised of 42 water bodies), 9 scored poor and 33 scored good in terms of their quantitative status<sup>200</sup>. In terms of their chemical status, 15 scored poor and 27 scored good<sup>201</sup>.

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<sup>197</sup> Environment Agency (2015) Severn River Basin District River Basin Management Plan. Available at: [Severn river basin district river basin management plan - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>198</sup> Ibid, page 24.

<sup>199</sup> Ibid.

<sup>200</sup> Ibid.

<sup>201</sup> Ibid.

3.8.12 The Western Wales RBMP 2022<sup>202</sup> states that in 2015, 40% of water bodies in the Western Wales RBD achieved good or better overall, with the most recent classification results for 2021 indicating that 42% of water bodies achieved good or better overall status. Data for 2021 shows that for rivers (not including canals) 94% of elements are at good or better status, for lakes 89%, for transitional waters 88%, coastal waters 92%, canals 69% and groundwater 93%.

3.8.13 Significant Water Management Issues (SWMIs) relate to:

- Physical modifications. Man made changes to the natural habitat, for example poorly designed or redundant flood defences and weirs, and changes to the natural river channels for land drainage and navigation and shellfisheries on estuaries and in coastal waters. These modifications can cause changes to natural flow levels, excessive build-up of sediment, and the loss of the habitat that wildlife needs to thrive.
- Pollution from sewage and wastewater. Wastewater can contain large amounts of nutrients (such as phosphorus and nitrates), ammonia, bacteria and other damaging substances.
- Pollution from towns, cities and transport. Rainwater running over manmade surfaces and carrying pollutants into waters, toxic substances from contaminated land, atmospheric pollution causing acidification and sewage from houses misconnected to surface water drains rather than sewers.
- Pollution from rural areas. Poor agricultural practice and forestry can result in nutrients and sediments affecting the water environment (also known as diffuse rural pollution).
- Pollution from mines. Contaminated water draining from mines, most of which are now abandoned.

3.8.14 **Table 3.12** identifies the quality of water bodies within Powys for 2019.

Table 3.12 Percentage of Water Bodies at 'Good' Status within Powys LDP Area<sup>203</sup>

Waterbodies classification	2019
Surface waters – 'good' status	45.2%
Surface waters – 'moderate' status	43.1%
Surface waters – 'poor' status	10.5%
Surface waters – 'bad' status	1.2%
Ground waters – 'good' status	41.2%

<sup>202</sup> <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/water-reports/river-basin-management-plans/river-basin-management-plans-2021-2027/?lang=en>

<sup>203</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 198.

Waterbodies classification	2019
Ground waters – ‘poor’ status	58.8%

- 3.8.15 Designated riverine SAC waterbodies within the River Wye SAC have been failing to meet phosphorus limits following their tightening in 2016 by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). This catchment covers a large amount of the southern half of the Powys area, leading to impacts on development<sup>204</sup>.
- 3.8.16 The Powys Wellbeing Assessment 2022<sup>205</sup> notes that: *“a range of pressures are compromising the health of our freshwater ecosystems, including climate change, diffuse and point source pollution, physical modification, abstraction, and invasive non-native species. Local water courses, particularly in the River Wye catchment area, are suffering from an increase in nutrient pollution arising from agriculture and development. Invasive non-native plants are also threatening habitats through Powys.”* Consequently, *“there is a need to tackle water quality issues by focusing on the following areas:*
- *support farm businesses to minimise their impact on the environment*
  - *take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry and manure stores)*
  - *work with businesses, communities, and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for payment for Ecosystem Services*
  - *manage our water resources to improve the quality and quantity of available water, without causing detriment to the natural environment”*

## Water Resources

- 3.8.17 Hafren Dyfrdwy supplies mains water to the north of Powys from a large groundwater abstraction in the Severn valley. Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) supplies mains water to the east of Powys from a large groundwater abstraction in the Lugg Valley and also supplies mains water from several smaller groundwater abstractions across the County. In addition to this, the County hosts a number of reservoirs, two of which supply water to the cities of Birmingham and Liverpool.
- 3.8.18 The intrinsic water resources contained within Powys are the rivers Severn, Vyrnwy, Tanat, Wye, Usk, Irfon, Ithon, Dyfi, Tawe and the Lugg, as well as various reservoirs including the Usk, Elan Valley, Lake Vyrnwy and Pontsticill.
- 3.8.19 There are 6 water resource zones (WRZ’s) within the Powys area. A large area of Powys is covered by the Elan – Builth WRZ. DCWW supply this area from two sources, the Elan Valley Reservoirs and an abstraction from the River Wye at Builth Wells<sup>206</sup>.

<sup>204</sup> Powys County Council (2022) Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) Annual Monitoring Report 2022

<sup>205</sup> Powys Public Service Board (2022) Well-Being Assessment. Available at: [FULL Well-being Assessment - March 2022 \(1\).pdf](#), pp.143/144

<sup>206</sup> Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (2019) Final Water Resources Management Plan 2019.

- 3.8.20 There are 3 other WRZ's within Powys supplied by DCWW; Llyswen, Pilleth and Brecon – Portis. Llyswen covers a number of small communities around Hay-on-Wye through an abstraction from the River Wye. There are no imports to the WRZ however it does export to the Vowchurch WRZ when necessary<sup>207</sup>. The Pilleth WRZ supplies the area surrounding Presteigne and nearby town of Knighton. It is supplied by 4 boreholes in the gravel aquifer near the River Lugg at Pilleth and there are no imports or exports of water<sup>208</sup>. The Brecon – Portis area covers the headwaters of the River Usk, near Sennybridge, Brecon and the Usk Reservoir. The Usk Reservoir directly supplies Bryngwyn and Portis WTW's and supports abstractions in the lower Usk during drought. There are also 3 boreholes in the gravel aquifer at Brecon, adjacent to the Usk, to meet the rest of the area's demand. There are no imports however there is an export from the Usk Reservoir to Bryngwyn to support the Tywi CUS<sup>209</sup>.
- 3.8.21 All 4 of these WRZ's project an increase in population however a decrease in demand for water post 2030. They have all been assessed as fairly resilient to the impacts of climate change, with Pilleth and Brecon – Portis having large surpluses of water. It is expected that supply will be continue to meet demand and will begin to further outweigh this by 2050<sup>210</sup>.
- 3.8.22 Llandinam & Llanwrin and Llanfyllin are both WRZ's within Powys supplied by Hafren Dyfrdwy (HD)<sup>211</sup>. The former is a groundwater only WRZ relying on abstraction from boreholes associated with aquifers reliant on the River Severn. The WRZ utilises imports and exports between Shelton and Bishops Castle WRZ's<sup>212</sup>. Llanfyllin is a bulk import WRZ, reliant on transfers from Severn Trent. It has none of its own water sources within the area instead receiving transfers from Shelton and Mardy<sup>213</sup>.
- 3.8.23 Llandinam & Llanwrin could be sensitive to the effects of climate change as the boreholes are in hydraulic continuity with the River Severn. However, the Clywedog Reservoir upstream is used to control flows during dry periods therefore it has been assessed as having low vulnerability to climate change and zero to low decrease in deployable output<sup>214</sup>. As Llanfyllin is reliant on transfers the effects of climate change will be assessed and considered by the donor water company or WRZ<sup>215</sup>.

## Flood Risk

- 3.8.24 In Powys, there are 9,613 properties at risk of flooding<sup>216</sup>:
- 5,700 low risk

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<sup>207</sup> Ibid, page 164.

<sup>208</sup> Ibid, page 168.

<sup>209</sup> Ibid, page 170.

<sup>210</sup> Ibid.

<sup>211</sup> Hafren Dyfrdwy (2019) Water Resources Management Plan: Appendix A – How much water do we have available? Available at: [Appendix-A-Supply-fWRMP.pdf \(hdcymru.co.uk\)](#), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>212</sup> Ibid, page 20.

<sup>213</sup> Ibid, pages 12 and 30.

<sup>214</sup> Ibid, page 20.

<sup>215</sup> Ibid, page 21.

<sup>216</sup> Powys Public Service Board (2022) Well-Being Assessment. Available at: [FULL Well-being Assessment - March 2022 \(1\).pdf](#), accessed 12.07.2022.

- 1,429 medium risk
- 2,404 high risk

3.8.25 In some areas fluvial flooding from the Severn, Vyrnwy, Tanat, Wye, Usk, Irfon, Ithon, Dyfi, Tawe and the Lugg are the main source of flood risk; this includes the settlements of Llanidloes, Newtown, Meifod and Builth Wells. Towns within Powys that are susceptible to surface water flooding include Welshpool, Talgarth (BBNP) and Newtown. There is no local information on historic groundwater flooding, which suggests that the risk of groundwater flooding in Powys is low. **Figure 3.3** (above) highlights the areas at risk of flooding within Powys<sup>217</sup>. **Table 3.13** identifies the communities most at risk of flooding within Powys.

Table 3.13 Top ten communities at risk from flooding in Powys<sup>218</sup>

Local Authority	Fluvial	Tidal	Pluvial	Combined	Significant Flood Risk Area 2018
<b>Powys</b>	Llanfyllin Carno Plas Llysn Brecon Knighton Cilcewydd Llanfrynach Presteigne Llandiloes Llangattock	Not applicable	Ystradgynlais Newtown Llandridod Wells Brecon Welshpool Llanidloes Machynlleth Penrhos Llanllwchaiarn Llanfair Caereinion	Ystradgynlais Newtown Brecon Llanfyllin Llandrindod Wells Carno Llandiloes Welshpool Plas Llysyn Knighton Llanfair Caereinion	None

3.8.26 A revised TAN15 accompanied by the Flood Map for Planning is due to come into force in June 2023. In its current form, the revised TAN requires that all new development is flood free in the 100/200yr + Climate Change event (rather than minimised within high flood risk areas) and does not allow for Highly Vulnerable Development in zone 3. Development proposed in Zone 2 will need to meet the justification tests and acceptability of consequences criterion (regarding vulnerability of uses and previously developed land).

3.8.27 More detailed information will be available in both the SFCA (Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment), which will be the principal source of evidence to inform the plan and locally specific flood risk policies, and the emerging Water Framework Directive opportunity catchments work.

### Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan

3.8.28 The River Basin Management Plans from which the baseline information is recorded were completed in 2015. The Severn District River Basin Management Plan (2015) highlights that although considerable investment has gone into preserving the River Severn Basin

<sup>217</sup> Powys County Council (2019) Powys Local Development Plan (2011-2026) Supplementary Planning Guidance. Available at: [Land Drainage and Flooding SPG WG Dec 2019.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>218</sup> Powys Public Service Board (2022) Well-Being Assessment. Available at: [FULL Well-being Assessment - March 2022 \(1\).pdf](#), accessed 12.07.2022.

District, which has produced many benefits. However, the document also notes that there has been a reduction in the total number of water bodies at good status since 2009, though it is important to note that the 2015 document contains more stringent and robust monitoring than the 2009 document, meaning there could well not be any real change/deuteriation in waterbodies as they are just being held to a newer, higher standard<sup>219</sup>.

- 3.8.29 The Western Wales District River Basin Management Plans (2015) states that since 2009, the number of waterbodies that scored good or better rose from 30% to 38%. This trend of improving waterbodies within the Western Wales RBMP is expected to continue<sup>220</sup>.
- 3.8.30 New development is likely to place additional pressure upon the water environment through demand and discharge levels, which has prompted NRW guidance on dealing with planning applications which might affect phosphorus-sensitive river SACs<sup>221 222</sup>. In this context, the DCWW Water Resources Management Plan (2015) forecasts that the Brecon Water Resource Zone will remain in surplus through to 2050<sup>223</sup>.
- 3.8.31 It is likely that the ecological and chemical status of surface water will improve as well as groundwater quantity. This is because Natural Resources Wales licences point source abstraction and discharge and other interventions are being made to achieve the Water Framework Directive targets by 2027, for example the River Wye Nutrient Management Plan (2014) and Review of Consents processes.
- 3.8.32 Whilst unplanned development may lead to the potential for some infrastructure to be overloaded leading to pollution incidents, Natural Resources Wales and the Water Companies are consulted on each application and have the opportunity to object to development where this would be the case.
- 3.8.33 Similarly, unplanned development may place unforeseen pressure on abstraction. Again, Natural Resources Wales and the Water Companies are consulted on each application and have the opportunity to object to development.
- 3.8.34 Flood risk in the future will be influenced by how the land has been developed/managed together with agricultural practices and climate change. Climate change is expected to be the biggest driver for change whilst changes to rural land use such as a decrease in forest cover may also have some effect.
- 3.8.35 Modelling carried out in support of the catchment flood management plans has been based on there being a 20% increase in peak river flows in all watercourses and a total sea level rise of one to two metres by 2100. Climate change will result in some areas already at risk from flooding becoming flooded more frequently, whilst an increased number of properties will find themselves in an area of flood risk.

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<sup>219</sup> Environment Agency (2015) Severn River Basin District River Basin Management Plan. Available at: [Severn river basin district river basin management plan - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>220</sup> Environment Agency (2015) Western Wales River Basin Management Plan 2015 – 2021 Summary. Available at: [Western Wales River Basin Management Plan Summary \(cyfoethnaturiol.cymru\)](http://www.naturalresources.wales), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>221</sup> NRW (2022): <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/business-sectors/planning-and-development/our-role-in-planning-and-development/advice-to-planning-authorities-for-planning-applications-affecting-phosphorus-sensitive-river-special-areas-of-conservation/?lang=en>

<sup>222</sup> SAC Rivers: Source Apportionment Reports | Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water ([dwrcymru.com](http://dwrcymru.com))

<sup>223</sup> Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (2019) Final Water Resources Management Plan 2019.



## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to protect and enhance the quality of water sources in the Powys Area.
- The need to promote the efficient use of water resources.
- The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.
- The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change.
- The need to become more adaptive and resilient to flooding incidents.

## 3.9 Air Quality

- 3.9.1 Legislative frameworks and guidance in relation to air quality have been established at both the European and UK level. Policies aim to reduce exposure to specific pollutants by reducing emissions and setting targets for air quality. Policies are driven by the aims of the EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)<sup>224</sup>. The key objective is to help minimise the negative impacts on human health and the environment. The Directive sets guidance for member states for the effective implementation of air quality targets.
- 3.9.2 The UK's National Air Quality Strategy<sup>225</sup> set health-based standards for eight key pollutants and objectives for achieving them. This is to ensure a level of ambient air quality in public places that is safe for human health and quality of life. It also recognises that specific action at the local level may be needed depending on the scale and nature of the air quality problem. This has since been built upon by the Clean Air Strategy 2019<sup>226</sup>, which sets out new goals to reduce public exposure to particulate matter pollution
- 3.9.3 The Clean Air Plan for Wales<sup>227</sup> sets out a plan to improve air quality and reduce the impacts of air pollution on human health, biodiversity, the natural environment and the economy in Wales.
- 3.9.4 Road transport is the main cause of NO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Wales, industrial processes and power generation also contribute to this but road transport accounts for one third of NO<sub>2</sub> emissions<sup>228</sup>. In Powys, vehicle emissions are the main cause of air pollution. The economy is based on agriculture and tourism, associated with its rural setting and sparse population. Despite this, Powys has an extensive road network including some main roads

<sup>224</sup> European Commission (2008) Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe. Available at: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32008L0050>, accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>225</sup> Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in partnership with the Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government and Department of the Environment Northern Ireland (2007) *The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, Volume 1*. Available at: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/69336/pb12654-air-quality-strategy-vol1-070712.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69336/pb12654-air-quality-strategy-vol1-070712.pdf), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>226</sup> Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2019) Clean Air Strategy 2019. Available at: [Clean Air Strategy 2019 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69336/pb12654-air-quality-strategy-vol1-070712.pdf), accessed 20.10.2022

<sup>227</sup> Welsh Government (2020) The Clean Air Plan for Wales. Available at: [40794 The Clean Air Plan for Wales \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/clean-air-plan), accessed 8.07.2022

<sup>228</sup> *ibid.*

such as the A470, A483 and A44<sup>229</sup>. PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations in Powys have both decreased since 2007, from 13.33 to 10.25 and 7.43 to 6.53 respectively<sup>230</sup>.

- 3.9.5 The Powys Well-Being Assessment<sup>231</sup> identifies that *"Most air pollutants have declined in Wales in recent decades. However, concentrations of ammonia are rising and having an impact on sensitive ecosystems. Ammonia emissions from the UK and Europe continue to be above damage thresholds, resulting in widespread exceedance of critical loads (deposition) and critical levels (atmospheric concentrations) for both acidity and ammonia. This pollution also contributes to ozone production, which damages not only vegetation but human health."*
- 3.9.6 Agricultural emissions from new ammonia sources are a key concern in Powys and across Wales<sup>232</sup>, identified in the Powys Well-being Assessment as being associated with: *"The localised impacts of new ammonia sources associated with the rapid expansion of intensive poultry developments."* Furthermore: *"Most air pollutants have declined in Wales in recent decades. However, concentrations of ammonia are rising and having an impact on sensitive ecosystems. Ammonia emissions from the UK and Europe continue to be above damage thresholds, resulting in widespread exceedance of critical loads (deposition) and critical levels (atmospheric concentrations) for both acidity and ammonia. Ammonia and nitrogen pollution from agriculture is affecting 59% of the land area of Wales. In 2018 88% of sensitive habitats exceeded their critical load for atmospheric nitrogen (down from 98% in 2009). It is currently having an adverse effect on 29% of the most sensitive habitats for plants and wildlife (Guthrie et al., 2018)."*
- 3.9.7 Agriculture contributes around 85% of the ammonia emissions in Wales, with the majority of this coming from cattle farming. The general order of importance for ammonia emissions is<sup>233</sup>:
- slurry and muck spreading
  - livestock housing
  - fertiliser, especially urea
  - grazing
  - muck and slurry storage
- 3.9.8 In Powys, ammonia emissions from poultry farming are a particular issue. An investigation by NRW has shown that smaller, non-regulated, but covered under planning, poultry units

<sup>229</sup> Powys County Council (2021) 2021 Air Quality Progress Report. Available at: [Air Quality Progress Report 2021.pdf](#), accessed 8.07.2022

<sup>230</sup> Powys Public Service Board (2022) Well-Being Assessment. Available at: [FULL Well-being Assessment - March 2022 \(1\).pdf](#), accessed 12.07.2022.

<sup>231</sup> Powys Public Service Board (2022) Well-Being Assessment. Available at: [FULL Well-being Assessment - March 2022 \(1\).pdf](#), pp.146/147

<sup>232</sup> Natural Resources Wales (2020) The Second State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020), Assessment of the achievement of sustainable managements of natural resources: Air Quality. Available at: [sonarr2020-theme-air-quality.pdf \(cyfoethnaturiol.cymru\)](#), accessed 12.07.2020.

<sup>233</sup> Welsh Government (2020) The Clean Air Plan for Wales. Available at: [40794 The Clean Air Plan for Wales \(gov.wales\)](#), accessed 20.10.2022

have a greater impact on the environment than larger, regulated, intensive units, and clusters of small farm units could cause significant environmental damage<sup>234</sup>.

- 3.9.9 NRW has undertaken investigations that confirm the severity of the issue. A framework has been developed that allows for the appropriate protection of the most sensitive sites as well as allowing for assessment of cumulative impacts of existing and new development. The guidance is published by NRW as GN020 and is used by NRW for permitting and Planning as well as by LPAs. This guidance reflects current European and UK case law. This means that prevailing environmental conditions (i.e. background ammonia concentrations) are part of the assessment process and will be considered in the baseline assessment, as even a relatively small addition would be considered unacceptable if it causes a breach of the environmental threshold or exacerbates a threshold that is already breached (ammonia critical levels).
- 3.9.10 Additional scientific work<sup>235</sup> on the key indicator of lichens recommends (s.7.4.2) that: *“The statistically significant link between ammonia concentrations and the decline in Bryoria fuscescens in Wales indicates that this distinctive lichen can be used to indicate areas where ammonia levels are currently very low. Such areas are now rare in Wales, and require protection from the ongoing national increase in ammonia. It is suggested that NRW and other bodies should use the presence of Bryoria lichens as a key indicator of sites that are highly vulnerable to ecological damage from intensive agriculture.*

### Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan

- 3.9.11 The NO<sub>2</sub> annual mean concentration data, collected for 2020, did not exceed the annual mean AQ objective level of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup><sup>236</sup>. Significant reductions in mean concentrations have been seen in comparison to previous years, this trend is seen across Wales as illustrated by **Figure 3.33** and **Table 3.15**.
- 3.9.12 Ammonia emissions in Wales have been steadily rising since 2008, maintaining a consistent level between 2016 and 2019 as illustrated in **Figure 3.34**.
- 3.9.13 A continued improvement in Air Quality across the County of Powys is expected to be seen without the Replacement Local Development Plan as other policies and strategies implemented act to maintain and contribute to the reduction in emissions<sup>237</sup>.
- 3.9.14 The Powys County Council Local Development Plan 2011 – 2026 acts to prevent developments where associated air pollution will cause harm to human health or the environment<sup>238</sup>.
- 3.9.15 The Mid Wales Local Transport Plan 2015 is expected to lead to an improvement in air quality by encouraging those residing in Powys to travel more by walking and cycling and

<sup>234</sup> Natural Resources Wales (2015) Powys Poultry Pilot Study. Available at: [Powys Poultry Pilot Study 2015 \(naturalresources.wales\)](#). accessed 20.10.2022

<sup>235</sup> <https://cdn.naturalresources.wales/media/689206/nrw-evidence-report-no-298-lichen-surveys-to-investigate-ammonia-impacts.pdf>

<sup>236</sup> Powys County Council (2021) 2021 Air Quality Progress Report. Available at: [Air Quality Progress Report 2021.pdf](#), accessed 8.07.2022

<sup>237</sup> Ibid.

<sup>238</sup> Powys County Council (2018) Powys Local Development Plan (2011 – 2026). Available at: [Adopted Powys LDP Written Statement April 2018.pdf](#), accessed 8.07.2022.

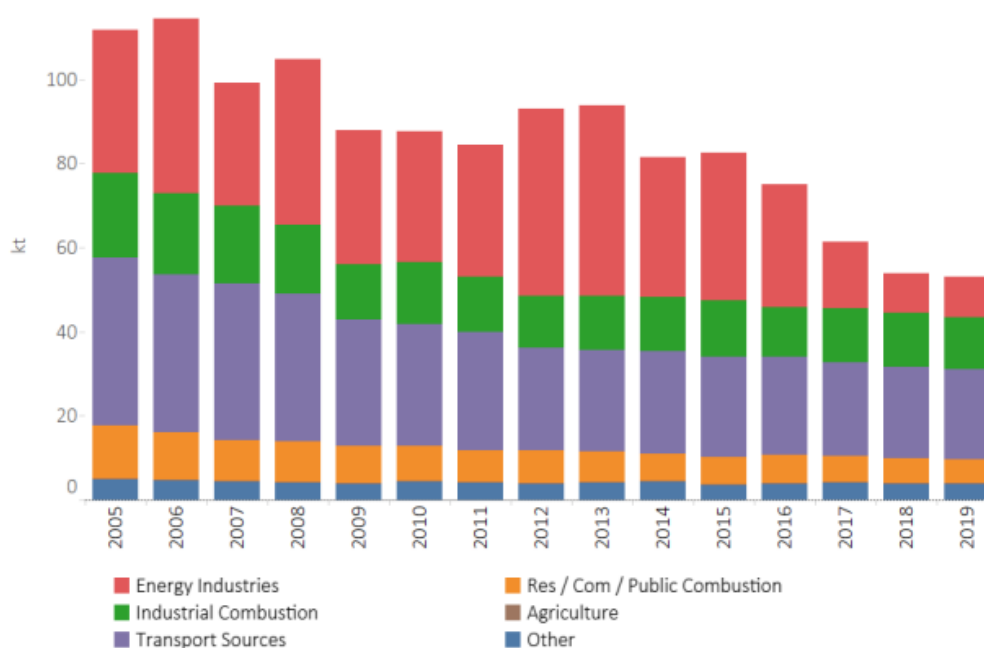
integrating public transport networks<sup>239</sup>. The Local Transport Plan is set for review as advised by the new national transportation strategy, Llwybr Newydd: the Wales Transport Strategy 2021<sup>240</sup>.

3.9.16 The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013<sup>241</sup> requires local authorities to improve active travel routes and facilities annually, further contributing to the reduction in transport emissions.

3.9.17 The Welsh Government have outlined an ambition for the public sector to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2030, as does Powys Council. This will be achieved through development of a Mid Wales Energy Strategy, moving towards more sustainable energy sources, and improving energy efficiency amongst other initiatives<sup>242</sup>. These actions will work towards an improvement in air quality through reducing emissions associated with energy production and use.

3.9.18 It is expected that PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations in Powys will continue to decrease.

Figure 3.33 Nitrogen Oxides Emissions in Wales 2005-2019<sup>243</sup>



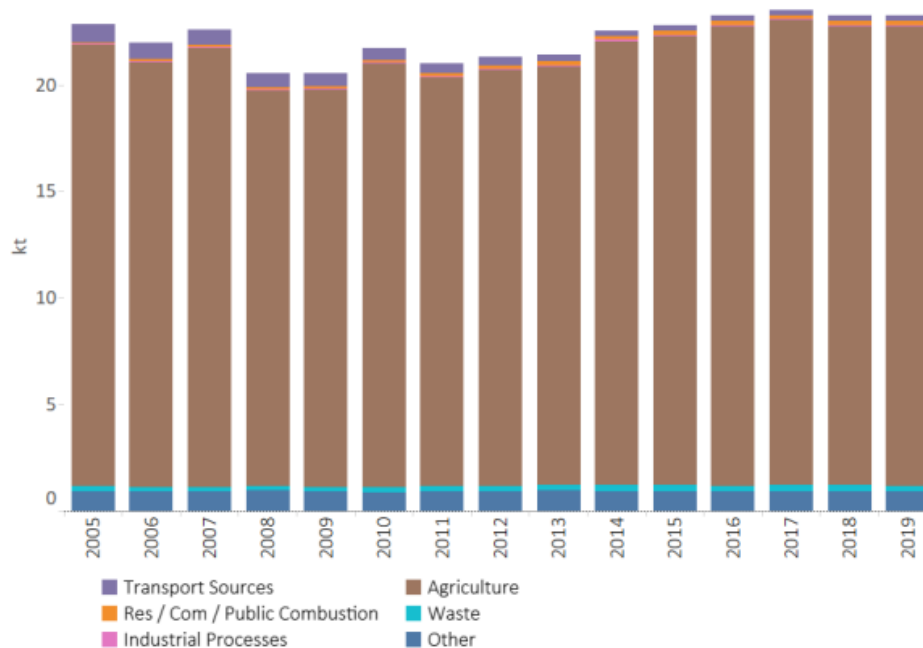
<sup>239</sup> Ceredigion County Council, Powys County Council & Gwynedd County Council (2015) Mid Wales Joint Local Transport Plan. Available at: [Mid Wales Joint Local Transport Plan 2015 \(2\).pdf](#), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>240</sup> Welsh Government (2021) 'Llwybr Newydd: the Wales Transport Strategy 2021'. Available at: [Llwybr Newydd: the Wales transport strategy 2021 \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#), accessed 16.08.2022.

<sup>241</sup> Welsh Government (2013) Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013. Available at: [Active Travel \(Wales\) Act 2013 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>242</sup> Powys County Council (2021) 2021 Air Quality Progress Report. Available at: [Air Quality Progress Report 2021.pdf](#), accessed 8.07.2022.

<sup>243</sup> National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory: Air Pollutant Inventories for England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland: 2005-2019. Available at: [Air Pollutant Inventories for England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland: 2005-2019 \(defra.gov.uk\)](#) accessed 14.10.2022.

Figure 3.34 Ammonia Emissions in Wales 2005-2019<sup>244</sup>Table 3.14 Annual Mean Concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> (in µg/m<sup>3</sup>) at Monitoring Sites in Powys, by Year from 2013<sup>245</sup>

Site ID	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>POW (M) 1</b>	31.9	28.8	29	31	38	38	26	21.6
<b>POW (M) 2</b>	32.9	33.9	29	32	37	29	22	18.8
<b>POW (M) 3,4, &amp; 5</b>	39.5	38.1	38	39	36	37	24	19.7
<b>POW (M) 6</b>	36.6	33	30	32	33	30	22	18.2
<b>POW (M) 7</b>	10.4	9.4	9	11	9	9	8	6.8
<b>WG 6-7</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.1
<b>WG 8</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.1

<sup>244</sup> Ibid.<sup>245</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 237.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to minimise and reduce the emissions of pollutants to air, particularly nitrogen oxides and ammonia.
- The need to continue to identify and assess and new potential sources that could adversely impact air quality.

### 3.10 Climate Change

- 3.10.1 Rising global temperatures will bring changes in weather patterns, rising sea levels and increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather. The effects of climate change will be experienced internationally, nationally and locally with certain regions being particularly vulnerable.
- 3.10.2 The policy and legislative context in relation to climate change was established at the international level (Kyoto Agreement) and has been transposed into European, national and local legislation, strategies and policies. Reducing man made carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions to the atmosphere is a national objective in order to contribute to reduce the rate of climate change and its long term implications. This is driven in the UK by the Climate Change Act (2008), which sets a legally binding target of at least a 34% reduction in UK emissions by 2020, which has now been met, and at least an 80% reduction by 2050 against a 1990 baseline.
- 3.10.3 Across Wales in general annual average temperatures are increasing. There has been a fairly steady warming trend since the early 1900s. Mean annual minimum temperatures follow the same trend as mean annual temperature, fluctuating slightly but increasing steadily. Mean annual maximum temperatures also follow the same trend, increasing steadily.
- 3.10.4 Using Llandrindod Wells as a proxy for the whole Powys area, the annual average temperature is 5.5 – 13.6°C over the period 1991 – 2020, up from 5.2 – 13.2°C for the period 1981 – 2010. A steady increase is evident from 4.7 – 12.5°C from 1961 – 1990<sup>246</sup>.
- 3.10.5 Rainfall experiences significant year to year variability and the frequency of extreme weather events is increasing. Although there is large year-to-year variability, there is an increasing trend in winter precipitation. There is a general trend of decreasing precipitation in summer since records began, despite large year-to-year variability.
- 3.10.6 Since the mid 1900's precipitation has generally increased in Llandrindod Wells, again viewed as a proxy for Powys, from 1019.04mm for the period 1961 – 1990 to 1096.14mm for 1991 – 2020<sup>247</sup>.
- 3.10.7 With regard to extreme precipitation, from 1961-2006 there has been an increase in the contribution from heavy precipitation events to winter rainfall, while there has been a decrease in the contribution to summer rainfall<sup>248</sup>.

<sup>246</sup> Met Office UK Climate Averages. Available at: [Llandrindod Wells \(Powys\) UK climate averages - Met Office](#), accessed 11.07.2022

<sup>247</sup> Ibid.

<sup>248</sup> Osborn, Timothy and Maraun, Douglas (2008) Changing intensity of rainfall over Britain

- 3.10.8 Powys County Council declared a climate emergency on the 24th of September 2020. As part of the A Strategy for Climate Change – Net Positive Powys 2021-30, Powys County Council stated that there was a need to cut emissions by at least 95% in Wales by 2050 and that they would ensure the Powys public sector was net carbon zero<sup>249</sup>.
- 3.10.9 Wales has managed as of 2020 to reduce its contribution to greenhouse gases by 31% on levels produced by the baseline year (1990)<sup>250</sup>. Per capita, in 2019 Wales produced 7.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>, the highest of all UK regions, due to its relatively high level of industry<sup>251</sup>. **Figure 3.35** highlights the total emissions of Greenhouse Gases in Wales, whilst **Table 3.15** identifies the total amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted in Powys.

Figure 3.35 Total Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (kilotonnes) in Wales by Year<sup>252</sup>

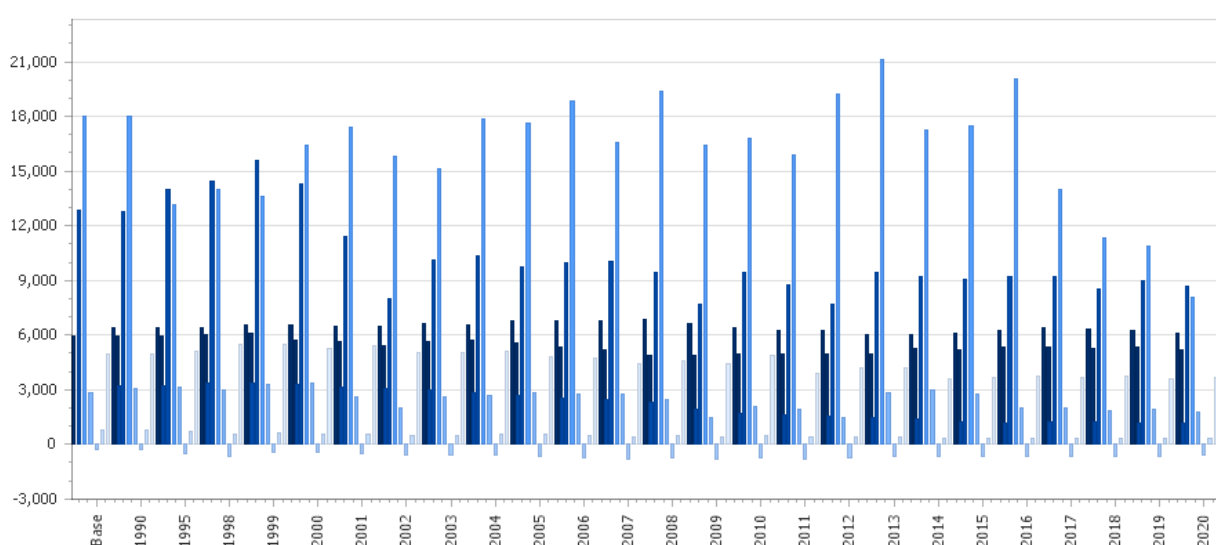


Table 3.15 Carbon Dioxide Emissions, Expressed as kt CO<sub>2</sub>, in Powys for the Year 2019<sup>253</sup>

Sector	2018**	2019	Change +/- from previous year	Percentage Change from previous year
<b>Industrial and Commercial</b>	288.9	290.6	+1.7	+0.58%
<b>Domestic</b>	267.4	261.2	-6.2	-2.31%
<b>Transport</b>	344.9	344.5	-0.4	-0.11%
<b>LULUCF*</b>	-104.8	-109.4	-4.6	-4.38%

<sup>249</sup> Powys County Council (2021) 'Climate Change Strategy'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/10307/What-is-the-Council-doing-on-Climate-Change>, accessed 11.07.2022.

<sup>250</sup> Welsh Government (2021) Reducing Emissions in Wales Progress Report 2020. Available at: [reducing-emissions-in-wales-progress-report.pdf \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/reducing-emissions-in-wales-progress-report.pdf), accessed 11.07.2022

<sup>251</sup> Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (2021) 2019 Local Authority Carbon dioxide Emissions. Available at: [2019 Local Authority Carbon Dioxide Emissions \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk), accessed 11.07.2022

<sup>252</sup> Welsh Government (2022) Emissions of Greenhouse Gases by Year. Available at: [Emissions of Greenhouse Gases by Year \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/emissions-of-greenhouse-gases-by-year), accessed 11.07.2022

<sup>253</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 209.

<b>Total</b>	796.4	786.9	-9.5	-1.19%
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\*; LULUCF; Land Use, Land Use Changes and Forestry \*\*; The figures for each year are subject to revision by DEFRA since their original publication dates, hence they may differ from those cited in the previous AMR.

3.10.10 Within Wales, the following industries produced the following percentages of emissions in 2019<sup>254</sup>:

- Industry and Business 38%.
- Electricity and heat production 19%.
- Transport 17%.
- Agriculture 14%.
- Residential Buildings 10%.
- Waste Management 3%.
- Public Sector 1%.
- Welsh sinks from LULUCF (mainly forestry) removed -1% of total Welsh emissions.

3.10.11 The prudent use of fossil fuels and reducing levels of energy consumption will help to achieve lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Between 2005 and 2017 energy use in Wales decreased in all local authority regions, from 111.2 TWh to 90.5TWh, a reduction of 19% over 12 years<sup>255</sup>.

3.10.12 Measures to prevent or minimise the adverse effects of climate change include: efficient use of scarce water resources; adapting building codes to future climate conditions and extreme weather events; building resilience to climate change by increasing green infrastructure and carbon sinks; encouraging resource efficiency; building flood defences and raising the levels of dykes; and more climate resilient crop selection (e.g. drought-tolerant species). The UK Government considers the development of a low carbon economy combined with a greater proportion of energy generated by renewable means as essential.

3.10.13 Urban greening is an important tool in helping to mitigate the effects of climate change, whilst significantly contributing to enhancing quality of life. Research on town tree cover in Powys<sup>256</sup> suggests that the current variation and continuing decline in tree cover needs to be counteracted through:

- Setting canopy cover targets.
- Identification of priority towns for the adoption of a strategic approach to canopy cover increase.

<sup>254</sup> Welsh Government (2019) '2019 Wales Greenhouse Gas Emissions'. Available at: [2019 Wales Greenhouse Gas Emissions \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/greenhouse-gas-emissions-2019), accessed 11.07.2022

<sup>255</sup> Welsh Government (2020) Energy use in Wales 2018. Available at: [Energy Use in Wales 2018 \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/energy-use-in-wales-2018), accessed 11.07.2022

<sup>256</sup> Natural Resources Wales (2016) Town Tree Cover in Powys. Available at: <https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/682947/powys-tcwtc3-technical-annex.pdf>



- Optimising funding tools facilitating delivery.

- 3.10.14 In 2017, the Welsh Government announced a target of meeting the equivalent of 70% of Wales' electricity demand from Welsh renewable electricity sources by 2030. In 2019, it is estimated that this figure stands at 51%. As of 2019, Wales generated 7.5 TWh of electricity from renewable sources, up from 7.4 TWh the previous year and accounting for 27% of all electricity generation in Wales, not all of which is consumed within Wales as it is a net exporter of energy. 145 ME of new renewable electrical capacity was commissioned in Wales in 2019, bringing total capacity to 3,372 MW<sup>257</sup>. The continued improvement of renewable energy infrastructure, coupled with the decommissioning of all coal power sources and a decrease in other fossil fuels will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change.
- 3.10.15 During the period 2021 - 2022, planning permission was granted for 1.433MW of renewable, zero or low carbon electricity. Since the LDP was adopted (2018) planning permission has been given for total of 38.164MW of energy generation, equating to 62% of the 61.7MW anticipated energy contribution detailed in the LDP. In addition to the 1.433MW permitted, an application for a windfarm at Llanbrynmair, consisting of 30 wind turbines, with the potential to generate 90MW of electricity, was approved by the Secretary of State in December 2021 (BERR/2009/0004)<sup>258</sup>.

### **Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan**

- 3.10.16 The Adopted Local Plan does not influence or impact on climatic factors. The climate of Powys will continue to change as a result of unthinkable numbers of a combination of reasons. Without implementation of the plan the climate will continue to change.
- 3.10.17 Climatic factors will continue to change as predicted under the various Scenarios modelled by the United Kingdom Climate Impacts Program (UKCIP) and Wales: Changing Climate, Challenging Choices (2000) - a scoping study of the possible impacts on Wales of climate change over the next 100 years. It is expected that this will include:
- Hotter drier summers
  - Warmer wetter winters
  - More extreme weather events
- 3.10.18 As well as these, the Powys Council Climate Change Strategy document also established the following impacts of climate change that is being experienced in Powys and across the Globe:
- More drought and wildfire
  - Stronger storms
  - More heat waves
  - Flooding

<sup>257</sup> Welsh Government (2020) Energy Generation in Wales 2019. Available at: [energy-generation-in-wales-2019.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#), accessed 11.07.2022

<sup>258</sup> Powys County Council (2022) Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) Annual Monitoring Report 2022

- Damaged corals
- Less snow and ice and the thawing of the permafrost
- Changes in plant life cycles
- Changes to animal migration and life cycles

3.10.19 Climate change is occurring and will continue regardless of local policy intervention. However, national policy on climate change, adopted Local Plan policy and other plans and programmes alongside the progressive tightening up of Building Regulations will help to ensure that new development is located and designed to adapt to the effects of climate change and that measures are in place to mitigate climate change. Notwithstanding, without the Replacement Local Development Plan the Council is likely to have less control over, in particular, the location of new development which could exacerbate climate change impacts and mean that opportunities to mitigate effects (for example, through reducing transport movements, tree planting and district-scale renewable energy solutions) may be missed.

### Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to ensure that new development is adaptable to the effects of climate change.
- The need to increase woodland and tree cover to help mitigate and adapt to climate change, focusing on achieving 20% canopy cover in all major settlements and aiming for 40% street tree canopy cover in shopping and residential streets.
- The need to mitigate climate change including through increased renewable energy provision.
- The need to mitigate climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- The need to increase resilience to climate change impacts through improved flood defences and ensuring infrastructure can cope with changes in temperature and seasonal weather variation.

## 3.11 Material Assets

- 3.11.1 Powys contains many material assets of national and regional importance which should be safeguarded. These include mineral resources, strategic transport and utilities infrastructure and location specific infrastructure as well as waste facilities and soils. Details of these material assets and key environmental issues are summarised below.
- 3.11.2 Powys includes significant quantities of mineral resources - coal, hard rock, sand and gravel - that could be of benefit to future generations. Some of this can be extracted through existing consents. Powys also contributes to the regional supply of aggregates.
- 3.11.3 Powys contains a considerable amount of infrastructure that can be considered as material assets. Some of these are listed and grouped below:

- Utilities infrastructure (e.g. flood defences, reservoirs, dams, pipelines (water supply), open access land, waste water treatment, waste disposal sites, energy infrastructure).
  - Transport Infrastructure (e.g. trunk and A roads including safeguarded routes, railways, Rights of Way, National Trails, Cycle Network).
  - Location specific infrastructure (e.g. Sennybridge Training Area (SENTA), Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground (RWAS), and the Montgomery Canal).
- 3.11.4 The Growing Mid Wales Deal identified considerable improvements and investment in various projects, some of the key ones being the Elan Valley, the Montgomery Canal and its restoration, the Centre for Alternative Technology at Machynlleth, Cynefin – The Green Heart of Wales, the Food Centre Wales lead Food Manufacturing Innovation Centre, Mid Wales Manufacturing Campus and National Spectrum Centre to name a few<sup>259</sup>. There is also a focus on improving digital connectivity within the LDP area. Specific reference (p.15) to the agriculture food and drink sector includes: *“a strong and vibrant agricultural sector generating significant employment and produce to a nationally and internationally recognised standard, coupled with industrial and innovation strengths offers the opportunity to grow the economic base significantly and lead on new high-value food development.”*
- 3.11.5 Under the Environmental Protection Act, 1990, Powys County Council is classed as a Waste Collection and Disposal Authority, and as such, under section 45 (1), has a statutory duty to collect household waste from all domestic properties in the County<sup>260</sup>.
- 3.11.6 The Welsh Agricultural Classification (WALC) system is established by the Welsh Government and establishes the following categories for agricultural land, with Grades 1, 2 and 3a classed as Best and Most Versatile (BMV)<sup>261</sup>:
- grade 1: excellent quality agricultural land
  - grade 2: good quality agricultural land
  - grade 3a: good to moderate quality agricultural land
  - grade 3b: moderate quality agricultural land
  - grade 4: poor quality agricultural land
  - grade 5: very poor quality agricultural land

## Waste

- 3.11.7 Growing levels of waste and a number of fiscal instruments have led authorities to recycle and compost more waste, landfill less and use waste as a means to generate power. Increased recycling and composting rates as well as energy recovery rates in future years

<sup>259</sup> Growing Mid Wales (2022) 'Mid Wales Growth Deal – Final Deal Agreement'. Available at:

<http://www.growingmid.wales/article/10701/Mid-Wales-Growth-Deal>, accessed 16.08.2022, page 36-38.

