

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

25th April 2018

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – COMMUNITIES

BRIDGEND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) REVISION - BRIDGEND REPLACEMENT LDP DRAFT DELIVERY AGREEMENT

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek Council's approval to undertake targeted consultation on the Bridgend Replacement LDP draft Delivery Agreement (attached at Appendix 1). The draft document sets out how and when the local community and other stakeholders can contribute to the preparation of the Replacement Plan and a timetable for its preparation. It is proposed that the Replacement LDP will cover a plan period up to 2033.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) is a high level strategy which must be prepared by the Council. The LDP sets out in land-use terms the priorities and objectives of the Corporate Plan. The future Replacement LDP will be required to express in land-use terms the wellbeing objectives and priorities of the Bridgend Public Services Board's Well-being Plan.

3. Introduction and Background

- 3.1 Members will recall that a report was presented to Council on the 28th February 2018 outlining the letter and request from the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs for Local Planning Authority's (LPA's) to give positive consideration to producing joint LDPs until such time no individual LPA was allowed to progress with their own plan. Council resolved to advise the Cabinet Secretary that given the urgent need for Bridgend to review its Plan that it be allowed to do so unilaterally.
- 3.2 The Cabinet Secretary has now responded, and has allowed Bridgend to proceed with its review, subject to receiving receipt of a Delivery Agreement associated with the Replacement Plan within 3 months of receipt of her letter. The Delivery Agreement also needs to demonstrate that plan preparation can be achieved within 3½ years from the formal commencement of the processes, with a single additional slippage of 3 months.
- 3.3 The preparation of the Delivery Agreement and the overall timetable for the preparation of the replacement LDP is therefore set within this overall time framework.

4. Current Situation

4.1 The draft Delivery Agreement consists of 2 parts:-

- A timetable for preparation of the Replacement LDP, and
- A Community Involvement Scheme.

4.2 The timetable sets out the key dates including statutory consultation periods, for each of the different stages of Plan preparation and publication. It also includes key stages for the Sustainability Appraisal, which is an iterative process undertaken as an integral part of the Plan preparation process.

KEY STAGE		TIMESCALE	
DEFINITIVE		FROM	TO
STAGE 1	Update Evidence Base & SA/SEA Baseline Framework & Assessments	April 2018	July 2020
STAGE 2	Delivery Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission to Welsh Government – June 2018 • Response to LPA to be received within 4 weeks 	April 2018	July 2018
STAGE 3	Pre-Deposit Participation & Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 week statutory consultation 	August 2018	June 2020
STAGE 4	Deposit LDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 week statutory consultation 	July 2020	December 2020
INDICATIVE		From	To
STAGE 5	Submission	Winter 2021 (January)	-
STAGE 6	Examination	Spring 2021 (March)	Spring 2021 (April)
STAGE 7	Inspectors Report & Adoption	Summer 2021 (June)	Autumn 2021 (July)
STAGE 8	Adoption	Summer / Autumn 2021 (August / September 2021)	

4.3 The timetable of Plan preparation has Definitive and Indicative stages. Definitive stages are up to the Deposit of the Plan and is under the control of the Council. The Council has less control over the progress of the Plan after the statutory Deposit stage, as subsequent stages associated with Examination, Receipt of the Inspector's Report and Adoption is more dependent on external factors from Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). As such these stages are indicative only.

- 4.4 The Community Involvement Scheme outlines the LPA's principles of community engagement, its approach in relation to who, how and when it intends to engage with the community and stakeholders; how it will respond to representations and how these representations will inform later stages of plan preparation.
- 4.5 The draft Delivery Agreement also sets out the resources that will be required to prepare the Replacement LDP together with a Risk Assessment identifying areas of uncertainty that may impact on the timetable for Plan preparation and mitigation measures required to keep the Plan on track.
- 4.6 Following consultation on the draft Delivery Agreement it is proposed to report the final Delivery Agreement back to Council for Approval. The consultation on the draft Delivery Agreement will take place alongside consultation on the draft Review Report (see separate item) and it is proposed to submit both documents to Welsh Government before the end of June.
- 4.7 The draft Delivery Agreement must be approved by Welsh Government and they have 1 month to consider and agree its contents or notify the LPA that it requires more time to consider the document.
- 4.8 Subsequent to its agreement by Welsh Government the Delivery Agreement will be published, with the Replacement LDP prepared in accordance with its contents.

5. Effect Upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and regulations of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales Regulations 2005) requires that a Local Planning Authority must commence a full Review of its LDP every 4 years.
- 5.2 The LDP Manual (2005) states that for the preparation of an LDP Revision, a revised Delivery Agreement is necessary, with the LPA undertaking engagement and/or consultation as it considers appropriate.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no direct implications associated with this report. However the policies contained within any Replacement LDP will require an equalities impact assessment to be carried out.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The cost of the LDP Review will be met from the Development Planning budget and carried out by development planning staff with expert advice and evidence procured from consultants and through collaboration with neighbouring authorities as required. The resources required to prepare the replacement LDP are set out in detail in the draft Delivery Agreement attached at Appendix 1.

8. Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

8.1 The Replacement LDP will be prepared in accordance with the 7 Wellbeing goals and the 5 ways of working as identified in the Act.

9. Recommendations

9.1 That Council approve the draft Delivery Agreement for the purposes of targeted consultation.

9.2 That Council authorises the Group Manager Development, Communities Directorate to undertake consultation on the draft Delivery Agreement.

9.3 That Council give delegated authority to the Group Manager Development, Communities Directorate to make any factual corrections or minor amendments to the draft Delivery Agreement as considered necessary.

Mark Shephard
Corporate Director - Communities
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Contact Officer: Susan Jones
Development Planning Manager

Richard Matthams
Development Planning Team Leader

Telephone: (01656) 643162

E-mail: richard.matthams@bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address Development Planning
Communities Directorate
Civic Offices, Angel Street
BRIDGEND CF31 4WB

Background documents: NA