

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

30 August 2018

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

BRIDGEND REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP)

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL (SA) SCOPING REPORT & INITIAL HABITAT REGULATIONS APPRAISAL (HRA) SCREENING REPORT

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Development Control Committee of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report (attached at Appendix 1) and Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) Screening Report (attached at Appendix 2). The reports were subject to 5 weeks stakeholder consultation period commencing 23 July 2018 and ending 27 August 2018.

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 and all 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 The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Replacement Bridgend LDP outlines the proposed approach to the LDP's Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
- 3.2 This report is the first stage of a SA process to identify, assess and address any likely significant effects on the environment from the emerging replacement Bridgend LDP.
- 3.3 The draft SA Scoping Report sought the views of the SEA Consultation Authorities (however, **'Specific Consultation Bodies', Town and Community Councils, neighbouring LPAs and Home Builders Federation were also consulted**) on the proposed methodology and assessment framework for a legally compliant SA of the replacement Bridgend LDP.
- 3.4 The report also sought the views of the SEA Consultation Authorities on a draft SEA screening determination to satisfy procedural requirements and to confirm that a SEA need to be incorporated within the SA.

4. Current Situation

- 4.1 Peter Brett Associates LLP (PBA) has been commissioned (in conformity with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules) by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) to undertake the Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) up to the LDP Pre-Deposit Consultation Stage. The cost of this critical evidence base work is £45,993 (excluding VAT).
- 4.2 The Sustainability Appraisal (SA/SEA) Scoping Report and Initial Habitat Regulations Appraisal (HRA) Screening Report is the first stage of the Sustainability Appraisal process and will identify, assess and address any likely significant effects (LSE) on the environment from the emerging Bridgend LDP Review.

LDP Preparation and Review

- 4.2.1 The publication of the Bridgend LDP Review Report (2018) has triggered a process through which a replacement LDP will be prepared and then adopted for the County Borough of Bridgend. Statutory requirements relating to the preparation of LDPs are therefore now applicable to the LDP Review, including in respect of SA and SEA. In accordance with the 2005 LDP Regulations, the proposed approach, timescales and consultation arrangements for the LDP Review are set out within the finalised Bridgend LDP Review Delivery Agreement.

Sustainability Appraisal

- 4.3 Under Section 62(6) of the 2004 Act, emerging LDPs need to be subject to Sustainability Appraisal. This is statutorily required to guide the selection and development of policies and proposals for inclusion in LDPs in terms of their potential social, environmental and economic effects. The SA presently required for the LDP Review will need to build upon the SA, incorporating SEA, prepared for the first Bridgend LDP (adopted September 2013). As the 'Full Review' procedure is being used, the LDP Review will effectively mirror the original LDP preparation process and will result in the preparation and adoption of a Replacement LDP (rather than the existing LDP only being subject to individual changes).

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 4.4 The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004 as amended ('the SEA Regulations') require Responsible Authorities, including local authorities such as Bridgend County Borough Council, to assess the likely significant environmental effects of implementing relevant plans and programmes, as defined within the regulations. The SEA Regulations also require Responsible Authorities to examine the likely significant effects of reasonable alternatives to the plan or programme under consideration. Where required, the assessment is to be prepared following a staged reporting process known as SEA.

Stages of SA and SEA

4.5 SA and SEA share a common focus on assessing environmental and wider sustainability performance and can therefore be undertaken and reported together. As directed by the SEA Regulations, SA and SEA comprise the following stages:

- **Screening:** Whereas Regulation 5(3) has the effect that a SEA will always be required in relation to the preparation of an LDP, Regulations 5(6) and 9(1) require “minor modifications” to an existing plan or programme to first be screened to determine whether the modifications are likely to have significant effects on the environment and therefore whether a full SEA needs to be undertaken. The Welsh LDP Manual 2nd Edition (2015) makes clear that SEA screening is required for all LDP Reviews as in legal terms the existing LDP is simply being reviewed and this could result in “minor modifications”, although the SEA Regulations do not define the scope of this term. The SA Scoping Report sets out a draft SEA Screening Determination for the consideration of the SEA Consultation Bodies (Section 3).
- **Scoping:** Responsible Authorities must provide the SEA Consultation Bodies with sufficient information to enable them to consider the proposed scope, level of detail and consultation period for an ‘Environmental Report’ (ER) to accompany the emerging plan or programme. Where SEA is incorporated within a wider SA the term ER is interchangeable with SA Report as the latter necessarily includes all of the information that would be required within a standalone ER. This SA Scoping Report responds to this statutory requirement, with the proposed SA Framework, SA methodology and SA consultation arrangements detailed in Sections 5 and 6;
- **Preparation and Consultation:** As noted above, Section 62(6) of the 2004 Act requires Responsible Authorities preparing LDPs in Wales to *to carry out a sustainability appraisal of the proposals* within it and to *prepare a report of the findings of the appraisal*. Given that the LDP Review will be an iterative process and in legal terms is a review of the existing LDP, a SA Report will need to accompany each substantive element of the replacement LDP as it emerges, in particular the preparation of LDP Pre-Deposit and subsequently LDP Deposit Documents. Each SA Report must be consulted on in tandem with the emerging replacement LDP, with the SA Report for the final LDP Deposit Document then submitted to the Welsh Assembly to support an independent examination of the Replacement LDP. Similarly, Regulation 12 of the SEA Regulations requires Responsible Authorities to prepare and consult on an ER to *identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing* each iteration of a relevant and qualifying plan, as well as the effects of its reasonable alternatives. As above, the scope, level of detail and consultation period of the SA, fully incorporating all SEA requirements, should first be defined through screening and scoping;