<sup>260</sup> Powys County Council (2022) Kerbside Collection Policy. Available at: [Kerbside Collection Policy - Powys County Council](#)

<sup>261</sup> Welsh Government (No date) 'Agricultural land classification: predictive map'. Available at:

<https://gov.wales/agricultural-land-classification-predictive-map#:~:text=Land%20is%20categorised%20into%20one.to%20moderate%20quality%20agricultural%20land>, accessed 16.08.2022.

will, however, be necessary if a reduction in the volume of waste going to landfill is to occur. The Waste (Wales) Measure 2010 set out recycling targets for local authorities in Wales, of 64% by 2019/20 and 70% by 2024/25<sup>262</sup>. Powys fell just short of this in 2019/20, with a 63% recycling rate, but is on track to meet its 2024/25 target, with a rate of 66% in 2020/21<sup>263</sup>.

3.11.8 In total, 37,000 tonnes of waste was recycled in Powys in the year 2019/20. Through recycling this waste, £4million was saved and 17,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions were avoided<sup>264</sup>.

3.11.9 From 2012/13 to 2016/17 the amount of waste recycled in Powys increased from 51% to 65% before dropping to 60% in 2017/18 and then steadily increasing again<sup>265</sup>.

3.11.10 Across Wales, total municipal waste generated has shown a general decrease between 2012/13 and 2020/21, from 1,553,512 to 1,488,253 tonnes<sup>266</sup>.

## Minerals

3.11.11 Government policy promotes the general conservation of minerals whilst at the same time ensuring an adequate supply is available to meet needs. Mineral resources are not distributed evenly across the country and some areas are able to provide greater amounts of certain minerals than they use.

3.11.12 The number of mineral operational sites within Powys is 15<sup>267</sup>.

3.11.13 Some 2.88 million tonnes of crushed rock was sold between 2011 and 2013. 0.27 million tonnes of sand and gravel was produced between 2011 and 2013.

3.11.14 The County Council, as Minerals Planning Authority (MPA), must contribute 2.51 million tonnes per annum of hard rock to the South Wales regional aggregate supply. The MPA has no requirement to contribute sand and gravel to the regional supply.

3.11.15 Powys has no apportionment of land-won sand and gravel and a total apportionment of 87.98 million tonnes of crushed rock aggregates over a 25-year period. When this is expressed as an annual apportionment it equates to 3.519 million tonnes per annum<sup>268</sup>.

3.11.16 Relevant maps of minerals resources in mid Wales are available at:

[MidWalesNorth.pdf \(bgs.ac.uk\)](#) and [MidWalesSouth.pdf \(bgs.ac.uk\)](#)

<sup>262</sup> Welsh Government (2010) Waste (Wales) Measure 2010. Available at: [Waste \(Wales\) Measure 2010 - Explanatory Notes \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#), accessed 12.07.2022.

<sup>263</sup> Welsh Government, My Recycling Wales. Available at: [Powys's recycling data | My Recycling Wales](#), accessed 12.07.2022.

<sup>264</sup> Ibid.

<sup>265</sup> Powys Public Service Board (2022) Well-Being Assessment. Available at: [FULL Well-being Assessment - March 2022 \(1\).pdf](#), accessed 12.07.2022.

<sup>266</sup> Welsh Government, Annual Waste Generated (tonnes) by Source). Available at: [Annual waste generated \(tonnes\) by source \(gov.wales\)](#), accessed 13.07.2022.

<sup>267</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 211.

<sup>268</sup> Powys County Council (2022) Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) Annual Monitoring Report 2022, page 145.

## Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Replacement Local Development Plan

### Infrastructure

- 3.11.17 Growth and associated development across the County could place pressures on site-specific infrastructure in turn prejudicing their function/operation or future projects that are key to delivering growth. A new Replacement Local Development Plan would help to protect against such negative effects through policies and careful siting of developments.

### Waste

- 3.11.18 Overall, the amount of municipal waste generated in Wales decreased by 4% from 2012/13 to 2020/21. It is expected that this trend would also be seen in Powys and is set to continue.
- 3.11.19 Recycling rates in Powys have also increased in recent years. It is expected that this trend will continue with or without the LDP as it is driven by national targets set out in the Waste (Wales) Measure 2010.
- 3.11.20 An increase in population and number of households may lead to an increase in waste without further initiatives to reduce the amount produced. This would put pressure on existing waste facilities in Powys, although it is expected that this would not impact trends in waste production and recycling rates.
- 3.11.21 Powys County Council will work to the 'Towards Zero Waste' strategy in line with the waste hierarchy to prevent the growth of residual waste by stimulating increased recycling and composting and endorsing waste prevention initiatives with a long-term aim of zero waste<sup>269</sup>.
- 3.11.22 A new Replacement Local Development Plan would be able to better achieve Powys County Councils desires for net zero and provide updated waste management policies, potentially ensuring less waste is generated within the County.

### Minerals

- 3.11.23 Important mineral resources are safeguarded by Welsh Government's Mineral Planning Policy Wales. This would remain in force as a material planning consideration if the LDP were not in place.
- 3.11.24 Powys County Council, as Minerals Planning Authority (MPA), would continue to contribute hard rock to the South Wales regional aggregate supply. The MPA has no requirement to contribute sand and gravel to the regional supply.
- 3.11.25 New development within Powys could place pressure on local mineral assets to support construction. If allowed this could lead to deterioration of mineral stocks in Powys, which a new Replacement Local Development Plan could better mitigate such negative effects through policies and careful siting of developments.

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<sup>269</sup> Powys County Council (2014) Waste Strategy 2014/15. Available at: [Microsoft Word - C83 App PCC Waste Strategy Draft 2014 - v5 \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#), accessed 13.07.2022.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling.
- The need to continue operation of material asset infrastructure and ensure it is not hampered by development.
- The need to safeguard Powys' resources from permanent development that would sterilise its potential extraction.
- The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources.
- The need to protect site-specific infrastructure from inappropriate developments that may prejudice their function/operation or future projects that are key to delivering growth.

### 3.12 Cultural Heritage

3.12.1 The Welsh language is important to the culture and history of Wales. The latest Powys Annual Monitoring Report identifies the following proportion of the Powys LDP area's population as being able to speak Welsh (people aged three and over)<sup>270</sup>:

- 2018 - 29.9%
- 2019 – 27.3%
- 2020 – 23.3%
- 2021 – 27.0%
- 2022 – 30.7%

3.12.2 The number of Welsh speakers in Powys, aged three and over, decreased by 2.1% between 2011 and 2021, this decrease was largest in the three to 15 age group, at 7%<sup>271</sup>.

3.12.3 Powys has an exceptional historic environment and contains 13% of Wales' Listed Buildings and 22% of Wales' Scheduled Ancient Monuments<sup>272</sup>. **Table 3.16** identifies the percentage of Powys' Listed Buildings that are at risk, vulnerable or not at risk as of 2015. Overall, in 2015 81.64% of Listed buildings within Powys were identified as being not at risk was 81.64%<sup>273</sup>.

<sup>270</sup> Powys County Council (2023) Annual Monitoring Report 2023. Available at: [Annual Monitoring Report 2023.pdf](#).

<sup>271</sup> Welsh Government (2022) Welsh language in Wales (Census 2021). Available at: [Welsh language in Wales \(Census 2021\) | GOV.WALES](#).

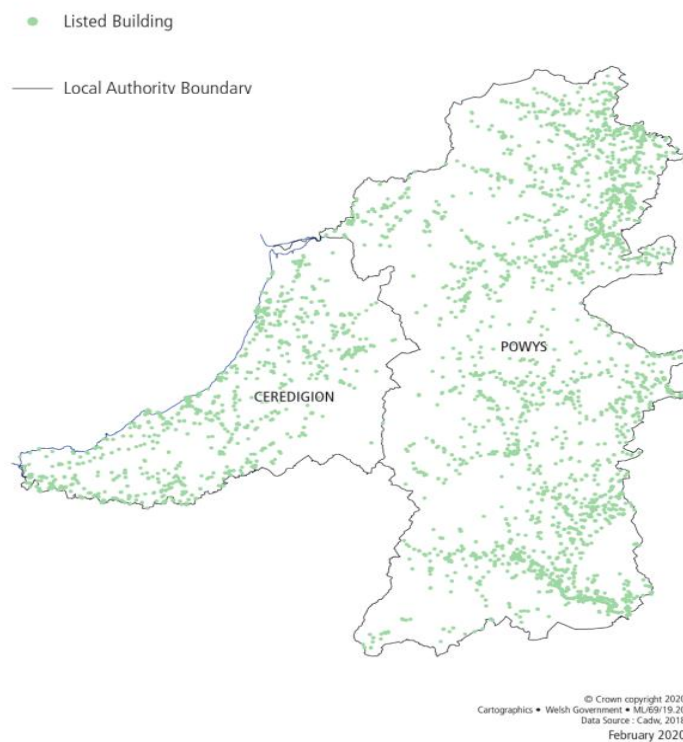
<sup>272</sup> Powys County Council (2010) Built Heritage Strategy. Available at: [Powys Built Heritage Strategy 2010.pdf](#).

<sup>273</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 220.

Table 3.16 Percentage of Listed Buildings in Powys by Risk Score (2015)<sup>274</sup>

Risk Assessment	Risk Score	Percentage
At Risk	1 – At Extreme Risk	2.02
At Risk	2 – At Grave Risk	0.26
At Risk	3 – At Risk	5.32
Vulnerable	4 – Vulnerable	10.76
Not at Risk	5 – Not at Risk	31.83
Not at Risk	6 – Not at Risk	49.81

3.12.4 **Figure 3.36** shows the distribution of listed buildings and other heritage sites across mid Wales. Some archaeological sites and their settings, notably Offa's Dyke, are being eroded and compromised by development. Powys Scheduled Ancient Monuments are perhaps the most vulnerable of Powys historic assets as many have no economic use and are within or close to settlement boundaries.

Figure 3.36 Listed Buildings in Mid Wales<sup>275</sup>

<sup>274</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 220.

<sup>275</sup> Welsh Government (2020) Summary Statistics for Mid Wales region: 2020. Available at: [Summary statistics for Mid Wales region: 2020 \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales), accessed 13.07.2022.

- 3.12.5 Powys is an area of great historical diversity, with many above and below-ground sites and monuments from all historical periods including considerable Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Age remains.
- 3.12.6 The Powys planning area in 2021 had the following number of historic environment designations<sup>276</sup>:
- Listed Buildings – 3,935
  - Conservation Areas – 55
  - Scheduled Ancient Monuments – 730
  - Registered Historic Landscapes – 10
  - Registered Historic Parks & Gardens - 37
- 3.12.7 The number of Listed Buildings within Powys considered at risk has fallen to 19% by 2021. The latest Annual Monitoring Report states the following regarding the condition of SM<sup>277</sup>:
- *“Within the county of Powys there are 952 SMs and the number of SM visited within the current (5th) round of condition monitoring is 877 (92%) and of these 877 visited 775 (88%) were assessed as not ‘At Risk’ with 583 (66%) in a stable or improving condition.*
  - *Within the Powys LDP area there are 730 SMs and the number of SM visited within the current (5th) round of condition monitoring is 655 (89%). Of the 655 visited, 590 (90%) were assessed as not ‘At Risk’ with 439 (67%) of those in a stable or improving condition.”*
- 3.12.8 **Table 3.17** identifies the number of historical designations within Powys and how these numbers have changed since the Local Development Plan was adopted.
- 3.12.9 **Table 3.18** highlights the condition of SM within Powys, with **Table 3.19** showing the condition of listed buildings.
- 3.12.10 Powys (excl. BBNP) has the following Cultural characteristics (as identified by the Landmap Cultural landscape layer, May 2014):
- 34 Outstanding character areas.
  - 38 High character areas.
  - 15 Moderate character areas.
  - 1 Low character areas.

Table 3.17 Historic Environment Designation Totals for Powys, 2021 to 2022<sup>278</sup>

Historic Environment Designation	At LDP Adoption	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	Net gain or loss
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<sup>276</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 217

<sup>277</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 218

<sup>278</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 217.



						Over last year (since adoption)
<b>Listed Buildings</b>	3931	3934	3932	3935	3935	0 (+4)
<b>Scheduled Monuments (SM)</b>	717	718	719	719	730	0 (+13)
<b>Conservation Areas</b>	55	55	55	55	55	0 (0)
<b>Registered Historic Parks and Gardens</b>	37 (consisting of 22 Grade II, 10 of Grade II*, and 5 of Grade I)	37	37	37	37	0 (0)
<b>Registered Historic Landscapes</b>	10	10	10	10	10	0 (0)

Table 3.18 Percentage of Scheduled Monuments in Powys LDP that are in a Stable or Improving Condition <sup>279</sup>

Condition of Scheduled Monuments	2019/2020	2021/2022
<b>No. of scheduled monuments</b>	719	730
<b>% assessed</b>	77%	89%
<b>% assessed not 'At Risk'</b>	91%	90%
<b>% assessed in 'stable or improving condition'</b>	69%	67%

Table 3.19 Percentage of Listed Buildings in Powys by Risk Score (2015) <sup>280</sup>

Risk Assessment	Risk Score	Percentage
<b>At Risk</b>	1 – At Extreme Risk	2.02

<sup>279</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 219.

<sup>280</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 220.

<b>At Risk</b>	2 – At Grave Risk	0.26
<b>At Risk</b>	3 – At Risk	5.32
<b>Vulnerable</b>	4 – Vulnerable	10.76
<b>Not at Risk</b>	5 – Not at Risk	31.83
<b>Not at Risk</b>	6 – Not at Risk	49.81

- 3.12.11 Some historic assets cut across geographical boundaries and functional categories, such as the Montgomery Canal which is undergoing restoration and forms a multifunctional resource which has a range of biodiversity and conservation designations. Restoration of the Canal will provide connection to the Llangollen Canal and the wider inland waterway network in England and provides a significant resource for the promotion of health and well-being.
- 3.12.12 Similarly, Welsh place names are an integral part of the cultural and historic landscape of Wales.

### **Likely Evolution of the Baseline without the Replacement Local Development Plan**

- 3.12.13 Whilst it is reasonable to assume that the majority of Powys' designated heritage assets would be protected without the Replacement Local Development Plan (since works to them invariably require consent), the erosion of the character of Powys' historic areas has been identified as a cause for concern by Cadw and the Royal Commission Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales. The concern relates to the erosion of details within historic settlements, inappropriate repairs or replacement of features to listed buildings and the degradation of the special interest of conservation areas.
- 3.12.14 A particular issue is new build that does not reflect the local distinctiveness of Powys' historic settlements. The Replacement Local Development Plan could be better positioned through planning policies to require new development (especially new housing development) to afford more consideration and care to the character and setting of their surroundings. This should include specific recognition and use of Welsh place names that are integral features of the cultural and historic landscape of Wales.
- 3.12.15 Whilst a percentage of listed buildings are at threat from lack of maintenance or abandonment, some archaeology is threatened by piecemeal development. Most notable is the Offa's Dyke Scheduled Ancient monument which has been identified in the Offa's Dyke initiative as being at threat from erosion by development both to the monument itself and by affecting its setting.
- 3.12.16 Both Offa's Dyke and the Montgomery Canal have been identified as linear heritage that could be improved to produce benefits to locals and tourists. Concerns regarding the erosion of the character of Powys' historic assets, though the current trend is that the number of historic assets within Powys is increasing and that less of their Listed Buildings are at risk. In spite of this, there appears to be a growing trend downward in the number

of Scheduled Ancient Monuments within Powys, potentially identifying a need for more to be done to protect these heritage assets. The Replacement Local Development Plan could reaffirm the need for historical assets to be protected and improved to halt and (preferably) reverse the downward trend in the condition of Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

- 3.12.17 The Replacement Local Development Plan and its policies will help to achieve good quality design ensuring that the heritage of Powys is protected and enhanced and to ensure new developments reflects the diversity, value and quality of their surroundings and reflect local distinctiveness.
- 3.12.18 Reference to the Historic Environment Record maintained by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT)<sup>281</sup> will be an important part of assessing the potential local impacts of development.

### **Key Sustainability Issues**

- The need to protect and enhance Powys' cultural heritage assets and their settings.
- The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets and heritage at risk and prevent the trend towards more heritage assets being placed on this list.
- The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect these where possible.
- The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes, including the Welsh language and culture and health and well-being aspirations.

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<sup>281</sup> <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/1785/>

### 3.13 Landscape

- 3.13.1 Powys is the largest County in Wales covering some 5,196 square kilometres (2,000 square miles), which represents almost exactly 25% of the total landmass of Wales. Powys is a largely rural County with a high proportion of its land being of very poor agricultural quality - 95% is grade 4 or 5 (more than any other rural County in Wales) and 86% is severely disadvantaged, a level only exceeded by two South Wales valleys authorities.
- 3.13.2 Apart from the broad river valleys of the Severn, Wye and Usk and their tributaries, Powys is an area of upland mountain and moorland, well suited to grazing livestock, outdoor pursuits and forestry, but with limited scope for other forms of economic development. However, these characteristics also combine to provide a high quality landscape throughout the area, one which is attractive to tourists and day visitors as much for its remoteness and rugged natural beauty as for its distinctive market towns and remote villages.
- 3.13.3 The Brecon Beacons National Park (BBNP) covers about 17.2% of Powys, with the south of the Powys Local Planning Authority area contributing to its setting. The National Park is designated as an International Dark Sky Reserve<sup>282</sup> and the western half contains the Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark<sup>283</sup>.
- 3.13.4 Immediately to the north west of Powys there is a second national park (Snowdonia), which is also designated as an International Dark Sky Reserve<sup>284</sup>. Located midway between these designated Dark Sky Reserves lies the Elan Valley Estate International Dark Sky Park, which is centred on a series of linked reservoirs and is located within the Powys Local Planning Authority area.<sup>285</sup>
- 3.13.5 In addition, the Shropshire Hills National Landscape borders onto the Powys Local Planning Authority area east and south of Montgomery.<sup>286</sup> The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape lies within a few miles of the northern boundary of the Powys Local Planning Authority.<sup>287</sup>
- 3.13.6 These areas, together with The Radnor Forest, the Berwyns, the Tanat Valley, Lake Vyrnwy, the Dyfi Valley, the east Montgomeryshire Hills and very many national historic, archaeological and nature conservation designations, illustrate what an attractive and valuable landscape and environment there is in Powys.
- 3.13.7 The landscape of Powys is one of its most important assets and is a product of the natural history of Powys, its geology, and the influence of human activity. Maintaining the distinctiveness of the landscape of Powys is an important factor in protecting the quality of the environment and ensuring the area's economic well-being. It can help to attract investment and employment opportunities, through developing the tourism industry and

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<sup>282</sup> [Brecon Beacons National Park \(Wales\) - International Dark-Sky Association \(darksky.org\)](https://www.darksky.org/)

<sup>283</sup> [Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark. Available at: Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark - Brecon Beacons National Park, Wales.](https://www.unesco.org/en/geoparks/)

<sup>284</sup> [Snowdonia National Park \(Wales\) - International Dark-Sky Association \(darksky.org\)](https://www.darksky.org/)

<sup>285</sup> [Elan Valley Estate \(Wales\) - International Dark-Sky Association \(darksky.org\)](https://www.darksky.org/)

<sup>286</sup> [Shropshire Hills AONB - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty](https://www.darksky.org/)

<sup>287</sup> [Clwydian Range AONB Home - Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB](https://www.darksky.org/)

through providing an attractive place for local people to live and work in. It is also desirable to protect the countryside for its own sake wherever possible.

- 3.13.8 Consequently, the County Council recognises the need to reconcile the conflict that exists between development and the need to safeguard the landscape.
- 3.13.9 Powys' planning area has no nationally (UK) recognised landscape designations. However, LANDMAP and the Registers of Outstanding and Special Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales recognise that Powys has specific areas that are of landscape importance at a national (Welsh) level. The National Parks and National Landscapes must be considered when considering any proposals for development that may affect a designated area's special qualities or the reasons for its designation and its character and setting.
- 3.13.10 The Welsh Government is working on plans to designate the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape as Wales's fourth National Park in the future. An ongoing campaign by the Cambrian Mountains Society seeks designation of the Cambrian Mountains as a National Landscape covering parts of the counties of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Powys<sup>288</sup>
- 3.13.11 The Landmap Category Visual and Sensory % (from outstanding to low) shows 316 Sites of Visual and Sensory in Powys, 67 of which lie in the Brecon Beacons National Park, therefore 249 are in the Powys Planning Area. The classifications of these sites are as follows<sup>289</sup>:
- Outstanding – 11.
  - High – 91.
  - Moderate – 123.
  - Low – 22.
  - Unassessed – 2.
- 3.13.12 In terms of quality, the percentage of Aspect Areas within, or intersecting, the Plan Area that are of 'High' or 'Outstanding' Quality are as follows:<sup>290</sup>
- Geological landscape 34%
  - Landscape habitats 45%
  - Historic setting 55%
  - Visual and sensory landscape 38%

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<sup>288</sup> [Designated Landscape Status - Cambrian Mountains Society \(cambrian-mountains.co.uk\)](http://cambrian-mountains.co.uk)

<sup>289</sup> Natural Resources Wales, LANDMAP. Available at: [Environmental data - Map Series Builder StoryMap | Wales Environmental Information Portal \(arcgis.com\)](https://www.naturalresources.wales/landmap), accessed 13.07.2022.

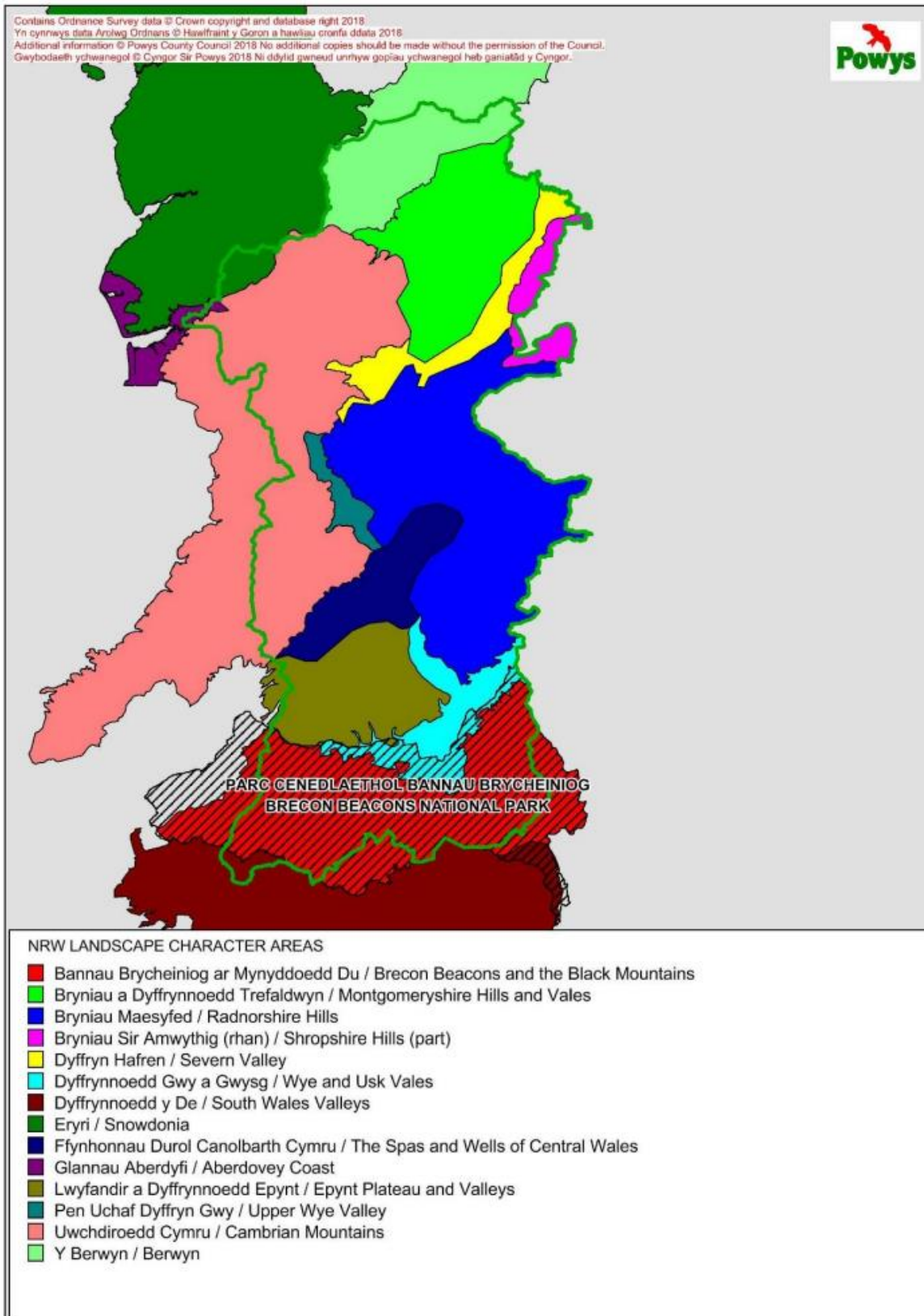
<sup>290</sup> Powys County Council (2022) Annual Monitoring Report Table 47. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4910/Annual-Monitoring-Report>

- 3.13.13 The Mid Wales Landscape Statement<sup>291</sup> presents thematic mapping, including visual and sensory area extents, which can help to inform detailed assessment of the sustainability performance of plan policies and proposals.
- 3.13.14 Wales comprises 48 National Landscape Character Areas, 13 of which lie within Powys and are identified in **Figure 3.37**. Complementing these, Powys is also characterised by a range of Registered Historic Landscapes (**Figure 3.38**) concentrated in the south, mid and north of the County, some of which are shared with neighbouring authorities.

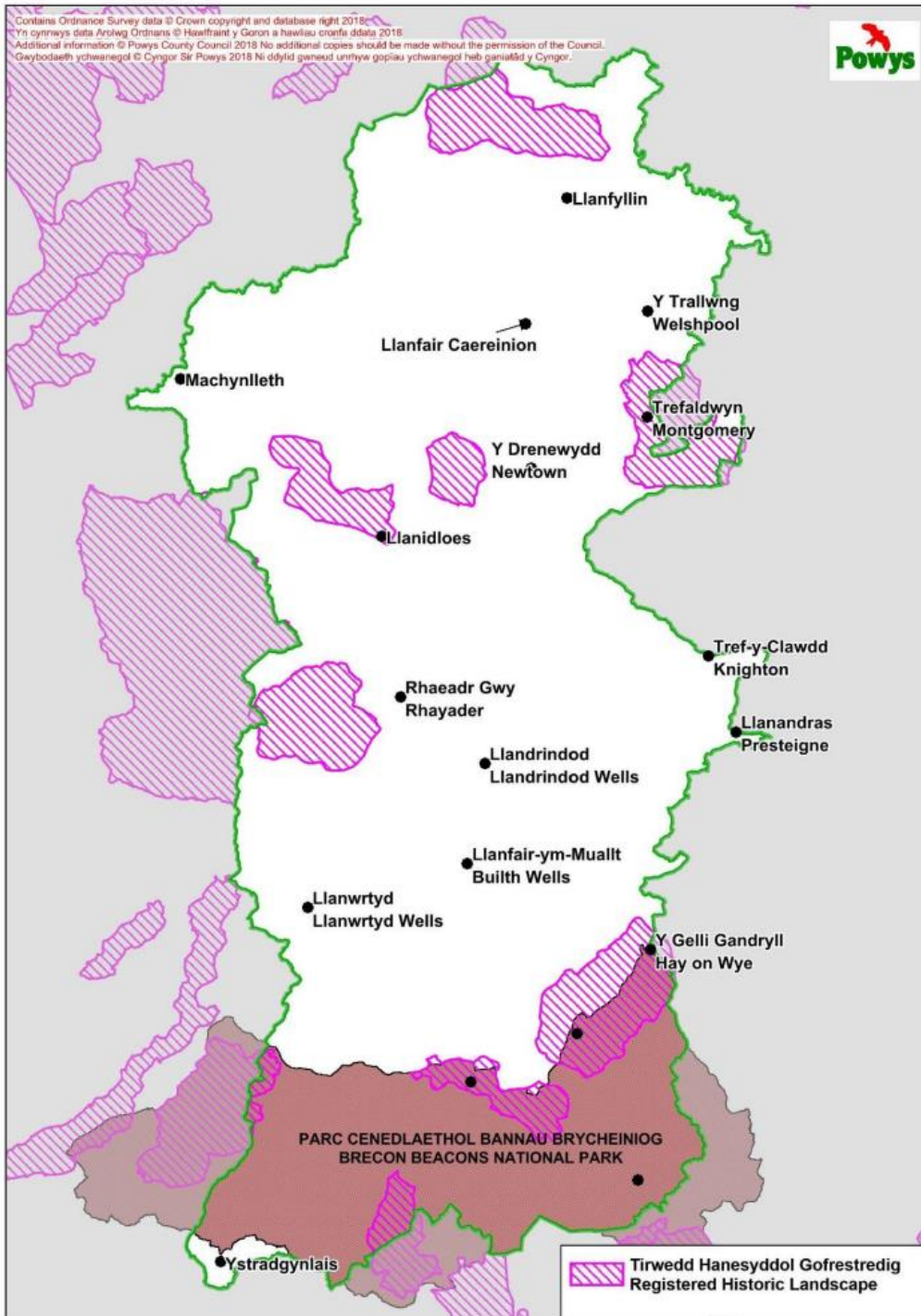
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<sup>291</sup> <https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/685441/as-mid-wales-landscape-final-april-2018.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=131722327710000000>

Figure 3.37 National Landscape Character Areas Map – Powys<sup>292</sup>



<sup>292</sup> Powys County Council (2019) 'Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4907/LDP-Supplementary-Planning-Guidance-SPG-and-Supporting-Policy>, accessed 18.07.2022, page 43.

Figure 3.38 Registered Historic Landscapes Map<sup>293</sup>

3.13.15 **Figure 3.39** identifies the light pollution experienced by different regions within Wales and shows that Mid Wales experiences some of the lowest light pollution and some of the best Dark Skies, which are important for tranquillity and a places character, mapped in **Figure 3.40**.

<sup>293</sup> Powys County Council (2019) 'Landscape Supplementary Planning Guidance'. Available at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4907/LDP-Supplementary-Planning-Guidance-SPG-and-Supporting-Policy>, accessed 18.07.2022, page 42.



Figure 3.39 Percentage of each NRW operational areas falling into each colour band<sup>294</sup>

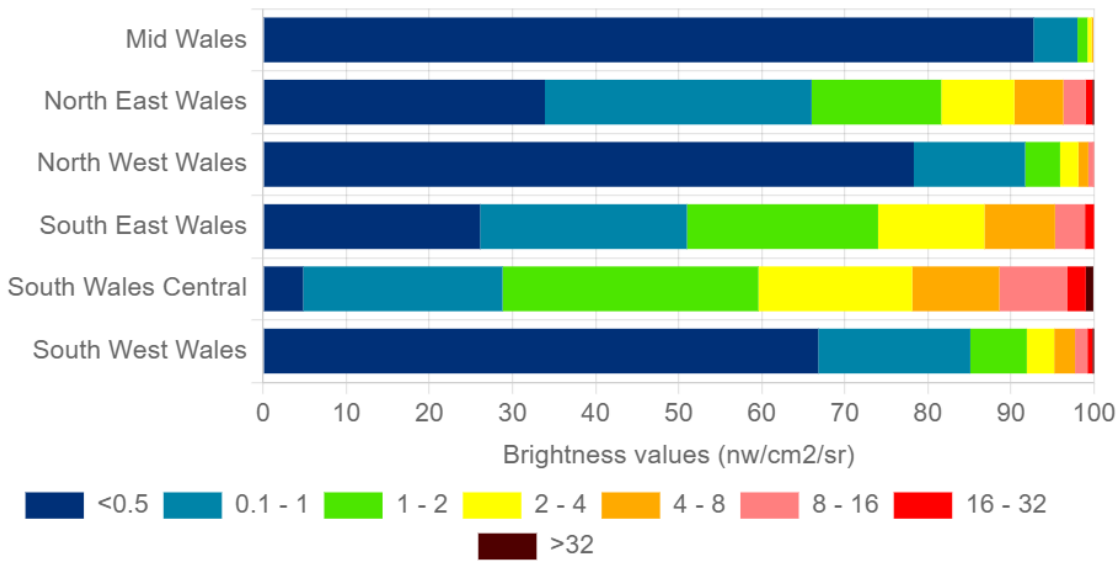
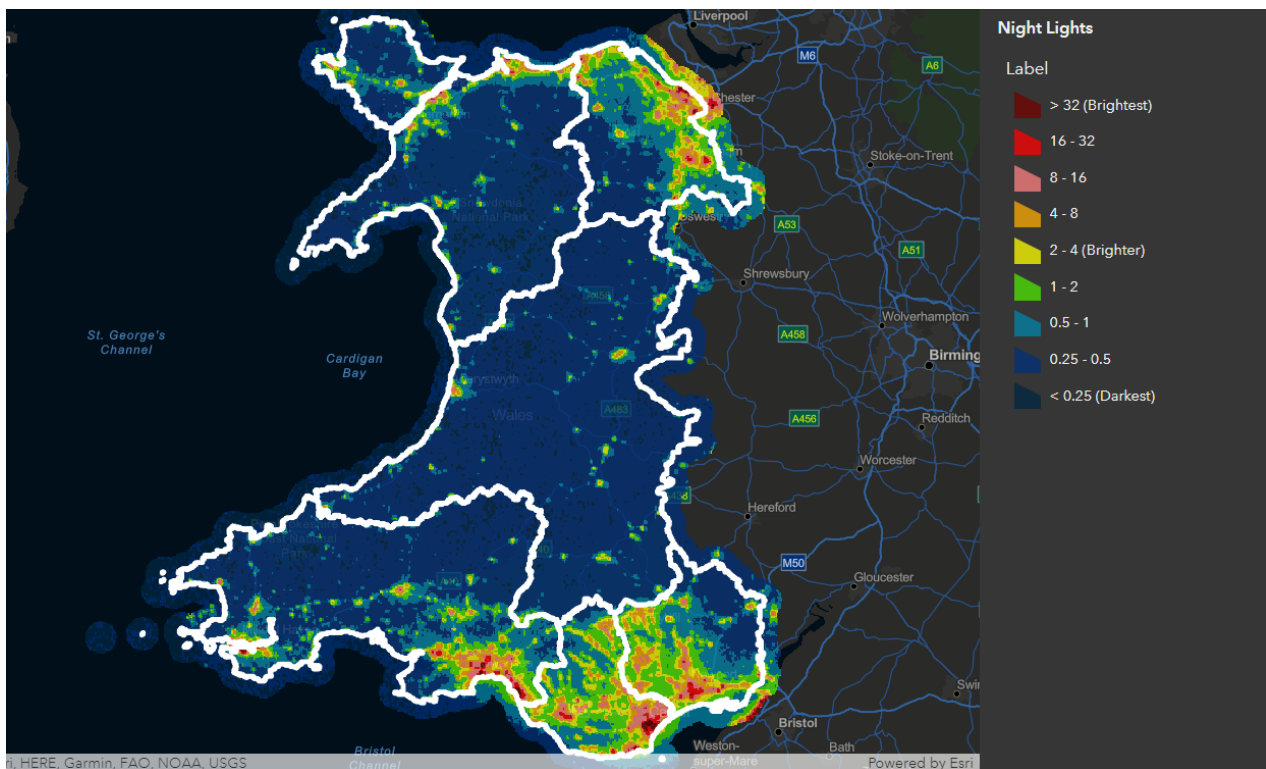


Figure 3.40 Dark skies and light pollution in NRW operational areas<sup>295</sup>



### Likely Evolution of the Baseline without the Replacement Local Development Plan

3.13.16 New development is likely to place pressure on the landscape of Powys. Adopted Local Development Plan policies would continue to offer some protection and guidance, though

<sup>294</sup> Natural Resources Wales (No date) 'Tranquillity and Place – Dark Skies'. Available at: [Headline figures and statistics – Tranquillity and Place – Dark Skies \(lucmaps.co.uk\)](#), accessed 16.08.2022.

<sup>295</sup> Natural Resources Wales (No date) 'Tranquillity and Place – Dark Skies'. Available at: [Headline figures and statistics – Tranquillity and Place – Dark Skies \(lucmaps.co.uk\)](#), accessed 16.08.2022.

there is the potential that development could be inappropriately sited and designed without a new Replacement Local Development Plan. This could adversely affect the landscape and townscape character of the area. Further, opportunities may not be realised to enhance landscape and townscape character through, for example, the provision of green infrastructure or the adoption of high quality design standards.

- 3.13.17 99.28% of applications permitted between 2021-2022 were totally or partially within an area evaluated as being of high or outstanding value, which is unsurprising given that 97% of the land within Powys falls into one of those categories<sup>296</sup>. This makes it almost impossible to site new development within Powys outside of such areas.
- 3.13.18 Without the LDP the classifications awarded through LANDMAP may deteriorate although impact on landscape is a material consideration irrespective of whether or not there is a development plan in place. The Replacement Local Development Plan will direct development to appropriate locations.
- 3.13.19 A Replacement Local Development Plan could also continue to capitalise and protect the Dark Skies experienced by the residents of Powys.

### Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to conserve and where appropriate enhance Powys' landscape and townscape character.
- The need to promote high quality design that respects local character.
- The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of built environments, and the use of historic place names, including Welsh names.
- The need to protect landscapes from incompatible development.
- The need to continue to protect the Dark Skies experienced by the residents of Powys.
- The need to promote 'good site' choice and decisions about development scale so that the visual effects of development do not intrude upon areas valued for its scenic quality, tranquillity, and integrity.

### 3.14 Summary of Key Sustainability Issues

- 3.14.1 From the analysis of the baseline presented in the preceding sections, a number of key sustainability issues affecting Powys have been identified. These issues are summarised in **Table 3.20**.

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<sup>296</sup> Powys County Council (2022) 'Annual Monitoring Report 2022', page 238.

Table 3.20 Key Sustainability Issues Identified

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to respond to the declared biodiversity emergency.</li> <li>• The need to protect, enhance and restore Powys' biodiversity through providing net benefits to biodiversity where possible.</li> <li>• The need to maintain, restore and expand Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan habitats.</li> <li>• The need to maintain, restore and expand designated and non-designated habitats.</li> <li>• The need to continue to tackle species decline.</li> <li>• The need to monitor the large quantity of designated and non-designated biodiversity assets located within the County.</li> <li>• The need to provides more open (especially equipped) play spaces within existing settlements.</li> <li>• The need to provide more allotments.</li> <li>• The need to monitor the quality of publicly accessible green spaces within the County, which could be assessed by the extent to which there is a Green Flag or Green Flag Community award-winning site within easy walking distance of every home in major settlements, using the methodology in the Greenspace Toolkit (see TAN 16 para 2.18).</li> <li>• The need to protect and enhance the multifunctional green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.</li> <li>• The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their ecological and geological interest.</li> <li>• Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ identify the main causes of the nature emergency including what needs to be done, by whom and where</li> <li>○ improve the Favourable Conservation Status of designated sites</li> <li>○ identify opportunities for connectivity between those sites and other areas</li> <li>○ make nature a priority through planning, policy, and practical measures.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
Population and Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall, the need to create sustainable places where people want to live, work and relax.</li> <li>• The need to enable housing growth, meeting housing needs and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types.</li> <li>• The need to deliver a range of employment sites to support economic growth.</li> <li>• The need to provide good quality sustainable employment and training opportunities.</li> <li>• The need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development that suits the needs of the County's rural population.</li> <li>• The need to address the proportion of the County's working age population not in work.</li> <li>• The need to raise incomes and especially for those whose incomes are in the lowest quartile.</li> <li>• The need to tackle pockets of deprivation that exist in the area.</li> <li>• The need to maintain the strong education attainment with the County, whilst address issues with its secondary schools.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard existing community facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities to meet needs arising from new development.</li> <li>• The need to improve peoples' awareness of services and how to access them.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard the identity of existing communities.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard and maintain and enhance access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities.</li> <li>• The need to continue to nurture interest and learning in the Welsh language (especially people outside of school age).</li> <li>• The need to increase opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language daily.</li> </ul>
Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to protect the health and wellbeing of Powys' population.</li> <li>• The need to promote healthy lifestyles and in particular reduce obesity and increase levels of physical activity.</li> <li>• The need to plan for an ageing population.</li> <li>• The need to address health inequalities, especially for those in the most deprived areas.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard existing health care facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities and services to meet needs arising from new development.</li> </ul>

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to better combat rising crime (target causes of crime and systemic inequality).</li> <li>• The need to address mental health concerns in the County's population, especially those over the age of 80 and address the causes of depression at all ages.</li> <li>• The need to ensure that Secured by Design principles and practice are incorporated into all new development, implementing Local Development Plan policy.</li> </ul>
Transport and Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services.</li> <li>• The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including park and ride sites, active travel and use of public transport.</li> <li>• The need to ensure that new development is accessible to a range of community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.</li> <li>• The need to reduce out-commuting by creating a stronger employment market within the Powys.</li> <li>• The need to encourage walking and cycling.</li> <li>• The need to encourage the use of public transport, and in particular key transport interchanges between different modes, namely bus and rail.</li> <li>• The need to support the existing car sharing schemes.</li> <li>• The need to investigate more innovative and creative ways to tackle behaviour change, rather than simply the monitoring of travel patterns.</li> </ul>
Land Use, Geology and Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to encourage development on previously developed (brownfield) land following assessment of its biodiversity value.</li> <li>• The need to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land.</li> <li>• The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their geological interest.</li> <li>• The need to protect and restore soil and peat resources as important carbon sinks and their role in increasing resilience of the natural environment against the effects of climate change.</li> </ul>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to protect and enhance the quality of water sources in the Powys Area.</li> <li>• The need to promote the efficient use of water resources.</li> <li>• The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.</li> <li>• The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change.</li> </ul>

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to become more adaptive and resilient to flooding incidents</li> <li>• The need to minimise the emissions of pollutants to air.</li> <li>• The need to continue to identify and assess and new potential sources that could adversely impact air quality.</li> </ul>
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to respond to the declared climate emergency.</li> <li>• The need to ensure that new development is adaptable to the effects of climate change.</li> <li>• The need to increase woodland and tree cover to help mitigate and adapt to climate change, focusing on achieving 20% canopy cover in all major settlements and aiming for 40% street tree canopy cover in shopping and residential streets.</li> <li>• The need to mitigate climate change including through increased renewable energy provision.</li> <li>• The need to mitigate climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions</li> <li>• The need to increase resilience to climate change impacts through improved flood defences and ensuring infrastructure can cope with changes in temperature and seasonal weather variation</li> <li>• The need to protect and restore soil and peat resources as important carbon sinks and their role in increasing resilience of the natural environment against the effects of climate change</li> </ul>
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling.</li> <li>• The need to continue operation of material asset infrastructure and ensure it is not hampered by development.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard Powys' mineral resources from permanent development that would sterilise its potential extraction.</li> <li>• The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources.</li> </ul>
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to protect and enhance Powys' cultural heritage assets and their settings.</li> <li>• The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets and heritage at risk and prevent the trend towards more heritage assets being places on this list.</li> <li>• The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect these where possible.</li> <li>• The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes, including the Welsh language and culture.</li> </ul>

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Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
Landscape and Townscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The need to conserve and where appropriate enhance Powys' landscape and townscape character.</li><li>• The need to promote high quality design that respects local character.</li><li>• The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of built environments, and the use of historic place names, including Welsh names.</li><li>• The need to protect landscapes from incompatible development.</li><li>• The need to continue to protect the Dark Skies experienced by the residents of Powys.</li><li>• The need to promote 'good site' choice and decisions about development scale so that the visual effects of development do not intrude upon areas valued for its scenic quality, tranquillity, and integrity.</li></ul>

## 4. Approach to the Integrated Sustainability Assessment

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section describes the proposed approach to the ISA of the creation of a new Replacement Local Development Plan. In particular, it draws on the information contained in Sections 2 and 3 to develop the appraisal framework (the ISA Framework) and sets out how this Framework will be used to support the appraisal of the key components of the new Replacement Local Development Plan (including reasonable alternatives).

### 4.2 ISA Assessment Framework

4.2.1 Establishing appropriate assessment objectives and guide questions is central to appraising the sustainability effects of the creation of a new Replacement Local Development Plan. Broadly, the ISA objectives define the long term aspirations for the Powys County with regard to social, economic and environmental considerations and it is against these objectives that the performance of a new Replacement Local Development Plan proposal will be appraised.

4.2.2 **Table 4.1** presents the proposed ISA Framework including objectives and associated guide questions to be used in the appraisal of the new Replacement Local Development Plan. The objectives and guide questions reflect the key messages arising from the review of plans and programmes (**Section 2**) and the key sustainability issues identified through the analysis of socio-economic and environmental baseline conditions (**Section 3**). The SEA Directive topic(s) to which each of the appraisal objectives relates is included in the third column.

Table 4.1 ISA Framework

#### **SEA Topic: Population & Communities**

##### *Key Issues:*

- Overall, the need to create sustainable places where people want to live and work.
- The need to enable housing growth and identify the minimum number of homes to be planned for and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types.
- The need to make best use and improve the quality of the existing housing stock.
- The need to support the delivery of specialist forms of housing for older people and people with disabilities.
- The need to provide affordable housing to contribute towards addressing local needs and housing pressures.



- The need to promote a range of functions which contribute to the vibrancy of local service centres.
- The need to safeguard existing community facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities to meet needs arising from new development which will contribute to sustainable communities.

**ISA Objective 1: To provide good quality homes and community infrastructure to meet identified needs**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Meet the identified housing needs, including affordable and specialist requirements?
- Ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures to meet the needs of all sectors of the community?
- Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?
- Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A Wales of cohesive communities; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales

**SEA Topic: Economy & Employment**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to deliver a range of employment sites to support economic growth.
- The need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development.
- The need to support economic development across Powys.
- The need to maintain and enhance the vitality of Powys' hierarchy of settlements.
- The need to provide good quality sustainable employment and training opportunities.
- The need to maintain and raise educational attainment and skills in the local labour force.
- The need to reduce out-commuting by encouraging businesses to invest and set up within Powys.

**ISA Objective 2: To create and support a strong, diverse and resilient economy and workforce**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Provide sufficient land for businesses to grow?
- Support the creation of accessible new jobs and training opportunities?
- Ensure the capacity of educational facilities keep pace with population growth?
- Enhance the vitality and resilience of communities?

- Safeguard existing employment areas?
- Create opportunities for and promote sustainable tourism, sensitively capitalising on environmental, cultural, heritage and leisure assets?
- Create opportunities for enhancements to the rural economy and rural diversification (including agriculture, forestry, small and medium sized employers (SMEs), micro businesses and the development of digital connectivity)?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities

### **SEA Topic: Equality, Diversity & inclusion**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to raise incomes and especially for those whose incomes are in the lowest quartile.
- The need to provide good quality sustainable employment and training opportunities.
- The need to tackle pockets of deprivation that exist in the area.
- The need to maintain and raise educational attainment and skills in the local labour force.

### **ISA Objective 3: To reduce poverty and inequality; tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Assist with providing employment and training opportunities for those most in need?
- Help to tackle poverty and inequality to support well-being?
- Address directly and indirectly areas suffering deprivation and/or decline?
- Help to provide better education opportunities and attainment?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities

## **SEA Topic: The Welsh Language**

### *Key Issues<sup>297</sup>:*

- The need to continue to nurture interest and learning in the Welsh language (especially people outside of school age).
- The need to increase the number of people who can speak Welsh.
- The need to increase the number people who speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh.
- The need to increase opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language.
- The need to treat the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.
- The need to safeguard the identity of existing communities.
- The need to safeguard and maintain and enhance access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities.
- The need to improve peoples' awareness of services and how to access them.

## **ISA Objective 4: To protect, promote and enhance the Welsh language and culture**

### *Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Affect the number who can speak Welsh and/or opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language daily (both positive and/or adverse effects)?
- Affect the sustainability of Welsh speaking communities (both positive and/or adverse effects)?
- Affect Welsh medium education and Welsh learners of all ages, including adults (both positive and/or adverse effects)?
- Affect services available in Welsh (both positive and/or adverse effects)? (e.g. health and social services, transport, housing, digital, youth, infrastructure, environment, local government etc.)

### **Supporting National Well-Being Goals: A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language; A Wales of cohesive communities**

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<sup>297</sup> The aims of Cymraeg 2050 are monitored by national well-being indicators 36 and 37. The requirements of the Welsh language policy making (standards 89 and 90) are as follows:

Standard 89: When you formulate a new policy, or review or revise an existing policy, you must consider how the policy could be formulated (or how an existing policy could be changed) so that the policy decision would have positive effects, or increased positive effects, on—

- (a) opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and
- (b) treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

Standard 90: When you formulate a new policy, or review or revise an existing policy, you must consider how the policy could be formulated (or how an existing policy could be changed) so that the policy decision would not have adverse effects, or so that it would have decreased adverse effects, on—

- (a) opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and
- (b) treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

## **SEA Topic: Health & Well-Being**

### *Key Issues:*

- The need to protect the health and wellbeing of Powys' population.
- The need to promote healthy lifestyles and in particular address obesity and levels of physical activity.
- The need to plan for an ageing population.
- The need to address health inequalities.
- The need to protect and enhance accessible open space provision.
- The need to support high quality design that creates safe and secure communities.
- The need to safeguard existing health care facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities and services to meet needs arising from new development.
- The need to improve peoples' awareness of services and how to access them.
- The need to ensure that new development is designed and constructed to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

## **ISA Objective 5: To improve the health and well-being of all sectors of society**

### *Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Contribute towards an improvement in access to health and social care services especially in isolated/rural areas?
- Contribute towards a reduction in health inequalities amongst different groups in the community including specifically children and older people?
- Contribute towards healthy lifestyles and promote well-being including walking and cycling?
- Contribute towards improving access to natural green space, wildlife, open space including opportunities for play, leisure and recreation?
- Contribute towards an increase in green infrastructure?
- Ensure new development is designed to reduce crime and the fear of crime?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities

## **SEA Topic: Land Use, Soils & Geology**

### *Key Issues:*

- The need to make efficient and effective use of land.
- The need to protect the Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.
- The need to protect and restore soil and peat resources as important carbon sinks and their role in increasing resilience of the natural environment against the effects of climate change.

- Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to:
  - Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment
  - Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry & manure stores)
  - Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services

**ISA Objective 6: To make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings and protect higher grade agricultural land**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Create opportunities to develop previously developed land where this will have no adverse impacts on Open Mosaic Habitats?
- Protect the Best and Most Versatile land from development?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales

**SEA Topic: Water**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to protect and enhance the quality of water sources across Powys to ensure resilient public water supply and improve the quality of the natural environment
- The need to promote the efficient use of water resources.
- The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.
- Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to:
  - Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment
  - Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry & manure stores)
  - Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services
  - Manage our water resources to improve the quality and quantity of available water, without causing detriment to the natural environment
  - Help to create adaptive and resilient communities in response to adverse weather events and climate change

- Support new ideas around developing Nature Based Solutions - for example, using Natural Flood Risk Management

**ISA Objective 7: To conserve, protect and enhance water quality and water resources**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Reduce water consumption?
- Ensure an adequate supply of water can be provided considering current and future projections of water availability and water use?
- Be delivered without causing deterioration in water quality in rivers and streams?
- Lead to an improvement in water quality in the SAC river catchments?
- Reduce the potential for agricultural practices to contribute towards nutrient-based pollution of waterbodies and courses?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales

**SEA Topic: Air**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to minimise the emissions of pollutants to air.
- The need to improve air quality, particularly in areas vulnerable to pollution.
- Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to:
  - Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment
  - Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry & manure stores)
  - Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services

**ISA Objective 8: To minimise or reduce the sources and effects of air pollution**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Reduce the need to travel?
- Encourage journeys to be made by sustainable means (active travel or public transport)?
- Avoid any adverse effects on air quality and for people exposed to poor air quality?
- Improve air quality in areas identified as of concern?
- Promote and facilitate the use of electric vehicles?
- Promote and facilitate enhancements to green infrastructure networks to facilitate increased absorption and dissipation of NO<sub>x</sub> and other pollutants?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A globally responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Waste & Resource Use**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling.
- The need to address capacity gaps for waste management that currently exist and are forecast to exist.
- The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources.
- The need to ensure the protection of Powys' mineral resources from inappropriate development.

### **ISA Objective 9: To minimise waste generation, encourage re-use and recycling and promote efficient use of mineral resources**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Promote the remediation of contaminated land and prevention of further contamination?
- Create opportunities to increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use?
- Promote opportunities to use recycled and secondary materials in construction?
- Promote the use of locally sourced sustainable materials?
- Safeguard mineral resources?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales; A globally responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Climate Change**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to respond to the declared climate emergency.
- The need to ensure that new development is adaptable to the effects of climate change.
- The need to increase woodland and tree cover and other measures to help mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change.
- The need to ensure the timely provision of flood defence/management infrastructure.

- The need to protect and restore soil and peat resources as important carbon sinks and their role in increasing resilience of the natural environment against the effects of climate change.

**ISA Objective 10: To support the resilience of Powys to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding and other extreme events**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change?
- Increase resilience of the built and natural environment to the effects of climate change?
- Ensure that the potential risks associated with climate change are considered in new developments?
- Improve and extend green infrastructure networks to support climate change adaptation?
- Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsible Wales

**SEA Topic: Climate Change**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to respond to the declared climate emergency.
- The need to mitigate climate change including through maximising renewable energy provision at site and Powys-wide scales.

**ISA Objective 11: To reduce the contribution to climate change from greenhouse gas emissions**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria?
- Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable sources?
- Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources?
- Reduce the need to travel or the number of journeys made?
- Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?
- Ensure that development does not contribute towards further increases in high energy use and unsustainable travel?



- Improve the provision of nature-based solutions to adapt and mitigate climate change?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Transport & Movement**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to enhance the connectivity of more remote settlements.
- The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the private car.
- The need to ensure that new development is accessible to community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.

### **ISA Objective 12: To promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Reduce the need to travel through sustainable patterns of land use and development?
- Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel?
- Enable transport infrastructure improvements?
- Support the uptake of low carbon transport?
- Contribute towards the electric vehicle (EV) charging network?
- Facilitate working from home and remote working?
- Provide improvements to and/or reduce congestion on the existing highway network?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language; A globally responsible Wales

### **SEA Topic: Historic Environment**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to protect and enhance Powys' historic environment including its diversity, and local distinctiveness.
- The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets and their settings, and address heritage at risk.
- The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect where appropriate enhance these where possible.
- The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes, including Welsh language and culture and health and well-being.

### **ISA Objective 13: To preserve and enhance the Powys' heritage resource, including built and archaeological assets**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Conserve and enhance the significance of buildings and structures of architectural, historic and cultural interest, both designated and non-designated, and their setting?
- Ensure that Welsh place names are recognised as integral features of the cultural and historic landscape of Wales?
- Conserve and enhance the special interest, character and appearance of Conservation Areas and their settings?
- Conserve and enhance archaeological remains, and archaeologically sensitive areas?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language

### **SEA Topic: Biodiversity, Green Infrastructure & Geodiversity**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to respond to the declared biodiversity emergency.
- The need to protect, enhance and restore Powys' biodiversity through providing net benefits to biodiversity where possible.
- The need to maintain, restore and expand Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan habitats.
- The need to protect and enhance the multifunctional green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.
- The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their ecological and geological interest.
- Reflecting the objectives of the Mid Wales Area Statement, the need to:
  - identify the main causes of the nature emergency including what needs to be done, by whom and where
  - improve the Favourable Conservation Status of designated sites
  - identify opportunities for connectivity between those sites and other areas
  - make nature a priority through planning, policy, and practical measures.

### **ISA Objective 14: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net benefits where possible?
- Protect and enhance ecological networks, including those that cross administrative boundaries?
- Protect geologically valuable sites, including their setting?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A Resilient Wales; A Healthier Wales; A Globally Responsible Wales

**SEA Topic: Landscape & Townscape**

*Key Issues:*

- The need to conserve and where appropriate enhance Powys' landscape and townscape character.
- The need to promote high quality design that respects local character.
- The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of built environments, and the use of historic place names, including Welsh names.
- The need to protect landscapes from incompatible development.

**ISA Objective 15: To protect the quality and diversity of designated and local landscapes and townscapes**

*Will the policy or proposal ...*

- Ensure that Powys' valued landscapes and townscapes are conserved and enhanced?
- Ensure that Welsh place names are recognised as integral features of the cultural and historic landscape of Wales?
- Ensure that design quality is considered as part of all development activity?

**Supporting National Well-Being Goals:** A Prosperous Wales; A Resilient Wales; A Healthier Wales; A More Equal Wales; A Wales of Cohesive Communities; A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language; A Globally Responsible Wales

- 4.2.3 Based on the scope of the Review of the new Replacement Local Development Plan detailed in **Section 1.3**, it is envisaged that the ISA Framework set out in **Table 4.1** will be used to appraise the following key components of the Plan (and reasonable alternatives where these exist):
- Vision and Objectives;
  - Spatial Strategy (in respect of the quantum and distribution of development);
  - Policies (including strategic policies and detailed development management policies); and
  - Site Allocations (including strategic sites and smaller scale allocations).
- 4.2.4 Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) will be undertaken as part of the ISA.
- 4.2.5 The proposed approach to the appraisal of each of the Plan components listed above is set out in the sections that follow.

## Vision and Objectives

- 4.2.6 It is important that the vision and objectives of the Replacement Local Development Plan are aligned with the ISA objectives. The Replacement Local Development Plan vision and objectives will therefore be appraised for their compatibility with the objectives that comprise the ISA Framework to help establish whether the general approach to the Plan is in accordance with the principles of sustainability. A compatibility matrix will be used to record the appraisal based on the layout presented in **Table 4.2**.

Table 4.2 Compatibility Matrix – Local Development Plan Vision/Objectives

ISA Objective	Vision	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3...etc
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity	+	0	+	?
2. Housing	+	-	+	+
3. Etc...	+	0	+	?

### Key to Compatibility Matrix

Symbol	Compatibility Result
+	Compatible
?	Uncertain
0	Neutral
-	Incompatible

## Spatial Strategy

- 4.2.7 The Review of the Replacement Local Development Plan will set out the spatial strategy for Powys in terms of the quantum and broad distribution of future development. The spatial strategy, including reasonable alternatives, will be appraised against each of the ISA objectives that comprise the ISA Framework using an appraisal matrix. The matrix will include:

- the ISA objectives;
- a score indicating the nature of the effect for each spatial strategy option;
- a commentary on significant effects (including consideration of the cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects as well as the geography, duration, temporary/permanence and likelihood of any effects) and on any assumptions or uncertainties; and

- recommendations, including any mitigation or enhancements measures.

4.2.8

The format of the matrix that will be used to appraise the effects of the spatial strategy and reasonable alternatives is shown in **Table 4.3**. A qualitative scoring system will be used which is set out in **Table 4.4** and to guide the appraisal, specific definitions have been developed for what constitutes a significant effect, a minor effect or a neutral effect for each of the 14 ISA objectives; these can be found in **Appendix C**.

Table 4.3 Appraisal Matrix – Spatial Strategy (Table per objective)

Spatial Strategy Options	Scoring	Likely Significant Effects	Mitigation	Assumptions	Uncertainties
<b>Option 1</b>	++	A description of the likely effects of each option on the ISA Objective will be provided here.	Mitigation and enhancement measures will be outlined here.	Any assumptions made in undertaking the appraisal will be listed here.	Any uncertainties encountered during the appraisal will be listed here.
<b>Option 2</b>	+				
<b>Option 3</b>	0				
<b>Etc</b>	-				

Table 4.4 Scoring System

Symbol	Score	Description
++	Significant positive effect	The proposed option/policy contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.
+	Minor positive effect	The proposed option/policy contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.
0	Neutral/no effect	The proposed option/policy does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective
-	Minor negative effect	The proposed option/policy detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.
--	Significant negative effect	The proposed option/policy detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.
?	Uncertain effect	The proposed option/policy has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an appraisal to be made.

~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the proposed option/policy and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
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**Policies**

- 4.2.9 The plan policies (including strategic and detailed development management policies) will also be appraised using the ISA Framework. The appraisal will be undertaken by plan chapter/section with a score awarded for each constituent policy and for the cumulative effects of all policies contained in each respective chapter/section. Commentary will be provided including any mitigation or enhancements measures to enhance the performance of the policies (for example, amendments to policy wording). As with the appraisal of the spatial strategy, the definitions of significance outlined in **Appendix C** will be used to guide the assessment.
- 4.2.10 The findings of the appraisal will be presented in a matrix similar to that shown in **Table 4.5** and will use the same scoring mechanism as that presented in **Table 4.4**.

Table 4.5 Appraisal Matrix – Policies (Table per objective)

Policies	Scoring	Scoring of cumulative effect of the draft policies	Likely significant effects	Mitigation	Assumptions	Uncertainties
<b>Policy 1</b>	++	++	A description of the likely significant effects of the policies on the ISA Objective will be provided here, drawing on baseline information as appropriate.	Mitigation and enhancement measures will be outlined here.	Any assumptions made in undertaking the appraisal will be listed here	Any uncertainties encountered during the appraisal will be listed here.
<b>Policy 2</b>	++	++				
<b>Etc</b>	++	++				

## Site Allocations

- 4.2.11 Based on the potential site availability and taking into account responses to the 'Call for Sites' the Council will screen out sites based on high level constraints and conformity with the preferred spatial strategy and ISA Objectives, published within the Candidate Sites Assessment Methodology.
- 4.2.12 The remaining potential site allocation options will then be appraised against the ISA Objectives that comprise the ISA Framework using tailored appraisal criteria with associated thresholds of significance to determine the type and magnitude of effect against each ISA Objective. The proposed criteria are set out in **Appendix F**.

## Strategic Sites

- 4.2.13 Reflecting their importance to the delivery of the Replacement Local Development Plan and capacity to generate significant effects, strategic sites will be subject to more detailed appraisal. Similar to the spatial strategy and plan policies, the appraisal will be recorded in a matrix (see **Table 4.6**) and the definitions of significance outlined in **Appendix C** used to guide the determination of effects.

Table 4.6 Appraisal Matrix – Strategic Sites

Score	Determination Threshold
<b>++</b>	The site will provide a range of employment opportunities and training that will benefit the locality and will complement existing provision
<b>+</b>	The site will provide a range of employment opportunities
<b>0</b>	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
<b>-</b>	Development on the site will result in the loss of designated employment land
<b>--</b>	Development on the site will result in the loss of designated employment land and businesses in the locality

## Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic Effects

- 4.2.14 The policies and proposals of the Replacement Local Development Plan will not sit in isolation from each other. They will work together to achieve the objectives of the Plan. For this reason, it is important to understand what the combined sustainability effects of the policies and proposals will be.
- 4.2.15 As noted above, the appraisal of the plan policies will be undertaken by plan chapter in order to determine the cumulative effects of each policy area. Throughout the appraisal matrices, reference will also be made to where cumulative effects could occur. In addition to the inclusion of cross reference between the policy themes, an appraisal of cumulative effects will be undertaken in order to clearly identify areas where policies and proposals

work together. Additional commentary will also be provided where the Replacement Local Development Plan may have effects in-combination with other plans and programmes such as neighbouring authority development plans.

### **4.3 Difficulties Encountered in Compiling the Scoping Report**

- 4.3.1 No significant difficulties have been encountered in compiling this Scoping Report. It should be noted that the Council has commissioned or is undertaking a number of evidence base studies to inform the preparation of the Replacement Local Development Plan. Once complete, the findings of these studies will provide useful information to support the appraisal of the Replacement Local Development Plan.



# 5. Next Steps

## 5.1 Next Steps

- 5.1.1 The approach set out in **Section 4** of this Scoping Report will be used to appraise the potential effects of the Replacement Local Development Plan. The appraisal will be an iterative process and will involve the development and refinement of the Replacement Local Development Plan by testing the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the emerging Plan options.
- 5.1.2 Reflecting the requirements of Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations (which reproduce the SEA Directive Annex I issues), the ISA Report will consist of:
- A Non-Technical Summary;
  - A chapter setting out the scope and purpose of the appraisal and including an overview of the emerging Replacement Local Development Plan;
  - A chapter detailing the evolution of the Replacement Local Development Plan to-date;
  - A chapter summarising the key objectives of other plans and programmes and socio-economic and environmental issues relevant to the Replacement Local Development Plan;
  - A chapter setting out the approach to appraisal and any difficulties encountered;
  - A chapter outlining the likely effects of the implementation of the Replacement Local Development Plan and reasonable alternatives, including cumulative effects, mitigating measures, uncertainties and risks. The reasons for selecting the preferred Replacement Local Development Plan options and rejection of alternatives will be explained;
  - A chapter presenting views on implementation and monitoring.

# Appendix A Quality Assurance Checklist

The Development Plans Manual<sup>298</sup> contains a quality assurance checklist to help ensure that the requirements of the SEA Regulations are met. The requirements relevant to the Scoping Stage of the ISA and how these have been met are set out below.

Requirement	Where identified in the Scoping Report
A1: Outline the contents and main objectives of the plan. Required by SEA Directive 2001/42/EC Annex I (a)	<b>Section 4.3</b> presents the ISA objectives and guide questions.
A2: Identify and review other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives that will inform the plan. Required by SEA Directive 2001/42/EC, Annex I (a) and I (e)	A review of related plans and programmes is contained at <b>Appendix B</b> and summarised in <b>Section 2</b> of this Scoping Report.
A3: Collect baseline information on the current and likely future social, economic, cultural well-being and environmental conditions at the relevant spatial scale for the plan. The SEA Directive requires the baseline data to cover; 'the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan' (Annex I(b); and 'Characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected' (Annex I (c)	<b>Section 3</b> of this Scoping Report presents the baseline analysis of the social, economic and environmental characteristics of Powys including their likely evolution without the Replacement Local Development Plan.
A4: Identify sustainability issues and problems which are relevant to the plan. Required by SEA Directive, Annex I (d).	<p>Throughout <b>Section 3</b> and <b>Appendix C</b> of this Scoping Report reference is made to areas which may be affected by the preparation of the Replacement Local Development Plan.</p> <p>It should be noted that the quantum of growth to be provided in the Replacement Local Development Plan and its likely distribution across the Powys is unknown at this stage and will be determined through a process of options identification and appraisal, taking into account the evidence base, consultation and assessment including SA. In consequence, it is not possible to determine with certainty those areas that are likely to be most affected by the Replacement Local Development Plan at this stage.</p>

<sup>298</sup> <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-03/development-plans-manual-edition-3-march-2020.pdf>

	Sustainability issues have been identified in the baseline analysis contained in <b>Section 3</b> of this Scoping Report on a topic-by-topic basis. <b>Section 3.14</b> summarises the key sustainability issues identified.
A5: Develop SA framework against which the plan can be appraised.	Key sustainability issues identified through a review of relevant plans and programmes (see <b>Section 2</b> of this Scoping Report) and analysis of baseline conditions (see <b>Section 3</b> ) have informed the development of the ISA Framework presented in <b>Section 4.2</b> .
A6: Prepare and consult on the SA Scoping Report Required by SEA Directive, Article 5, (4) and 6(3).	This Scoping Report.

## Appendix B Review of Plans, Programmes and Strategies

The key overarching and underpinning international environmental protection objective of relevance is the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development which states that *'People have a right to development however they have a responsibility to safeguard the common environment. The Rio Declaration states that the only way to have long-term economic progress is to link it with environmental protection.'*

The table below identifies the key environmental protection objectives set at **International, Community (EU), UK, Wales and Powys** level which are relevant to the Replacement Powys Local Development Plan and the way the objectives and any environmental considerations have been considered in the preparation of the Local Development Plan. Also included in the final section is a review of Neighbouring Authority LDP's.

### SEA Topic Area - Biodiversity

Level (International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Implications for the ISA How the objectives may be taken into account
International	Ramsar Convention on wetlands of international importance (1971) Sets out a framework to help protect a global network of important wetland sites which are classified as Ramsar sites	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the conservation of biodiversity assets, including designated sites.
International	Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979) This document requires signatories to protect key migratory species and to restore them to a Favorable Conservation Status.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
International	Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.

	The convention ensures conservation and protection of all wild plants and animal species and their natural habitats (as listed in the convention). It affords special protection to the most vulnerable and threatened species.	
International	The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro (1992) Convention to ensure that every country seeks to halt the loss of biodiversity.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the conservation of biodiversity assets, including designated sites.
International	Unesco Convention – Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Paris 1972) Ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
International	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as a Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention 1971 as amended). Sets out a framework to help protect a global network of important wetland sites which are classified as Ramsar sites.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
International	Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (World Summit), 2002 Calls for a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species, whilst also containing objectives relating to sustainable economic development.
EU	Biodiversity Strategy to 2030 (2020) This document outlines the EU's strategy for biodiversity up to 2030. It seeks to cause considerable recovery to Europe's biodiversity and to safeguard Europe from the following threats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the impacts of climate change</li> <li>• forest fires</li> <li>• food insecurity</li> <li>• disease outbreaks – including protecting wildlife and</li> <li>• fighting illegal wildlife trade</li> </ul> The EU seeks to establish: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A large EU-wide network of protected areas on land and sea</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An EU nature restoration plan</li> <li>Introduce measures to enable the necessary transformative change</li> </ul> <p>Introduce measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge.</p>	
EU	EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC) EC Directive which sets out to protect a network of key sites across Europe which are important for particular bird species	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
EU	EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
EU	EU Biodiversity Strategy (EU, 1998) The strategy aims to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biodiversity at the source.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
EU	EC Water Framework Directive (2000/86/EEC). The framework requires good ecological status for rivers and lakes.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the management of water resources and their conservation.
EU	Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament-Biodiversity States how the Birds Directive, Habitats Directive, European Biodiversity Strategy, Water Frameworks Directive and ICZM will work together to conserve biodiversity.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
EU	The Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) The directive recognises that habitat loss and degradation are the most serious threats to the conservation of wild birds. It therefore places great emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered as well as migratory species (listed in Annex I), especially through the establishment of a coherent network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) comprising all the most suitable territories for these species. Since 1994 all SPAs form an integral part of the NATURA 2000 ecological network.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.

EU	<p>Convention on Biological Diversity Sets out a conservation plan to protect global biodiversity, and an international treaty to establish a fair and equitable system to enable nations to co-operate in accessing and sharing the benefits of genetic resources. The new global vision is: "By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people."</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.</p>
EU	<p>Freshwater Fish Directive (2006/44/EC) Includes measure on the quality of fresh waters needing protection or improvement in order to support fish life.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local water habitats and the protection/enhancement of the water environment.</p>
UK	<p>The Environment Act (2021) Sets out the Government's expectations for environmental improvement by setting out a legal framework covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental governance</li> <li>• Environmental regulation</li> <li>• Waste and resource efficiency</li> <li>• Air quality and environmental recall</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul> <p>Nature and biodiversity Conservation covenants</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm.</p>
UK	<p>Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) To "take reasonable steps, consistent with the proper exercise of the authority's functions, to further the conservation and enhancement of the flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features by reason of which a site is of special scientific interest".</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.</p>
UK	<p>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, (2006) – Section 40 and 42 The act states that "every Public Authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives</p>

	functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.” (this includes restoring or enhancing populations and habitats).	relating to protecting the environment from harm.
UK	United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plan (1994) The implication of this is that the LDP must have regard to the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
UK	Environment Act 1995 Amongst other issues this improved the protection of hedgerows and created a new system whereby local authorities must identify, and if necessary, arrange for the remediation of contaminated sites in their areas.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm.
UK	Tree preservation orders Allow for orders to be made providing for extra administrative provisions to apply to trees of amenity value before works are undertaken on them.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the maintaining of tree resources and their quality.
UK	Conservation (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1994 Puts the EC Habitats directive into UK law.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
UK	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) and The Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, andc) Regulations 2007 (as amended) (collectively referred to in this report as the Habitats Regulations) Puts the EC Habitats directive into UK law.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
UK	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by Schedule 9 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) Sets out framework to protect specific species of plant and animal and to protect certain areas as SSSIs.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.



UK	UK Biodiversity Action Plan, 2005 Sets out framework to protect species and habitats that are of importance in the UK from a biodiversity perspective.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
UK	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 To ensure that every Local Authority has due regard to conserving biodiversity.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm.
UK	National Park and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 Act of Parliament which enables Local Authorities to designate Local Nature Reserves.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
UK	DEFRA: Guidance for Local Authorities on Implementing the Biodiversity Duty, 2007 Guidance for Las to help enable them to have due regard for Biodiversity.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
UK	UK Forestry Standard: The Government Approach to Sustainable Forestry, 2004 Promotes forestry policies for the sustainable management of our existing woods and forests, and a steady expansion of tree cover to increase the many diverse benefits that woodland provides.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the maintaining of tree resources and their quality.
UK	Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 With its five strategic goals and 20 new global 'Aichi' targets, the Plan sets a new global vision and direction for biodiversity.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.
UK	UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (2012) Published by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and Defra is designed to identify the activities needed to galvanise and complement country strategies, in pursuit of the Aichi targets. As such, it is an important framework that is owned, governed and implemented by the four countries, assisted by Defra and JNCC in their UK co-ordination capacities.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.

UK	<p>Environment Protection Act 2009 Sets out key statutory requirements for the UK regarding environmental protection (including waste and nature conservation).</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm.</p>
Wales	<p>Woodlands for Wales: The Welsh Government's Strategy for Woodlands and Trees (2018) This affords protection to the woodlands and trees of Wales, which are identified as being important natural resources. The document stresses the importance that such resources play in maintaining and enhancing the natural environment of Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the maintaining of tree resources and their quality.</p>
Wales	<p>Going Wild In Wales, 2003 Lists species and habitats of principal importance for the conservation of Biological Diversity in Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.</p>
Wales	<p>Environment (Wales) Act 2016 introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (Section 6 Duty). In fulfilling this duty, the LPA must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the list of habitats and species of principal importance for Wales, published under Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016;</li> <li>• the SoNaRR, published by NRW;</li> <li>• any Area Statement that covers all or part of the area in which the authority exercises its functions.</li> </ul> <p>It also introduces the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (SNMR) and sets out a framework to achieve this as part of decision-making. The Act also sets a target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Wales by at least 80% in 2050 and requires a series of interim targets (for 2020, 2030 and 2040) and carbon budgets.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm.</p>
Wales	<p>Responding To Our Changing Climate – Consultation On A Climate Change Adaptation Action</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, minimising waste, protection of the environment and soil</p>

	<p>(November 2019). The Adaptation Action Plan is based around the following principles: a commitment to engaging the public in responding to climate change impacts; holistic and integrated thinking is needed for effective adaptation; short, medium and long term actions; actions taken to adapt to the impacts of climate change must not contribute to further emissions, worsening the climate impacts of the future; action to adapt to climate change must be taken alongside action to further reduce emissions. With particular regard to the biodiversity topic the plan minimise habitat fragmentation to allow space for biodiversity to adjust.</p>	<p>resources, protecting air quality and reducing Powys's contribution to climate change, which will in turn inform the preparation of the LDP.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 5: Nature Conservation, 2009 Provides guidance to help protect International, and nationally important sites, protected species, LNRs and wildlife sites.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 12 Design, 2014 WAG guidance on the design of new development. One of the objectives of new design is to protect and enhance biodiversity.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to high quality design and sustainable development.</p>
Wales	<p>Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (2021) The Planning Policy Wales contains planning policies that seek to protect the biodiversity assets of Wales, including designated and non-designated biodiversity assets. Biodiversity is fundamental to the long-term prosperity of Wales and new development should not only seek to conserve existing biodiversity assets but look to expand the amount of biodiversity within Wales. Green infrastructure, open green spaces and biodiversity enhancement should be provided by new developments where appropriate to enhance the biodiversity assets of Wales. The Planning Policy Wales document identifies that sustainable development is key to the protection of biodiversity assets.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to sustainable development.</p> <p>The LDP should ensuring its policies result in developments that result in biodiversity net-gain where possible and ensuring development enhances existing biodiversity assets. It could also seek to ensure green infrastructure is used to connect places, which also gives spaces for important</p>

		species to traverse Wales in an easier and safe manner.
Wales	Wales: A Better Country, 2003 Provides guidance to help to value and improve biodiversity	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm.
Wales	<p>Environment Strategy for Wales, 2006 The strategy seeks to halt the loss of biodiversity and encourage a recovery in the number, range and genetic diversity of species; improve the wider environment for biodiversity through appropriate management, reduced habitat fragmentation, increased extent and interconnectivity of habitats; ensure that international, Welsh and local sites are in favourable condition. Intended outcomes are:</p> <p>The loss of biodiversity has been halted and we can see a definite recovery in the number, range and genetic diversity of species, including those species that need very specific and habitats conditions to survive</p> <p>The wider environment is more favourable to biodiversity through appropriate management, reduced habitat fragmentation and increased extent and interconnectivity of habitats</p> <p>Sites of international, Welsh and local importance are in favourable condition to support the species and habitats for which they have been identified</p>	The plan should ensure all international, national and local sites and protected species are safeguarded. Ensure key biodiversity species and habitats are safeguarded and put measures in place to improve wildlife corridors.
Wales	Welsh National Marine Plan (2019) The vision for the Welsh inshore and offshore marine plan regions is: Welsh seas are clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse:	A small part of the Powys Planning Area is covered by Inshore Region designation. The ISA should take account of the provisions of the National Marine Plan in respect of

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through an ecosystem approach, natural resources are sustainably managed and our seas are healthy and resilient, supporting a sustainable and thriving economy;</li> <li>• Through access to, understanding of and enjoyment of the marine environment and maritime cultural heritage, health and well-being are improving;</li> <li>• Through Blue Growth more jobs and wealth are being created and are helping coastal communities become more resilient, prosperous and equitable with a vibrant culture; and</li> <li>• Through the responsible deployment of low carbon technologies, the Welsh marine area is making a strong contribution to energy security and climate change emissions targets.</li> </ul> <p>Objectives for the National Marine Plan</p> <p>Overarching</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support the sustainable development of the Welsh marine area by contributing across Wales' well-being goals, supporting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (SMNR) through decision making and by taking account of the cumulative effects of all uses of the marine environment.</li> </ol> <p>Achieving a sustainable marine economy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Contribute to a thriving Welsh economy by encouraging economically productive activities and profitable and sustainable businesses that create long term employment at all skill levels.</li> <li>3. Support the opportunity to sustainably develop marine renewable energy resources with the right development in the right place, helping to achieve the UK's energy security and carbon reduction objectives, whilst fully considering other's interests, and ecosystem resilience.</li> <li>4. Provide space to support existing and future economic activity through managing multiple uses, encouraging the coexistence of compatible activities, the mitigation of conflicts between users and, where possible, by reducing the displacement of existing activities.</li> </ol>	<p>checking the ISA objectives do not conflict with those of the Marine Plan, notably in respect of environmental protection, economic growth, health and well-being and robust decision making and management.</p>
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	<p>5. Recognise the significant value of coastal tourism and recreation to the Welsh economy and well-being and ensure such activity and potential for future growth are appropriately safeguarded.</p> <p>Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society</p> <p>6. Contribute to supporting the development of vibrant, more equitable, culturally and linguistically distinct, cohesive and resilient coastal communities.</p> <p>7. Support enjoyment and stewardship of our coasts and seas and their resources by encouraging equitable and safe access to a resilient marine environment, whilst protecting and promoting valuable landscapes, seascapes and historic assets.</p> <p>8. Improve understanding and enable action supporting climate change adaptation and mitigation.</p> <p>Living within environmental limits</p> <p>9. Support the achievement and maintenance of Good Environmental Status (GES) and Good Ecological Status (GeS).</p> <p>10. Protect, conserve, restore and enhance marine biodiversity to halt and reverse its decline including supporting the development and functioning of a well-managed and ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and resilient populations of representative, rare and vulnerable species.</p> <p>11. Maintain and enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems and the benefits they provide in order to meet the needs of present and future generations.</p> <p>Promoting good governance</p> <p>12. Support proportionate, consistent and integrated decision making through implementing forward-looking policies as part of a plan-led, precautionary, risk-based and adaptive approach to managing Welsh seas.</p> <p>Using sound science responsibly</p>	
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	<p>13. Develop a shared, accessible marine evidence base to support use of sound evidence and provide a mechanism for the unique characteristics and opportunities of the Welsh Marine Area to be better understood.</p>	
<p>Wales</p>	<p>Powys Local Development Strategy (2015)                  Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (extended to 2023)                  The Wales Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (RDP) is a 7 year European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) programme funded by the European Union and Welsh Government. The Wales RDP 2014-2020, was submitted to the European Commission to help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase the productivity, diversity and efficiency of Welsh farming and forestry businesses, improving their competitiveness and resilience, reducing their reliance on subsidies</li> <li>• improve the Welsh environment, encouraging sustainable land management practices, the sustainable management of our natural resources and climate action in Wales</li> <li>• promote strong, sustainable rural economic growth in Wales and encourage greater community-led local development.</li> <li>• There are 6 Rural Development Priorities which set the context for the EAFRD and any actions that form part of the RDP 2014-2020 will fit within this structure of priorities:</li> <li>• fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry, and rural areas</li> <li>• enhancing competitiveness of all types of agriculture and enhancing farm viability</li> <li>• promoting food chain organisation and risk management in agriculture</li> <li>• restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry</li> <li>• promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors</li> <li>• promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm and the conservation and enhancement of water quality and the efficient use of land in a sustainable manner.</p>

	<p><b>Powys Local Development Strategy</b></p> <p>The Rural Development Plan is important to the future economic and social development of the County, particularly as since 2007 Powys has been the only predominantly rural County in Wales not qualifying for Convergence status. The purpose of the Powys Local Development Strategy (LDS) is to set out strategic objectives for Powys between 2014 and 2020 as the basis for delivering activity under the Rural Development Plan. The LDS is therefore an important vehicle for achieving the economic development ambitions of the Welsh Government within Powys.</p> <p>For the 2014 – 2020 period, a new Local Action Group has been formed, the One Powys Local Action Group (OPLAG) to develop the LDS. The membership of the OPLAG has been drawn from the current Powys Regeneration Partnership and Glasu Local Action Group plus new members ensuring representation from all sectors. The long term vision for OPLAG is that:</p> <p>“By 2020 we aim to see vibrant, empowered and connected local communities, delivering sustainable and innovative solutions to current and future economic, social and environmental issues, to enhance the economic wealth of the County”</p> <p>OPLAG have identified a number of objectives that combined seek to add value to the County’s assets, supporting the ability to build on the strengths of the County’s communities and natural environment.</p> <p>The OPLAG objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encourage enterprise and entrepreneurship</li> <li>2. Capitalise on our natural and human resources</li> <li>3. Optimise collective strengths and assets to develop community solutions</li> <li>4. Build and broker skills</li> <li>5. Collaborate, cooperate, communicate and co-produce</li> </ol> <p>The first three objectives encapsulate the results and outcomes of investment and intervention with the latter two objectives being the tools to develop and support those initiatives.</p> <p>Whilst initiatives under the LDS are still being established, the framework for the medium term Action Plan for 2015 – 2018 is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage enterprise and entrepreneurship</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Pilot projects utilising the natural environment to provide training and employment opportunities</li> <li>➤ Develop business partnerships to develop new ideas that maximise opportunities within the uplands natural environment to improve economic wellbeing</li> <li>➤ Develop new activities related to the natural environment and heritage</li> <li>➤ Develop activities that link producers, visitors and products together</li> <li>• Capitalise on our natural and human resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Pilot new outdoor activities and cultural and heritage focussed activities with communities using the promotion of loops and links between villages and towns</li> <li>➤ Research possible pilot activities that develop the Welsh language and link to outdoor activities</li> <li>➤ Develop innovative activities that deliver bi-lingual childcare services</li> <li>➤ Build the green credentials of Powys for living, working and leisure</li> <li>➤ Work with educational establishments to develop innovative new products or processes for local materials</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Optimise collective strengths and assets to develop community solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitate community engagement to identify resilience and capacity to enable new initiatives that could/will provide local services and activities</li> <li>➤ Identify the potential for transfer of community assets and support implementation</li> <li>➤ Provide support to pilot community hub initiatives</li> <li>➤ Using existing toolkits (Community Pathways) develop a programme of activity that supports community energy development and enhances existing schemes (Welsh Governments Resource Efficiency Service).</li> <li>➤ Develop innovative ways of sharing information using technology</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Build and broker skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Undertake and audit of skills and expertise that could be used for Mentoring and the exchange of best practice</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Develop Mentoring programmes to enable individuals to become more entrepreneurial and innovative</li> <li>➤ Investigate feasibility of the development of skills banks</li> <li>• Collaborate, cooperate, communicate and co-produce             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Mapping of all significant events in Powys</li> <li>➤ Visits to successful activities within other rural settings to learn best practice</li> <li>➤ Audit potential and then pilot innovative approaches to supply chain development with all sectors</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>This framework is seeking to put in a strong infrastructure to develop local communities, businesses and service providers to work alongside each other, recognizing their collective responsibilities and identifying collaborative solutions. It aims to build a firm foundation for people, businesses, networks and the processes that will support their co-operation and envisages a sustainable County being built upon investing in stronger communities, utilising the assets and skills for collective benefits and recognizing that progress can be achieved by realising economies of scale and shared learning.</p>	
<p>Wales</p>	<p>Sustainable Farming Scheme – Outline Proposals for 2025</p> <p>This document seeks to ensure the sustainable management of Welsh land, establishing minimum standards for land management and trying to place sustainability at the heart of the Welsh farming industry. The document also outlines what support should be given to farmers to help them transition to being more sustainable and meeting the new minimum standards. It also seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep farmers on the land</li> <li>• Ensure food production is maximized as it is vital to the future of Wales</li> <li>• Support the agricultural industry within Wales to help it become prosperous and resilient</li> <li>• Ensure the support provided by this scheme is easily accessible by farmers who need assistance.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm, sustainable development, and the efficient use of land. The ISA could also contain an objective relating to supporting the economy, noting the importance of farming to the local economy.</p>