- **Preparation of a Post Adoption Statement:** By the end of the LDP Review process, a Replacement LDP will have been adopted for the BCBC area, this is required by the end of 2021 to avoid a planning policy vacuum. Once a Replacement LDP is adopted, Bridgend County Borough Council must prepare a statement setting out, amongst other matters, how the SEA's environmental considerations have been taken into account in the adopted LDP and how the likely significant effects of the LDP on the environment (as predicted through the SA/SEA) will be monitored. Whilst there is no statutory requirement to prepare a SA (as opposed to SEA) Post Adoption Statement, in practice, the incorporation of SEA within SA means this is necessary to ensure that all of the SEA findings and consultation responses from previous stages of the process are addressed;

4.6 The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report is structured as follows:

- **Section 2 – LDP Review Context and Proposed Content** describes the context in which the LDP Review is being undertaken and outlines the proposed form of the Replacement LDP that will result, all of which requires to be assessed through this SA;
- **Section 3 – Need for SEA** provides a draft determination to explain why BCBC considers it necessary to undertake a SEA as part of the SA for the LDP Review. The section also provides relevant information to enable the SEA Consultation Authorities to advise on whether, at this stage, the Replacement LDP is likely to generate significant effects;
- **Section 4 – Environmental Information and Key Sustainability Issues** summarises relevant baseline characteristics, considers the evolution of the baseline in the absence of the LDP Review and notes the relationship between the Bridgend LDP and other relevant plans and programmes;
- **Section 5 – Proposed SA Framework** describes the assessment framework which will be used to identify and assess the likely effects from the LDP Review, in particular the preparation of a Replacement LDP, as it evolves. This section identifies the likely components of the Replacement LDP and sets out a proposed SA Framework to assess these as they emerge, including proposed SA Objectives and guide questions;
- **Section 6 – Proposed SA Methodology and Consultation Arrangements** builds upon Section 5 by detailing the proposed method of assessing the likely sustainability and environmental effects of each emerging substantive component of a Replacement LDP. The section also outlines the proposed consultation arrangements for the SA reports which will be published in tandem with each substantive proposal for the emerging Replacement LDP, namely the LDP Pre-Deposit and LDP Deposit Documents; and,

- **Section 7 – Next Steps** outlines next steps to be followed in the SA process and confirms how comments in respect of this SA Scoping Report should be submitted.

4.7 Section 4 of the Scoping Report are supported by two appendices:

- **Appendix A – Baseline Analysis** supports **Section 4** by providing a review of relevant environmental and socio-economic baseline characteristics. This describes aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the LDP Review and identifies relevant environmental issues, problems and environmental protection objectives which should be taken account of in the LDP Review and this SA process; and,
- **Appendix B – Review of Plans, Programmes and Strategies** supports **Section 4** by providing a review of all other plans and programmes of relevance to the LDP Review. This review identifies the relationship between these other documents, the existing Bridgend LDP and the LDP Review to identify key policy issues which should be considered in both the LDP Review itself and this SA process.

4.8 The SEA Regulations also introduce a link between SEA and a need, in some cases, for a separate Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) of plans and projects where there is the potential for significant effects on European Sites (Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation). A HRA was undertaken by Baker Associates (now PBA) on behalf of BCBC for the first Bridgend LDP and an HRA is also being carried out in respect of the LDP Review. As with the SA and SEA, the HRA will build upon previous findings. Further details regarding the HRA are provided in the Initial HRA Screening Report that was submitted to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) in tandem with this SA Scoping Report.

4.9 Targeted Stakeholder Consultation

4.10 The draft Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report (attached at Appendix 1) and Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) Screening Report (attached at Appendix 2) were subject to 5 weeks targeted stakeholder consultation commencing 23 July 2018 and ending 27 August 2018.

4.11 In accordance with the SEA Regulations, the draft SA Scoping Report sought the views of the SEA Consultation Authorities (however, **'Specific Consultation Bodies', neighbouring LPAs, the Home Builders Federation and Town and Community Councils were also consulted**) on the proposed methodology and assessment framework for a legally compliant SA of the replacement Bridgend LDP.