Wales	<p>Agriculture (Wales) Bill White Paper This document establishes what a future Agricultural Bill would contain with Wales. The White Paper was consulted on in 2020 to March 2021. The consultation draft of the White Paper contained information regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• future support for agriculture;</li> <li>• regulatory reform;</li> <li>• future support for industry and the supply chain;</li> <li>• forestry and woodland management;</li> <li>• improving animal health and welfare;</li> <li>• improving monitoring through the effective use of data and remote technology.</li> </ul> <p>Sustainable Land Management is places at the heart of this document. The document proposes a replacement Sustainable Farming Scheme to offer some support given Welsh farmers have lost access to the EU farming funding schemes.</p>	<p>The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm, sustainable development, and the efficient use of land. The ISA could also contain an objective relating to supporting the economy, noting the importance of farming to the local economy.</p>
Wales	<p>Written Statement: Funding to support the rural economy and the transition to the Sustainable Farming Scheme This Written Statement identifies that farmers and the rural economy will need support in order to transition the sector into being sustainable and resilient. The Written Statement contains the following theme are proposed support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farm scale land management – providing support for on-farm sustainable land management actions.</li> <li>• On farm environmental improvements – including a focus on nutrient management, enhancing fuel and feed efficiency, embedding circular economy approaches and encouraging the use of renewable energy.</li> <li>• On farm efficiency and diversification – including supporting farm efficiencies through investment in new technology and equipment and to enable opportunities for agricultural diversification.</li> <li>• Landscape scale land management – delivering nature based solutions at a landscape scale, through a multi-sectoral collaborative approach.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm, sustainable development, and the efficient use of land. The ISA could also contain an objective relating to supporting the economy, noting the importance of farming to the local economy and an objective relating to landscapes.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woodland and forestry – supporting our commitment of 43,000 hectares of woodland creation by 2030 and supporting the creation of a timber based industrial strategy.</li> <li>• Food and farming supply chains – creating a strong and vibrant Welsh food and drink industry with a global reputation for excellence with one of the most environmentally and socially responsible supply chains in the world.</li> </ul>	
Wales	<p>Ancient Woodland Inventory Lists and maps ancient woodland within Wales and is kept up to date by Natural Resources Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species and tree resources.</p>
Wales	<p>Advice to planning authorities considering proposals affecting ancient woodland Natural Resources Wales provided advice for how the potential effects (both direct and indirect) should be considered for Ancient Woodlands. Ancient Woodlands are an important natural asset that should be protected, which includes having their character and setting preserved. Where the loss of Ancient Woodland cannot be avoided or a sufficiently comprehensive argument can be made for its loss, the following is required (where appropriate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farm scale land management – providing support for on-farm sustainable land management actions.</li> <li>• On farm environmental improvements – including a focus on nutrient management, enhancing fuel and feed efficiency, embedding circular economy approaches and encouraging the use of renewable energy.</li> <li>• On farm efficiency and diversification – including supporting farm efficiencies through investment in new technology and equipment and to enable opportunities for agricultural diversification.</li> <li>• Landscape scale land management – delivering nature based solutions at a landscape scale, through a multi-sectoral collaborative approach.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species and tree resources.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Woodland and forestry – supporting our commitment of 43,000 hectares of woodland creation by 2030 and supporting the creation of a timber based industrial strategy.</li> </ul> <p>Food and farming supply chains – creating a strong and vibrant Welsh food and drink industry with a global reputation for excellence with one of the most environmentally and socially responsible supply chains in the world.</p>	
Wales	<p>How to avoid or reduce effects of a development on Ancient Woodland</p> <p>This document contains guidance published by Natural Resources Wales regarding correctly identifying the potential effects of development on Ancient Woodlands. It also provides a list of mitigation developments should incorporate into their design if they have an effect (direct or indirect) on an Ancient Woodland.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species and tree resources.</p>
Wales	<p>National Nature Recovery Plan 2022</p> <p>This document seeks to protect, conserve and enhance the biodiversity of Wales and ensures its ecosystems are maintained so that they can continue to positively affect the Welsh populations socio-economic systems. The document seeks to reverse the systemic decline of Wales’s biodiversity, preserve its intrinsic value and ensuring the lasting benefits of biodiversity can be experienced by the future generations of Wales. This will be achieved through meeting the following six objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Objective 1: Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels.</li> <li>Objective 2: Safeguard species and habitats of principle importance and improve their management.</li> <li>Objective 3: Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation.</li> <li>Objective 4: Tackle key pressures on species and habitats.</li> <li>Objective 5: Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring.</li> <li>Objective 6: Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm and sustainable development.</p>

Wales	<p>The Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales 2022-2032</p> <p>The Action Plan documents provide an update on how Wales is performing against the National Nature Recovery Plan requirements and contains an updated strategy for meeting its needs. It contains guidance on continuing to protect natural assets after the UK's exit from the EU.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to protecting the environment from harm and sustainable development.</p>
Wales	<p>CCW Priority Habitats of Wales, 2003</p> <p>A report reviewing the status of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats in Wales and compiling relevant data on their extent and distribution.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 10 Tree Preservation Orders, 1997</p> <p>Guidance setting out Local Planning Authorities legal duty to protect trees and woodland by making Tree Preservation Orders.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species and tree resources.</p>
Wales	<p>Woodlands for Wales Strategy 2018</p> <p>This strategy contains guidance on managing the woodlands of Wales and seeks to ensure the woodlands of Wales increase in size and improve in condition. It also seeks to ensure that whilst improvement to Wales's woodlands and tree resources occur, the Welsh forestry sector continues to operate sustainably.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species and tree resources.</p>
Wales	<p>National Forest for Wales 2021</p> <p>The National Forest is a National Plan that seeks to protect and conserve identified woodlands within Wales and create a connected path of Woodlands across the country. At the moment, 14 woodlands are identified as being part of the National Forest, though the Welsh Government is continuing to look at ways to incorporate other woodlands into the National Forest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gwydir Forest park</li> <li>• Clocaenog Forest</li> <li>• Coed y Brenin Forest Park</li> <li>• Dyfnant Forest</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species and tree resources.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dyfi Forest</li> <li>• Bwlch Arian Forest</li> <li>• Hafren Forest</li> <li>• Coed y Bont/Coed Dolgoed</li> <li>• Presteigne Forest including Nash Wood</li> <li>• Brechfa Forest</li> <li>• Afan Forest Park</li> <li>• Spirits of Llynfi Woodland</li> <li>• Wentwood</li> <li>• Wye Valley Woodlands</li> </ul>	
Wales	<p>Wales and the Sustainable Development Goals 2019</p> <p>The document seeks to enforce the seven goals contained within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and is guided by the following definition for “sustainable development” contained within that Act: <i>“sustainable development” means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals”</i></p> <p>This document also identifies Wales’s progress to date in achieving the seven goals contained within the aforementioned Act.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development and the protection of the environment, whilst also containing an objective relating to the expansion of the local economy.
Wales	<p>Mid-Wales Area Statement</p> <p>In fulfilling the duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, local planning authorities must have regard to any Area Statement that covers all or part of the area in which the authority exercises its functions, including in the development of Local Development Plans.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales has been at the heart of developing Area Statements for each region of Wales as part of a collaborative response to the Welsh Government’s Natural Resources Policy, which sets out the key challenges and opportunities for the sustainable management of Wales’ natural resources into the future.</p> <p>These statements provide a starting point for planners to understand environmental issues, priorities and opportunities in their particular area</p>	The objectives and priorities of the ISA need to consider and align with those presented in the Mid Wales Area Statement.

	<p>and, based on that information, help them identify strategic actions and policies to address through the planning system.</p> <p>Each Area Statement outlines the key challenges facing that particular locality, what can be done to meet those challenges, and how to better manage our natural resources for the benefit of future generations.</p> <p>The Mid-Wales Area Statement separates this into themes on improving biodiversity, sustainable land, water and air, reconnecting people and places, forestry resources and climate change.</p> <p><b>Biodiversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify the main causes of the nature emergency including what needs to be done, by whom and where</li> <li>• improve the Favourable Conservation Status of designated sites</li> <li>• identify opportunities for connectivity between those sites and other areas</li> <li>• make nature a priority through planning, policy, and practical measures.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainable Land, Water and Air</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support farm businesses through ways of working that minimise impacts on the environment</li> <li>• Take measures to reduce pollution incidents through better management of potential sources of pollution (such as slurry &amp; manure stores)</li> <li>• Work with businesses, communities and policy makers to review current agricultural policies and schemes and explore new options for Payment for Ecosystem Services</li> <li>• Manage our water resources to improve the quality and quantity of available water, without causing detriment to the natural environment</li> <li>• Help to create adaptive and resilient communities in response to adverse weather events and climate change</li> <li>• Support new ideas around developing Nature Based Solutions - for example, using Natural Flood Risk Management</li> </ul> <p><b>Reconnecting People and Places</b></p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We want to help support communities develop their evidence base, using Citizen Science. This also helps reach out to include under-represented groups across communities</li> <li>• Look for new ways in which people can connect with their local environment to help improve their health and well-being</li> <li>• Work with different organisations to develop opportunities for using the natural environment on our doorstep as a tool in preventative medicine</li> <li>• Develop the evidence base to further support the theories around health and well-being and links to the natural environment</li> <li>• Promote sustainable tourism opportunities to help boost the local economy</li> <li>• Promote, encourage and support sustainable recreation, reconnect local people and visitors with access to the natural environment</li> </ul> <p><b>Forestry Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managing forest resources sustainably, while also supporting the timber industry</li> <li>• Increasing woodland cover with conifer, broadleaved and mixed woodland, following the ‘right tree, right place’ principle*</li> <li>• Supporting training and local employment opportunities in forestry and rural land management skills</li> <li>• Valuing woodlands for their commercial, recreational climate and biodiversity value</li> <li>• Adapting to the impacts of tree disease and climate change</li> <li>• Working with policy makers to balance the need for re-stocking upland forests whilst avoiding damage to natural peatland habitats</li> <li>• Seeking opportunities for carbon capture, offsetting and storage</li> </ul> <p><b>Climate Change</b> No objectives</p>	
Powys	<p>The Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan 2022-2032 This Action Plan identifies how Powys will protect and enhance its biodiversity. It seeks to reverse the systemic decline of Wales’s biodiversity and identifies the following threats to Powys’s biodiversity:</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of local habitats and species, including designated habitats and species and sustainable development.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change</li> <li>• Invasive Species</li> <li>• Development</li> <li>• Intensive Agriculture</li> <li>• Pollution</li> <li>• Woodland Management</li> <li>• Hydrological Change</li> </ul> <p>—</p>	
<p>Powys</p>	<p>Regeneration Strategy for Powys Action Plan (2011 – 2031)</p> <p>The regeneration strategy for Powys was developed by Powell Dobson consultants in 2010. The strategy provides a framework within which the County Council and its partners will ensure that regeneration is embedded into everyday practice, to deliver outcomes which will have a positive impact upon not just the physical, social, environmental, but the economic and cultural attributes of the County as well. It is based around a vision that: “Regeneration in Powys will nurture and promote the County’s assets and strengths as the means to address its weaknesses by establishing a robust and sustainable economy that is based upon vibrant communities, and which enhances and protects the physical, social and cultural environment of Powys”</p> <p>It is felt that the strategy remains relevant and that the nine key objectives which reflect the strategic needs of the County should remain in place:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Objective 1 – Environment and Place</li> <li>2. Objective 2 – Education and skills</li> <li>3. Objective 3 – The Economy</li> <li>4. Objective 4 – Health and well-being and the community</li> <li>5. Objective 5 – Quality of service provision</li> <li>6. Objective 6 – Renewable energy alongside research and development</li> <li>7. Objective 7 – The significance of local culture and the creative industries</li> <li>8. Objective 8 – Tourism</li> <li>9. Objective 9 – The needs of young people</li> </ol> <p>The Action Plan forms part of a re-launch of the Regeneration Strategy which includes developing areas of impact:</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection of the environment, sustainable development, the expansion of the local economy and high quality design.</p>

	<p>1. Grow Powys – empowering and improving the economic health of Powys</p> <p>2. Resilient Powys – Encouraging innovation, strengthening local services, communities and partnerships</p> <p>3. Empower Powys – Supporting communities to tackle issues of local importance.</p>	
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### SEA Topic Area - Population

Level (International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Implications for the ISA How the objectives may be taken into account
UK	<p>Industrial Strategy: building a Britain fit for the future (2018)</p> <p>This document provides the industrial strategy for the UK. It seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• put the UK at the forefront of the artificial intelligence and data revolution;</li> <li>• maximise the advantages for the UK industry from the global shift to clean growth;</li> <li>• become a world leader in shaping the future of mobility; and</li> <li>• harness the power of innovation to help meet the needs of an ageing society.</li> </ul> <p>Innovation is at the heart of the strategy to ensure the industry of the UK is suitable for future needs and maximises economic growth.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, the efficient use of land and expanding the local economy.</p>
UK	<p>Fixing Our Broken Housing Market (2017)</p> <p>This document identifies that the housing market within the UK is broken due to successive governments not ensuring enough housing is built across the country. The document establishes a strategy for increasing the number of homes created within the UK. The use of brownfield land, infilling and the</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, the efficient use of land and the provision of housing (including affordable housing and specialist housing).</p>

	<p>use of smaller sites are identified as key to building more homes alongside government funding. The document identifies the following needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• planning for the right homes in the right places</li> <li>• building homes faster</li> <li>• diversifying the market</li> </ul> <p>helping people now</p>	
UK	<p>Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places (2017)</p> <p>This document contains methodologies on how to best calculate housing need and a need to ensure that housing developments are proportionate to their local context (landscape, infrastructure etc) to ensure they are built in the right places.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, the efficient use of land and the provision of housing (including affordable housing and specialist housing).
UK	<p>Securing the Future – the UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)</p> <p>Aims to enable all people to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The Strategy has five guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living within environmental limits;</li> <li>• Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;</li> <li>• Achieving a sustainable economy;</li> <li>• Promoting good governance; and</li> </ul> <p>Using sound science responsibly.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, protecting the environment, improving health and the sustainable expansion of the local economy.
Wales	<p>Future Generations Commissioner for Wales – The Future Generations Report 2020</p> <p>This sets out the progress made by public bodies towards meeting their duties and the Commissioner’s expectations under the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The Report details the vision set out in the seven well-being goals and sets out seven areas of focus: Land use planning and placemaking, transport, housing, decarbonisation, skills, adverse childhood experiences, and the health and wellness system.</p> <p>With regards to decarbonisation chapter the Report states that the “Welsh Government should set out a long-term investment plan of how they will</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs, protecting the environment, climate change, improving health and the sustainable expansion of the local economy.

	<p>fund the climate emergency and support more ambitious commitments and targets for sectors within their control.” In addition, the Report sets out five recommendations for all public bodies to focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding our emissions and where to prioritise action;</li> <li>• Tackle the climate and nature crises through a holistic approach, capitalising on the role of young people;</li> <li>• Deliver a just transition;</li> <li>• Implement solutions at scale to achieve multiple benefits;</li> <li>• Invest more in tackling the Climate Emergency.</li> </ul>	
Wales	<p>Children’s Commissioner for Wales – A Plan for all Children and Young People 2016-2019 (2016)</p> <p>This seeks to protect children and young adults in Wales. It recognises that young people can face many difficulties such as bullying, social inequality, poor access to safe play areas and more general safe places. The document also seeks to raise awareness of the importance of adoption.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to communities, health and accessibility.
Wales	<p>Arts Council Wales – For the benefit of all. Arts Council of Wales Corporate Plan 2018–2023 (2018)</p> <p>This seeks to encourage the arts within Wales through encouraging people to take up careers within this field and for new public art projects to be undertaken.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to communities, health, and accessibility.
Wales	<p>Welsh language strategy: annual report 2020 to 2021 (2022)</p> <p>This is a monitoring report of the Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers (2017) document. It states that more people are speaking Welsh than were in 2017, showing the strategies employed are working.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives that relate to communities, community cohesion and education.
Wales	<p>Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 (2020)</p> <p>This seeks to tackle inequality within Wales through improving the accessibility of services, seeking fairer outcomes for citizens and being pro-active in tackling all kinds of inequality.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs, education, accessibility, improving health and the sustainable expansion of the local economy.

Wales	<p>Light Springs through the Dark: A Vision for Culture in Wales (2016)</p> <p>This seeks to ensure the important and distinctive Welsh culture continues to grow. The arts, music, literature and heritage are paramount to culture and to societal cohesion. It also highlights the importance of ensuring people within Wales have a sense of place.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives that relate to communities, community cohesion and education.</p>
Wales	<p>Improving Public Transport (2019)</p> <p>This document seeks to encourage the use of public transport, which is considerably more sustainable than private car use. It also refers to the need for active travel. Of crucial importance is for the continued decline in bus use to be stopped and reversed as quickly as possible.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives that relate to travel, accessibility and sustainable development.</p>
Wales	<p>Llwybr Newydd – the Wales Transport Strategy (2021)</p> <p>This document sets out a need for transport to produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions and seeks to manage the evolving ways people travel around Wales, especially in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. Homeworking is highlighted as being a growing norm.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives that relate to travel, accessibility and sustainable development.</p>
Wales	<p>Education in Wales: Our national mission 2017-21 (2020 update)</p> <p>This outlines how the Welsh Government will continue to improve education by training new teachers, tackling examples of low expectations/tackle potential “coasting” schools, tackling the attainment and aspiration gap and expanding the curriculum to ensure more potential learners are captured.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives that relate to communities, community cohesion and education.</p>
Wales	<p>Economic Strategy for Wales (2021 refresh) Economic Contract</p> <p>The Economic Contract seeks to strengthen the relationship between Welsh Government and businesses to help drive inclusive growth and responsible behaviours, including increasing the availability of fair work, the promotion of health, skills and learning in the workplace, and decarbonisation of the economy.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs, education/increasing skills, accessibility, improving health and the sustainable expansion of the local economy.</p>
Wales	<p>Child Poverty Strategy (2015)</p> <p>This document establishes the Welsh Government’s aim to ensure that no child is living in poverty by 2020. The document acknowledges the need to provide job opportunities and training opportunities to allow parents to find employment. A large barrier to tackling poverty is the “Poverty Premium”</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs, education/increasing skills, accessibility,</p>

	and the document seeks to put in place advisory services to help tackle this at it often locks people in poverty within an economic downward spiral.	improving health and the sustainable expansion of the local economy.
Wales	Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Focused on improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act puts in place a 'sustainable development principle' requiring all public bodies to act in a manner that seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, climate change, provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs, education/increasing skills, accessibility, improving health and the sustainable expansion of the local economy
Wales	Improving Lives and Communities – Homes in Wales, Welsh Government, April 2010 Aims to respond to existing housing problems, including demand outstripping supply, increasing demand for affordable housing, ageing population, and age and quality of the current social housing stock. Aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide more housing of the right type and offer more choice</li> <li>• Improve homes and communities, including the energy efficiency of new and existing homes</li> <li>• Improve housing-related services and support</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development and the provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to accessibility and cohesive communities.
Wales	The Strategy for Older People in Wales 2013-2023, Welsh Government (2013) The Strategy's vision is: That people in Wales feel valued and supported, whatever their age. That all older people in Wales have the social, environmental and financial resources they need to deal with the opportunities and challenges they face. Stated outcomes include: Social participation – Older people enjoy a better quality of life, have active social lives (if desired), and loneliness and unwanted social isolation is minimised. Older people are not subjected to abuse. Access to information – older people have access to information and advice about services and opportunities, and are not disadvantaged when accessing them. Learning and activities – older people have opportunities to be engaged in lifelong learning and other appropriate social activities.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development and the provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to accessibility and cohesive communities.

	<p>Healthy Ageing – Older people enjoy good physical, mental and emotional health and well-being with the aim of being able to live independently for longer, with a better quality of life and continue to work and participate in their communities.</p>	
Wales	<p>One Wales: One Planet, a new Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales (Welsh Assembly Government 2009) Sets out WAG's vision of a sustainable Wales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable development will be the central organising principle of the WAG</li> <li>• Within a generation, Wales should only use its fair share of the earth's resources</li> <li>• Wales should have healthy, functioning ecosystems that are biologically diverse and productive and managed sustainably</li> <li>• Wales should have a resilient and sustainable economy that is able to develop whilst stabilising, then reducing, its use of natural resources and reducing its contribution to climate change</li> <li>• Wales should have safe, sustainable, attractive communities in which people live and work, have access to services, and enjoy good health and can play their full roles as citizens</li> <li>• Wales should be just and bilingual. All citizens should be empowered to determine their own lives, shape their communities and achieve their full potential.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, climate change, the efficient use of land and resources, high quality design, health, accessibility and education.</p>
Wales	<p>Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (2021) The Planning Policy Wales document contains the planning policies that govern the built and natural environment of Wales. In terms of its effects on population, all the document is relevant given how the built and natural environment is ever present in people's lives. The document seeks to ensure that development within Wales is sustainable, well designed, accessible and appropriate, reducing its potential effects on its surroundings and mitigating any effects (such as noise, air quality, odors, traffic etc). This document also seeks to ensure that these requirements are balanced with</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, accessibility, the efficient use of land, consideration of nuisance issues (noise, odour etc), the provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs (including the control of second homes and short term lets), expansion of the local economy and</p>



	<p>the need for new housing, economic/business development and growth and the needs of the natural environment and effects from climate change.</p> <p>A Welsh Government Circular to Local Planning Authorities (28/09/22) <u>Controlling the number of second homes and short-term lets</u> provides updated advice on the control of second homes and short term lets through regulating planning permission through Article 4 Directions and conditions. In addition, <i>“local authorities should also allocate sites in LDPs restricted to C3 use, including local market housing, in areas where they are seeking to manage second homes and short-term lets.”</i></p> <p><i>4.2.5 Localised issues, such as the prevalence of second homes and short-term lets, must also be considered when developing the requirement for market and affordable homes within a particular area and whether the evidence justifies a local policy approach to support the viability of communities. This could, for example, include introducing a cap or ceiling on the number of second homes or short-term lets.</i></p> <p><i>4.2.9 Planning authorities, in partnership with the community, including the private sector, must develop policies to meet the challenges and particular circumstances evident in their areas. If these policies need to diverge from national policies in order to meet specific local housing needs for market housing, which normally would have no occupancy restriction, planning authorities must provide clear and robust evidence to support the approach taken. The justification might be in terms of, for example, land supply, environmental or social impacts, including the prevalence of second homes and short-term lets either individually or in combination. Evidence could be obtained from local studies such as those deriving from the local well-being plans or from studies forming part of the evidence base for the development plan, particularly the Local Housing Market Assessment. Such evidence should highlight any impact of second homes and short-term lets on specific communities. The sustainability appraisal, including the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), would be part of the evidence base providing justification for a departure from national policy.</i></p>	<p>conservation of the environment and its character.</p>
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Wales	<p>Future Wales – The National Plan 2040</p> <p>This document provides information on the middle of Wales (Powys &amp; Ceredigion), whilst also providing a dive for LDPs and the general goals of the Welsh Government for the future of the country and tackling climate change. Housing is given considerable importance within the document, especially housing that is resilient and designed with the effects of climate change in mind. Affordable housing is also given considerable importance in the document.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, accessibility, the efficient use of land, the provision of housing to meet a wide variety of needs, expansion of the local economy and climate change including a need for climate resilience.</p>
Wales	<p>ITAN 2 Planning and Affordable Housing, Welsh Government, June 2006</p> <p>Technical Advice Note 2: Planning and Affordable Housing aims to ensure that the need for affordable housing is addressed.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the provision of housing that meets a wide variety of needs and is affordable and well designed.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 6 Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities, Welsh Government, 2010</p> <p>Technical Advice Note 2: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities aims to ensure that rural communities are strengthened by, for example, helping to ensure that existing residents can work and access services locally and obtain a higher proportion of their energy needs from local renewable sources.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to accessibility and improving travel by means other than the car (encouraging active travel or public transport).</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 12 Design, Welsh Government, 2014</p> <p>Sets out the Welsh Government's policies and objectives in respect of the design of new development, including; ensuring attractive, safe public spaces and ensuring ease of access for all.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to high quality design, landscape and creating healthy and safe experiences.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 20 Planning and the Welsh Language, Welsh Government, 2017</p> <p>Provides advice on the consideration of the Welsh language as part of the Local Development Plan making process. Part A provides detailed advice as to how the SA should be used to assess the potential impact of the strategy, policies and allocations contained in the LDP on the Welsh language. Part B provides detailed non-prescriptive guidance on how the Welsh language may be given appropriate consideration in the SA.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain a specific objective relating to the Welsh language.</p>

	See also Welsh Government Circular 28/09/22 on second homes and short term lets above in relation to Planning Policy Wales.	
Wales	<p>Tackling Fuel Poverty 2021-2035</p> <p>This document seeks to address the issue of fuel poverty within Wales and establishes the following targets by 2035:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No households are estimated to be living in severe or persistent fuel poverty as far as reasonable practicable</li> <li>• Not more than 5% of households are estimated to be living in fuel poverty at any one time as far as reasonably practicable</li> <li>• The number of all households “at risk” of falling into fuel poverty will be more than halved based on the 2018 estimate.</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to high quality design that includes the use of insulation and energy efficiency.
Wales	<p>The Wales Rural Development Programme 2014-2020</p> <p>The Wales Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (RDP) is a 7 year European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) programme funded by the European Union and Welsh Government. The Wales RDP 2014-2020, was submitted to the European Commission on 11 July 2014, could provide £953m of European and Welsh Government funding to rural Wales to help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase the productivity, diversity and efficiency of Welsh farming and forestry businesses, improving their competitiveness and resilience, reducing their reliance on subsidies</li> <li>• improve the Welsh environment, encouraging sustainable land management practices, the sustainable management of our natural resources and climate action in Wales</li> <li>• promote strong, sustainable rural economic growth in Wales and encourage greater community-led local development.</li> </ul> <p>There are 6 Rural Development Priorities which set the context for the EAFRD and any actions that form part of the RDP 2014-2020 will fit within this structure of priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry, and rural areas</li> </ul>	The plan should support measures to improve the quality of life in rural areas, by safeguarding and promoting access to services, facilities and employment opportunities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enhancing competitiveness of all types of agriculture and enhancing farm viability</li> <li>• promoting food chain organisation and risk management in agriculture</li> <li>• restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry</li> <li>• promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors</li> <li>• promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas.</li> </ul> <p>It anticipated that the new Wales RDP 2014-2020 will open from January 2015. However, the Wales RDP 2014-2020 is subject to change until the full programme has been agreed by the European Commission.</p> <p><b>Powys Local Development Strategy</b></p> <p>The Rural Development Plan is important to the future economic and social development of the County, particularly as since 2007 Powys has been the only predominantly rural County in Wales not qualifying for Convergence status. The purpose of the Powys Local Development Strategy (LDS) is to set out strategic objectives for Powys between 2014 and 2020 as the basis for delivering activity under the Rural Development Plan. The LDS is therefore an important vehicle for achieving the economic development ambitions of the Welsh Government within Powys.</p> <p>For the 2014 – 2020 period, a new Local Action Group has been formed, the One Powys Local Action Group (OPLAG) to develop the LDS. The membership of the OPLAG has been drawn from the current Powys Regeneration Partnership and Glasu Local Action Group plus new members ensuring representation from all sectors. The long term vision for OPLAG is that:</p> <p>“By 2020 we aim to see vibrant, empowered and connected local communities, delivering sustainable and innovative solutions to current and future economic, social and environmental issues, to enhance the economic wealth of the County”</p>	
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	<p>OPLAG have identified a number of objectives that combined seek to add value to the County’s assets, supporting the ability to build on the strengths of the County’s communities and natural environment.</p> <p>The OPLAG objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encourage enterprise and entrepreneurship</li> <li>2. Capitalise on our natural and human resources</li> <li>3. Optimise collective strengths and assets to develop community solutions</li> <li>4. Build and broker skills</li> <li>5. Collaborate, cooperate, communicate and co-produce</li> </ol> <p>The first three objectives encapsulate the results and outcomes of investment and intervention with the latter two objectives being the tools to develop and support those initiatives.</p> <p>Whilst initiatives under the LDS are still being established, the framework for the medium term Action Plan for 2015 – 2018 is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage enterprise and entrepreneurship             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pilot projects utilising the natural environment to provide training and employment opportunities</li> <li>- Develop business partnerships to develop new ideas that maximise opportunities within the uplands natural environment to improve economic wellbeing</li> <li>- Develop new activities related to the natural environment and heritage</li> <li>- Develop activities that link producers, visitors and products together</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Capitalise on our natural and human resources             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pilot new outdoor activities and cultural and heritage focussed activities with communities using the promotion of loops and links between villages and towns</li> <li>- Research possible pilot activities that develop the Welsh language and link to outdoor activities</li> <li>- Develop innovative activities that deliver bi-lingual childcare services</li> <li>- Build the green credentials of Powys for living, working and leisure</li> <li>- Work with educational establishments to develop innovative new products or processes for local materials</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Optimise collective strengths and assets to develop community solutions</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Facilitate community engagement to identify resilience and capacity to enable new initiatives that could/will provide local services and activities</li> <li>- Identify the potential for transfer of community assets and support implementation</li> <li>- Provide support to pilot community hub initiatives</li> <li>- Using existing toolkits (Community Pathways) develop a programme of activity that supports community energy development and enhances existing schemes (Welsh Governments Resource Efficiency Service).</li> <li>- Develop innovative ways of sharing information using technology             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build and broker skills</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Undertake and audit of skills and expertise that could be used for Mentoring and the exchange of best practice</li> <li>- Develop Mentoring programmes to enable individuals to become more entrepreneurial and innovative</li> <li>- Investigate feasibility of the development of skills banks             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate, cooperate, communicate and co-produce</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Mapping of all significant events in Powys</li> <li>- Visits to successful activities within other rural settings to learn best practice</li> <li>- Audit potential and then pilot innovative approaches to supply chain development with all sectors</li> </ul> <p>This framework is seeking to put in a strong infrastructure to develop local communities, businesses and service providers to work alongside each other, recognising their collective responsibilities and identifying collaborative solutions. It aims to build a firm foundation for people, businesses, networks and the processes that will support their co-operation and envisages a sustainable County being built upon investing in stronger communities, utilising the assets and skills for collective benefits and recognising that progress can be achieved by realising economies of scale and shared learning.</p>	
Wales	<p>Programme for Government, Welsh Government (June 2021) sets out the 10 well-being objectives that the government will use to maximise its contribution to Wales’ 7 long-term well-being goals and the steps to be taken to deliver them. The document outlines</p>	<p>The LDP can assist in achieving a number of the stated Welsh Government outcomes including meeting the housing needs of the Plan area, providing employment</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the well-being objectives were set, in accordance with the sustainable development principle.</li> <li>• How the well-being objectives maximise the contribution to the well-being goals as specified in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (the Act).</li> </ul> <p>The steps needed to meet the well-being objectives, supported by effective resourcing and governance.</p>	opportunities, improving transport infrastructure, enabling active lifestyles, providing services and facilities and improving community safety.
Wales	Rural Housing in Wales, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, June 2008 Identifies a significant level of unmet housing need in rural Wales where problems of affordability are more acute, homelessness levels have increased and social housing supply is more limited.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to accessibility and the provision of homes in sensible locations that are affordable.
Wales	Llwybr Newydd – the Wales Transport Strategy (2021) This document sets out a need for transport to produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions and seeks to manage the evolving ways people travel around Wales, especially in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. Homeworking is highlighted as being a growing norm.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to travel and the improvement of the ways in which people traverse Powys. The ISA should also contain objectives relating to climate change (reducing greenhouse gas emissions) and accessibility.
Wales	TraCC Mid Wales Regional Highways Strategy (2012) TraCC has commissioned the Regional Highways Strategy in order to put in place a coherent approach for highways in the Region which can be used to guide RTP investment, ensure regional priorities are fully represented in national spending and support the Local Authority programmes for highways investment and maintenance. The strategy is for all highways in the Region, whether they are managed by the Local Authorities or the Trunk Road Agencies, in order to ensure that priorities are based on need and potential benefits rather than on responsibilities. The purpose of this strategy is therefore to provide a framework for highways investment. The strategy document provides a long-term direction. The document comprises an overview of the policy context, the highways context, problems and opportunities, and the strategy. Strategy objectives include:	The ISA should contain objectives relating to improving travel options and infrastructure to increase accessibility that is well designed.

	<p>1.Improving and managing highway network infrastructure;                  2. Promoting road safety;                  3. Reducing and managing freight movements; and                  4. Monitoring and Evaluation.                  Regional routes are identified as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A40 east and west of Brecon;</li> <li>• A479 and A438 between Talgarth and Hay-on-Wye and Crickhowell;</li> <li>• A483 south of Newtown;</li> <li>• A489 east of Newtown;</li> <li>• A495 north of Welshpool;</li> <li>• A493, A494, A496 and A4212 in Meirionnydd; and</li> <li>• A494, A482 and A485 in Ceredigion.</li> </ul> <p>Core Freight routes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A470;</li> <li>• A40;</li> <li>• A487 south of Machynlleth;</li> <li>• A44 from Llangurig to Aberystwyth;</li> <li>• A458 from Shropshire to Welshpool;</li> <li>• A483 from Shropshire to Newtown; and</li> <li>• Parts of the A483.</li> </ul> <p>The Mid Wales Joint Local Transport Plan (Mid Wales LTP) is a statutory document that was approved by the Welsh Government (WG) in May 2015. The Mid Wales LTP covers a programme of projects for the period 2015-2020 and provides a longer term framework for schemes up until 2030. Should funding become available it will facilitate the progression of the following specifically identified proposals: • A44 Radnor Forest Bends and East-West routes (2015 – 2020) • B4385 Beulah to A4081 Llanyre (2020 – 2030).</p>	
<p>Wales</p>	<p>Community Cohesion National Delivery Plan 2016-17                  Core to this document is the need to ensure the communities within Wales continue to be cohesive, resilient, fair, and equal. This would be achieved through successfully achieving the following outcomes:</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to improving community cohesion and the creation of well-designed community spaces that are safe.</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome 1: Departments, organisations and people understand hate crime, victims make reports and get appropriate support</li> <li>• Outcome 2: Departments, organisations and people understand modern slavery, victims make reports and get appropriate support</li> <li>• Outcome 3: Increased awareness and engagement across Gypsy and Traveler communities</li> <li>• Outcome 4: Increased evidence and awareness on immigration and supporting the inclusion of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants</li> <li>• Outcome 5: Increased understanding regarding the impacts of poverty on people with Protected Characteristics across key service and policy delivery</li> <li>• Outcome 6: Key policies and programmes are supporting and evidencing delivery against the national goal on more cohesive communities through the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015</li> </ul> <p>Outcome 7: Policies and services are responsive to community tensions</p>	
<p>Powys</p>	<p>Powys’ Housing Strategy, 2016 -2020                  The vision of the Strategy is:                  To enable the provision and maintenance of affordable, good quality housing, in order to meet the needs and aspirations of the people of Powys, irrespective of whether they choose to rent or buy their home.                  The stated aims of the Strategy are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Develop good quality affordable housing to meet local need</li> <li>2.Support people with special housing requirements</li> <li>3.Improve the quality of existing housing and housing environments</li> <li>4.Make homes more energy efficient</li> <li>5.Prevent / reduce homelessness and rough sleeping</li> </ol>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to high quality design and the provision of a range of housing that meets identified needs, is affordable and is in a sensible location.</p>
<p>Powys</p>	<p>Powys Regeneration Strategy 2011-- 2031                  Rural Development Programme 2014-2020                  The Wales Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (RDP) is a 7 year European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) programme funded by the European Union and Welsh Government.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the sustainable development, the provision of a range of housing that meets identified needs and is affordable, expand the local economy, protecting the environment, the efficient use of land, high quality design,</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase the productivity, diversity and efficiency of Welsh farming and forestry businesses, improving their competitiveness and resilience, reducing their reliance on subsidies</li> <li>• improve the Welsh environment, encouraging sustainable land management practices, the sustainable management of our natural resources and climate action in Wales</li> <li>• promote strong, sustainable rural economic growth in Wales and encourage greater community-led local development.</li> </ul> <p>There are 6 Rural Development Priorities which set the context for the EAFRD and any actions that form part of the RDP 2014-2020 will fit within this structure of priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry, and rural areas</li> <li>• enhancing competitiveness of all types of agriculture and enhancing farm viability</li> <li>• promoting food chain organisation and risk management in agriculture</li> <li>• restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry</li> <li>• promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors</li> <li>• promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas.</li> </ul> <p>It anticipated that the new Wales RDP 2014-2020 will open from January 2015. However, the Wales RDP 2014-2020 is subject to change until the full programme has been agreed by the European Commission.</p> <p>Powys Local Development Strategy</p> <p>The Rural Development Plan is important to the future economic and social development of the County, particularly as since 2007 Powys has been the only predominantly rural County in Wales not qualifying for Convergence status. The purpose of the Powys Local Development Strategy (LDS) is to set out strategic objectives for Powys between 2014 and 2020 as the basis for delivering activity under the Rural Development Plan. The LDS is</p>	<p>accessibility, education/skills and improving community cohesion.</p>
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	<p>therefore an important vehicle for achieving the economic development ambitions of the Welsh Government within Powys.</p> <p>For the 2014 – 2020 period, a new Local Action Group has been formed, the One Powys Local Action Group (OPLAG) to develop the LDS. The membership of the OPLAG has been drawn from the current Powys Regeneration Partnership and Glasu Local Action Group plus new members ensuring representation from all sectors. The long term vision for OPLAG is that:</p> <p>“By 2020 we aim to see vibrant, empowered and connected local communities, delivering sustainable and innovative solutions to current and future economic, social and environmental issues, to enhance the economic wealth of the County”</p> <p>OPLAG have identified a number of objectives that combined seek to add value to the County’s assets, supporting the ability to build on the strengths of the County’s communities and natural environment.</p> <p>The OPLAG objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encourage enterprise and entrepreneurship</li> <li>2. Capitalise on our natural and human resources</li> <li>3. Optimise collective strengths and assets to develop community solutions</li> <li>4. Build and broker skills</li> <li>5. Collaborate, cooperate, communicate and co-produce</li> </ol> <p>The first three objectives encapsulate the results and outcomes of investment and intervention with the latter two objectives being the tools to develop and support those initiatives.</p> <p>Whilst initiatives under the LDS are still being established, the framework for the medium term Action Plan for 2015 – 2018 is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage enterprise and entrepreneurship</li> <li>- Pilot projects utilising the natural environment to provide training and employment opportunities</li> <li>- Develop business partnerships to develop new ideas that maximise opportunities within the uplands natural environment to improve economic wellbeing</li> <li>- Develop new activities related to the natural environment and heritage</li> <li>- Develop activities that link producers, visitors and products together</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capitalise on our natural and human resources</li> <li>- Pilot new outdoor activities and cultural and heritage focussed activities with communities using the promotion of loops and links between villages and towns</li> <li>- Research possible pilot activities that develop the Welsh language and link to outdoor activities</li> <li>- Develop innovative activities that deliver bi-lingual childcare services</li> <li>- Build the green credentials of Powys for living, working and leisure</li> <li>- Work with educational establishments to develop innovative new products or processes for local materials</li> <li>• Optimise collective strengths and assets to develop community solutions</li> <li>- Facilitate community engagement to identify resilience and capacity to enable new initiatives that could/will provide local services and activities</li> <li>- Identify the potential for transfer of community assets and support implementation</li> <li>- Provide support to pilot community hub initiatives</li> <li>- Using existing toolkits (Community Pathways) develop a programme of activity that supports community energy development and enhances existing schemes (Welsh Governments Resource Efficiency Service).</li> <li>- Develop innovative ways of sharing information using technology</li> <li>• Build and broker skills</li> <li>- Undertake and audit of skills and expertise that could be used for Mentoring and the exchange of best practice</li> <li>- Develop Mentoring programmes to enable individuals to become more entrepreneurial and innovative</li> <li>- Investigate feasibility of the development of skills banks</li> <li>• Collaborate, cooperate, communicate and co-produce</li> <li>- Mapping of all significant events in Powys</li> <li>- Visits to successful activities within other rural settings to learn best practice</li> <li>- Audit potential and then pilot innovative approaches to supply chain development with all sectors</li> </ul> <p>This framework is seeking to put in a strong infrastructure to develop local communities, businesses and service providers to work alongside each</p>	
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	<p>other, recognising their collective responsibilities and identifying collaborative solutions. It aims to build a firm foundation for people, businesses, networks and the processes that will support their co-operation and envisages a sustainable County being built upon investing in stronger communities, recognising the assets and skills for collective benefits and recognising that progress can be achieved realising economies of scale and shared learning.</p>	
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### SEA Topic Area – Human Health

<b>Level</b> <b>(International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)</b>	<b>Plan, Programme or Strategy</b>	<b>Implications for the ISA</b> How the objectives may be taken into account
International	<p>Medium Term Strategic Plan 2008-2013, World Health Organisation (April 2009)</p> <p>Identifies 13 strategic objectives including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To prevent and reduce disease, disability and premature death from chronic non-communicable diseases, mental disorders, violence and injuries and visual impairment</li> <li>To reduce morbidity and mortality and improve health during key stages of life, including pregnancy, childbirth, the neonatal period, childhood and adolescence, and improve sexual and reproductive health and promote active and healthy ageing for all individuals</li> <li>To promote health and development, and prevent or reduce risk factors for health conditions associated with use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs and other psychoactive substances, unhealthy diets, physical inactivity and unsafe sex</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to improving health and accessibility.</p>

	<p>To address the underlying social and economic determinants of health through policies and programmes that enhance health equity and integrate pro-poor, gender-responsive, and human rights-based approaches</p> <p>To promote a healthier environment, intensify primary prevention and influence public policies in all sectors so as to address the root causes of environmental threats to health.</p>	
EU	<p>The Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)</p> <p>The aim of the Directive is to define a common approach intended to avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to high quality design and addressing nuisances (noise).</p>
EU	<p>'Together for Health – White Paper', Commission of the European Communities (October 2007)</p> <p>The European Union Health Strategy recognises that a prerequisite of economic prosperity is human health. This document's strategic objectives are to foster good health in an aging Europe, protect citizens from health threats and support dynamic health systems and new technologies.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to improving health, providing houses and services with a specialized need (older persons) and accessibility.</p>
EU	<p>Towards Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion 2014-2020</p> <p>Shows how investing in health contributes towards the Europe 2020 objective of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to improving health and creating sustainable economic growth.</p>
EU	<p>The SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)</p> <p>Specifically requires the consideration of: "the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as ... human health". The SEA Protocol (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, 2003) implements the political commitments made at the Third European Conference on Environment and Health and uses the term 'environment and health' throughout. It indicates that health authorities should be consulted at the different stages of the process and so goes further than the SEA Directive. Once ratified, it will require changes to the SEA Directive to require that health authorities are statutory consultees.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to improving health and protecting the environment.</p>

EU	<p>Health Impact Assessment in Strategic Environmental Assessment (2001) Provides a review of Health Impact Assessment concepts, methods and practice to support the development of a protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Espoo Convention, which adequately covers health impacts.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to improving health and protecting the environment.
UK	<p>The Environment Act (2021) Sets out the Government's expectations for environmental improvement by setting out a legal framework covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental governance</li> <li>• Environmental regulation</li> <li>• Waste and resource efficiency</li> <li>• Air quality and environmental recall</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Nature and biodiversity</li> <li>• Conservation covenants</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, minimizing waste, protecting the air and water environment, improving health and protecting the environment (including environmental designations).
UK	<p>Agency's Children's Environment and Health Action Plan; a summary of current activities which address children's environment and health issues in the UK (2007) Applies the objectives of CEHAPE (2004) to the UK context.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and improving health.
UK	<p>A Children's Environment and Health Strategy for the United Kingdom (2009) Provides recommendations from the Health Protection Agency to the UK Government as to how it best can meet its commitment to the CEHAPE.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and improving health.
Wales	<p><b>Creating a Healthier, Happier and Fairer Wales (2017)</b> This document creates the following commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities;</li> <li>• Improve the quality, equity and effectiveness of healthcare services; and</li> <li>• Protect people from infectious and environmental hazards.</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and improving health.
Wales	<p><b>Programme for Government 2021-2025</b> Sets the agenda for the Welsh Government's 2021-2026 Senedd term to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide effective, high quality and sustainable healthcare</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, sustainable expansion of the local economy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, re-build and develop our services for vulnerable people</li> <li>• Build an economy based on the principles of fair work, sustainability and the industries and services of the future</li> <li>• Build a stronger, greener economy as we make maximum progress towards decarbonisation</li> <li>• Embed our response to the climate and nature emergency in everything we do</li> <li>• Continue our long-term programme of education reform, and ensure educational inequalities narrow and standards rise</li> <li>• Celebrate diversity and move to eliminate inequality in all of its forms</li> <li>• Push forward towards a million Welsh speakers, and enable our tourism, sports and arts industries to thrive</li> <li>• Make our cities, towns and villages even better places in which to live and work</li> <li>• Lead Wales in a national civic conversation about our constitutional future, and give our country the strongest possible presence on the world stage</li> </ul> <p>This is supported by 10 wellbeing objectives.</p>	and services (especially health facilities) and improving health.
Wales	<p>Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013</p> <p>An Act of the National Assembly for Wales to make provision for the mapping of active travel routes and related facilities and for and in connection with integrated network maps; for securing that there are new and improved active travel routes and related facilities; for requiring the Welsh Ministers and local authorities to take reasonable steps to enhance the provision made for, and to have regard to the needs of, walkers and cyclists; for requiring functions under the Act to be exercised so as to promote active travel journeys and secure new and improved active travel routes and related facilities; and for connected purposes.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).
Wales	<p>An Active Travel Action Plan for Wales (2016)</p> <p>This document seeks to encourage active travel within the population of Wales. The document's aims are encompassed by its vision: <i>"For people in</i></p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).



	<i>Wales, we want walking and cycling to become the preferred ways of getting around over shorter distances.”</i>	
Wales	Environmental Noise (Wales) Regulations 2006 and Environmental Noise (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 A Noise Action Plan for Wales 2013-18 (Welsh Government), December 2013 Provides legal force and identifies actions in Wales to EU Directive 2002/49/EC (Environmental Noise Directive 2002).	The ISA should contain objectives relating to high quality design and addressing nuisances (noise).
Wales	Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 Sets out provisions for making improvements to health including for the Welsh Ministers to publish a national strategy on tackling obesity and to make regulations about the carrying out of health impact assessments by public bodies.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).
Wales	Future Wales-- The National Plan 2040 This document provides a profile for the middle of Wales (Powys & Ceredigion). The document seeks to improve the health of the people of Wales and ensure the country is best positioned to weather the effects of climate change whilst reducing its contribution to it. The document is clear that LDP's should improve the health of the populace.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).
Wales	Designed for Life Creating a world class Health and Social Care for Wales in the 2 <sup>1st</sup> Century, Welsh Government, May 2005 Designed for Life is the Welsh Government's 10-year vision for creating world-class health and social care in Wales in the 2 <sup>1st</sup> century. It details the health and social care services that the people of Wales can expect by 2015, with a focus on health services and health improvement.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).
Wales	'Our Healthy Future', Welsh Government, May 2010 The Welsh Government's approach to help everyone live longer with better health. It's aims are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve health and wellbeing in Wales.</li> <li>• Keep everyone healthier for longer.</li> <li>• Get rid of the differences between social groups and areas</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health, accessibility/community cohesion and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get rid of the barriers that stop people leading a healthy life</li> <li>• Bring everyone together to make it happen.</li> </ul> <p>Actions areas to 2020 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Well-being through the life course</li> <li>• Healthy sustainable communities</li> <li>• Health as a shared goal</li> </ul> <p>Reduced inequalities in health</p>	
Wales	<p>‘Fairer Health Outcomes for All’, Welsh Government, March 2011 The plan seeks to develop a health aspect to all policies across Government, to improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequities. It builds on the action areas (identified in “Our Healthy Future” by focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• giving children a healthy start</li> <li>• health assets (factors which improve health and well-being) in communities</li> <li>• improving the health of the working age population</li> <li>• better evidence on interventions</li> <li>• Improving levels of health literacy in Wales.</li> </ul> <p>It considers that action in policy areas such as education and skills, transport, housing and economic development can make a significant contribution to reducing inequities in health.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health, accessibility/community cohesion and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).
Wales	<p>‘Climbing High’: The Welsh Assembly Government Strategy for Sport and Physical Activity (Welsh Assembly Government 2005) Sets targets that, by 2025,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The percentage of people in Wales using the Welsh natural environment for outdoor activities will increase from 36% to 60%</li> <li>• 95% of people in Wales will have a footpath or cycle path within a 10 minute walk</li> <li>• No-one should live more than a 6 minute walk (300metres) from their nearest natural green space</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health, accessibility/community cohesion and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All public sector employees and 75% of all other employees will have access to sport and physical activity facilities at, or within 10 minutes' walk of the workplace</li> </ul>	
Wales	<p>Creating an Active Wales, Welsh Government, December 2009</p> <p>Aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop and maintain a physical environment that makes it easier and safer for people to choose to be more physically active;</li> <li>- Support children and young people to live active lives and become active adults;</li> <li>- Encourage more adults to be more active, more often, throughout life; and</li> <li>- Increase participation in sport, by all sectors of the population.</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health, accessibility/community cohesion and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).
Wales	<p>A Walking and Cycling Action Plan for Wales, 2009 – 2013</p> <p>Aims to secure a walking and cycling culture in Wales in order that people's health can be improved, reliance on cars reduced, traffic congestion reduced, greenhouse gas emissions cut and rural economies supported.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health, accessibility/community cohesion and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).
Wales	<p>Road Safety Framework for Wales, Welsh Government, July 2013</p> <p>The vision of this document is "A continued reduction in the number of people killed and seriously injured on Welsh roads, with the ultimate aspiration of no fatalities."</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and safe environments, accessibility/community cohesion and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).
Wales	<p>Sustainable Social Services for Wales: A Framework for Action (2011)</p> <p>Highlighted a number of challenges faced by public services in Wales including demographic changes, increased expectations from those who access care and support as well as continuing hard economic realities.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, services to meet the needs of all people and especially those with specific health/social needs.
Wales	<p>Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (2021)</p> <p>The Planning Policy Wales document contains policies for the Promoting of Healthier Places. The planning system and planning authorities have a duty to ensure they maintain places that support people in achieving a healthy lifestyle and ensuring the social, economic, environmental and cultural</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and safe environments, accessibility/community cohesion and

	<p>factors that the built environment create improve the health of Welsh residents. The Planning Policy Wales document contains a list of guidance on how to improve the health of Welsh residents ranging from planning authorities ensuring there are sufficient health facilities to encouraging the use of green infrastructure to interconnect places. Health is not just confined to the physical and the built environment is important for the improvement of people's mental health.</p>	<p>enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).</p>
Wales	<p>Technical Advice Note 11: Noise (Welsh Assembly Government 1997) Provides advice on how the planning system can minimise the adverse impact of noise without placing unreasonable restrictions on development or unduly adding to the costs and administrative burdens of business.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to high quality design and addressing nuisances (noise).</p>
Wales	<p>Planning requirements for private sewerage in new development (WGC 008/2018) Provides guidance to planning authorities regarding how best to consider proposals that are located in areas with no existing sewage infrastructure/systems. It incorporates guidance relating to establishing connections to the existing sewage network to on-site sewage treatment options.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and safe environments/open spaces, accessibility/community cohesion and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).</p>
Wales	<p>Technical Advice Note 16: Sport, Recreation and Open Space (Welsh Assembly Government 2009) Technical Advice Note 16: Sport Recreation and Open Space provides guidance on planning for sport, recreation and informal open spaces, as well as protecting existing facilities and open spaces. Includes guidance on developing Open Space Assessments and standards of provision and the links between health and well-being, sport and recreational activity and sustainable development.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and safe environments/open spaces, accessibility/community cohesion and enabling travel options and travel variety (especially active travel).</p>
Wales	<p>Together for Health (2011) A five year vision for NHS Wales, based around community services and placing prevention, quality and transparency at the heart of healthcare.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and safe environments/open spaces and accessibility/community cohesion.</p>

Wales	<p>Working Differently – Working Together (2012) Sets out key objectives, including to develop a workforce aligned and committed to the Together for Health vision and to create a sustainable and skilled workforce that focuses on helping the people of Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to health, community cohesion and increasing educations and skill attainment.</p>
Powys	<p>Powys Corporate and Strategic Equality Plan 2023 – 2027:</p> <p>The Plan (approved by full Council 23 February 2023) sets out the Council's well-being objectives and what action is needed to deliver them. It will present the well-being priorities for the Council based on the Vision for the Future is for a Stronger, Fairer, Greener Powys:</p> <p><b>Stronger</b> - We will become a county that succeeds together, with communities and people that are well connected socially, and are personally and economically resilient.</p> <p><b>Fairer</b> - We will be an open, well-run, Council where peoples' voices are heard and help to shape our work and priorities, with fairer, more equal, access to services and opportunities. We will work to tackle poverty and inequality to support people's well-being.</p> <p><b>Greener</b> - We want to ensure a greener future for Powys, where our well-being is linked to that of the natural world, and our response to the climate and biodiversity emergencies is at the heart of everything we do.</p> <p>In order to achieve this ambition, the Plan sets the following objectives that are the core aims of the Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will improve people's awareness of services, and how to access them, so that they can make informed choices</li> <li>• We will provide good quality, sustainable employment, and training opportunities, whilst pursuing real living wage employer accreditation</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives and assessment criteria which reflect these priorities, the means of achieving them and the identified outcome, in turn establishing a clear connection with the Local Development Plan which will also need to reflect these ambitions.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will work to tackle poverty and inequality to support the well-being of the people of Powys</li> </ul> <p>Underpinning the three objectives is an approach that will see climate, nature and equalities as a key thread throughout everything the Council does as an organisation, strengthening organisational decision-making by understanding the most significant issues affecting Powys.</p> <p>The Replacement LDP is expected to support the aims of this Corporate and Strategic Equality Plan.</p>	
Powys	<p>Powys Open Space Assessment (2018)</p> <p>This assessment provides an overview of the current provision of open space in the key settlements across the County, it sets out those areas which are to receive protection and provides a framework for the provision of new open spaces.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and safe environments/open spaces and accessibility/community cohesion.
Powys	<p>Regeneration Strategy for Powys Action Plan (2011 – 2031)</p> <p>The regeneration strategy for Powys was developed by Powell Dobson consultants in 2010. The strategy provides a framework within which the County Council and its partners will ensure that regeneration is embedded into everyday practice, to deliver outcomes which will have a positive impact upon not just the physical, social, environmental, but the economic and cultural attributes of the County as well. It is based around a vision that: “Regeneration in Powys will nurture and promote the County’s assets and strengths as the means to address its weaknesses by establishing a robust and sustainable economy that is based upon vibrant communities, and which enhances and protects the physical, social and cultural environment of Powys”</p> <p>It is felt that the strategy remains relevant and that the nine key objectives which reflect the strategic needs of the County should remain in place:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Objective 1 – Environment and Place</li> <li>Objective 2 – Education and skills</li> <li>Objective 3 – The Economy</li> <li>Objective 4 – Health and well-being and the community</li> </ol>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, health and safe environments/open spaces and accessibility/community cohesion.

	<p>5. Objective 5 – Quality of service provision          6. Objective 6 – Renewable energy alongside research and development          7. Objective 7 – The significance of local culture and the creative industries          8. Objective 8 – Tourism          9. Objective 9 – The needs of young people</p> <p>The Action Plan forms part of a re-launch of the Regeneration Strategy which includes developing areas of impact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Grow Powys – empowering and improving the economic health of Powys</li> <li>2. Resilient Powys – Encouraging innovation, strengthening local services, communities and partnerships</li> <li>3. Empower Powys – Supporting communities to tackle issues of local importance.</li> </ol>	
<p>Powys</p>	<p>Powys Well-being Assessment (2022)</p> <p>The assessment undertaken by the Powys Public Service Board aims to understand the pressures facing communities, by assessing a range of data, evidence and research to give a comprehensive picture of the well-being of local people and communities now, and how well-being can be influenced in the future. It looks at economic, social, environmental, and cultural factors that impact on people’s daily lives, issues such as health, access to employment, condition of housing and access to services.</p> <p>The Well-being Assessment identifies local areas of focus under the national well-being themes:</p> <p>Under the Social theme – Homelife, Living Independently, Health and Lifestyle, Educating our Children.</p> <p>Under the Economy theme – Jobs and wages, Businesses, Tourism, Staying Connected, Poverty and deprivation</p> <p>Under the Culture and Community theme – Welsh Language, Communities coming together, participation in community life, Anti-social.</p> <p>Under the Environment theme – Improving Biodiversity, Sustainable Land, Water and Air, Reconnecting People and Places, Forestry Resources, Climate Change.</p> <p>The findings of the assessment will be used to set out well-being objectives and these will provide the framework for the next Powys Well-being Plan, due to be published in May 2023, which will set out how the Public Services</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to well-being, and take into account the findings of the assessment.</p>

	Board will improve the well-being of its communities against the seven national goals.	
Powys	<p>Powys Market Stability Report</p> <p>The Powys Regional Partnership Board (RPB) have prepared this report as required by the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. It has been prepared in accordance with the 2021 guidance produced by Welsh Government concerning the production of Market Stability Reports and is therefore the first of its kind.</p> <p>The report focuses upon regulated social care services in Powys; particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the sufficiency and overall quality of provision of those services,</li> <li>• current or developing trends affecting those services</li> <li>• significant challenges facing those services</li> <li>• and the impact of commissioning and funding on local authority social services functions.</li> </ul> <p>The report also considers the wider provision of non-regulated and community services.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to well-being, and take into account the findings of the report.
Powys	<p>Population Needs Assessment</p> <p>Since April 2017, regions across Wales have published an assessment of the care and support needs in their area. These population needs assessments are a requirement of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.</p> <p>This assessment is the second published for Powys, and is a joint exercise undertaken by Powys Teaching Health Board and Powys County Council, in partnership with the third and independent sectors. It is overseen by Powys Regional Partnership Board (RPB) whose purpose is to drive the delivery of integrated health and social care services.</p> <p>This PNA aims to provide a focused view of current and future health and social care needs in Powys from three key perspectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identifying existing and future care and support needs (including the needs of carers)</li> <li>2. Looking at the services and assets available to meet those needs</li> <li>3. Identifying actions required to address any gaps in services or unmet needs</li> </ol>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to well-being, and take into account the findings of the assessment.



Powys	<p>Health and Care Strategy 2017 – 2027</p> <p>This document has been developed in line with the Joint Planning framework agreed by Powys County Council and Powys Teaching Health Board, under the Health and Care Strategy Development Programme. It is a technical document which also acts as the Joint Area Plan and will be used as a core basis for the 10 year strategy. It has two purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To set out in more detail the core drivers of the Health and Care Strategy, the opportunities for development and the rationale for the vision 'A Healthy Caring Powys'.</li> <li>• To outline 5 year priorities of key partners that form the Regional Partnership Board.</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to well-being.
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### SEA Topic Area - Soil

Level (International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Implications for the ISA
International	<p>World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 1972)</p> <p>Aims to encourage countries to sign the World Heritage Convention and to ensure the protection of their natural and cultural heritage</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the protection of the environment.
EU	<p>EU Soil Thematic Strategy (2012)</p> <p>The Soil Thematic Strategy seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• establish common principles for the protection and sustainable use of soils;</li> <li>• prevent threats to soils, and mitigate the effects of those threats;</li> <li>• preserve soil functions within the context of sustainable use; and</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• restore degraded and contaminated soils to approved levels of functionality.</li> </ul> <p>The Soil Thematic Strategy proposes the introduction of a Soil Framework Directive.</p> <p>The overall objective of the Strategy is protection and sustainable use of soil, based on the following guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventing further soil degradation and preserving its functions:</li> <li>• when soil is used and its functions are exploited, action has to be taken on soil use and management patterns, and</li> <li>• when soil acts as a sink/receptor of the effects of human activities or environmental phenomena, action has to be taken at source.</li> </ul> <p>The Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection consists of a Communication: Communication (COM(2006) 231)</p> <p>The proposal for a framework Directive (COM(2006) 232) sets out common principles for protecting soils across the EU.</p>	
UK	<p>The Environment Act (2021)</p> <p>Sets out the Government's expectations for environmental improvement by setting out a legal framework covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental governance</li> <li>• Environmental regulation</li> <li>• Waste and resource efficiency</li> <li>• Air quality and environmental recall</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Nature and biodiversity</li> </ul> <p>Conservation covenants</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.
UK	<p>Environmental Protection Act 1990, Part IIA (Wales, 2001)</p> <p>This seeks to provide an improved system for the identification and remediation of land where contamination is causing unacceptable risks to human health or the wider environment assessed in the context of the current use and circumstances of the land.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.
Wales	Agriculture (Wales) White Paper (2020)	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design,

	<p>This document outlines the importance of farming to the Welsh economy whilst also being a source of locally grown food. It highlights the difficulties of Brexit and trade barriers with the EU, whilst also establishing a need to de-carbonise the farming industry as much as possible but not in a way that compromises it.</p>	<p>the efficient use of land and resources, protection of agricultural land and the expansion of the agricultural economy.</p>
Wales	<p>Environment Strategy for Wales (2006) Sets out the WAG's strategy for achieving its vision for the environment of Wales for the next 20 years. It has five main themes: addressing climate change – mitigation and adaptation; sustainable resource use – covering material consumption; and waste; water; soils; minerals and aggregates; distinctive biodiversity, landscapes and seascapes – covering biodiversity; the marine environment; landscapes and seascapes and their historic component; our local environment – covering the built environment and access to green space; environmental nuisances; walk ability in urban areas and access to the countryside and coast; and flood risk management; and environmental hazards – covering pollution and chemicals and radioactivity.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.</p>
Wales	<p>Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Strengthens existing governance arrangements for improving the well-being of Wales to ensure that present needs are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The act identifies goals to improve the well-being of Wales, introduces national indicators that will measure the difference being made to the well-being of Wales, establishes a Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to act as an advocate for future generations and puts local service boards and well-being plans on a statutory basis and simplifies requirements for integrated community planning.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.</p>
Wales	<p>Welsh Soils Action Plan, 2008 This document identifies the main threats to soils in Wales as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change;</li> <li>• Soil Loss to Development (Soil Sealing);</li> <li>• Contamination, including Acidification and Eutrophication;</li> <li>• Soil Erosion;</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degradation of Soil Structure;</li> <li>• Decline in Organic Matter; and</li> <li>• Soil Loss to Extraction.</li> </ul> <p>It proposes a series of actions to combat or mitigate these threats.</p>	
Wales	<p>TAN 6 – Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities, July 2010.</p> <p>The TAN provides practical guidance on the role of the planning system in supporting the delivery of sustainable rural communities. The TAN provides guidance on how the planning system can contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable rural economies;</li> <li>• Sustainable rural housing;</li> <li>• Sustainable rural services; and</li> <li>• Sustainable agriculture.</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.
Wales	<p>One Wales: One Planet, a new Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales (Welsh Assembly Government 2009)</p> <p>Sets out WAG’s vision of a sustainable Wales</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.
Wales	<p>Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (2021)</p> <p>Contains current land use planning policy for Wales. It contains guidance on the proper use and management of Wales’s soil resources. It also seeks to protect the peat resources from Wales from being lost and compromised. It also seeks to ensure the important Agricultural Land of Wales is used appropriately and not compromised by development or poor management. It also seeks to protect peat resources within Wales from development as such resources are important for the local environment and acts as a method of carbon storage.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources, remediation of contaminated land and the protection of the environment.
Wales	<p>The National Peatland Action Programme</p> <p>This programme seeks to conserve and protect the peatland resources of Wales. It will achieve this by tackling the following priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Peatland erosion</li> <li>2. Peatland drainage</li> </ol>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources (including peatland), remediation of

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Sustainable management of blanket peats</li> <li>4. Sustainable management of lowland peats</li> <li>5. The restoration of afforested peatlands</li> <li>6. The gradual restoration of our highest carbon emitting peatlands</li> </ol> <p>The programme seeks to restore 600-800 hectares of public and private land every year and identified that between 2020-2021 just over 650 hectares of land was restored.</p>	contaminated land and the protection of the environment.
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### SEA Topic Area - Water

<b>Level</b> <b>(International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)</b>	<b>Plan, Programme or Strategy</b>	<b>Implications for the ISA</b> How the objectives may be taken into account
International	<p>The Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses is a document adopted by the United Nations on May 21, 1997 pertaining to the uses and conservation of all waters that cross international boundaries, including both surface and groundwater. Mindful of increasing demands for water and the impact of human behavior, the UN drafted the document to help conserve and manage water resources for present and future generations.</p> <p>To enter into force, the document requires ratification by 35 states; as of February 2014, it has received 34 ratifications. Though not in force, the document is regarded as an important step towards arriving at international law governing water.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.</p>
EU	<p>EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60/EC</p> <p>Its overall objective is to establish a strategic framework for managing surface water and groundwater.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment</p>

		and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
EU	<p>A Water Blueprint-- taking stock, moving forward (COM/2012/0673 final)  The “Blueprint” outlines actions that concentrate on better implementation of current water legislation, integration of water policy objectives into other policies, and filling the gaps in particular as regards water quantity and efficiency. The objective is to ensure that a sufficient quantity of good quality water is available for peoples’ needs, the economy and the environment throughout the EU.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
EU	<p>Urban Waste Water Directive (91/271/EEC)  Its objective is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water discharges and discharges from certain industrial and concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic waste water</li> <li>• Mixture of waste water</li> <li>• Waste water from certain industrial sectors (see Annex III of the Directive)</li> </ul> <p>Specifically, the Directive requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Collection and treatment of waste water in all agglomerations of &gt;2000 population equivalents (p.e.);</li> <li>• Secondary treatment of all discharges from agglomerations of &gt; 2000 p.e., and more advanced treatment for agglomerations &gt;10 000 population equivalents in designated sensitive areas and their catchments;</li> <li>• A requirement for pre-authorisation of all discharges of urban wastewater, of discharges from the food-processing industry and of industrial discharges into urban wastewater collection systems;</li> <li>• Monitoring of the performance of treatment plants and receiving waters; and</li> </ul> <p>Controls of sewage sludge disposal and re-use, and treated waste water re-use whenever it is appropriate.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.

EU	<p>Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)</p> <p>This Directive establishes a regime which sets groundwater quality standards and introduces measures to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater.</p> <p>The directive thus represents a proportionate and scientifically sound response to the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) as it relates to assessments on chemical status of groundwater and the identification and reversal of significant and sustained upward trends in pollutant concentrations.</p> <p>It requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• groundwater quality standards to be established by the end of 2008;</li> <li>• pollution trend studies to be carried out by using existing data and data which is mandatory by the WFD (referred to as 'baseline level' data obtained in 2007-2008);</li> <li>• pollution trends to be reversed so that environmental objectives are achieved by 2015 by using the measures set out in the WFD;</li> <li>• measures to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater to be operational so that WFD environmental objectives can be achieved by 2015;</li> <li>• reviews of technical provisions of the directive to be carried out in 2013 and every six years thereafter;</li> </ul> <p>compliance with good chemical status criteria (based on EU standards of nitrates and pesticides and on threshold values established by Member States</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.</p>
EU	<p>The Nitrates Directive (96/676/EEC)</p> <p>Aims to reduce and prevent water pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources. It obliges Member States to designate vulnerable zones of all known areas in Member States whose waters – including groundwater – are or are likely to be affected by nitrate pollution.</p> <p>Vulnerable zones are defined as those waters which contain a nitrates concentration of more than 50 mg/l or are susceptible to contain such nitrates concentration if measures are not taken.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.</p>

	The link with groundwater policy is clear in this respect, i.e. nitrate contamination levels should not be over the trigger value set at 50 mg/l. The measures for action of the nitrates directive are also listed in the Water Framework Directive (Annex VI) and the Groundwater Directive (Annex IV, part B).	
EU	Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC Requires waste to be recovered or disposed of without endangering the environment and groundwater.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
	Shellfish Waters Directive 2006/113/EC The aim of the Shellfish Waters Directive is to protect or improve shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth. It is designed to protect the aquatic habitat of bivalve and gastropod molluscs, which include oysters, mussels, cockles, scallops and clams. The Directive requires Member States to designate waters that need protection in order to support shellfish life and growth. The Directive sets physical, chemical and microbiological requirements that designated shellfish waters must either comply with or endeavour to improve. The Directive also provides for the establishment of pollution reduction programmes for the designated waters.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
EU	Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption) concerns the quality of water intended for human consumption. Its objective is to protect human health from adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
EU	Bathing Water Directive (76/1160/EEC). This has the purpose to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment



		and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
EU	<p>The EU Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)</p> <p>This Directive requires Member States to assess if all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.</p> <p>Its aim is to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.</p> <p>The Directive shall be carried out in coordination with the Water Framework Directive, notably by flood risk management plans and river basin management plans being coordinated, and through coordination of the public participation procedures in the preparation of these plans. All assessments, maps and plans prepared shall be made available to the public.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales (2020)</p> <p>This reaffirms the Welsh Governments desire to mitigate and manage flood risk within Wales. Flood risk and coastal erosion are extremely important issues and sustainable developments by their nature are expected to ensure they address any flood risk issues.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended)</p> <p>The Water Resources Act 1991 (WRA) is an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom that regulates water resources, water quality and pollution, and flood defence.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Flood and Water Management Act (2010)</p> <p>This Act seeks to improve both flood risk management and the way that water resources are managed.</p> <p>It contains provisions for making agreements on the adoption process for foul sewers mandatory and introducing mandatory standards for the</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.

	<p>construction of new gravity foul sewers and lateral drains to ensure they are built to a suitable standard.</p> <p>It also contained provisions on sustainable drainage which would introduce new arrangements for approval and adoption of sustainable drainage systems. An increase in the number of sustainable drainage systems will help to manage and reduce the flow of surface water into sewerage systems, alleviate flood risk and protect water quality.</p>	
UK/Wales	<p>Environment Strategy for Wales (2006)</p> <p>There are a number of water related objectives; including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to manage water resources sustainably without causing environmental damage;</li> <li>• to increase water efficiency and maintain water quality;</li> <li>• to maintain and enhance the quality of water sources; understand and manage diffuse pollution sources; and</li> <li>• to minimise the risk posed by exposure to chemicals.</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015</p> <p>Strengthens existing governance arrangements for improving the well-being of Wales to ensure that present needs are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Welsh Government: Strategic Policy Position Statement on Water (2011)</p> <p>Our core principles are ensuring access to safe drinking water, maintaining water and sewerage services at an affordable price and compliance with statutory obligations that drive all round water quality.</p> <p>Environment Strategy outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water resources are managed sustainably meeting the needs of society without causing damage to the environment</li> <li>• Water is used more efficiently across all sectors</li> <li>• The high quality of our drinking water is maintained</li> <li>• The quality of our groundwater, rivers, lakes and coastal waters is maintained and enhanced</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diffuse pollution is better understood and action is being taken to reduce and manage diffuse pollution</li> </ul>	
UK/Wales	<p>Water Strategy for Wales 2015</p> <p>Sets out the strategic direction for water policy in Wales over the next 20 years and beyond. Water is one of the greatest natural assets and an integral part of Wales' culture, heritage and national identity. The Strategy highlights the Welsh Government's vision to ensure that Wales continues to have a thriving water environment which is sustainably managed to support healthy communities, flourishing businesses and the environment. The strategy will contribute to wider Welsh Government priorities and principles, including tackling poverty.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>TAN 15 Development, flooding and coastal erosion (December 2021)</p> <p>TAN 15 provides technical guidance which supplements the policies set out in PPW in relation to flooding and coastal erosion. It provides a framework within which the flood risks arising from rivers, the sea and surface water, and the risk of coastal erosion can be assessed. It also provides advice on the consequences of the risks and adapting to and living with flood risk. TAN15 is due to come into force on 1 June 2023.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Natural Resources Wales-- River Basin Management Plans</p> <p>Severn District River Basin Management Plan</p> <p>Western Wales District River Basin Management Plan</p> <p>Dee District River Basin Management Plan</p> <p>These highlight diffuse pollution as a key reason for failure to meet good ecological status in a number of rivers across Wales.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Natural Resources Wales – Diffuse Water Pollution in Wales</p> <p>Highlights eight areas on which to prioritise effort to tackle diffuse pollution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>industrial estates,</li> <li>small sewage discharges (private),</li> <li>drainage misconnections,</li> <li>surface water drainage from developed areas,</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• livestock management,</li> <li>• land management,</li> <li>• storage – slurry, fuel, oils, chemicals</li> </ul> mine waters	
UK/Wales	<p>Natural Resources Wales – Review of shellfish water designations</p> <p>The Shellfish Waters Directive protects shellfish populations, maintaining the high quality of shellfish in our waters. The directive sets the standard for water quality in estuaries and other areas where shellfish grow and reproduce.</p> <p>Under this directive, waters that are inhabited by shellfish need to be monitored for certain substances.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Natural Resources Wales – Wales Bathing Water Report 2013.</p> <p>87 out of Wales’ 88 designated bathing waters have met the required standard for public health and the environment, under the Bathing Water Directive. Of the 87, a total of 82 bathing waters met the more stringent European Guideline Standards which are used when awarding Blue Flag awards.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Welsh Government-- National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk (2012)</p> <p>Includes four objectives for the management of flood and coastal erosion risk in Wales.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Natural Resources Wales-- Catchment Abstraction Management Plan (var)</p> <p>CAMS assess the amount of water available in each river catchment. As part of this work we periodically review all abstraction licenses to determine whether or not they are having an unsustainable impact on the environment.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>River basin management plans 2021-2027</p> <p>There currently exists river basin management plans for Western Wales and the River Dee. These plans seek to protect these water assets from pollution and being compromised by development.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment

		and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Flood Risk Management Plans – Western Wales, River Dee and River Severn (Natural Resources Wales is working to produce a Flood Risk Management Plan for all of Wales)</p> <p>The Flood Risk Management Plans identified seek to ensure that flood risk is properly considered and development is not located in areas at risk of these water courses flooding without considerable forethought.</p> <p>–</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Dwr Cymru Welsh Water / Severn Trent Water / Dee Valley Water / Albion Water / Southern and Scottish Energy Water</p> <p>Water resources management plans</p> <p>These outline the strategy for managing water resources and maintaining the balance between supply and demand. They identify deficit zones where demand is exceeding (or forecast to exceed) supply and identifies appropriate measures to either increase supply or to manage demand in each water resources zone.</p> <p>Asset management plan</p> <p>These highlight the programmed infrastructure upgrades / investments which are necessary to accommodate development.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>Welsh Water Final Drought Plan 2020</p> <p>This document seeks to ensure that Wales has sufficient water resources to ensure its population would continue to be able to live and work through and after the effects of a drought. The document highlights that it is becoming increasingly common for Wales to experience short but intense periods of extreme heat that leads to sudden spikes in water consumption and loss.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding. The
UK/Wales	<p>Hafren Dyfrdwr Drought Plan 2020-2025</p> <p>This document seeks to ensure that Wales has sufficient water resources to ensure its population would continue to be able to live and work through and after the effects of a drought.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient uses of resources (including water) and the protection of the water

		environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.
UK/Wales	<p>The Montgomery Canal Regeneration through Sustainable Restoration (2016)</p> <p>This document seeks to create a strategy that would enable the regeneration/restoration of the Montgomery Canal. The restoration of the Canal would achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a corridor of opportunity that will provide a driving force for rural regeneration in England and Wales. Through physically and thematically connecting local tourist attractions the Canal will create a focus and catalyst for the wider regeneration of Welshpool and Newton and the Oswestry – Queens Head – Llanymynech triangle based on the its key historic role in the industrial revolution.</li> <li>• Provide a community resource, valued and used by all.</li> </ul> <p>Enable restoration to navigation that respects values and enhances the unique nature of the Montgomery Canal and have sustainability at the heart of all management and development.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, and the protection of the water environment and avoidance of areas at high risk of flooding.

### SEA Topic Area - Air

Level (International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Implications for the ISA
International	<p>The 1999 Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone</p> <p>The Protocol sets emission ceilings for 2010 for four pollutants: Sulphur, NOx, VOCs and Ammonia</p>	<p>How the objectives may be taken into account</p> <p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.</p>

International	<p>Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution</p> <p>The aim of the Convention is that Parties shall endeavour to limit and, as far as possible, gradually reduce and prevent air pollution including long-range transboundary air pollution. Parties develop policies and strategies to combat the discharge of air pollutants through exchanges of information, consultation, research and monitoring.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
International	<p>Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (2008/50/EC)</p> <p>Set limits and targets for concentrations of various pollutants in outdoor air for the protection of health and ecosystems. It includes controls over fine particulate matter.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
International	<p>Arsenic, Cadmium, Mercury, Nickel and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Ambient Air (2004/107/EC)</p> <p>Improving air quality in the EU by setting binding standards for fine particles</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
International	<p>Air Quality Framework Directive (96/62/EC)</p> <p>Set a framework for monitoring and reporting levels of air pollutants across European Union (EU) Member States, setting limits or reductions for certain air pollutants.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
International	<p>Clean Air Programme for Europe (2013)</p> <p>Sets out new air policy objectives for 2030 to reduce health impacts and eutrophication in ecosystems.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
International	<p>EU Thematic Strategy on Air Quality (2005)</p> <p>Identifies that despite significant improvements in air quality across the EU, a number of serious air quality issues still persist. The Strategy promotes an approach which focuses upon the most serious pollutants and integrates environmental concerns into other policies and programmes. The objective of the Strategy is to attain levels of air quality that do not give rise to significant negative impacts on, and risks to, human health and the environment. The Strategy minimises the need for a shift towards less polluting modes of</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.

	transport and the better use of natural resources to help reduce harmful emissions.	
International	<p>Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) (2010/75/EU)</p> <p>Combines seven existing air pollution directives, including the Large Combustion Plant Directive and the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) Directive. As with previous directives aimed at minimising emission releases, part of the benefit of the IED is that it includes several new industrial processes, sets new minimum emission limit values (ELVs) for large combustion plant and addresses some of the implementation issues of the IPPC.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
International	<p>National Emissions Ceilings Directive (2001/81/EC)</p> <p>This Directive sets ‘ceilings’ (maximum values to be achieved by 2010) for total national emissions of four pollutants: sulphur dioxide; oxides of nitrogen; volatile organic compounds; and ammonia. These four pollutants contribute to acidification, eutrophication, and formation of ground level ozone.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
UK	<p>Air Quality Plan for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in UK (2017)</p> <p>This plan sets out how the Government will improve air quality in the UK by reducing nitrogen dioxide emissions in towns and cities. The air quality plans set out targeted local, regional and national measures across 37 zone plans (areas which have identified air quality issues with nitrogen dioxide), a UK overview document and a national list of measures. Measures relate to freight, rail, sustainable travel, low emission vehicles and cleaner transport fuels, among others.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
UK	<p>The Environment Act (2021)</p> <p>Sets out the Government’s expectations for environmental improvement by setting out a legal framework covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental governance</li> <li>• Environmental regulation</li> <li>• Waste and resource efficiency</li> <li>• Air quality and environmental recall</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Nature and biodiversity</li> </ul> <p>Conservation covenants</p>	
UK	<p>Environment Act 1995</p> <p>Sets provisions for protecting air quality in the UK and for local air quality management.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
UK	<p>The Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010</p> <p>Transpose into English law the requirements of Directives 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC on ambient air quality. Equivalent regulations have been made by the devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
UK	<p>The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007)</p> <p>The strategy sets air pollution standards to protect people's health and the environment.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
UK	<p>Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/168)</p> <p>Introduces controls on the production, use and emissions from equipment of a large number of 'controlled substances' that deplete the ozone layer.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
UK	<p>Clean Air Strategy 2019</p> <p>Sets out plans for dealing with all sources of air pollution, making the UK's air healthier to breathe, protecting nature and boosting the economy.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, reducing air pollution and protecting nature.
UK	<p>Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010 (SI 2010/675)</p> <p>Sets up a pollution control regime. The environmental regulator would specify conditions for environmental permits, for example limiting the type and quantity of emissions released to air.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, sustainable development and high quality design.
Wales	<p>Air Quality in Wales, Various Welsh Government Documents<sup>299</sup></p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the enhancement and protection of air

<sup>299</sup> Welsh Government (Various) "Air Pollution". Available at: [Air pollution | Sub-topic | GOV.WALES](#), accessed 23.08.2022.

	The Welsh government provides considerable advice on improving the air quality of Wales and its monitoring. The Welsh government seeks to ensure the construction and operation of new and old developments does not result in the creation of harmful levels of pollution that would compromise local air quality. The guidance the Welsh Government provided to local authorities is to ensure that they undertake a <i>“long-term thinking approach”</i> , ensuring LDP reduce air quality issues over their lifetime and that the development they permit would never compromise local air quality.	quality, which will in turn inform the preparation of a future LDP.
Wales	Natural Resources Wales: Lichen surveys to investigate ammonia impacts (Evidence Report No 298) This report identifies the potential and continued issues of ammonia on the air quality of Wales and the subsequent adverse effects on SSSIs.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the enhancement and protection of air quality, which will in turn inform the preparation of a future LDP.
Wales	Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (2021) Sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Regarding air quality, Planning Policy Wales sets out potential material planning considerations in relation to: location and site selection; impact on health and amenity; the risk and impact of potential pollution from the development as well as the effect of the surrounding environment; the prevention of nuisance; and the impact on the road and other transport networks.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the enhancement and protection of air quality, which will in turn inform the preparation of a future LDP.
Wales	The Clean Air Plan for Wales – Healthy Air, Healthy Wales (2019) Plan aiming to improve air quality and reduce the burden of poor air quality on human health, biodiversity and the natural environment in Wales, and contribute to improved air quality in the UK and Europe.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to protecting air quality, reducing air pollution and protecting nature.

### SEA Topic Area – Climatic Factors

Level	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Implications for the ISA
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<b>(International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)</b>		<b>How the objectives may be taken into account</b>
International	Kyoto Protocol, United Nations, 1998 International agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
International	Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2007 Technical document providing sound scientific basis for the effect of climate change.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
International	The Paris Agreement (2016) The Paris Agreement's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Additionally, the agreement aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change. To reach these ambitious goals, appropriate financial flows, a new technology framework and an enhanced capacity building framework will be put in place, thus supporting action by developing countries and the most vulnerable countries, in line with their own national objectives.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
International	COP26 (2021) COP26 was the most recent, UN organised, meeting of world leaders and important people/businesses in order to create goals for the world to meet in order to address climate change. Representatives of nearly 200 countries attended the event. The following four driving actions were established, with	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate

	<p>every country in attendance being expected to act and progress these driving actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitigation – reducing emissions</li> <li>• Adaptation – helping those already impacted by climate change</li> <li>• Finance – enabling countries to deliver on their climate goals</li> </ul> <p>Collaboration – working together to deliver even greater action.</p>	change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	<p>Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (2021)</p> <p>Highlights the importance of continuing to tackle climate change as the effects of climate change continue to grow each year. Places considerable importance on tackling climate change to reduce the chance/severity of droughts. The document calls for more effective climate and emissions data to be produced and analysed so that countries can better create and implement highly effective and ground-breaking climate change prevention plans.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	<p>The EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC</p> <p>The overall objective is to manage and reduce flood-related risks to human health, the environment, infrastructure and property.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change (including flood risk), the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	<p>EU directive to promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EC)</p> <p>EU Directive which requires member states to set targets for the consumption of electricity produced from renewable sources.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land, the generation of renewable/low-carbon energy and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	<p>Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC)</p> <p>Mandates levels of renewable energy use within the EU. The Directive requires EU Member States to produce a pre-agreed proportion of energy consumption from renewable sources such that the EU as a whole shall obtain at least 20% of total energy consumption from renewables by 2020. This is then apportioned across Member States. The UK's target is for 15%</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land, the

	of energy consumption in 2020 to be from renewable sources. Under Article 4 of the Directive, each Member State is also required to complete a National Renewable Energy Action Plan that will set out the trajectory and measures that will enable the target to be met.	generation of renewable/low-carbon energy and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	EU Emissions Trading Scheme (2005) An emissions trading scheme limiting carbon dioxide emissions from 11,500 installations in the EU's 25 Member States through the allocation of emissions allowances by member States. The allowances are tradable in order to reduce compliance costs.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	EU Second Climate Change Programme – ECCP II (2005) Launched in October 2005, to explore further cost effective options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and encompassing a wide range of programmes.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice, EU 6th Action Programme, European Commission (2001) EU Action Programme. Sets objectives for ten years. The long term welfare in Europe and around the world is 'sustainable development'. The commission proposes taking strong action to: tackle climate change; protect nature and wildlife; address environment and health issues; and preserve natural resources and manage waste.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	Seventh EU Environmental Action Plan (EAP) (2013-2020) Reviews the significant environmental challenges and provides a framework for European environmental policy up to 2020. The programme identifies three priority areas where more action is needed to protect nature and strengthen ecological resilience, boost resource-efficient, low-carbon growth, and reduce threats to human health and wellbeing linked to pollution, chemical substances, and the impacts of climate change.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate

	Sets the framework for measures to promote energy efficiency across the EU and help the EU reduce its energy consumption by 20%.	change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy) and the minimization of waste.
EU	2030 Policy Framework for Climate and Energy This 2030 policy framework aims to make the EU's economy and energy system more competitive, secure and sustainable and also sets a target of at least 27% for renewable energy and energy savings by 2030.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	Cancun Adaptation Framework The Framework calls for further action on adaptation including reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience in developing country Parties.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
EU	EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (April, 2013) The Strategy has three key objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting action by Member States: The Commission will encourage all Member States to adopt comprehensive adaptation strategies and will provide funding to help them build up their adaptation capacities and take action.</li> <li>• 'Climate-proofing' action at EU level by further promoting adaptation in key vulnerable sectors such as agriculture, fisheries and cohesion policy, ensuring that Europe's infrastructure is made more resilient, and promoting the use of insurance against natural and man-made disasters.</li> </ul> Better informed decision-making by addressing gaps in knowledge about adaptation and further developing the European climate adaptation platform (Climate-ADAPT) as the 'one-stop shop' for adaptation information in Europe.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	Energy White Paper: Powering our Net Zero Future (2020) This seeks to ensure the UK progresses towards a net zero economy. It places considerable importance on renewable energy technology such as	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and

	on-shore and off-shore wind. The document is also clear that the reduction in UK emissions needs to be continued.	resources (including energy), the promotion of renewable energy/low-carbon development and the minimization of waste.
UK	<p>Department for Business, Energy &amp; Industrial Strategy (DBEI) (2017) Clean Growth Strategy</p> <p>In the context of the UK's legal requirements under the Climate Change Act, our approach to reducing emissions has two guiding objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To meet our domestic commitments at the lowest possible net cost to UK taxpayers, consumers and businesses.</li> <li>2. To maximise the social and economic benefits for the UK from this transition.</li> </ol>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	<p>Carbon Budgets – Fourth to Sixth Carbon Budgets (2021)</p> <p>The government has committed itself to several carbon budgets, with the sixth carbon budget being the most up to date and committing the government to certain climate targets for the future. The Fifth Carbon Budget established that for 2028-2032, 1,725 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e of carbon emissions would be produced. The Sixth Carbon Budget established a carbon budget of 965 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e for the period of 2033-2037.</p> <p>The carbon budgets overall seek to ensure that the UK steadily brings down its carbon contributions through binding targets.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	<p>Climate Change Act 2008</p> <p>To achieve at least an 80% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	<p>Flood and Water Management Act 2010</p> <p>To improve both flood risk management and the way that water resources are managed.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change (including flood risk), the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.

UK	Securing the Future, 2005 Sets out the new shared UK sustainable development principles and priorities, which have been fully endorsed by WAG.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	Low Carbon Transition Plan (2009) Plots how the UK will meet the 34% cut in emissions on 1990 levels by 2020.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	Renewables Strategy (2009) Sets out the path for the UK to meet the legally-binding target to ensure 15% of energy to come from renewable sources by 2020.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.
UK	Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future (2011) Sets out how the UK will achieve decarbonisation within the framework of energy policy: to make the transition to a low carbon economy while maintaining energy security, and minimising costs to consumers, particularly those in poorer households. It includes proposals for energy efficiency, heating, transport and industry.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	Energy Act 2013 Establishes a legislative framework for delivering secure, affordable and low carbon energy and includes provisions on: decarbonisation; electricity market reform; nuclear regulation; government pipe-line and storage system; and consumer protection amongst others.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
Wales	In 2019, the Welsh Government declared a Climate Emergency. The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 sets a legal target of reducing greenhouse	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design



	<p>gas emissions in Wales by at least 80% in 2050. The Act also requires a series of interim targets (for 2020, 2030 and 2040) and carbon budgets. The budgets set a limit on the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions in Wales over a 5-year period to serve as stepping stones and ensure progress is made towards the decadal targets.</p> <p>Welsh Government response to the Climate Change Committee's 2020 Progress Report: Reducing Emissions in Wales Reports on Wales's net zero GHG target and ways in which Wales will achieve these targets. The December 2020 Advice Report: The path to a net zero Wales recommends that the Welsh Government revise targets and seek to reduce all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. Key to achieving these targets is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopting low-carbon solutions;</li> <li>• Expanding low-carbon energy supplies;</li> <li>• Reduce demand for high-carbon activities; and</li> <li>• Transforming land away from agriculture.</li> </ul>	<p>addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Policy Statement: Local Ownership of Energy Generation in Wales – Benefitting Wales Today and for Future Generations (2020) This places considerable importance on moving from polluting energy generating technologies to cleaner renewables. It also identifies that Wales has made considerable and impressive gains in ensuring energy generating facilities have some form of public ownership, contributing to local economies considerably more than traditional ownership methods.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Strategy for Wales (2021) This strategy seeks to ensure electric vehicles become a mainstay in the transportation sector. Ensuring there are adequate charging stations across Wales is paramount to ensuring the benefits of electric vehicles are properly utilised.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and supporting alternative and new travel methods such as EV.</p>

Wales	<p>Energy Efficiency in Wales: A Strategy for the next 10 years 2016-2026 (2016)</p> <p>This outlines the plan for energy efficiency. Green growth is predicted to be increasingly important to the Welsh economy and this document encourages growth. Energy efficiency also often has many economic benefits through reducing energy bills.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Beyond Recycling (2021)</p> <p>Beyond Recycling sets a target to achieve zero waste by 2050 “where all waste that is produced is re-used or recycled as a resource, without the need for any landfill or energy recovery”. The document outlines the following eight headline actions for Welsh Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will support businesses in Wales to reduce their carbon footprint by becoming more resource efficient.</li> <li>• We will provide the tools to enable community action.</li> <li>• We will phase out unnecessary single-use items, especially plastic.</li> <li>• We will eradicate avoidable food waste.</li> <li>• We will procure on a basis which prioritises goods and products which are made from remanufactured, refurbished, and recycled materials or come from low carbon and sustainable materials like wood.</li> <li>• We will strive to achieve the highest rates of recycling in the world.</li> <li>• We will reduce the environmental impact of the waste collection from our homes and businesses.</li> <li>• We will take full responsibility for our waste.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (2021)</p> <p>The Planning Policy Wales document states clearly that there is an ongoing climate emergency occurring across the world. The efficient use of resources is key to keeping Wales’s contribution to climate change low and progress it towards net-zero. Given the ongoing effects of climate change (such as flooding and heatwaves), developments should ensure they are resilient to the effects of climate change and designed to mitigate such effects. The Planning Policy Wales document requires the causes and</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.</p>

	<p>impacts of climate change be fully taken into account through location, design, build, operation, decommissioning and restoration. Decarbonisation is also given considerable importance within this document as is sustainable development.</p>	
Wales	<p>Future Wales : The National Plan 2040 This document seeks to succeed in convert Wales into being climate-resilient and continue to achieve decarbonisation. The document also identifies the importance of decarbonisation in and climate-resilience due to the ongoing climate emergency.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15: Development and Flood Risk, 2004 TAN 15 provides advice on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• development advice maps</li> <li>• nature of development or land use</li> <li>• justifying the location of built development</li> <li>• assessing flooding consequences</li> <li>• surface water run-off from new development</li> <li>• action through Development Plans</li> <li>• development control.</li> </ul> <p>A revised TAN 15 Development, Flooding and Coastal Erosion and the Flood Map for Planning is due to come into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2023. This will replace the 2004 version of TAN 15 and the Development Advice Map. The flood risk considerations that feed into the settlement strategy and site allocations must be in accordance with the revised TAN 15 and the Flood Map for Planning. The Flood Map for Planning builds on the Flood Risk Assessment Wales map and provides a new set of floodrisk maps, which include allowances for climate change.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and for development to be located outside of areas at risk of flooding.</p>

Wales	<p>Environment Strategy for Wales (2006) The strategy was published in May 2006. It set out what WAG want to achieve by 2026, and how to get there. The last Environment Strategy annual progress report for 2010 – 2011 was published at the end of 2011. This coincided with the end of the second action plan. The most recent State of the Environment Report was published in July 2012. Since the launch of this strategy WAG have published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•One Wales: One Planet – the Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales (2009)</li> <li>•The Climate Change Strategy for Wales (2010)</li> <li>•Towards Zero Waste (2010)</li> <li>•Woodlands for Wales (2011).</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources and the minimization of waste.
Wales	<p>One Wales: One Planet – The Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales, 2009 The Scheme sets out our new vision of a sustainable Wales and the priority we attach to sustainable development. This is a response to the economic and environmental challenges we face and is the only approach that will secure a long term sustainable future for future generations. We have a legal duty to sustainable development, and it has been at the heart of the Welsh Government since day one. It is our central organising principle. The Scheme's vision requires all organisations in Wales to actively commit to sustainable development. One Wales: One Planet provides leadership and direction for suitable development in Wales, and will enable others to develop or renew their own approach to sustainable development.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources and the minimization of waste.
Wales	<p>A Low Carbon Revolution – The Welsh Assembly Government Energy Policy Statement March 2010 WAG sets out their ambitions for low carbon energy in Wales in this policy statement. The statement builds on the results of consultations over the last year on the Renewable Energy Route Map and the Bioenergy Action Plan for Wales. It draws on the work of the Wales Climate Change Strategy, the National Energy Efficiency and Savings Plan, the Green Jobs Strategy and</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon

	<p>the Ministerial Advisory Group on Economy and Transport's report on "The Energy Sector". The statement also reflects the UK policy position, the work of the UK Climate Change Commission and the UK National Policy Statements on Energy and Renewables.</p>	<p>generating development and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition (2012) Sets out the Welsh Government's aim to enhance the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the people and communities of Wales – to achieve a better quality of life for our own and future generations. As set out in the Programme for Government, their ambition is therefore to: 'create a sustainable, low carbon economy for Wales'. In doing so, they want to ensure full advantage is taken of the transition to a low carbon economy to secure a wealthier, more resilient and sustainable future for Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition Delivery Plan (2014, updated 2019) This document provides the following three key priorities for the future of Wales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing leadership to ensure that Wales has a clear and consistent framework for investors, regulators and decision makers, and the infrastructure, coordination and stability needed to ensure that Wales is a great place to do business;</li> <li>• maximising benefit for Wales in terms of jobs and wider economic benefit at every stage of development and operation whilst also ensuring that our communities derive long term benefits; and</li> </ul> <p>acting now for Wales' long term energy future through support for innovation, research, development, and commercialisation in the areas that offer the greatest potential for long-term benefit for Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Climate Change Strategy for Wales (2010) Sets out their commitments and the areas where they will act, and where they will work with their partners to reduce greenhouse gas (GHC) emissions and enable effective adaptation in Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon</p>

		generating development and the minimization of waste.
Wales	<p><b>Environment (Wales) Bill</b>  Will set out the approach for the sustainable management of natural resources in Wales, which will help to mitigate for and adapt to the impacts of climate change. This will include strengthening the health of our natural resources to reduce the impacts of climate change on them, considered the services that natural resources provide and identifying opportunities to provide green growth. This new approach will also enable resilience to be considered as part of the decision making process for activities from the outset.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.
Wales	<p><b>Building Better Places (2020)</b>  This document sets out the Welsh Government's planning policy priorities to assist in taking action in the recovery period after the Covid-19 pandemic crisis. The planning system should be centre stage in the consideration of built and natural environment issues that have arisen from this situation.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design addressing the causes and effects of climate change, the efficient use of land and resources (including energy resources), the promoting of renewable energy/low-carbon generating development and the minimization of waste.

### SEA Topic Area – Material Assets

Level (International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Implications for the ISA  How the objectives may be taken into account
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International	<p>Kyoto Protocol, United Nations, 1998</p> <p>International agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The UK Government has a commitment to reduce emissions by 12.5% below 1990 levels over the 2008-2012 period.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>
EU	<p>EC Framework Directive for Waste 1975/442/EEC (as amended by the EC Directive 1991/156/EEC and 1991/692/EEC)</p> <p>Directive establishes a framework for management of waste across the European Community. It requires Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• give priority to waste prevention and encourage reuse and recovery of waste</li> <li>• ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes which could harm the environment</li> <li>• prohibit the uncontrolled disposal of waste, ensure that waste management activities are permitted (unless specifically exempt)</li> <li>• establish an integrated and adequate network of disposal installations.</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>
EU	<p>Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice, EU 6th Action Programme, European Commission 2001</p> <p>Sets out the framework for environmental policy-making in the European Union for the period 2002-2012 and outlines actions that need to be taken to achieve them. It identifies four priority areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Climate change</li> <li>2. Nature and biodiversity</li> <li>3. Environment and health</li> <li>4. Natural resources and waste</li> </ol> <p>The programme promotes full integration of environmental protection requirements into all Community policies and actions.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>
EU	<p>Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC)</p> <p>Focuses on waste minimisation and increasing levels of recycling and recovery. The overall aim of the Directive is to prevent, or reduce as far as possible, negative effects on the environment (in particular the pollution of surface water, groundwater, soil and air and on the global environment, including the greenhouse effect) as well as any resulting risk to human</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>

	health from the landfilling of waste, during the whole lifecycle of the landfill. The Directive sets the target of reducing biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 35% of that produced in 1995 by 2020.	
EU	Mineral Waste Directive (2006/21/EC) Aims to prevent or reduce as far as possible the adverse effects on the environment and any resultant risks to human health from the management of waste from the extractive industries (e.g. mining). The Directive sets out how to achieve this aim by providing for measures, procedures and guidance on how extractive industries should be managed.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	UK Planning Act , 2008 and The Environment Act 1995 Provides a basis for Land use planning and the protection of the environment in the United Kingdom.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future (2005) Includes sustainable consumption and production as one of four priorities and consider the five guiding principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• living within Environmental Limits;</li> <li>• ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society;</li> <li>• achieving a Sustainable Economy;</li> <li>• using Sound Science Responsibly; and</li> <li>• promoting Good Governance.</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
UK	Government Progress in Mainstreaming Sustainable Development (2013) Sets out the progress made towards the achievement of this vision which is thought can be seen in the range of policies being developed by Departments and the work to drive improvements across estates and procurement.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
Wales	Tackling Fuel Poverty 2021-2035 (2021) This sets out the actions that Welsh Government have taken to date to tackle fuel poverty and sets an objective for the people of Wales, as far as	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development and high quality



	<p>practicable, to be not be living in fuel poverty by 2035. It sets out four policy goals to achieve further a reduction in fuel poverty:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify</li> <li>2. Prioritise and protect</li> <li>3. Decarbonise</li> <li>4. Influence</li> </ol> <p>The four goals are supported by a draft action plan for short term delivery between 2021 and 2023.</p>	design that results in development well insulated and energy efficient.
Wales	<p>Prosperity for All: Economic Action Plan (2017)</p> <p>As part of Prosperity for All, this document is focused upon achieving economic growth whilst ensuring this growth delivers benefits for all. The document provides detail on how the Welsh government will achieve this through reducing economic inactivity, new technologies, decarbonising the employment sector, efficiencies and financing to name a few.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste and the expansion of the economy sustainably.
Wales	<p>Programme for Government 2021-2025</p> <p>Sets the agenda for the Welsh Government's 2021-2026 Senedd term to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide effective, high quality and sustainable healthcare</li> <li>• Protect, re-build and develop our services for vulnerable people</li> <li>• Build an economy based on the principles of fair work, sustainability and the industries and services of the future</li> <li>• Build a stronger, greener economy as we make maximum progress towards decarbonisation</li> <li>• Embed our response to the climate and nature emergency in everything we do</li> <li>• Continue our long-term programme of education reform, and ensure educational inequalities narrow and standards rise</li> <li>• Celebrate diversity and move to eliminate inequality in all of its forms</li> <li>• Push forward towards a million Welsh speakers, and enable our tourism, sports and arts industries to thrive</li> <li>• Make our cities, towns and villages even better places in which to live and work</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste and the expansion of the economy sustainably.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Wales in a national civic conversation about our constitutional future, and give our country the strongest possible presence on the world stage</li> </ul> <p>This is supported by 10 wellbeing objectives.</p>	
Wales	<p>Our Economic Resilience &amp; Reconstruction Mission (2021) Sets out a vision of a ‘well-being economy which drives prosperity, is environmentally sound, and helps everyone realise their potential.’ The document sets out three outcomes that underpin the vision: A prosperous economy; A greener economy; A more equal economy.</p> <p>The plan sets out activity around five beacons for overcoming COVID-19, and delivering medium and longer term recovery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening the Foundational Economy</li> <li>• COVID Commitment to protecting and enabling skills and employment</li> <li>• Accelerating adaptation for recovery and future prosperity</li> <li>• Magnetising investment in a green recovery</li> </ul> <p>Fortifying the pursuit of social value</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste and the expansion of the economy sustainably.
Wales	<p>The Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales 2022 – 2023 (NRAP) This refreshes the original plan published in 2015. The Plan sets out five themes for action:</p> <p>Spatial action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining and enhancing resilient ecological networks</li> </ul> <p>Transformative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing Knowledge and Knowledge Transfer;</li> <li>• Realising new Investment and funding;</li> <li>• Upskilling and capacity for delivery;</li> <li>• Mainstreaming, Governance and Reporting our Progress</li> </ul> <p>Five immediate priorities are identified for further action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aligning the responses to the climate emergency with the biodiversity crisis</li> <li>• Addressing the post EU exit funding gap for agri-environment measures</li> <li>• Providing spatial direction for targeting action for biodiversity</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste and the expansion of the economy sustainably.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving the condition of the Protected Sites Network</li> </ul> <p>Exploring new and sustainable funding mechanisms for biodiversity action</p>	
Wales	<p>Natural Resources Policy (NRP) (2017)</p> <p>This document seeks to quantify the important natural resources of Wales. The natural resources of Wales often provides the following benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisioning services: such as crops, livestock, fish and timber; and natural fluxes of energy</li> <li>Regulating services: such as water and air purification, noise regulation, carbon sequestration, flood risk management, waste assimilation and pollination</li> <li>Cultural services: such as recreation and associated health and wellbeing benefits; our historic environment and appreciation of our beautiful places, landscapes and nature, and</li> <li>Supporting systems and services: such as soil formation and nutrient cycling necessary for the production of all other ecosystem services. These systems and services are underpinned by biodiversity.</li> </ul>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste and the expansion of the economy sustainably.
Wales	<p>Digital Strategy for Wales (2021)</p> <p>The Digital Strategy for Wales focuses on “<i>improving the lives of everyone through collaboration, innovation and better public services.</i>” It recognises the importance of modern digital services, inclusion, digital skills, the digital economy, connectivity, and data and collaboration.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and the development of new infrastructure in the form of broadband and telecommunication services.
Wales	<p>Planning Policy Wales Edition 11(2021)</p> <p>Planning Policy Wales seeks to ensure the effective and most sustainable use of land and resources possible, ensuring developments within Wales meet these requirements. The document also enforces the need to efficiently use land and resources to ensure as little waste is produced as possible and encourages the proper management of any waste produced.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste and the expansion of the economy sustainably.
Wales	<p>National Transport Delivery Plan 2022</p> <p>Priority 1: bring services to people in order to reduce the need for people to use their cars on a daily basis</p> <p>Priority 2: accessible, sustainable and efficient transport services and infrastructure</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and the expansion of sustainable transport

	<p>Priority 3: Behaviour change</p> <p>To deliver the three 5-year priorities in the WTS there are nine mini plans that set out how each mode and sector will contribute to achieving these. The nine modes and sectors are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active travel</li> <li>• Bus</li> <li>• Rail</li> <li>• Roads, streets and parking</li> <li>• Third Sector</li> <li>• Taxis and private hire vehicles</li> <li>• Freight and logistics</li> <li>• Maritime transport</li> <li>• Aviation</li> </ul>	<p>methods (public transport and active travel) and sustainable transport infrastructure.</p>
Wales	<p>One Wales: One Planet, 2009</p> <p>This document sets out the Government's vision for a sustainable Wales. Key priorities are identified as reducing Wales's carbon footprint and be resilient to impacts of climate change, developing a sustainable and resilient economy; and ensuring that communities are safe, attractive places to live and work, and have good accessibility to services and active healthy lifestyles.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, climate change, safe and healthy communities and the expansion of sustainable transport methods (public transport and active travel) and sustainable transport infrastructure.</p>
Wales	<p>One Wales: Connecting the Nation – the Wales Transport Strategy (2008) and the Wales Freight Strategy, 2008</p> <p>The goal of One Wales: Connecting the nation is to promote sustainable transport networks that safeguard the environment while strengthening our country's economic and social life. The National Transport Plan establishes the framework for the creation of an integrated transport system to deliver 'One Wales – Connecting the Nation'.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and the expansion of sustainable transport methods (public transport and active travel) and sustainable transport infrastructure.</p>
Wales	<p>Mineral Planning Policy Wales, 2001</p> <p>Minerals Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policy guidance in relation to mineral extraction and related development in Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>

Wales	<p>MTAN 1: Aggregates, 2004 Provides advice on providing mineral resources to meet society's needs, current Aggregates production, future demand and supply, protecting areas of importance, reducing the impact of aggregates production, restoration and aftercare and other relevant matters.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 18 – Transport, 2007 Includes advice on the integration between land use planning and transport, location of development, parking, design of development, walking and cycling, public transport, planning for transport infrastructure and assessing impacts and managing implementation.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and the expansion of sustainable transport methods (public transport and active travel) and sustainable transport infrastructure.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 19 – Telecommunications, 2002 Provides advice on Advice on Telecommunications systems, Development plans, Development control, Consultation arrangements, Environmental considerations, Health considerations, Radio interference from proposed development; and Telecommunications aspects in other developments.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and the development of new infrastructure in the form of broadband and telecommunication services.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 21 – Waste, 2014 Provides detailed advice from WAG on Waste. It is the aim of the TAN to facilitate the introduction of a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable land use planning framework for waste management in Wales.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 23 – Economic Development, 2014 TAN 23 is to help local planning authorities and developers implement national planning policy on economic development. Technical Advice Note (TAN) 23 provides advice on the national planning policy on economic development set out in Chapter 5 of Planning Policy Wales (PPW). The TAN provides guidance for local planning authorities on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developing high level economic planning objectives</li> <li>• assessing the economic benefits of new development</li> <li>• economic development and the rural economy</li> <li>• preparing an evidence base for a Local Development Plan</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste. The ISA should also contain an objective that balances these requirements against the need for economic growth.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• creating an economic development vision for a Local Development Plan determining employment land supply.</li> </ul>	
<p>Wales</p>	<p>Aggregates Regional Technical Statement  Minerals Technical Advice Note 1: Aggregates (2004) (MTAN 1) requires a Regional Technical Statement (RTS) be prepared in each Regional Aggregate Working Party (RAWP) area. It is envisaged that each RTS should be reviewed every five years.  Statements for both south and north Wales were completed in 2008. A first review of these documents is currently published as the 1st Review (2014). The RTS documents are an important part of ensuring that an adequate supply of primary aggregates can be maintained, which meets local, regional and UK needs. They form a key delivery mechanism for implementing national planning policy for minerals contained in <i>Minerals Planning Policy Wales (2000)</i> and MTAN 1. Collaboration across local authority boundaries is a necessary imperative when dealing with minerals and <i>Local Development Plans Wales (2005)</i> states that new and existing cross boundary work should be integrated into Local Development Plans (LDPs), where relevant, noting the RTS documents as a key area of cross boundary work. To date the RTS documents have proved a valuable strategic basis for informing the preparation of LDPs. The RTS documents are also capable of being a material consideration when determining relevant planning applications.  All Regional Technical Statements seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise the use of secondary and recycled materials and mineral wastes.</li> <li>• Safeguard land-based minerals which may be needed in the long term.</li> <li>• Acknowledge that where the principles of sustainable development can be achieved, the extension of existing aggregate quarries is likely to be appropriate.</li> <li>• Where there is a need for new areas of aggregates supply, these should come from locations of low environmental constraint and take into account transport implications.</li> <li>• Maintain supply of marine aggregate consistent with the requirements of the Interim Marine Aggregates Dredging Policy (IMADP).</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>

Wales	<p>Wales Regional Waste Plan</p> <p>The Wales Regional Waste Plan consists of three regions. Powys is included within the North Wales and South East Wales regions.</p> <p>North Wales Region:</p> <p>In 2004 the North Wales Regional Waste Plan was adopted. This non-statutory plan provides a land use planning framework for the North Region and is a material consideration in the planning process. Waste is not a static industry and the Plan needs to be reviewed to reflect the changing needs of the region. We are currently producing the First Review of the North Wales Regional Waste Plan.</p> <p>The Waste Plan contains information about waste issues both generally and within a regional context. It explains and assesses the 6 possible options and the Hybrid option for dealing with the waste generated in the Region. There are also best practice guidance statements relating to waste management within a land use planning context.</p> <p>It states the principal purpose of the Plan “is to provide a land use planning framework which will assist in the provision of a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable network of new waste management facilities throughout the North Wales Region to deal with the future waste forecast to be generated in the Region in 2013. The plan, which deals with ALL controlled waste, provides a sustainable land use planning framework for the Region for the next ten years”.</p> <p>A hybrid option is the favoured approach for the North Wales Region which is a combination of the two options below:</p> <p>Option 2: In this Option after increased recycling and composting all remaining waste would where possible be subjected to energy from waste treatment with the residual sent to landfill.</p> <p>Option 6: In this Option after maximising re-use, recycling and composting the remaining waste would be subject to MBT and the residual from that process would be landfilled</p> <p>South East Wales Region:</p> <p>The first Regional Waste Plan (south east) was agreed by the Members Steering Group, endorsed by all of the local authorities in the region and published in March 2004.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>
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	<p>The Regional Waste Plan provides a long-term strategic waste management strategy and land-use planning framework for the sustainable management of wastes and recovery of resources in South East Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government has given the responsibility of preparing, monitoring and reviewing the plan to the South East Wales Regional Waste Group. This group is led by a Steering Group of councillors from the 11 local planning authorities in the region with a Technical Group of officers from local government, the Welsh Assembly Government, Environment Agency Wales and other government bodies, and representatives from the waste industry and environmental groups.</p> <p>SE Regional Waste Strategy</p> <p>The aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• achieve the 2020 Landfill Directive targets by 2013 achieving this principally through maximising recycling and composting</li> <li>• deal with residual waste by Mechanical Biological Treatment</li> <li>• choose between either sending the residual waste from MBT to landfill or using it as Refuse Derived Fuel</li> <li>• limit the amount of waste going to landfill to that which cannot be dealt with acceptably in any other way.</li> </ul>	
Wales	<p>Towards Zero Waste (2010) and Progress Report 2015</p> <p>Establishes the Welsh Government's long-term aim of zero waste by 2050 and a medium term aim of achieving a high recycling society by 2025. This is supported by a range of recycling and other waste management targets including in relation to commercial and industrial waste and which are to be delivered through specific sector plans.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>
Wales	<p>Natural Resource Management Programme</p> <p>Takes forward the policy commitments proposed in the Sustaining a Living Wales Green Paper on a New Approach to Natural Resource Management in Wales (2012). The Programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• natural resource management policy, including the setting of national priorities;</li> <li>• the Environment Bill;</li> </ul>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• embedding the ecosystem approach, including associated demonstration projects which will showcase the benefits this approach can bring, and from which we can learn about how and when the approach can be used;</li> <li>• working with Natural Resources Wales and coordinating performance management arrangements; and communications, engagement and knowledge sharing.</li> </ul>	
Wales	<p>Environment (Wales) Act 2016</p> <p>Provides legislation for managing Wales' natural resources that helps to tackle the challenges faced and is focused on the opportunities Wales' resources provide. Part 4 of the Bill, meanwhile, concerns the improvement of waste management processes by achieving higher levels of business waste recycling, better food waste treatment and increased energy recovery.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.
Powys	<p>Regional Transport Plan (2009)</p> <p>The Regional Transport Plan explains the transport objectives and funding programmes across Powys, Ceredigion and part of Gwynedd (Meirionydd).</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, travel infrastructure, encouraging different methods of travel and accessibility.
Powys	<p>Powys Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2019)</p> <p>The Right of way improvement plan sets out how the Council will seek to manage the rights of way network for the benefit of the residents and landowners of Powys, as well as visitors to the area over the next ten years.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, travel infrastructure, encouraging different methods of travel and accessibility.
Powys	<p>Regeneration Strategy for Powys - Action Plan (2015)</p> <p>The regeneration strategy for Powys was developed by Powell Dobson consultants in 2010. The strategy provides a framework within which the County Council and its partners will ensure that regeneration is embedded into everyday practice, to deliver outcomes which will have a positive impact upon not just the physical, social, environmental, but the economic and cultural attributes of the County as well. It is based around a vision that: "Regeneration in Powys will nurture and promote the County's assets and strengths as the means to address its weaknesses by establishing a robust and sustainable economy that is based upon vibrant communities, and</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, travel infrastructure, encouraging different methods of travel, promoting health and education (including skill attainment) and accessibility. These should be balanced by objectives that also seek to protect the environment and expand the local economy.

	<p>which enhances and protects the physical, social and cultural environment of Powys”</p> <p>It is felt that the strategy remains relevant and that the nine key objectives which reflect the strategic needs of the County should remain in place:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Objective 1 – Environment and Place</li> <li>2. Objective 2 – Education and skills</li> <li>3. Objective 3 – The Economy</li> <li>4. Objective 4 – Health and well-being and the community</li> <li>5. Objective 5 – Quality of service provision</li> <li>6. Objective 6 – Renewable energy alongside research and development</li> <li>7. Objective 7 – The significance of local culture and the creative industries</li> <li>8. Objective 8 – Tourism</li> <li>9. Objective 9 – The needs of young people</li> </ol> <p>The Action Plan forms part of a re-launch of the Regeneration Strategy which includes developing areas of impact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Grow Powys – empowering and improving the economic health of Powys</li> <li>2. Resilient Powys – Encouraging innovation, strengthening local services, communities and partnerships</li> <li>3. Empower Powys – Supporting communities to tackle issues of local importance.</li> </ol>	
<p>Powys</p>	<p>Powys Waste Strategy (2014)</p> <p>Powys County Council have introduced the following objectives in order to accord with the “Towards Zero Waste” strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness and Education</li> <li>• High Recycling</li> <li>• Maximising Recovery from Residual Waste</li> <li>• Minimising Waste to Landfill</li> <li>• Sustainable Waste Management</li> <li>• Partnering</li> <li>• Cost Efficient Service</li> </ul> <p>The Strategy outlines the current practices being undertaken in Powys with the overall aim of reducing waste to landfill.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design, the efficient use of land and resources and the minimization of waste.</p>

## SEA Topic Area – Cultural Heritage

Level (International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Implications for the ISA How the objectives may be taken into account
International	<p>Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington Charter 1987)</p> <p>Main Objectives - For the conservation of historic towns and other historic urban areas to be an integral part of coherent policies of economic and social development and of urban and regional planning at every level.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
International	<p>UNESCO Convention – Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Paris 1972)</p> <p>Ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
International	<p>UNESCO Red Book Report, 1993</p> <p>A list of the worlds endangered languages classed by their level of use. The report identifies Welsh as being an endangered language. The report identifies Welsh as being an endangered language.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
International	<p>UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe (revised) (1992)</p> <p>Is a Europe-wide international treaty which establishes the basic common principles to be applied in national archaeological heritage policies. It supplements the general provisions of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972) and aims to protect archaeological heritage as a source</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the</p>

	<p>of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study. It sets out a framework which requires Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maintain an inventory of archaeological heritage and designated protected monuments and areas;</li> <li>• create archaeological reserves; and</li> </ul> <p>for finders of any element of archaeological heritage, to report and make it available to the competent authority.</p>	historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	<p>The Constitution for Europe Main Objectives - [The Union] shall respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity, and shall ensure that Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	<p>The Treaty of Rome Article 128 – as inserted by the Treaty on European Union (Maastricht) Main Objectives - That action by the Community shall be aimed at encouraging cooperation between Member States and, if necessary, supporting and supplementing their action in the following areas: - improvement of the knowledge and dissemination of the culture and history of the European peoples; - conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage of European significance.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	<p>The European Cultural Convention (The Paris Convention of 1954) Main Objectives - For member states to: 1.safeguard and to encourage the development of its national contribution to the common cultural heritage of Europe, (Art I) 2.safeguard the objects of European cultural value placed under its control, as integral parts of the common cultural heritage of Europe.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	<p>Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (The Granada Convention of 1975) Main Objectives - recognises that architectural heritage constitutes an irreplaceable expression of the richness and diversity of Europe's cultural</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the

	heritage, bears inestimable witness to our past and is a common heritage of all Europeans. It therefore defines architectural heritage and provides the means for its protection through legislation and conservation policies	historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revised) The London Convention 1969, and the Valletta Convention 1992 Main Objectives - Defines and protects archaeological heritage in terms of potential damage as a result of works to the site or development proposals. Also introduces the need for planning policies designed to ensure well-balanced strategies for the protection, conservation and enhancement of sites of archaeological interest; and to ensure that archaeologists, town and regional planners systematically consult one another.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of monuments and Sites, (The Venice Charter of 1966 ) Main Objectives - Introduces “common heritage”, and has 15 Articles that deal with the principles of conservation, including traditional repairs and construction, alterations to buildings and the setting of a building and their relationship with the surrounding landscape.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	Historic Gardens (The Florence Charter 1981) Main Objectives - For the identification, listing and protection of historic gardens through land use plans.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage (1990) Main Objectives - Introduces 8 Articles to define archaeology and secure its protection and management.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	Charter on the Built Vernacular Heritage (1999)	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design

	<p>Main Objectives - Gives advice and guidance on conservation and repair techniques and advises that the vernacular tradition is only seldom represented by single structures and it is best conserved by maintaining and preserving groups and settlements of a representative character region by region.</p>	<p>(including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
EU	<p>The Athens Charter, 1931 This congress identified seven key objectives: which includes measures to legally protect monuments and their surroundings and to develop best practice through international organizations.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
EU	<p>The Charter for the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas, 1987 The charter aims to conserve historic towns and other historic urban areas. This should be an integral part of coherent policies of economic and social development and of urban and regional planning at every level.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
EU	<p>Charter for the Protection of and Management of Archaeological Heritage, 1990 The charter promotes the integration of protection policies, the protection of archaeological heritage through legislation, appropriate survey techniques, scientific investigation and appropriate maintenance and conservation. It also promotes the preservation of archaeological heritage to the public and the adequate training of practitioners and international cooperation.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
EU	<p>International Cultural Tourism Charter, 1999 The charter aims to facilitate and encourage the accessibility of heritage to communities and visitors, to encourage those who promote tourism to respect and enhance heritage and host cultures, to promote dialogue between conservationists and the tourism industry, to encourage those formulating plans and policies to develop detailed, measurable goals and</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting). The ISA should also have an objective relating to economic development that mentions tourism.</p>

	strategies relating to the preservation of heritage places in the context of preservation and heritage.	
EU	European Spatial Development Prospective, 1999 The plan recognises the pressure put on urban towns and cities and identifies the need to protect the heritage of these urban areas.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
EU	European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, 1992 European adopted under the auspices of the Council of Europe to protect and promote historical regional and minority languages in Europe. The charter identifies Welsh as being an endangered language.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
UK	The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 The primary legislation for heritage protection in Wales. It provides Local Planning Authorities with the mechanism for the protection of the Built Heritage.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
UK	Ancient Monuments and Archaeology Areas Act 1979 The Act consolidates and amends the law relating to ancient monuments. It makes provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
UK	Planning/Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 The Act protects and records listed buildings and conservation areas. It also sets out how licensed work may take place in these areas and details enforcement procedures for illegal operations.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the

		historic environment (including its character and setting).
UK	Heritage Protection for the 21st Century (2007) Set out a strategy for protecting the historic environment in England and Wales, based on three core principles: developing a unified approach to the historic environment; maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement; and supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
UK	Protection of Military Remains Act (1986) Provides protection for the wreckage of military aircraft and designated military vessels.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
UK	Treasure Act (1996) Sets out procedures for dealing with finds of treasure, its ownership and rewards, in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
Wales	Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (2021) The Planning Policy Wales document contains policies relating to the protection of heritage assets from harm. Such protections extend not just to protecting historical assets physically, but also protecting their character and setting. Historical assets also encompass archaeological assets that have yet to be discovered, ensuring even unknown historical assets should be protected from development.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
Wales	Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Gives protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments, the sustainable management of the historic environment and transparency and	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale



	<p>accountability into decisions taken on the Welsh historic environment. An update Bill was introduced into the Senedd in July 2022 which consolidates in about 200 pages all the acts and secondary legislation covering the historic environment. No new policy is involved.</p>	<p>considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
Wales	<p>The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Aims to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. For those public bodies listed in the Act, it encourages a more joined-up approach to consider more long term, work better with people and communities and each other to prevent problems.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
Wales	<p>The Well-Being of Wales: 2021 The annual update of the progress being made in Wales towards the achievement of the 7 wellbeing goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A prosperous Wales</li> <li>• A resilient Wales</li> <li>• A healthier Wales</li> <li>• A more equal Wales</li> <li>• A Wales of cohesive communities</li> <li>• A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</li> <li>• A globally responsible Wales</li> </ul> <p>The report also includes an assessment of the long term progress towards the goals using the 46 national indicators and other data.</p>	<p>The ISA should use this statistical source as a means of informing the review of well-being related topics considered in the ISA.</p>
Wales	<p>Environment Strategy for Wales, 2006 Sets out the WAG strategy for the environment over the next 20 years. The maintenance and enhancement of the natural and historic character of our landscapes and seascapes is an objective of this plan.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 12: Design, 2014</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale</p>

	Contains advice on the definition of design, design process and local planning authority design policy.	considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
Wales	<p>TAN 24 The Historic Environment</p> <p>TAN 24 provides guidance and an introduction to the following Historic Environment elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Word Heritage Sites</li> <li>• Archaeological Remains</li> <li>• Listed Buildings</li> <li>• Conservation Areas</li> <li>• Registered Historic Parks and Gardens and Landscapes</li> </ul> <p>Historic Assets of Special Local Interest</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
Wales	<p>Cadw – Historic Landscapes, 1998</p> <p>This advisory and non-statutory document highlights what are considered to be the best examples of different types of historic landscape in Wales. However, the selection of areas for this Register does not reduce the importance of the rest of Wales's rich historic landscape.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
Wales	<p>Wales Tourist Board – Cultural Tourism Strategy for Wales, 2003</p> <p>The strategy aims to improve visitor accessibility to culture, improve the quality of the visitor experience and to ensure that there is a quality authentic cultural tourism product that meets and exceeds visitor expectations.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).
Wales	<p>Welsh Office Circular 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology</p> <p>The circular sets out advice on legislation and procedures relating to archaeological remains. It gives advice on development plans, sites and monuments records, planning applications, planning decisions, planning conditions and the discovery of archaeological remains during development.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).

Wales	<p>Welsh Office Circular 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings</p> <p>The circular sets out advice on legislation and procedures relating to historic buildings and conservation areas. It gives advice on the planning framework, conservation areas, listing and listing building controls, historic buildings in need of repair and ecclesiastical exemptions.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
Wales	<p>Traffic Management in Historic Areas (Cadw)</p> <p>Outlines ways in which traffic engineering and highways improvements can be designed sensitively in historic areas.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
Wales	<p>Overcoming the Barriers: Providing Access to Historic Buildings (Cadw, 2002)</p> <p>The guidance explains: how historic buildings from which services are provided for the public might be made more physically accessible.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
Wales	<p>Welsh Language Act, 1993 and Welsh Language Measure (2011)</p> <p>The Welsh Language Act 1993 is an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, which put the Welsh language on an equal footing with the English language in Wales with regard to the public sector. States that all public documents produced by public bodies such as Ceredigion County Council must be published in both Welsh and English.</p> <p>The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 made provision for the official status of the Welsh language in Wales and created a new legislative framework for the Welsh language. The Measure introduced Welsh Language Standards, which specify how the language should be used by public organisations in service delivery, operations and policy making.</p> <p>The Welsh Language Standards Compliance Notice for Powys County Council (2016) includes policy making standards regarding assessing the impact of the Council's policies and decisions on opportunities to use the</p>	<p>The ISA should contain a specific objective relating to the Welsh language</p>

	Welsh language and not treating Welsh less favourably than English, and considering ways of changing the policies and decisions to get a better outcome for the Welsh language.	
Wales	Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20: Planning and the Welsh Language, Welsh Assembly Government (2017) Emphasis on protecting and supporting the Welsh language in policy making and in its contribution towards achieving the Thriving Welsh language well-being goal and the wider Welsh Government target of a million Welsh language speakers by 2050. The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 made provision for the official status of the Welsh language in Wales and created a new legislative framework for the Welsh language. The Measure introduced Welsh Language Standards, which specify how the language should be used by public organisations in service delivery, operations and policy making. The Welsh Language Standards Compliance Notice for Powys County Council (2016) includes policy making standards regarding assessing the impact of the Council's policies and decisions on opportunities to use the Welsh language and not treating Welsh less favourably than English, and considering ways of changing the policies and decisions to get a better outcome for the Welsh language.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA should have a specific Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Iaith Pawb: A National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales, 2003 National Action Plan which sets out a vigorous strategy to ensure that the Welsh Language is not only supported but also has the right environment to flourish.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Welsh Language Scheme for the Welsh Assembly Government, 2006 The Scheme has been prepared under the Welsh Language Act 1993 and the Government of Wales Act 2006. It describes in detail how the WAG will treat English and Welsh on a basis of equality. States that all public documents produced by WAG must be published in both Welsh and English.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.

Wales	Cymraeg 2050: Cymraeg 2050 is a strategy that aims to increase the number of Welsh speakers, increase use of Welsh, and create suitable conditions and an environment where the Welsh language and its speakers can thrive. The strategy has two main targets: to increase the number of Welsh speakers to 1 million by 2050 and to increase the percentage of the population that speak Welsh daily, and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh, to 20% by 2050. The key aim for post-compulsory education set out in Cymraeg 2050 is to develop post-compulsory education provision which increases rates of progression and supports everyone, whatever their command of the language, to develop Welsh language skills for use socially and in the workplace.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to the promotion of and accessibility to the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Cymraeg 2050: Welsh language strategy action plan 2022 to 2023, 2022 Cymraeg 2050 is the national strategy for increasing the number of Welsh speakers to a million by 2050. The Welsh Government is fully committed to the new strategy, with the target of a million speakers included in the Taking Wales Forward Programme for Government and Prosperity for All: the national strategy. A thriving Welsh language is also included in one of the 7 wellbeing goals in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Proposals for a Welsh Language Education Bill (Consultation period March – June 2023) Proposals for a linguistic outcome for the education system by 2050 for all pupils leaving statutory education to be able to speak Welsh with confidence. The aim will be to ensure a level that is at least synonymous with level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities: position paper (June 2023) The Commission emphasises that Welsh is a national language. It has a number of universal attributes and language policy should reflect this. In order to support Welsh as a national language, it also needs to be supported as a community language. In order to be able to vary public policy in these communities, areas of linguistic significance should be designated. These areas should be known as 'areas of (higher density)	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.

	<p>linguistic significance'. The advantage of designating areas of (higher density) linguistic significance would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• allowing policy variation and policy emphasis to support Welsh as a community language</li> <li>• ensuring that the policy variation responds to the diverse social and linguistic needs of these areas</li> <li>• increasing the consideration given to the Welsh language within a policy framework</li> <li>• allowing interventions in support of the Welsh language in order to stabilise and strengthen it as a community language</li> <li>• giving communities the necessary powers to reverse language shift</li> </ul>	
Wales	<p>laith Pawb and Welsh Language Scheme Annual Report 2008-09 The fourth annual report on the WAG's performance against the commitments contained in laith Pawb, the National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales, and WAG's Welsh Language Scheme.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.</p>
Wales	<p>Planning and the Welsh Language: the way ahead, 2005 This paper is a summary of the work that has been done by a consortium of organisations made up of local authorities (LAs), Bwrdd yr Iaith (the Welsh Language Board (WLB)), the Home Builders Federation (HBF) and the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG). This paper represents the collective efforts of all partners with an interest in developing a better understanding of the relationship between land use planning and Welsh language in order to promote the wellbeing of the language and the cultural character of local communities. It does not represent the policy of any of the participating bodies.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.</p>
Wales	<p>Heritage Protection for the 21st Century, White Paper (2007) Though it shares the same primary legislation with England, important elements of the heritage protection system are managed differently in</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale</p>

	<p>Wales. There are around 30,000 listed buildings, 4,000 scheduled ancient monuments, 372 Registered Parks and Gardens and 2 World Heritage Sites in Wales, with a further site nominated for such status. The White Paper outlines the designation process in Wales.</p>	<p>considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>
Wales	<p>Partnership for Growth Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020 This strategy sets the vision for the Welsh Government and the industry to work in partnership to increase visitor spend to Wales. The strategy focuses on 5 key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting the Brand</li> <li>• product Development</li> <li>• people Development</li> <li>• profitable Performance</li> <li>• place Building.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy identifies a product-led approach to developing and marketing tourism in Wales. This means working with iconic, high quality, reputation-changing products and events. We will be focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more luxury and branded hotels</li> <li>• more well-being facilities, such as spas</li> <li>• more heritage hotels that utilise historic and distinctive buildings</li> <li>• more all year round attractions, activities and cultural experiences</li> <li>• more innovative, unusual and distinctive products.</li> </ul> <p>The Great Britain domestic market is the main market for Wales and will continue to be the main focus. Marketing activity will be increased in London and South East Midlands and Yorkshire, as well as within Wales itself for the first time. Overseas, the 3 key markets identified by the panel are Ireland, Germany and USA.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to economic development that also considered the potential tourism development can play in improving the economy. The ISA should also contain an objective relating to the protecting of historical assets (including their character and setting), which are often important tourist attractions/contribute to the character of an area.</p>
Powys	<p>Powys County Council Built Heritage Strategy 2010 – 2015 This strategy has been drafted to define the responsibilities of Powys County Council in relation to the historic environment, specifically built heritage, and sets out a vision and objectives for the Built Heritage Team.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design (including siting, layout and scale considerations) and the protection of the historic environment (including its character and setting).</p>

Powys	<p>Powys Local Well-being Plan – 2040 (April 2018)  <u>Towards 2040 - the Powys Well-being Plan - Powys County Council</u></p> <p>This document sets out what the Public Services Board wants Powys to look like in 2040. It contains four local wellbeing objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People in Powys will experience a stable and thriving economy</li> <li>• People in Powys will enjoy a sustainable and productive environment</li> <li>• People in Powys will be healthy, socially motivated and responsible</li> <li>• People in Powys will be connected by strong communities and a vibrant culture</li> </ul> <p>In terms of meeting the national well-being goal for a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language:  The economy will be supported by local sports, tourism and cultural activities making the best of Powys' unique attractions.  The environment will support and promote local culture and heritage by protecting and valuing local sites.  Our communities will support and promote Welsh language and culture seeing them integral to our society. Cultural activities will contribute to the local economy and sense of place.  It states that the Welsh language will be promoted and celebrated as an important aspect of the county's identity. People will find it easy to access opportunities to learn and use the language.</p>	The ISA should contain a specific objective relating to the Welsh language
Wales	<p>Welsh Language Act, 1993 and Welsh Language Measure (2011)  The Welsh Language Act 1993 is an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, which put the Welsh language on an equal footing with the English language in Wales with regard to the public sector. States that all public documents produced by public bodies such as Ceredigion County Council must be published in both Welsh and English.  The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 made provision for the official status of the Welsh language in Wales and created a new legislative framework for the Welsh language. The Measure introduced Welsh Language Standards, which specify how the language should be used by public organisations in service delivery, operations and policy making.</p>	The ISA should contain a specific objective relating to the Welsh language



	The Welsh Language Standards Compliance Notice for Powys County Council (2016) includes policy making standards regarding assessing the impact of the Council's policies and decisions on opportunities to use the Welsh language and not treating Welsh less favourably than English, and considering ways of changing the policies and decisions to get a better outcome for the Welsh language.	
Wales	Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20: Planning and the Welsh Language, Welsh Assembly Government (2017) Emphasis on protecting and supporting the Welsh language in policy making and in its contribution towards achieving the Thriving Welsh language well-being goal and the wider Welsh Government target of a million Welsh language speakers by 2050. The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 made provision for the official status of the Welsh language in Wales and created a new legislative framework for the Welsh language. The Measure introduced Welsh Language Standards, which specify how the language should be used by public organisations in service delivery, operations and policy making. The Welsh Language Standards Compliance Notice for Powys County Council (2016) includes policy making standards regarding assessing the impact of the Council's policies and decisions on opportunities to use the Welsh language and not treating Welsh less favourably than English, and considering ways of changing the policies and decisions to get a better outcome for the Welsh language.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA should have a specific Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Iaith Pawb: A National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales, 2003 National Action Plan which sets out a vigorous strategy to ensure that the Welsh Language is not only supported but also has the right environment to flourish.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Welsh Language Scheme for the Welsh Assembly Government, 2006	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the

	The Scheme has been prepared under the Welsh Language Act 1993 and the Government of Wales Act 2006. It describes in detail how the WAG will treat English and Welsh on a basis of equality. States that all public documents produced by WAG must be published in both Welsh and English.	need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Cymraeg 2050: Welsh language strategy action plan 2022 to 2023, 2022 Cymraeg 2050 is the national strategy for increasing the number of Welsh speakers to a million by 2050. The Welsh Government is fully committed to the new strategy, with the target of a million speakers included in the Taking Wales Forward Programme for Government and Prosperity for All: the national strategy. A thriving Welsh language is also included in one of the 7 wellbeing goals in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	laith Pawb and Welsh Language Scheme Annual Report 2008-09 The fourth annual report on the WAG's performance against the commitments contained in laith Pawb, the National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales, and WAG's Welsh Language Scheme.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Planning and the Welsh Language: the way ahead, 2005 This paper is a summary of the work that has been done by a consortium of organisations made up of local authorities (LAs), Bwrdd yr Iaith (the Welsh Language Board (WLB)), the Home Builders Federation (HBF) and the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG). This paper represents the collective efforts of all partners with an interest in developing a better understanding of the relationship between land use planning and Welsh language in order to promote the wellbeing of the language and the cultural character of local communities. It does not represent the policy of any of the participating bodies.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.
Wales	Section 62 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (PCPA) (2004) as amended by the Planning (Wales) Act (2015)	The Integrated Sustainability Appraisal for the Replacement LDP will incorporate

	<p>Mandatory requirement for the Sustainability Appraisal to include an assessment of the likely effects of the plan on the use of the Welsh language in the area.</p>	<p>requirements relating to sustainability, equalities, health, well-being, environmental and Welsh language. A Welsh Language Impact Assessment will be incorporated into the wider ISA process for the Replacement LDP.</p>
Powys	<p>Powys Welsh Language Standards (2016) – Compliance Notice received from the Welsh Language Commissioner  <u><a href="#">Welsh Language Standards - Powys County Council</a></u></p> <p>This explains how the Council is expected to provide services in Welsh, consider the Welsh language when making decisions, and provide more opportunities for people to use the Welsh language in Powys.</p> <p>In respect of Policy Making, the standards require assessment of the impact of the Council's policies and decisions on opportunities to use the Welsh language and not treating Welsh less favourably than English, and considering ways of changing the policies and decisions to get a better outcome for the Welsh language.</p>	<p>These standards will be addressed through the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal process associated with the Replacement LDP, which will include a component which assesses the impact of the plan on the use of the Welsh language. LDP policies will be reviewed and improved with respect to the Welsh language, where appropriate.</p>
Powys	<p>Powys County Council Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2017-2022  Sets out the means by which the County will co-ordinate and build on current efforts in order to increase the number of people who are able to speak Welsh and who do so on a regular basis. Includes the approach to implementing the Welsh Language Promotion Standards covering the following five areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Welsh language service provision,</li> <li>2) Formulating policy in a way which will promote the Welsh language,</li> <li>3) Operating through the medium of Welsh,</li> <li>4) Keeping records about the Welsh language,</li> <li>5) Promoting the Welsh language.</li> </ol> <p>The Council's aim within this Strategy will therefore be to set the infrastructure for</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.</p>

	<p>supporting the 3 strategic themes identified within the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 strategy to achieve a million Welsh speakers by 2050, which are to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of Welsh speakers;</li> <li>• Increase the use of Welsh; and</li> <li>• To create favourable conditions to the development and protection of the language.</li> </ul> <p>We will do this by working within 6 key areas, each with actions to ensure progress under Welsh Government's strategic themes. Powys County Council's 6 key areas for action are as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning and language policy</li> <li>2. Normalisation</li> <li>3. Education</li> <li>4. People</li> <li>5. Support</li> <li>6. Rights</li> </ol>	
Wales	<p>Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys (2020 – 2032)</p> <p>Sets out the council's priorities to transform education in Powys, which will focus on four strategic aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve learner entitlement and experience</li> <li>• Improve learner entitlement and experience for post-16 learners</li> <li>• Improve access to Welsh-medium provision across all key stages</li> <li>• Improve provision for learners with special education needs / additional learning needs.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy also includes a commitment to a capital investment programme to ensure that schools in Powys have inspiring, environmentally sustainable buildings that can provide opportunities for wider community activity.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.</p>
Powys	<p>Powys Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to education and skills, making reference to the</p>

	<p><u>Cabinet approves Welsh in Education Strategic Plan - Powys County Council</u></p> <p>Aims to improve access to Welsh-medium provision across all the key stages of education and increase the opportunities for children and young people in Powys to become fully bilingual.</p> <p>Developed in order to contribute towards the Welsh Government target to increase the percentage of Year 1 children taught through the medium of Welsh in Powys from 22.2% in 2019/20 to 36% by 2030/31.</p> <p>Plan is arranged around 7 outcomes</p> <p>Outcome 1: More nursery children / three year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh</p> <p>Outcome 2: More reception class children / five year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh</p> <p>Outcome 3: More children continue to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another</p> <p>Outcome 4: More learners study for assessed qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh</p> <p>Outcome 5: More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school</p> <p>Outcome 6: An increase in the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) in accordance with the duties imposed by the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018</p> <p>Outcome 7: Increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p>Data around Welsh language provision is presented for each of the outcomes to demonstrate where we are now and also key data.</p> <p>Aims and actions set out under ‘where do we aim to be within the first 5 years of the plan and how we propose to get there?’ and ‘where do we expect to be at the end of our ten year plan?’</p>	<p>need for such services that increase the accessibility to learn the Welsh Language. The ISA would benefit from a dedicated Welsh Language objective.</p>
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## SEA Topic Area - Landscape

<b>Level</b> <b>(International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)</b>	<b>Plan, Programme or Strategy</b>	<b>Implications for the ISA</b> How the objectives may be taken into account
International	World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 1972) Aims to encourage countries to sign the World Heritage Convention and to ensure the protection of their natural and cultural heritage.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.
EU	The European Landscape Convention The aims of this Convention are to promote landscape protection, management and planning, and to organise European co-operation on landscape issues. Contains information on the best practice of sustainably protecting and managing landscapes.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.
UK	Environment Act 1995 In exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in a National Park, any relevant authority shall have regard to the purposes specified in subsection (1) of section five of this Act and, if it appears that there is a conflict between those purposes, shall attach greater weight to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area comprised in the National Park.	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting. The ISA should also contain an objective relating to the protection of the environment.

UK	<p>Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) (ODPM, 2000) The Act extends the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst also providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting. The ISA should also contain an objective relating to accessibility.</p>
UK	<p>National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 Makes provision for National Parks, confers powers for the establishment and maintenance of nature reserves, makes provision for the recording, creation, maintenance and improvement of public paths and for securing access to open country and confers further powers for preserving and enhancing natural beauty.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
UK	<p>Forestry Act 1967 Restricts and regulates the felling of trees. The Countryside Act 1968 enlarges the function of the Agency established under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, to confer new powers on local authorities and other bodies for the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty and for the benefit of those resorting to the countryside.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting and the rolls woodlands (forestry assets) play in the landscape.</p>
UK	<p>Agriculture Act (with numerous revisions)1986 Covers the provision of agricultural services and goods, agricultural marketing compensation to tenants for milk quotas, conservation and farm grants.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting. The ISA should also contain an objective relating to the efficient use of land and resources.</p>

UK	<p>Commons Act 2006 Protects common land and promotes sustainable farming, public access to the countryside and the interests of wildlife.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting and environmental protection.</p>
Wales	<p>Future Landscapes: Delivering for Wales (2017) This report contains a review of all the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks within Wales. The report highlights the importance of these landscapes to shaping identity. The report seeks to improve the governance of these important natural assets. The report highlights how much of Wales falls within either designation and how many of these designations are at risk.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>LANDMAP - the Welsh landscape baseline LANDMAP is a GIS (Geographical Information System) based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and evaluated into a nationally consistent data set LANDMAP Information Guidance Note 46: Using LANDMAP in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>Agri-environment schemes (Glastir) Glastir aims to encourage agricultural practices which will protect and enhance the landscapes of Wales, their cultural features and associated wildlife.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (2021) The Planning Policy Wales document affords protection to the landscapes of Wales from development, seeking to ensure new development only</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an</p>



	<p>conserves or enhances its surrounding landscapes. Landscapes and their maintenance are important for the historic environment, tourism, businesses and people of Wales as everyone experiences their local landscape daily. The varied and rich landscapes of Wales should be protected, with development according to the landscape character they are located within.</p>	<p>appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>TAN 8 Renewable Energy, 2005 Contains advice on Renewable Energy and Planning; Offshore Wind and other Onshore Renewable Energy Technologies; Design and Energy; Implications for Development Plans; Development Control; Monitoring.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>Cadw – Historic Landscapes, 1998 This advisory and non-statutory document highlights what are considered to be the best examples of different types of historic landscape in Wales. However, the selection of areas for this Register does not reduce the importance of the rest of Wales’s rich historic landscape.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, the 1979 Act places a duty upon Welsh Ministers to compile and maintain a register of sites of special historic interest in Wales that includes: parks; gardens; designed ornamental landscapes; places of recreation; and other designed grounds. The statutory register came into force on 1 February 2022, and replaces the non-statutory register.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of the historic environment.</p>
Wales	<p>The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 Consolidated legislation which provides fully bilingual, orderly and accessible law for the effective protection and management of Wales’ historic environment so that it can continue to contribute to the well-being of Wales and its people. The Act came into force on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of the historic environment.</p>

Wales	<p>Farming for the Future, 2001 WAG's strategy aimed at helping secure a viable future for farming in Wales that is sustainable economically, environmentally and socially.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design and the efficient use of land. It could also contain an economic objective that considers the role of the agricultural industry.</p>
Wales	<p>Guide to Good Practice on Using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process. Revised (2nd) Edition Including Revisions to the Assessment Process (ASIDOHL2), 2007 Cadw, the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS UK) decided to collaborate to produce the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales as a means of identifying, and to provide information on, the most important and best-surviving historic landscapes in Wales. The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, the four Welsh Archaeological Trusts and the Welsh local authorities also collaborated in the project.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>One Wales: One Planet, a new Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales (Welsh Assembly Government 2009) Sets out WAG's vision of a sustainable Wales</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Strengthens existing governance arrangements for improving the well-being of Wales to ensure that present needs are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The act identifies goals to improve the well-being of Wales, introduces national indicators that will measure the difference being made to the well-being of Wales, establishes a Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to act as an advocate for future generations and puts local service boards and well-being plans on a statutory basis and simplifies requirements for integrated community planning.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>

Wales	<p>Technical Advice Note (TAN) 6: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities (2010)</p> <p>Provides practical guidance on the role of the planning system in supporting the delivery of sustainable rural communities. The TAN seeks to protect and enhance Wales' landscapes.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Wales	<p>Technical Advice Note 12 (TAN 12): Design (2014)</p> <p>Sets out the Welsh Government's policy and advice in respect of the design of new development, including sustaining or enhancing local character.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting.</p>
Powys	<p>Brecon Beacons National Park Management Plan (2010 – 2015)</p> <p>The plan coordinates and integrates all other plans, strategies and actions within the park's boundaries. No major decision concerning the park should be taken without regard to the Management Plan.</p> <p>The Plan lays out 20-year strategies and 5-year actions by and for everyone delivering its purposes and duty, or concerned about the Park's future. The plan promotes coordinated implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities collectively across a wide range of partners and stakeholders. In essence the plan creates a framework from which park management and guiding principles can be taken.</p> <p>The National Park Management Plan is the primary conduit between broad-scale international and national policies, and Park-specific decision-making processes. It ensures that the BBNPA, in cooperation with its partners, contributes and adds value to national policy objectives. As a result, the Plan sets the framework for the Corporate Business Plan and for more detailed Park strategies and programmes, including the Local Biodiversity Action Plan, the Sustainable Tourism Strategy and other Park-related strategies.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout, and contain an objective relating to the protection of the landscape and its character and setting. Such objectives should also consider the important role of designated biodiversity and landscape assets play to the character and setting of an area.</p>

	<p>The National Park Management Plan is the principal vehicle for ensuring that the statutory provisions of the Environment Act 1995 are met.<sup>5</sup> The central role of the management plan, then, is to guide the delivery of the statutory purposes and duty, assisted by the BBNPA's statutory planning function.</p> <p>Successful implementation of the Management Plan is a task shared by all, and, therefore, requires active partnerships between all those involved or with an interest in – often referred to as “stakeholders” - the Brecon Beacons National Park.</p> <p>The main themes of the management plan are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Managing park landscapes to maximise conservation and public benefits.</li> <li>2. Conserving and enhancing biodiversity.</li> <li>3. Providing everyone with opportunities for outdoor access and recreation.</li> <li>4. Raising awareness and understanding of the Park.</li> <li>5. Building and maintaining sustainable communities, towns and villages.</li> <li>6. Sustainable economic development</li> </ol>	
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### SEA Topic Area - Geodiversity

<b>Level</b> <b>(International, Community (EU), UK, Wales or Powys)</b>	<b>Plan, Programme or Strategy</b>	<b>Implications for the ISA</b> How the objectives may be taken into account
International	World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 1972) Aims to encourage countries to sign the World Heritage Convention and to ensure the protection of their natural and cultural heritage	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout and the efficient use of land (especially agricultural/high quality land). There should also be an objective relating to the protection of important geodiversity assets.

International	<p>The Global Geoparks Network</p> <p>The Global Geoparks Network(GGN) (also known as the Global Network of National Geoparks) is a UNESCO assisted network established in 1998. Managed under the body's Ecological and Earth Sciences Division, the GGN seeks the promotion and conservation of the planet's geological heritage, as well as encourages the sustainable research and development by the concerned communities.[</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout and the efficient use of land (especially agricultural/high quality land). There should also be an objective relating to the protection of important geodiversity assets.
International	<p>The Convention on Biodiversity</p> <p>The Convention on Biodiversity is one of the main driving forces behind global conservation programmes for biodiversity. The Convention is continuing to develop approaches to biodiversity conservation leading to acceptance of the need to recognise the role of geological and geomorphological processes in supporting biodiversity. The application of what the Convention terms the 'Ecosystem Approach' now offers an opportunity to promote geoconservation concepts through this convention.</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout and the efficient use of land (especially agricultural/high quality land). There should also be an objective relating to the protection of important geodiversity assets. It could also obtain an objective relating to biodiversity.
UK	<p>Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981</p> <p>The Act states "take reasonable steps, consistent with the proper exercise of the authority's functions, to further the conservation and enhancement of the flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features by reason of which a site is of special scientific interest".</p> <p>Nationally important geological sites are protected as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). Some SSSIs may also be National Nature Reserves.</p> <p>Locally important sites may be declared as Local Nature Reserves or Local Geological Sites also known as Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS).</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout and the efficient use of land (especially agricultural/high quality land). There should also be an objective relating to the protection of important geodiversity assets. It could also obtain an objective relating to biodiversity.
UK	<p>RIGS Sites</p> <p>Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) are protected by local authorities through the planning system.</p> <p>RIGS are selected according to their value for:</p>	The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout and the

	<p>1.educational fieldwork in primary and secondary schools, at undergraduate level and in adult education courses</p> <p>2.scientific study by both professional and amateur Earth scientists; such sites demonstrate, alone or as part of a network, the geology or geomorphology of an area</p> <p>3.historical significance in terms of important advances in Earth science knowledge and human development</p> <p>4.aesthetic qualities in the landscape, particularly in relation to promoting public awareness and appreciation of Earth sciences</p>	<p>efficient use of land (especially agricultural/high quality land). There should also be an objective relating to the protection of important geodiversity assets. It could also obtain an objective relating to biodiversity.</p>
Wales	<p>RIGS Wales</p> <p>British Geological Society Cardiff has been actively involved in a range of geo conservation, geo diversity and geo heritage projects across Wales. These include projects like the three-year Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund for Wales funded South Wales RIGS Audit and a range of interpretative projects which raise public awareness of geo environmental issues; such as the exhibition and interpretation panels for MoD Defence Estates on the Mynydd Epynt Military Range in mid Wales.</p> <p>The BGS continues to offer ongoing support to the two designated European Geoparks in Wales — Fforest Fawr in mid-Wales and GeoMôn on Anglesey.</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout and the efficient use of land (especially agricultural/high quality land). There should also be an objective relating to the protection of important geodiversity assets. It could also obtain an objective relating to biodiversity.</p>
Wales	<p>One Wales: One Planet, a new Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales (Welsh Assembly Government 2009)</p> <p>Sets out WAG's vision of a sustainable Wales</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout and the efficient use of land (especially agricultural/high quality land). There should also be an objective relating to the protection of important geodiversity assets. It could also obtain an objective relating to biodiversity.</p>
Powys	<p>RIGS sites Powys</p> <p>73 RIGS sites in Powys (excl BBNP) (comparable quality information not available)</p>	<p>The ISA should contain objectives relating to sustainable development, high quality design that encourages developments to be of an appropriate size, scale and layout and the efficient use of land (especially</p>

		agricultural/high quality land). There should also be an objective relating to the protection of important geodiversity assets. It could also obtain an objective relating to biodiversity.
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The following Development Plans of neighbouring areas will also inform the ISA of the LDP:

#### ***Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan 2007-2022***

**Spatial approach** - The Plan seeks to deliver growth in locations that have been identified through a synthesis of the results of community engagement with the Environmental Capacity of an area and the availability of appropriate and deliverable development land. It is a bottom up approach which draws on local knowledge of the area and technical assessments of deliverability.

5 level Settlement Hierarchy – Brecon (Primary Key Settlement), Talgarth /Crickhowell / Hay-on-Wye / Sennybridge and Defynnog (Key Settlements) and then Settlements, Limited Growth Settlements and the Countryside.

**Housing growth** - The identified housing requirement for the Brecon Beacons National Park for the Plan period is 1990. The LDP identifies land to supply an estimated 2,045 dwellings over the LDP period, 960 of which are provided for by land allocations.

Work has commenced on a replacement Local Development Plan [Local Development Plan 2 | Brecon Beacons National Park Authority \(beacons-npa.gov.uk\)](https://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/local-development-plan-2).

#### ***Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031 (Adopted October 2015)***

The Council submitted the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in September 2014. The Secretary of State appointed a Planning Inspector to conduct an examination.

In February 2015 a public examination was held on the Plan, after some modifications were proposed to the strategy.

A summary of modifications can be viewed online at the following link:

[www.herefordshire.gov.uk/posthearing](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/posthearing)

### ***Herefordshire Policy Options Consultation Local Plan 2021-2041 (Emerging)***

The Herefordshire Policy Options Consultation Local Plan 2021-2041 contains draft versions of the vision, objectives and policies that would underpin a future Local Plan for the area. It is in the early stages of production and was consulted upon in Q1 2022. This emerging plan places considerable importance on the protection of the environment as noted in the future Local Plan's vision:

*'By 2041, Herefordshire will be a place where planning has helped to create an environment where all of its residents have an exceptional quality of life and are able to live and travel in a more sustainable way. In addressing the climate and ecological emergency, the County will be carbon neutral, and biodiversity here will be thriving.'*

### ***Herefordshire Council County Plan 2020-2024***

The Herefordshire Council County Plan 2020-2024 is a new document that was produced after considerable consultation with the residents of Herefordshire. The document stresses the following elements as being important for the Council to achieve and works with the Local Plan to ensure development is appropriate based on how well it compliments said elements:

- More affordable housing
- Improve the maintenance of the existing highway network and public spaces
- More housing & specialist housing for older residents
- Improved public transport
- Take action to address the climate emergency/protect the local environment and reduce the areas contribution to climate change

### ***Shropshire Local Development Framework 2006-2026 (Adopted Core Strategy March 2011) Regional***

Core Strategy (2006 – 2026) adopted February 2011.

Key Development Plan Document - Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev).



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**Spatial approach** - Five spatial zones and a form of settlement hierarchy. Shrewsbury recognised as the County town, 5 main market towns (Bridgnorth, Ludlow, Market Drayton, Oswestry, Whitchurch) and 13 other smaller market towns and key centres, then rural areas.

Details are set out in 18 Place Plans, rolling documents under continual review, which set out priorities, planned investments and infrastructure delivery.

**Housing growth** – Planning for around 27,500 homes, 25% to Shrewsbury, 40% to market towns and key centres, 35% to the rural areas in identified community hubs and community clusters. Also potential additional housing provision (up to 1000 dwellings, if required) for returning military personnel.

#### ***Wrexham Unitary Development Plan 1996-2011 (2005)***

**Spatial approach** – The strategy seeks to safeguard the amenity of settlements and secure economy and efficiency in the use of land resources through the regeneration of built-up areas together with limited outward growth. The strategy is applied within three policy sub-areas, Wrexham, Urban Villages, and Rural Villages.

**Housing growth** – The housing element of the strategy

reflects the overall approach towards settlement growth set out above. In essence, the aim is to allocate most new housing development to a range of sites within and adjacent to existing built up areas; to make

optimum use of previously developed or vacant land; to make use of spare capacity in infrastructure and services; and to focus on locations with reasonable public transport, walking and cycling links.

#### ***Wrexham Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) 2013 to 2028 (Submitted)***

The Wrexham Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) 2013 to 2028 was submitted to the Welsh Government and PINS on the 30th November 2018. The document is still being reviewed and is undergoing modification throughout the process.

Due to the document being submitted for review, it provides a clear steer for development within Wrexham and outlines what the main vision and objectives for the area are. The vision for the area upon the adoption of this document is:

*'By 2028, Wrexham will be an attractive, distinctive and accessible place where people will want to live, visit and invest. Our economy will be strong, resilient and responsive to our gateway location within Wales. Wrexham County Borough will be a sustainable place*

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*where everyone feels safe and included and a place that enhances the quality and distinctiveness of our natural, built heritage and unique culture.'*

The document would seek to secure the creation of 8,525 new homes over the plan period and deliver the creation of 4,200 jobs. Development will be located in accordance with the settlement hierarchy:

- The Primary Key Settlement of Wrexham Town and Wrexham Industrial Estate including Key Strategic Site release for housing and employment;
- The Key Settlements of Acrefair / Cefn Mawr, Chirk, Coedopeth, Gresford / Marford, Gwersyllt, Llay, Ruabon and Rhosllanerchrugog;
- The Local Service Centres of Bangor, Broughton, Brymbo, Glyn Ceiriog, Holt, Overton, Penley, Penycae, Rhostyllen and Rossett; and the
- Tier 4 settlement of Rhosrobin, due to its proximity and accessibility to Wrexham Town

### ***Denbighshire Local Development Plan 2006-2021***

**Spatial approach** - to focus development into a small number of large sites in the north of the County (partly due to transport reasons, higher levels of need and fewer constraints), with smaller scale new development being supported in other County settlements, using a settlement hierarchy.

**Housing growth** – Approximately 7,500 new dwellings to be developed over the Plan period (average 500 per year), of which land allocations contribute 3,300 dwellings. The principle allocation is at Bodelwyddan (key strategic site) for 1715 dwellings with further growth being dispersed to other settlements in accordance with a five tier settlement hierarchy:

Bodelwyddan (1715), Lower Growth Towns functioning as regional and/or local service centres (2606) - namely Rhyl, Prestatyn, St Asaph, Denbigh, Ruthin and Corwen together with the Village tier towns of Llangollen and Rhuddlan, other Villages (900), Hamlets (affordable dwellings only). Assuming 1400 (windfall) within existing development boundaries.

### **Denbighshire Replacement Local Development Plan 2018-2033 (Emerging)**

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The Replacement Local Development Plan 2018-2033 document has completed the creation of a draft version of the Council's Preferred Strategy. The emerging Local Plan is therefore in its infancy, though the potential direction of development within Denbighshire can be alluded to from the draft Preferred Strategy document, which identified key issues and challenges facing the area. The draft vision for the Local Plan is:

*'Denbighshire, through sustainable development, will have a vibrant urban coast, with thriving market towns and rural areas. The housing and employment needs of the County will be met and the high quality environment will be protected and enhanced. Life of a high quality will be maintained for all communities; with full recognition that we have a strong Welsh language and culture that should be supported and enhanced throughout the County.'*

It is anticipated that a future Local Plan would require the creation of 3,775 new dwellings (250 per annum) and approximately 1,500 jobs.

### ***Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031***

The Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031 (adopted 2019) provides the most up to date planning guidance for the area and continuing to protect the Snowdonia National Park & general environment, whilst also providing economic growth and new housing. The plan is also clear that transitioning towards a low carbon economy is key to the local plan and the future of Wales.

The Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031 seeks to provide 885 dwellings over its lifetime and a density of 30 dwellings per hectare.

### ***Joint LDP for Anglesey and Gwynedd 2011-2026***

**Spatial approach** - Development is distributed in accordance with a settlement strategy based on a settlement's levels of service provision, function and size (population) and subject to its environmental, social and infrastructure capacity to accommodate development. Hierarchy ranging from: i) Sub-Regional Centre (Primary Settlement) of Bangor to ii) Urban Service Centres (Amlwch, Holyhead, Llangefni in Anglesey, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Caernarfon, Porthmadog, Pwllheli in Gwynedd), iii) Local Service Centres, iv) Villages, v) identified (named) Clusters.

It is recognised that in southern Gwynedd the Eryri (Snowdonia) National Park has the Centres of Bala and Dolgellau providing cross-border opportunities to satisfy housing need/employment.

**Housing growth** - Planning for the medium growth option of 7665 houses (511 per annum) split between Anglesey (225) and Gwynedd (outside of the National Park) (286).

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The Preferred Strategy provides for around 55% of this growth in the Sub Regional Centre and the Urban Service Centres, around 20% in the Local Service Centres and around 25% in the Villages and Clusters.

Neighbouring planning authorities have the potential to cause 'in-combination' effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development across the boundary could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.

The Adopted Plan has been reviewed and the Review Report (March 2022) concluded that a full revision would be required [Replacement Joint Local Development Plan \(gov.wales\)](#) and [Replacement Joint Local Development Plan \(llyw.cymru\)](#)

### ***Ceredigion Local Development Plan 2007-2022 Regional***

**Spatial approach** - Growth focused on Urban Service Centres (USC) and Rural Service Centres (RSC) whilst recognising that some opportunity remains for locations other than these Centres.

7 Urban Service Centres including Aberystwyth recognised as a settlement of national importance and as a strategic centre for Mid Wales, 5 other Ceredigion towns (Aberaeron (Llwyncelyn), Cardigan, Lampeter, Tregaron, Llandysul) and, although located just over the border in Carmarthenshire, Newcastle Emlyn (Adpar) also functions as an USC. 15 Rural Service Centres (including large settlements such as Aberporth/Parcllyn, Llanon and Talybont).

Each of the 22 Service Centres has a Settlement Group so every group is made up of a USC or RSC, Linked Settlements (91 in total) and Other Locations. The Service Centre for each Settlement Group is expected to take the majority of growth for that Group.

**Housing growth** - Approximately 6544 dwelling (including 10% contingency) distributed - at least 51% in the Urban Service Centres, 24% in the Rural Service Centres and a maximum of 25% (or in any event no more than 1522 units) in the 'Linked Settlements and Other Locations' on non-allocated sites.

Neighbouring planning authorities have the potential to cause 'in-combination' effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development across the boundary could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.

### ***Ceredigion Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP2) 2018-2033 Preferred Strategy 2019 (Emerging)***

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Ceredigion Council produced the Preferred Strategy for the emerging Local Development Plan 2 in 2019 and is the most up to date document indicating the direction this Local Development Plan is taking. As of October 2021, the production of this new Local Development Plan is on pause whilst crucial water data and other data is gathered to ensure it is based on sound information.

The vision of the Preferred Strategy is the following:

*‘By 2033, Ceredigion will be a County of vibrant, bilingual and engaged communities, where people choose to live, study, work and visit, committed to the resilience of its economy, culture, heritage, environment and natural resources and to health and wellbeing.’*

Development will be directed to the following areas depending on their suitability to the area:

- Urban Service Centres - Aberaeron (Llwyncelyn/ Ffosyffin), Aberystwyth/ Llanbadarn Fawr/ Waunfawr/ Penparcau/, Rhydyfelin/ Commins Coch, Cardigan, Lampeter, Llandysul, Newcastle Emlyn (Adpar) and Tregaron.
- Rural Service Centres - Aberporth/Parcllyn, Bow Street, Brynhoffnant Cenarth, Felinfach/ Ystrad Aeron Llanarth, Llanilar Llanon, Llanrhystud, Llanybydder (Carmarthenshire), New Quay / Cross Inn Penrhyncoch, Ponterwyd Pontrhydfendigaid and Talybont Y Borth.

The Preferred Strategy anticipates that a new Local Development Plan would need to create 3,000 new dwellings by 2033.

### ***Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2006-2021 Regional***

**Spatial approach** - The LDP seeks to consolidate the existing spatial settlement pattern and previous development plan frameworks, whilst continuing to reflect and promote sustainability. The focus for housing and employment is within the established urban centres of Llanelli, Carmarthen, and the Ammanford/Cross Hands grouping of settlements. These settlements are identified as ‘Growth Areas’ and are supplemented by a sustainable settlement hierarchy (Service Centres, Local Service Centres, then Sustainable Communities (generally grouped smaller settlements) where proportionate growth is provided for.

**Housing growth** - 15,197 dwellings (1,013 units per annum) and a further 1,043 units (approx 7%) giving an overall housing provision of 16,240 units. Sufficient land is allocated to meet the residual requirement of 13,260 dwellings in accordance with the Settlement Framework as follows:

Growth Areas (8,247); Service Centres (1,354); Local Service Centres (1,666); Sustainable Communities (1,993).

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Neighbouring planning authorities have the potential to cause ‘in-combination’ effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development across the boundary could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.

### **Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018-2033 (Emerging)**

Carmarthenshire Council are currently in the process of preparing a new Local Development Plan and produced a Deposit Plan in 2020. The new Local Development Plan would be governed by the following vision:

*‘Carmarthenshire 2033 will be a place to start, live and age well within a healthy, safe and prosperous environment, where its rich cultural and environmental qualities (including the Welsh language) are valued and respected for residents and visitors alike.*

*It will have prosperous, cohesive and sustainable communities providing increased opportunities, interventions and connections for people, places and organisations in both rural and urban parts of our County.*

*It will have a strong economy that reflects its position as a confident and ambitious driver for the Swansea Bay City Region.’*

The Deposit Plan establishes that the new Local Plan will try to provide the needed housing and economic growth needed to improve the area, whilst also protecting its rural nature and helps transition the area towards meeting the Welsh Governments goals for being a low-carbon country.

The Deposit Plan identifies that 10,160 new homes and a minimum of 77.93ha of employment land would need to be developed over the lifetime of the plan.

### **Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan 2011-2026**

**Spatial approach** – Neath Port Talbot's regional aim is to support the City and County of Swansea through steering growth towards the identified key settlements of Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe and to the supporting communities within the Valleys

The LDP has two differing area-based strategies, a) the Coastal Corridor Strategy Area (the two main urban towns and supporting communities of Neath and Port Talbot); and b) The Valleys Strategy Area (the Afan Valley, Amman Valley, Dulais Valley, Neath Valley, Pontardawe and Swansea Valley). 6 tier settlement hierarchy – towns, district centres, large local centres, small local centres, villages and dormitory settlements.

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**Housing growth** – based on the projected economic-led and aspiring growth scenario of 3,850 jobs for the area, the Plan makes provision for an additional 9,150 new residential units, (8,000 plus contingency). New housing is apportioned between Neath (48.4%), Port Talbot (27.2%), 23.2% to the Valleys (including 9.7 % to Pontardawe).

The Coastal Corridor has 2 strategic regeneration areas - Coed Darcy, Neath (urban village 4,000 new homes, 2150 in the LDP period) and Harbourside, Port Talbot (520 units). In the Valleys area, Pontardawe and the Upper Neath Valley have been identified as strategic growth areas.

Neighbouring planning authorities have the potential to cause ‘in-combination’ effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development across the boundary could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.

A replacement Local Development Plan is in preparation - [Replacement Local Development Plan \(RLDP\) 2021-2036 – Neath Port Talbot Council \(npt.gov.uk\)](https://www.npt.gov.uk/replacement-local-development-plan-2021-2036).

### ***Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan 2006-2021***

**Spatial approach** - Hybrid strategy – Northern Strategy to address decline. Tonypany, Porth, Treorchy, Treherbert, Ferndale, Tylorstown, Mountain Ash, Aberdare and Hirwaun

In the south of the County Borough the emphasis is on sustainable growth that benefits Rhondda Cynon Taf as a whole. The Southern Strategy Area includes Pontypridd, Llantrisant (including Talbot Green), Tonyrefail and Llanharan.

Settlement hierarchy: Principal Towns, Key Settlements and Smaller Settlements, with new development opportunities focused in the Principal Towns and Key Settlements of the County Borough in order to support and reinforce the important role these centres play.

A number of strategic sites will result in the development of between 5,000 – 5,450 new dwellings, 63 hectares of employment land, 23,400m<sup>2</sup> net of new retail floor space and the provision of a significant amount of new open / green space.

**Housing growth** - 14,385 new dwellings (959 per annum) over the plan period.

The development plans of nearby local planning authorities have the potential to cause ‘in-combination’ effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.

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A revised local development plan is being prepared [Revised Local Development Plan \(LDP\) 2022 – 2037 | Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council \(rctcbc.gov.uk\)](#)

### ***Monmouthshire Local Development Plan 2006-2021 Regional***

**Spatial approach** – disperse development around the County while focusing on those locations that provide the best opportunities for achieving sustainable development. Emphasis on the three main towns of Abergavenny, Chepstow and Monmouth plus the Severnside sub-region.

Settlement hierarchy:

- Main Towns: Abergavenny, Chepstow and Monmouth;
- The Severnside (M4 corridor) sub-region: the settlements of Caerwent, Caldicot, Magor, Portskewett, Rogiet, Sudbrook and Undy;
- Rural Secondary Settlements: Usk, Raglan, Penperlleni and Llanfoist;
- Main Villages;
- Minor Villages (no development boundary).

**Housing growth** - 4,950 dwellings including 10% flexibility allowance. Met mainly via strategic housing sites.

Main Towns = 2066 dwellings (42 %)

Severnside sub-region = 1614 (23%)

Rural secondary settlements = 495 (7.5%)

Rural Area = 782 (27.5%)

The development plans of nearby local planning authorities have the potential to cause 'in-combination' effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.

### ***Monmouthshire Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) 2018-2033 (Emerging) Preferred Strategy***



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Monmouthshire is currently working to produce a Replacement Local Development Plan and published the Preferred Strategy for this RLDP in June 2021. The strategy provides sound insight into what the RLDP will contain in terms of its vision, objectives, and planning policies. It is important to note that the housing quantities identified within the Preferred Strategy will need updating in-line with guidance published by the Welsh Government after the Preferred Strategy was produced. The Council is currently working to update the Preferred Strategy.

The Preferred Strategy identifies that a RLDP should create 3,658 dwellings and create 7,215 additional jobs over its lifetime. It also states that a varied mix of land and sites will be required in order to meet these requirements, whilst also meeting the Council's duty to protect the environment and transition the area to being low-carbon.

### ***Blaenau Gwent Development Plan 2006-2021***

**Spatial approach** – The Strategy is based on regenerating the area through building a network of district hubs around the principal hub of Ebbw Vale, whilst recognising that there is a north south divide in terms of opportunities for growth. The creation of an integrated network of modern and revitalised hubs provides an opportunity to transform the area. It creates a mechanism to co-ordinate investment and ensures the benefits of growth and regeneration are shared widely. Vital to delivering this is ensuring good connectivity between the principal hub of Ebbw Vale and the district hubs of Tredegar, Brynmawr and Abertillery, in turn ensuring that each hub is accessible to the areas they serve.

**Housing growth** – A key challenge for the area is to halt the declining population. A major part of this Strategy is to enable the growth in population from 68,914 to 70,849. To accommodate this growth 3,500 new homes will be required between 2006-2021. A major part of this growth is a result of the increase in one person households. Over 80% of new housing will be provided in the Northern Strategy Area with 56% in Ebbw Vale, mainly at two strategic sites which are Ebbw Vale Northern Corridor and 'The Works'. Tredegar will accommodate 23% and Upper Ebbw Fach 14% of the housing.

### ***Blaenau Gwent Replacement Local Development Plan 2018-2033 (Emerging) Preferred Strategy***

Blaenau Gwent Council are in the process of producing new Local Development Plan and produced a Preferred Strategy in January 2020. A new Local Development Plan would have to contend with the following challenges:

- Challenge 1: Economic growth

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- Challenge 2: New roles for town centres
  - Challenge 3: Improving education attainment and skills
  - Challenge 4: Population growth and improving housing offer
  - Challenge 5: Creating a well-connected network of communities
  - Challenge 6: Supporting Sustainable transport
  - Challenge 7: Promoting physical and mental health and well-being for all
  - Challenge 8: Creating a place which supports its green environment
  - Challenge 9: Sustainable use of natural resources
  - Challenge 10: Environmental Quality
  - Challenge 11: Sustainable design and the provision of renewable energy
  - Challenge 12: Creating places with a distinctive sense of identity

The Preferred Strategy is governed by the following vision:

Through collaborative working, by 2033, Blaenau Gwent will become a network of connected sustainable, vibrant valley communities that support the well-being of current and future generations with:

- a prosperous low carbon economy where people have the skills, knowledge and opportunities to achieve a better quality of life;
- residents living in well connected, healthy and safe communities, in a range of good quality homes with better access to services; and
- its distinctive natural environment, cultural and historic identity is protected and enhanced creating a place where people want to live, work and visit.

It has been identified that a new Local Development Plan should provide a total of 2,115 new dwellings (141 per annum) and 1,500 new jobs (minimum) over its lifetime.

***Merthyr Tydfil Development Plan 2006-2021***

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**Spatial approach** – Merthyr Tydfil is the smallest unitary authority in Wales with less than 9000 ha of land falling within the remit of the Local Development Plan. Accordingly the number of towns and villages within the County Borough is somewhat limited with many settlements reflecting a mainly residential role. Notwithstanding this, the towns and villages of the County Borough display a variety of local characteristics and as part of the functional analysis for the Local Development Plan it has been possible to divide the County Borough into 3 distinct zones, namely the northern sector, the mid valley communities and the southern sector.

**Housing growth** – During the plan period 2006-2021, land is allocated for the provision of approximately 3,964 new dwellings in order to accommodate the anticipated needs of the population.

### Merthyr Tydfil Replacement Local Development Plan 2016 – 2031 (Submitted)

Merthyr Tydfil Council submitted their Replacement Local Development Plan to the Welsh Government and PINS in January 2019 for review. The Replacement Local Development Plan is governed by the following vision:

*‘To strengthen Merthyr Tydfil’s position as the regional centre for the Heads of the Valleys within the Cardiff Capital Region, to encourage a sustainable level of population growth and be a place to be proud of where:*

- *People learn and develop skills to fulfil their ambitions;*
- *People live, work, have a safe, healthy and fulfilled life; and*
- *People visit, enjoy and return.’*

The Plan seeks to provide 2,820 new homes and 30.65ha of employment land.

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# Appendix C Definitions of Significance

## ISA Objective 1 - Provide good quality homes and community infrastructure to meet identified needs

### Guide Questions:

- Meet the identified housing needs, including affordable and specialist requirements?
- Ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures to meet the needs of all sectors of the community?
- Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?
- Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would provide a significant increase to housing supply and would provide access to decent, affordable housing for residents with different needs.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would make use of/improve existing buildings or unfit, empty homes.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would promote high quality design.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver sufficient pitches to meet requirements for Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople.</p>
+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would provide an increase to housing supply and would provide access to decent, affordable housing for residents with different needs.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would make use of/improve existing buildings or unfit, empty homes.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would promote high quality design.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver sufficient pitches to meet requirements for Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople.</p>
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of affordable, decent housing available.
--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the amount of affordable, decent housing available.

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

## ISA Objective 2 - To create and support a strong, diverse and resilient economy and workforce

### Guide Questions:

- Provide sufficient land for businesses to grow?
- Support the creation of accessible new jobs?
- Ensure the capacity of educational facilities keep pace with population growth?
- Enhance the vitality and resilience of communities?
- Safeguard existing employment areas?
- Create opportunities for and promote sustainable tourism, sensitively capitalising on environmental, cultural, heritage and leisure assets?
- Create opportunities for enhancements to the rural economy and rural diversification (including agriculture, forestry, SMEs, micro businesses and the development of digital connectivity)?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly encourage investment in businesses, people and infrastructure which would lead to a more diversified economy, maximising viability of the local economy and reducing out-commuting The policy/proposal would result in the creation of new educational institutions and long-term skills development opportunities.
+	Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage investment in businesses, people and infrastructure The policy/proposal would provide accessible employment opportunities.

		<p>The policy/proposal would support diversification of the rural economy.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver residential development in close proximity to a major employment site</p> <p>The policy/proposal would support existing educational institutions.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would support economic growth in the low carbon sector.</p>
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	The policy/proposal would have negative effects on businesses, the local economy and local employment
--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would have significant negative effects on business, the local economy and local employment (e.g. policy/proposal would lead to the closure or relocation of existing local businesses)</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of existing educational establishments without replacement provision elsewhere within Powys.</p>
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

### ISA Objective 3 - Reduce poverty and inequality; tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion

#### Guide Questions:

- Assist with providing employment opportunities for those most in need?
- Address directly and indirectly areas suffering deprivation and/or decline?
- Help to provide better education opportunities and attainment?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would significantly enhance the attractiveness of Powys as a place to invest, live, work and visit.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would create new, or significantly enhance existing, community facilities and services.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly improve social and environmental conditions within deprived areas and support regeneration.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would ensure that new residential development is located in close proximity to a wide range of services and facilities (e.g. within 800 m of a wide range of services).</p>

		The policy/proposal would significantly enhance the vitality and viability of settlements.
+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would enhance the attractiveness of Powys as a place to invest, live, work and visit.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would enhance existing community facilities and services.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would improve social and environmental conditions within deprived areas.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would ensure that new residential development is located in close proximity to some services and facilities (e.g. within 800 m of a key service).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would enhance the vitality and viability of settlements.</p>
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would undermine the attractiveness of Powys as a place to invest, live, work and visit.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would reduce the accessibility, availability and quality of existing community facilities and services.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in new residential development being located away from existing services and facilities (e.g. in excess of 2,000 m from a wide range of services).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have an adverse effect on the vitality and viability of settlements.</p>
--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would substantially undermine the attractiveness of Powys as a place to invest, live, work and visit leading to an outflow of the population and disinvestment.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of existing community facilities and services without their replacement elsewhere within Powys.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have a significantly adverse effect on the vitality and viability of settlements.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in new residential development being inaccessible to existing services and facilities.</p>
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

## ISA Objective 4 - Protect, promote and enhance the Welsh language and culture

### Guide Questions:

- Affect the number who can speak Welsh and/or opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language daily (both positive and/or adverse effects)?

- Affect the sustainability of Welsh speaking communities (both positive and/or adverse effects)?
- Affect Welsh medium education and Welsh learners of all ages, including adults (both positive and/or adverse effects)?
- Affect services available in Welsh (both positive and/or adverse effects)? (e.g. health and social services, transport, housing, digital, youth, infrastructure, environment, local government etc.)

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal incorporates appropriate measures to protect, promote and enhance the use of the Welsh language, and makes provision for a new bilingual community facility or service or enhances access to existing community facilities or services in both Welsh and English.
+	Positive	The policy/proposal incorporates appropriate measures to protect, promote and enhance the use of the Welsh language in the community and in relation to education and services.
0	Neutral	The site is not within an area of higher density linguistic significance. In areas of lower density linguistic significance, the proposal would not have adverse effects or decreased adverse effects, on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language
-	Negative	The policy/proposal does not incorporate appropriate measures that would have positive effects, or increased positive effects on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language.
--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal incorporates aspects that might have adverse effects or decreased adverse effects, on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

## ISA Objective 5 - Improve the health and well-being of all sectors of society

### Guide Questions:

- Contribute towards an improvement in access to health and social care services especially in isolated/rural areas?



- Contribute towards a reduction in health inequalities amongst different groups in the community including specifically children and older people?
- Contribute towards healthy lifestyles and promote well-being including walking and cycling?
- Contribute towards improving access to natural green space, wildlife, open space including opportunities for play, leisure and recreation?
- Contribute towards an increase in green infrastructure?
- Ensure new development is designed to reduce crime and the fear of crime?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would have strong and sustained impacts on healthy lifestyles and improve well-being through physical activity, recreational activity, improved environmental quality, etc.</p> <p>Different groups within society are taken into consideration.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would ensure that new residential development is located in close proximity to a range of healthcare facilities (e.g. within 800 m of a GP surgery).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver new healthcare facilities and/or open space.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the level of crime through design and other safety measures.</p>
+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would promote healthy lifestyles and improve well-being through physical activity, recreational activity, improved environmental quality, etc. Different groups within the society are taken into consideration.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would ensure that new residential development is located in close proximity to a healthcare facility (e.g. within 800 m of a GP surgery).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would recognise, protect, promote and enhance Welsh language and culture?</p> <p>The policy/proposal would reduce crime through design and other safety measures.</p>
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would reduce access to healthcare facilities and open space.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver residential development in excess of 800 m from a GP surgery.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in reported crime and the fear of crime in the district.</p>

		The policy/proposal would have effects which could cause deterioration of health.
--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in the loss of healthcare facilities and open space without their replacement elsewhere within Powys. The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in reported crime and the fear of crime. The policy/proposal would have significant effects which would cause deterioration of health within the community (i.e. increase in pollution)
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

### ISA Objective 6 - Make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings and protect higher grade agricultural land

#### Guide Questions:

- Create opportunities to develop brownfield land where this will have no adverse impacts on Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land?
- Protect the best and most versatile land from development?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage significant development on brownfield land. The policy/proposal would result in existing land / soil contamination being removed. The policy/proposal would protect best and most versatile agricultural land.
+	Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage development on brownfield.
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in development on greenfield or would create conflicts in land-use. The policy/proposal would result in the loss of agricultural land.

--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land. The policy/proposal would result in land contamination.
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

### ISA Objective 7 - To conserve, protect and enhance water quality and water resources.

#### Guide Questions:

- Reduce water consumption?
- Ensure an adequate supply of water can be provided considering current and future projections of water availability and water use?
- Reduce the potential for contamination of waterbodies and courses?
- Reduce the potential for agricultural practices to contribute towards nitrate-based pollution of waterbodies and courses?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would lead to a significant reduction of wastewater, surface water runoff and pollutant discharge so that the quality of groundwater and/or surface water would be significantly improved and all water targets (including those relevant to biological and chemical quality) would be met/exceeded. The policy/proposal would lead to a significant reduction in the demand for water. The policy/proposal would support investment in water resources infrastructure.
+	Positive	The policy/proposal would lead to a reduction of wastewater, surface water runoff and/or pollutant discharge so that the quality of groundwater or surface water would be improved and some water targets (including those relevant to biological and chemical quality) would be met/exceeded. The policy/proposal would lead to a reduction in the demand for water.
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.

-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in the amount of waste water, surface water runoff and pollutant discharge so that the quality of groundwater or surface water would be reduced.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in the demand for water.</p>
--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in the amount of wastewater, surface water runoff and pollutant discharge so that the quality of groundwater or surface water would be decreased and water targets would not be met.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the current WFD classification.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in the demand for water</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the capacity of existing wastewater management infrastructure being exceeded without appropriate mitigation.</p>
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

## ISA Objective 8 - To minimise or reduce the sources and effects of air pollution

### Guide Questions:

- Reduce the need to travel?
- Encourage journeys to be made by sustainable means (active travel or public transport)?
- Avoid any adverse effects on air quality and for people exposed to poor air quality?
- Improve air quality in areas identified as of concern?
- Promote and facilitate the use of electric vehicles?
- Promote and facilitate enhancements to green infrastructure networks to facilitate increased absorption and dissipation of NO<sub>2</sub> and other pollutants?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly improve air quality and result in air quality targets being met/exceeded.
+	Positive	The policy/proposal would improve air quality.
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to a decrease in air quality.
--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to a decrease in air quality.
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

### ISA Objective 9 - To minimise waste generation, encourage re-use and recycling and promote efficient use of mineral resources

#### Guide Questions:

- Promote the remediation of contaminated land and prevention of further contamination?
- Create opportunities to increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use?
- Promote opportunities to use recycled and secondary materials in construction?
- Promote the use of locally sourced sustainable materials?
- Create opportunities to safeguard protected mineral resources?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of waste generated through prevention, minimisation and re-use. The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill through recycling and energy recovery. The policy/proposal would support/encourage investment in waste management facilities.
+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of waste going to landfill through recycling and energy recovery. The policy/proposal would encourage the use of sustainable materials.
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased amount of waste going to landfill. The policy/proposal would increase the demand for local resources.
--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in a significantly increased amount of waste going to landfill. The policy/proposal would significantly increase the demand for local resources. The policy/proposal would result in inappropriate development within a Minerals Safeguarding Area.
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

## ISA Objective 10 - Support the resilience of Powys to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding and other extreme events

### Guide Questions:

- Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change?
- Increase resilience of the built and natural environment to the effects of climate change?
- Ensure that the potential risks associated with climate change are considered in new developments?

- Improve and extend green infrastructure networks to support climate change adaptation?
- Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce flood risk to new or existing infrastructure or communities in relation to the 1% (1 in 100) annual probability flood event with allowance for climate change and 0.1% (1 in 1000) annual probability event with allowance for climate change (Flood Map for Planning).
+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce flood risk to new or existing infrastructure or communities in relation to the 1% (1 in 100) annual probability flood event with allowance for climate change and 0.1% (1 in 1000) annual probability event with allowance for climate change (Flood Map for Planning).
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective. It is anticipated that the policy will neither cause nor exacerbate flooding in the catchment.
-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased flood risk in relation to the 1% (1 in 100) annual probability flood event with allowance for climate change and 0.1% (1 in 1000) annual probability event with allowance for climate change (Flood Map for Planning).
--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased flood risk in relation to the 1% (1 in 100) annual probability flood event with allowance for climate change and 0.1% (1 in 1000) annual probability event with allowance for climate change (Flood Map for Planning).
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

Note: Definitions for flooding from the sea are different to those relating to river-related flooding; the LDP area includes a small area of coastline although no settlements fall within this area.

### ISA Objective 11 - Reduce the contribution to climate change from greenhouse gas emissions

Guide Questions:

- Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria?
- Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable sources?

- Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources?
- Reduce the need to travel or the number of journeys made?
- Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?
- Ensure that development does not contribute towards further increases in high energy use and unsustainable travel?
- Improve the provision of nature-based solutions to adapt and mitigate climate change?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Powys. The policy/proposal would significantly reduce energy consumption or increase the amount of renewable energy being used/generated.
+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Powys. The policy/proposal would increase resilience/decrease vulnerability to climate change effects. The policy/proposal would reduce energy consumption or increase the amount of renewable energy being used/generated. The policy/proposal would support/encourage sustainable design.
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions from Powys. The policy/proposal would not increase resilience/decrease vulnerability to climate change effects.
--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions from Powys. The policy/proposal would increase vulnerability to climate change effects.
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.



## ISA Objective 12 - To promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel

### Guide Questions:

- Reduce the need to travel through sustainable patterns of land use and development?
- Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel?
- Enable transport infrastructure improvements?
- Support the uptake of low carbon transport?
- Contribute towards the EV charging network?
- Facilitate working from home and remote working?
- Provide improvements to and/ or reduce congestion on the existing highway network?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would significantly reduce need for travel, road traffic and congestion (e.g. new development is within 400m walking distance of all services).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would create opportunities/incentives for the use of sustainable travel/transport of people/goods.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly reduce out-commuting.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would support investment in transportation infrastructure and/or services.</p>
+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would reduce need for travel (e.g. new development is within 800m of one or more services).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would encourage the use of sustainable travel/transport of people/goods.</p>
0	Neutral	<p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p>
-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would increase the need for travel by less sustainable forms of transport, increasing road traffic and congestion.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver new development in excess of 800 m from public transport services/cycle routes.</p>
--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would significantly increase the need for travel by less sustainable forms of transport, substantially increasing road traffic and congestion.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of transportation infrastructure and/or services.</p>

~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

### ISA Objective 13 - Preserve and enhance Powys' heritage resource, including built and archaeological assets

#### Guide Questions:

- Conserve and enhance the significance of buildings and structures of architectural, historic and cultural interest, both designated and non-designated, and their setting?
- Conserve and enhance the special interest, character and appearance of Conservation Areas and their settings?
- Ensure that Welsh place names are recognised as integral features of the cultural and historic landscape of Wales?
- Conserve and enhance archaeological remains, and archaeologically sensitive areas?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would protect and enhance the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with national designations (including their setting).</p> <p>The policy/proposal will make use of historic buildings, spaces and places through sensitive adaption and re-use allowing these distinctive assets to be accessed.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in an asset(s) being removed from the At Risk Register.</p>
+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would protect and enhance the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with local designations (including their setting).</p> <p>The policy/proposal will increase access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.</p>
0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
-	Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with local designations.

		The policy/proposal would temporarily restrict access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.
--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with national designation or result in the destruction of heritage assets (national or local).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would permanently restrict access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in an asset being placed on the At Risk Register.</p>
~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

### ISA Objective 14 - Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.

#### Guide Questions:

- Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net benefits where possible?
- Protect and enhance ecological networks, including those that cross administrative boundaries?
- Protect geologically valuable sites, including their setting?

Score	Rating	Assessment Criteria
++	Significant Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would have a positive effect on national designated sites, habitats or species (e.g. enhancing habitats, creating additional habitat or increasing protected species populations).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would create new habitat and link it with existing habitats or significantly improve existing habitats to support local biodiversity.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have major positive effects on protected geologically important sites.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly enhance Powys' green infrastructure network.</p>
+	Positive	The policy/proposal would have a positive effect on regional or local designated sites, habitats or species.

		<p>The policy/proposal would improve existing habitats to support local biodiversity.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have positive effects on protected geologically important sites.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would enhance Powys' green infrastructure network.</p>
0	Neutral	<p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p>
-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would have negative effects on regional or local designated sites, habitats or species (e.g. short term loss of habitats, loss of species and temporary effects on the functioning of ecosystems).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to short-term disturbance of existing habitat but would not have long-term effects on local biodiversity.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have minor negative effects on protected geologically important sites.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would adversely affect Powys' green infrastructure network.</p>
--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would have negative effects on national designated sites, habitats and/or protected species (i.e. on the interest features and integrity of the site, by preventing any of the conservation objectives from being achieved or resulting in a long term decrease in the population of a priority species). These effects could not be reasonably mitigated.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in significant, long term negative effects on non-designated sites (e.g. through significant loss of habitat leading to a long term loss of ecosystem structure and function).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have significant negative effects on protected geologically important sites.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have a significant adverse effect on Powys' green infrastructure network.</p>
~	No Relationship	<p>There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.</p>
?	Uncertain	<p>The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.</p>



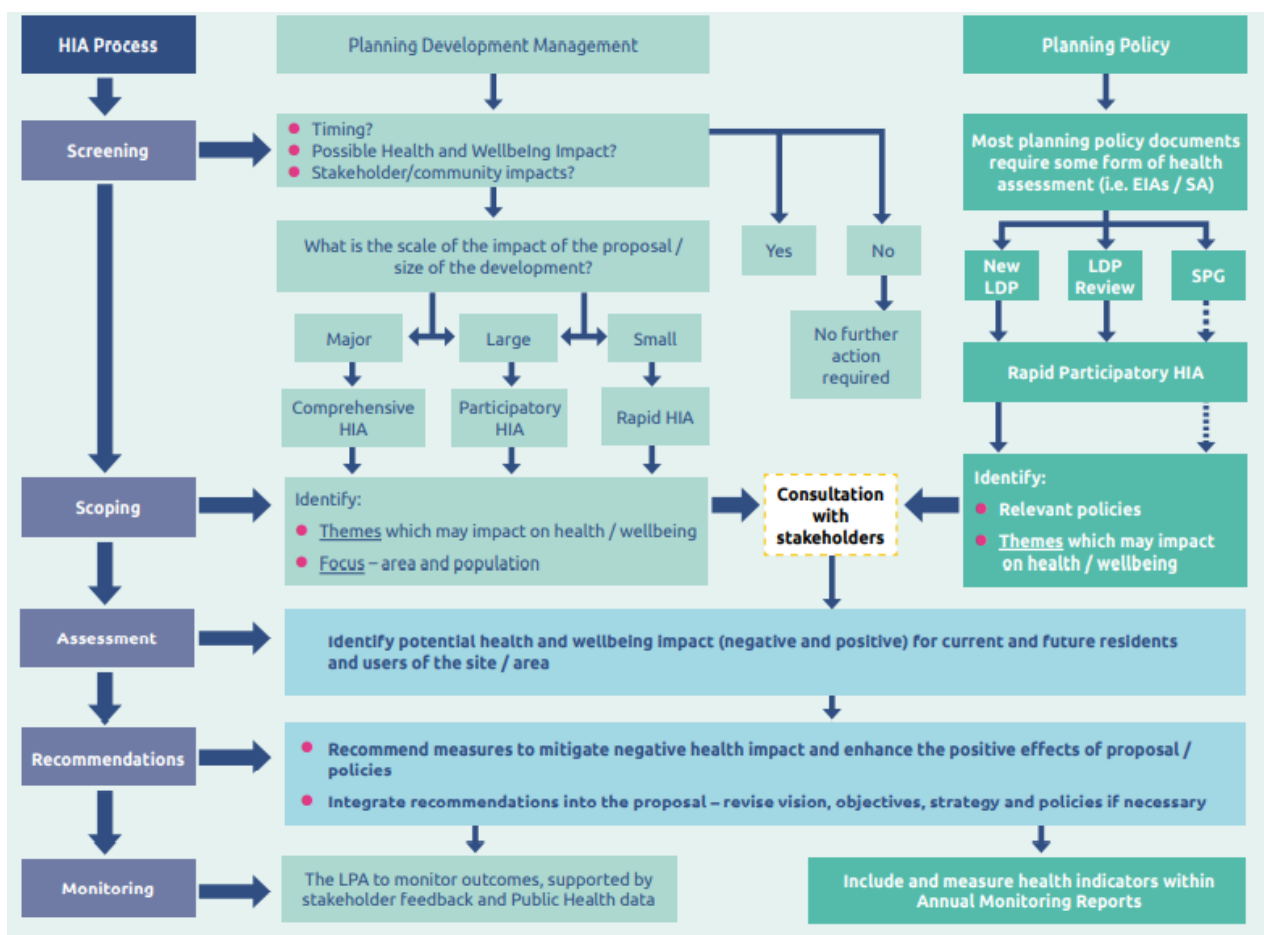
# Appendix D Background to Health Impact Assessment

## Background<sup>300</sup>

Spatial planning and health sectors are united in an aim to better integrate health and well-being into local land use planning policy but also to support and provide opportunities for spatial planning officers to engage and interact with core stakeholders and communities. This can help to strengthen plans and meet consultation and WFG Act requirements (Welsh Government, 2015).

HIA is one of the key approaches that can be utilised along with, or run complementary to, other forms of impact assessment such as SEA and SA and it can contribute to the evidence base at appropriate times within the LDP development process (see Figure below).

### HIA Process showing key steps in planning policy and Development Management



<sup>300</sup> WHIASU (2021) Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Local Development Plans (LDPs): A Toolkit for Practice at: <https://phw.nhs.wales/publications/publications1/health-impact-assessment-hia-and-local-development-plans-ldps-a-toolkit-for-practice/>

*It has been noted that HIA makes a 'valuable contribution towards plan making' (Welsh Government, 2020a). The spatial planning system is instructed to 'identify proactive and preventative measures to reduce health inequalities' (Welsh Government, 2020a).*

*Prior to the adoption of an LDP and during its preparation, conducting a HIA can ensure: the LDP maximises any potential positive impacts / opportunities of the plan on health and well-being; mitigate for any negative impact or unintended negative consequences; seek synergies in the process; and maximise the sustainable development principle.*

### **Health-Related Considerations in Spatial Plans: Priority areas of the built and natural environment that promote health and well-being and strategic level actions<sup>301</sup>**

*Inclusive infrastructure that prioritises walking and cycling, and improves road safety*

- Ensure Local Development Plans, Supplementary Planning Guidance and development plans (housing, retail, commercial and public sector) provide infrastructure that prioritises walking and cycling
- Implement the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 at national and local level
- Ensure transport plans and strategies include the development and delivery of active travel infrastructure and fully integrated transport systems

*Accessible and well-maintained green infrastructure, open green spaces and blue spaces*

- Ensure Local Development Plans, Supplementary Planning Guidance and development plans (housing, retail, commercial and public sector) provide green infrastructure and open green/blue spaces
- Ensure Open Space Strategies and Transport Plans provide and facilitate access to, green infrastructure
- Implement the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, including green infrastructure in design and route planning guidance

*Local food growing and retail environment that enhances access to healthy food choices*

- Ensure Local Development Plans, Supplementary Planning Guidance and development plans (housing, retail, commercial and public sector) include food growing spaces and improve choice within the food retail environment
- Ensure design of schools and workplaces provide food growing spaces
- Ensure Open Space strategies and policies, for example, establish and maintain community gardens and allotments in parks

*Community, health and social care services delivered from local facilities*

- Ensure Local Development Plans, Supplementary Planning Guidance and development plans provide facilities for the delivery of local services

<sup>301</sup> [Creating healthier places spaces.pdf \(wales.nhs.uk\)](#)

- Influence strategies and plans of health boards/trusts and local authorities to include the delivery of services from local shared infrastructure

*Low levels of air pollution*

- Support the development and implementation of clean air strategies
- Ensure Local Development Plans and Supplementary Planning Guidance provide and maintain infrastructure that supports active travel and low emission transport
- Implement the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013
- Ensure Open Space Strategies and Transport Plans provide and facilitate access to, green infrastructure
- Ensure Transport Plans develop and deliver fully integrated transport systems

*Building design promotes health and well-being*

- Ensure Local Development Plans and Supplementary Planning Guidance provide guidance on building design that promotes health and well-being
- Influence the design of homes, schools, workplaces, hospitals and health and social care facilities
- Ensure Housing Strategies provide affordable, energy efficient homes and maximise green infrastructure opportunities

These matters have been incorporated into the ISA Framework and the Definitions of Significance (**Appendix C**).





# Appendix E Equalities Impact Assessment Criteria

An EqIA is a legal requirement as established by The Equalities Act 2010<sup>302</sup>. The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on local planning authorities to engage with the local community and other interested parties when developing plan policies and consider representations made to it when determining a planning application. The Equality Act 2010 charges local authorities to consider how their policies, decisions, processes and operation can potentially impact disadvantaged and minority groups and should ensure that such impacts are minimised and removed. The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'due regard' to:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advancing equality of opportunity between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them
- Fostering good relations between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them

An EqIA is a process designed to ensure that a policy, project or scheme does not discriminate against any particular group on the basis of certain characteristics, which are defined as:

- Age
- Disability
- Ethnicity/Race
- Gender/Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Religion or beliefs and;
- Sexual orientation

## Affected groups:

1. People of different genders (*Men/women/identifying gender*)
2. People of different races or ethnic groups (*Black, White, Asian, Mixed / Dual Heritage, Gypsy/Traveller etc.*)

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<sup>302</sup> HM Government 2010 (2010, latest update 2022) 'The Equality Act 2010'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15>, accessed 19.07.2022.

3. People with a form of mental or physical disability (both visible and invisible): *e.g. hearing impairments, visual impairments, speech difficulties, learning difficulties, mobility difficulties, mental health problems, long-term ill health etc.*
4. People of different age groups *e.g. children, teenagers, young adults, middle-aged, or older people.*
5. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual or heterosexual people.
6. People from different religious or belief groups *e.g. Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Non-religious, or other beliefs, e.g. philosophical beliefs like humanists.*
7. People who have changed their gender or are in the process of doing so (i.e. transgender)
8. Pregnant women or people who have just had a baby (Maternity/paternity can be defined as 26 weeks after giving birth, and includes consideration about breastfeeding.) Only relevant to the requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination)
9. Other groups who could find it difficult to access or make use of the policy / function. *For example: low income / people living in rural areas / single parents / carers and the cared for / past offenders / long-term unemployed / housebound / history of domestic abuse / people who don't speak English as a first language / people without computer access etc.*

The Equalities Act is supported by other equality focused legislation as identified below:

- The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000<sup>303</sup> – Extended the provisions of the Race Relations Act 1976 to local authorities and the police and therefore requires local authorities consider their potential effects on minority groups due to their race and ensure they are not unfairly disadvantaged.
- Disability Discrimination Act 2005<sup>304</sup> - Requires local authorities to consider their potential effects on those with a disability and especially individuals that have long-term severe physical and/or mental disabilities.
- Equality Act, 2006 (Gender Equality)<sup>305</sup> – This Act affords protection to people's religion/beliefs, sexual orientation and gender/sex.

EqIA is an iterative process that will be reviewed at each stage of the SA process and updated accordingly, through the following stages:

Stage 1: Screening

Stage 2: Scoping

<sup>303</sup> HM Government (2000) 'Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/34>, accessed 19.07.2022.

<sup>304</sup> HM Government (2005) 'Disability Discrimination Act 2005'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/13>

<sup>305</sup> HM Government (2006) 'Equality Act 2006'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/3>

Stage 3: Consideration of Data and Information

Stage 4: Assessing Likely Effects

Stage 5: Reviewing the Likely Effects

### Step 1: Screening

Key Questions	Commentary
What are you looking to achieve in this activity?	
Who in the main will be affected?	
Does the activity have the potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	
Does the activity have potential to make a positive contribution to equalities?	

### Step 2: Scoping the Assessment

Key Questions	Commentary
What is the overall aim, or purpose, of the function/policy/service?	
What outcomes do you want to achieve with this function/policy/service and for whom?	
Who in the main will be affected?	
Who defines or defined the function/policy/service?	
Who implements the function/service/policy?	
What factors could contribute or detract from the outcomes identified earlier?	

### Step 3: Consideration of data and information

Key Questions	Commentary
What do you already know about who uses the function/service/policy?	
What consultation with service users has taken place on the function/ service/ policy and what were they key findings?	

What, if any, additional information is needed to assess the impact of the function/service/policy?

How do you propose to gather the additional information?

#### Step 4: Assessing the Likely Effects

Potential Inequality Area	Likely Effects
1. People of different genders ( <i>Men/women/ identifying gender</i> )	
2. People of different races or ethnic groups ( <i>Black, White, Asian, Mixed / Dual Heritage, Gypsy/Traveller etc.</i> )	
3. People with a form of mental or physical disability (both visible and invisible): <i>e.g. hearing impairments, visual impairments, speech difficulties, learning difficulties, mobility difficulties, mental health problems, long-term ill health etc.</i>	
4. People of different age groups <i>e.g. children, teenagers, young adults, middle-aged, or older people.</i>	
5. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual or heterosexual people.	
6. People from different religious or belief groups <i>e.g. Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Non-religious, or other beliefs, e.g. philosophical beliefs like humanists.</i>	
7. People who have changed their gender or are in the process of doing so (i.e. transgender)	
8. Pregnant women or people who have just had a baby (Maternity/paternity can be defined as 26 weeks after giving birth, and includes consideration about breastfeeding). Only relevant to the requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination)	
9. Are there any other groups who could find it difficult to access or make use of the policy / function? <i>For example: low income / people living in rural areas / single parents / carers and the cared for / past offenders / long-term unemployed / housebound / history of domestic abuse / people who don't speak English as a first language / people without computer access etc.</i>	
10. Could this policy discriminate on the grounds of marriage or civil partnership?	
11. Is there any potential negative impact which cannot be minimised or removed? If so, can it be justified? E.g. on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for another protected group.	

#### Step 5: Reviewing and scrutinising the impact

Key Question	Commentary
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What conclusions can you draw about any differential impact and how people are adversely or positively affected?

What actions can you take to address any impacts identified?

If no changes can be made, what reasons are there to justify this?

How might any of the changes, in relation to the adverse impact, have a further adverse effect on any other group?

Which decision-making process do these changes need to go through i.e. do they need to be approved by a Committee/Council?

How will you continue to monitor the impact of the function/service/policy on diverse groups?

When will you review this equality impact assessment?



# Appendix F Site Appraisal Criteria

## Introduction

The proposed Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) site appraisal framework set out below is part of the wider site assessment which includes a filtering process which will exclude those sites which fail to meet basic criteria such as flood risk, highways issues or clear conflict with biodiversity assets. The Development Plans Manual (Edition 3) March 2020 suggests that the process as a whole should enable the following questions to be answered:

- Is the site in a sustainable location in accordance with the site search sequence set out in Planning Policy Wales 11 (PPW)?
- Is the site generally free from physical constraints, such as land ownership, infrastructure, access, ground conditions, biodiversity, landscape, heritage, flood risk issues and pollution?
- Is the site capable of being delivered (can the site be developed during the plan period, or otherwise significantly progressed)?
- Is the development of the site financially viable? Namely is the site attractive to the market (both private and/or public sector), is the site capable of delivering the broad levels of affordable housing, other policy / Section 106 requirements and infrastructure costs set out by the LPA whilst providing sufficient return to the developer/landowner?

Sites which meet the initial sieving criteria would be subject to assessment against the ISA site appraisal framework. The information collected through the candidate site assessment process, along with other sources of evidence, will directly inform the ISA of those sites. Sites which appear to perform poorly against the ISA framework are likely to be excluded from further consideration.

GIS tools will be used to undertake the appraisal of site options depending on the feature and measurements required, through: The straight line distance from a feature to a site option and percentage overlap of any features within a site option, using measurements taken from the closest boundary of the site option and the feature.

Table F0 sets out the proposed scoring system to be used in conjunction with the Objective-specific appraisal criteria set out in Table F1 – F15 below.



**Table F0 ISA Site Assessment Scoring System**

Symbol	Score	Description	Action
<b>++</b>	Significant positive effect	The proposal contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	N/A
<b>+</b>	Minor positive effect	The proposal contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	Consider any further enhancement measures.
<b>0</b>	Neutral/no effect	The proposal does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.	Consider whether intervention could bring positive effects.
<b>-</b>	Minor negative effect	The proposal detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	Consider appropriate mitigation measures and opportunities for enhancement.
<b>--</b>	Significant negative effect	The proposal detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	Assess the feasibility (practicality and cost) of mitigation measures to reduce the severity of the effects.  Where adequate mitigation is not feasible, reconsider the proposal.
<b>?</b>	Uncertain effect	The proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective, or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an appraisal to be made.	Make suggestions for implementation.  Additional information required.

## Proposed ISA Site Appraisal Framework

### ISA Objective 1 – To provide good quality homes and community infrastructure to meet identified needs

#### Site Appraisal Questions

- Does the site have capacity to deliver at least 5 dwellings?
- Is the proposed location physically connected to an existing settlement which is capable of being serviced by any necessary infrastructure (e.g. by upgrading)?
- Does the site/proposed development have the potential to deliver community facilities?

**Table F1 ISA Objective 1 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	The site has capacity (over 50 dwellings), subject to the settlement hierarchy) to deliver new homes, is physically well connected to an existing settlement and could deliver/support existing community facilities (according to settlement hierarchy and indicative accessibility criteria at footnote*)
+	The site has capacity (5-49 dwellings), subject to the settlement hierarchy) to deliver new homes and is well connected to an existing settlement (according to settlement hierarchy and indicative accessibility criteria at footnote*)
0	The site could deliver new homes with no other merits/the site is proposed for employment use
-	The site could deliver new homes and services; however, the site is not physically well connected to an existing settlement (according to settlement hierarchy and indicative accessibility criteria at footnote*)
--	The site is not well connected to an existing settlement, could not be serviced and would not provide community facilities (according to settlement hierarchy and indicative accessibility criteria at footnote*)
?	Uncertain effect

\*See page F16 for footnote.

## ISA Objective 2 - To create and support a strong, diverse and resilient economy and workforce

### Site Appraisal Questions

- Will the development proposals provide employment facilities and/or support the needs of businesses to expand, re-locate, diversify etc.
- Do the proposals provide employment opportunities and/or the potential for upskilling the local workforce?

**Table F2 ISA Objective 2 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	The site will provide a range of employment opportunities and training that will benefit the locality and will complement existing provision
+	The site will provide a range of employment opportunities
0	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
-	Development on the site will result in the loss of designated employment land
--	Development on the site will result in the loss of designated employment land and businesses in the locality
?	Uncertain effect

### ISA Objective 3 – To reduce poverty and inequality; tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion

#### Site Appraisal Questions

- Will development of this site offer particular scope to build a more sustainable community? (e.g. can improvements to the physical or social infrastructure be secured/)
- Does the site proposal have the support of the Town and Community Council?

**Table F3 ISA Objective 3 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
<b>++</b>	Development is likely to lead to a significant enhancement in the provision of and/or access to employment / education /service provision e.g. through new community facilities
<b>+</b>	Development holds potential for the enhancement of the provision of and/or access to employment / education /service provision e.g. through new community facilities
<b>0</b>	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
<b>-</b>	No opportunities for enhancement of the provision of and/or access to employment / education /service provision
<b>--</b>	Development would result in the loss of community facilities
<b>?</b>	Uncertain effect

## ISA Objective 4 – To protect, promote and enhance Welsh language and Culture

### Site Appraisal Questions

- Is the proposal located within an area of higher density linguistic significance or an area of lower density linguistic significance?
- Does the location and/or scale and/or phasing of the proposal have the potential to have a detrimental impact on the use of the Welsh Language?
- Does the proposal meet a range of housing types and tenures to meet local needs, particularly the provision of affordable housing and specialist housing?
- Does the proposal create and support a strong, diverse and resilient economy and workforce?
- Will the proposal increase or reduce the opportunity for persons to use the Welsh language in a social setting or workplace on a daily basis?
- What opportunities does the proposal provide to develop Welsh language skills and promote use of the Welsh language within the community?
- Does the proposal provide a new, bilingual community facility or service, or enhance access to existing community facilities or services in both Welsh and English?
- In areas of lower density linguistic significance, will the proposal increase or reduce the opportunity for persons to use the Welsh language?

**Table F4 ISA Objective 4 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	Development of the site incorporates appropriate measures to protect, promote and enhance the use of the Welsh language, and makes provision for a new, bilingual community facility or service or enhances access to existing community facilities or services in both Welsh and English.
+	Development of the site incorporates appropriate measures to protect, promote and enhance the use of the Welsh language.
0	The site is not within an area of higher density linguistic significance. In areas of lower density linguistic significance, the proposal will not have adverse effects or decreased adverse effects, on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language.
-	The site has capacity for 5 or more dwellings and less than 10 dwellings, or for other types of development, the building would have a floorspace of up to 1,000 sqm or would involve a site with an area of up to 1 hectare and is within an area of higher density linguistic significance without providing mitigation and enhancement measures.
--	The site has capacity for 10 or more dwellings, or for other types of development, the building would have a floorspace of 1,000 sqm or above or would involve a site with an area of 1 hectare or more and is within an area of higher density linguistic significance without providing mitigation and enhancement measures.
?	Uncertain effect

## ISA Objective 5 – To Improve the health and well-being of all sectors of society

### Site Appraisal Questions

- Is the site located so as to encourage health and wellbeing including access to healthcare, physical activity, active travel, accessible natural green space and community interaction and engagement?
- Could the site contribute to the provision of facilities and spaces, which promote health and well-being?

**Table F5 ISA Objective 5 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	Development of the site will result in an upgrading and/or provision of healthcare facilities, sports facilities, active travel route, and accessible natural or semi-natural greenspace.
+	The site is within 1,000 metres of a healthcare facility and sports facility (see indicative accessibility criteria in footnote) and is within 720 metres of an accessible natural or semi-natural greenspace (according to Fields in Trust Standards). or the site is within walking distance (800 metres) of public transport or an active travel route which links to these facilities or spaces.
0	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective.
-	Not used
--	No access is available to health care facilities, sports facilities and accessible natural or semi-natural greenspace by public transport or active travel.
?	Uncertain effect

## ISA Objective 6 – To make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land

### Site Appraisal Question

- Will development of this site avoid the loss of the Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land?
- Will the site use previously developed land where suitable for development where this will have no adverse impacts on Open Mosaic Habitats?

**Table F6 ISA Objective 6 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	The site is entirely previously developed land
+	The site is partially previously developed land and contains low grade agricultural land (Grade 3b, 4, and 5)
0	The site is partially greenfield land (> 50%) and contains low grade agricultural land (Grade 3b, 4, and 5)
-	The site is partially greenfield land (> 50%) and is high grade agricultural land (Grade 1, 2 and or 3a)
--	The site is wholly greenfield land and contains high grade agricultural land (Grade 1, 2 and 3a)
?	Uncertain effect

## ISA Objective 7 - To conserve, protect and enhance water quality and water resources

### Site Appraisal Question

- Is it expected that the site can be developed without an adverse impact on water quality or water resources?

**Table F7 ISA Objective 7 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	Not used
+	The proposal could contribute to the protection and enhancement of water quality and water resources e.g. through the incorporation of off-site measures
0	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
-	The proposal could have an adverse effect on water quality e.g. through the potential for discharges, or use of water resources.
--	Not used
?	Uncertain effect



## ISA Objective 8 - To minimise or reduce the sources and effects of air pollution

### Site Appraisal Question

- Will development proposals encourage journeys to be made by sustainable means (active travel and/or public transport) in line with the national travel hierarchy?
- Will development proposals have an unacceptable risk of harm from air pollution to human health or the natural environment?

**Table F8 ISA Objective 8 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	Not used
+	The development of the site would provide opportunities for the promotion of sustainable travel and realising the national travel hierarchy. The development proposal will not result in any increase in air pollution levels.
0	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
-	Development of the site will not contribute towards realisation of the national travel hierarchy.
--	The development proposal will have an unacceptable risk of harm to human health or the natural environment.
?	Uncertain effect

**ISA Objective 9 - To minimise waste generation, encourage re-use and recycling and promote efficient use of mineral resources**

**Site Appraisal Question**

It has not been possible to identify specific site level criteria for this ISA Objective.

**Table F9 ISA Objective 9 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	Not used
+	Not used
0	Considered to be neutral across projects as all projects could contribute to this objective to some degree through design and waste management.
-	Not used
--	Not used
?	Not used

## ISA Objective 10 - To support the resilience of Powys to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding and other extreme events

### Site Appraisal Question

- Is the site free from flood risk or has it been proven that any flood risk can be acceptably managed?
- Will development of the site improve and extend green infrastructure networks to support climate change adaptation?

**Table F10 ISA Objective 10 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	Not used
+	The site is not in an area identified as being of risk from river or coastal flooding in Flood Map for Planning The site would improve and extend green infrastructure networks to support climate change adaptation
0	Not used
-	The site is for highly vulnerable development within a Defended Area and/or Zone 2, is on previously developed land and is supported by a Flood Consequences Assessment that indicates that the potential consequences of a flooding event for the development proposed is found to be acceptable in accordance with the criteria contained in section 11 of TAN 15 (2021).
--	The site is proposed for highly vulnerable development within Zone 3, or is in a Defended Area or Zone 2, on previously developed land but not supported by a Flood Consequences Assessment that demonstrates accordance with the criteria contained in section 11 of TAN 15 (2021).
?	Uncertain effect

## ISA Objective 11 - To reduce the contribution to climate change from greenhouse gas emissions

### Site Appraisal Question

- Does the site provide scope for energy reduction/ renewable energy?

**Table F11 ISA Objective 11 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	Development of the site would significantly contribute to renewable energy production and/or promote wider sustainability measures, e.g. by exporting generated energy to the grid.
+	Development of the site would contribute to renewable energy production and/or wider sustainability measures
0	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
-	Not used
--	Not used
?	Uncertain effect

## ISA Objective 12 – To promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel

### Site Appraisal Question

- Does the location of the site encourage a shift to using more sustainable forms of travel (e.g. is it central and accessible to local services and/or the public transport network without physical barriers to safe access on foot or cycle)?

**Table F12 ISA Objective 12 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
<b>++</b>	The site meets one of the following criteria: access to public transport, community facilities with safe pedestrian access (according to settlement hierarchy and indicative accessibility criteria at footnote)
<b>+</b>	The site is within walking distance of public transport, community facilities with safe pedestrian access (according to settlement hierarchy and indicative accessibility criteria at footnote)
<b>0</b>	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
<b>-</b>	The site is not within walking distance of public transport, community facilities and without safe pedestrian access (according to settlement hierarchy and indicative accessibility criteria at footnote)
<b>--</b>	The site is >800m from public transport, community facilities and an active travel route (according to settlement hierarchy and indicative accessibility criteria at footnote)
<b>?</b>	Uncertain effect

## ISA Objective 13 – To preserve and enhance Powys’ heritage resource, including built and archaeological assets

### Site Appraisal Question

- Is the development likely to impact positively on culture, local distinctiveness and sense of place, including the protection of historic assets and their setting?

**Table F13 ISA Objective 13 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
<b>++</b>	Development of the site will result in the protection and enhancement of historic assets, e.g. by providing a beneficial use for an existing asset.
<b>+</b>	Development of the site has the potential to enhance an historic asset e.g. through its setting (within 250m)
<b>0</b>	Development of the site will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
<b>-</b>	The site includes or is within the setting (within 250m) of a historic asset of local / regional importance (including Conservation Areas and undesignated assets) and is likely to affect the significance of the asset
<b>--</b>	The site includes a historic asset of national importance (Grade I, II* and II listed buildings, grade I, II* and II registered parks and gardens or scheduled monuments) and is likely to affect the significance of the asset
<b>?</b>	Effects on the setting of historic assets are uncertain

## ISA Objective 14 – To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network

### Site Appraisal Questions

- Is the site free from environmental constraints / sensitivity such as the inclusion of, or proximity to, fragile habitats and species?
- Are there particular opportunities for biodiversity or ecological gain or geodiversity enhancement on this site (e.g. potential to create green areas, habitat corridors etc, or scope to improve water, air, or soil quality?)

**Table F14 ISA Objective 14 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
<b>++</b>	Not used
<b>+</b>	The site is free from biodiversity / geodiversity constraints and will contribute to biodiversity / geodiversity enhancement on site and in the vicinity
<b>0</b>	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
<b>-</b>	The site has the potential to adversely affect locally or regionally designated sites (RIGS, LNRs and SINC)s and/or priority habitats/species.
<b>--</b>	The site is adjacent to/likely to adversely affect an internationally protected site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar) or nationally protected site (NNR, SSSI, Ancient Woodland) designated site or protected species.
<b>?</b>	Uncertain effect

## ISA Objective 15 – To protect the quality and diversity of designated and local landscapes and townscapes

### Site Appraisal Question

- Is the development of the site likely to affect the purposes or setting of designated landscapes i.e. National Parks and National Landscapes?
- Can the development proposals be sympathetically incorporated into the landscape and local environment without harm to the character and appearance of the area? (particularly when considering a site for development on greenfield land and/or at the edge of a settlement where development will extend into the open countryside).

**Table F15 ISA Objective 15 Site Appraisal Criteria**

Score	Criteria
++	Development of the site protects and has the potential to enhance local landscape / settlement character as determined through LANDMAP and the Powys Local Landscape Character Assessment.
+	Development of the site protects landscape / settlement character as determined through LANDMAP and the Powys Local Landscape Character Assessment.  Development of the site is unlikely to affect the purpose and setting of designated landscapes.
0	The proposal will neither contribute to, nor detract from, the objective
-	Development of the site would compromise local landscape / settlement character as determined through LANDMAP and the Powys Local Landscape Character Assessment.
--	<b>The</b> site is located within 2,000m for residential, or 10,000m for industrial or energy generation and distribution) of the boundary of a National Park or National Landscape and development of the site is likely to affect the purpose or setting of these designated landscapes.
?	Uncertain effect



**Footnote: Indicative Accessibility Criteria**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Reasonable Accessibility Standards (Maximum)</b>
Primary School	600 metres
Secondary School	2000 metres
Health Services	1000 metres
Public Transport	800 metres
Sports Pitches / Playing Fields / Leisure Centres	1000 metres
Retail - shops providing basic goods to meet day-to-day needs (town, local and neighbourhood centres)	1000 metres - 2000 metres
Employment - Distance to existing local employment sites /allocations	Up to 5000 metres

Adapted from Sustainable Settlements: A Guide for Planners, Designers and Developers (Barton, Davis and Guise, 1995) and Shaping Neighbourhoods - for local health and global sustainability (2010)