4.12 The report also sought the views of the SEA Consultation Authorities on a draft SEA screening determination to satisfy procedural requirements and to confirm that a SEA need to be incorporated within the SA.

4.13 A summary of the comments received during the consultation will be reported to Development Control Committee along with any recommended changes to the final Report.

5. Effect Upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

Under Section 62(6) of the 2004 Act, emerging LDPs need to be subject to Sustainability Appraisal. This is statutorily required to guide the selection and development of policies and proposals for inclusion in LDPs in terms of their potential social, environmental and economic effects.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 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 Replacement LDP 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.

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 Development Control Committee:

- a) endorse the contents of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and the Initial Habitat Regulations Appraisal Screening Report.
- b) give delegated authority to the Group Manager Development, Communities Directorate to make any factual corrections or minor amendments to the reports as considered necessary.

Mark Shephard

Corporate Director Communities

30 August 2018

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Background documents

NA

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Bridgend LDP Review

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

On behalf of **Bridgend County Borough Council**



Project Ref: 42796/002 | Rev: B | Date: July 2018



Document Control Sheet

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Revision	Date	Description	Prepared	Reviewed	Approved
B	02.07.2018	Minor amendments in response to client comments	DS	NS	NS

This report has been prepared by Peter Brett Associates LLP ('PBA') on behalf of its client to whom this report is addressed ('Client') in connection with the project described in this report and takes into account the Client's particular instructions and requirements. This report was prepared in accordance with the professional services appointment under which PBA was appointed by its Client. This report is not intended for and should not be relied on by any third party (i.e. parties other than the Client). PBA accepts no duty or responsibility (including in negligence) to any party other than the Client and disclaims all liability of any nature whatsoever to any such party in respect of this report.

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Purpose	1
1.3	Overview of the Bridgend LDP Review	1
1.4	Statutory Requirements.....	3
2	Bridgend LDP Review Context	6
2.1	Introduction.....	6
2.2	Bridgend LDP Review Key Facts	6
2.3	Proposed Form and Content of the Replacement Bridgend LDP	6
3	SEA and Other Impact Assessment Requirements.....	8
3.1	Introduction.....	8
3.2	The Need for SEA Screening.....	8
3.3	Draft SEA Screening Determination.....	8
3.4	Relationship with other Impact Assessments.....	10
4	Environmental Information	11
4.1	Introduction.....	11
4.2	Key Sustainability Issues.....	11
4.3	Relationship between the LDP Review and Other Relevant Plans and Programmes	15
5	Proposed Bridgend LDP Review SA Framework.....	17
5.1	Introduction.....	17
5.2	Review of the Existing Bridgend LDP SA Framework.....	17
5.3	Proposed SA Objectives for the LDP Review	23
5.4	Proposed SA Framework for the LDP Review	29
6	Proposed SA Methodology and Consultation Arrangements	38
6.1	Introduction.....	38
6.2	Proposed SA Reporting.....	38
6.3	Proposed SA Methodology.....	38
6.4	SA of Proposed Site Allocations.....	44
6.5	Assessment of Cumulative Effects and Reasonable Alternatives	44
6.6	Presentation of SA Key Findings.....	45
6.7	Proposed SA Consultation Arrangements	45
7	Next Steps.....	47
7.1	Overview.....	47
7.2	Request for Comments from the SEA Consultation Authorities.....	47

Figures

Figure 1.1: The Bridgend County Borough Council Area.....	2
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Tables

Table 2.1: Bridgend LDP Review Key Facts	6
Table 4.1: Key Sustainability Issues relating to the Bridgend LDP Review	12
Table 5.1: Review of the Existing Bridgend LDP SA Framework.....	18
Table 5.2: Proposed SA Objectives for the LDP Review	24
Table 5.3: Relationship between the proposed SA Objectives and the SEA Regulations.....	27
Table 5.4: Proposed SA Framework for the LDP Review	30
Table 6.1: Proposed Compatibility Matrix to Assess Replacement LDP Vision and Objectives.....	40
Table 6.2: Proposed Scoring System to Establish LSE from Proposed LDP Policies	41
Table 6.3: Proposed Assessment Matrix for Proposed LDP Policies	42
Table A.1: Designated Sites of relevance to the Bridgend LDP Review.....	50
Table A.2: Review of Relevant Environmental Aspects, Issues and Problems	59
Table B.1: Review of Other Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	74
Table B.2: Implications of Welsh National Planning Policies for the LDP Review	92

Appendices

Appendix A	Baseline Review
Appendix B	Review of Plans and Programmes

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Peter Brett Associates LLP (PBA) has been commissioned by Bridgend Borough County Council (BCBC) to prepare the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Bridgend LDP Review ('the LDP Review'). The report outlines the proposed approach to the LDP's Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
- 1.1.2 This report is the first stage of a SA process to identify, assess and address any likely significant effects (LSE) on the environment from the emerging Bridgend LDP Review.

1.2 Purpose

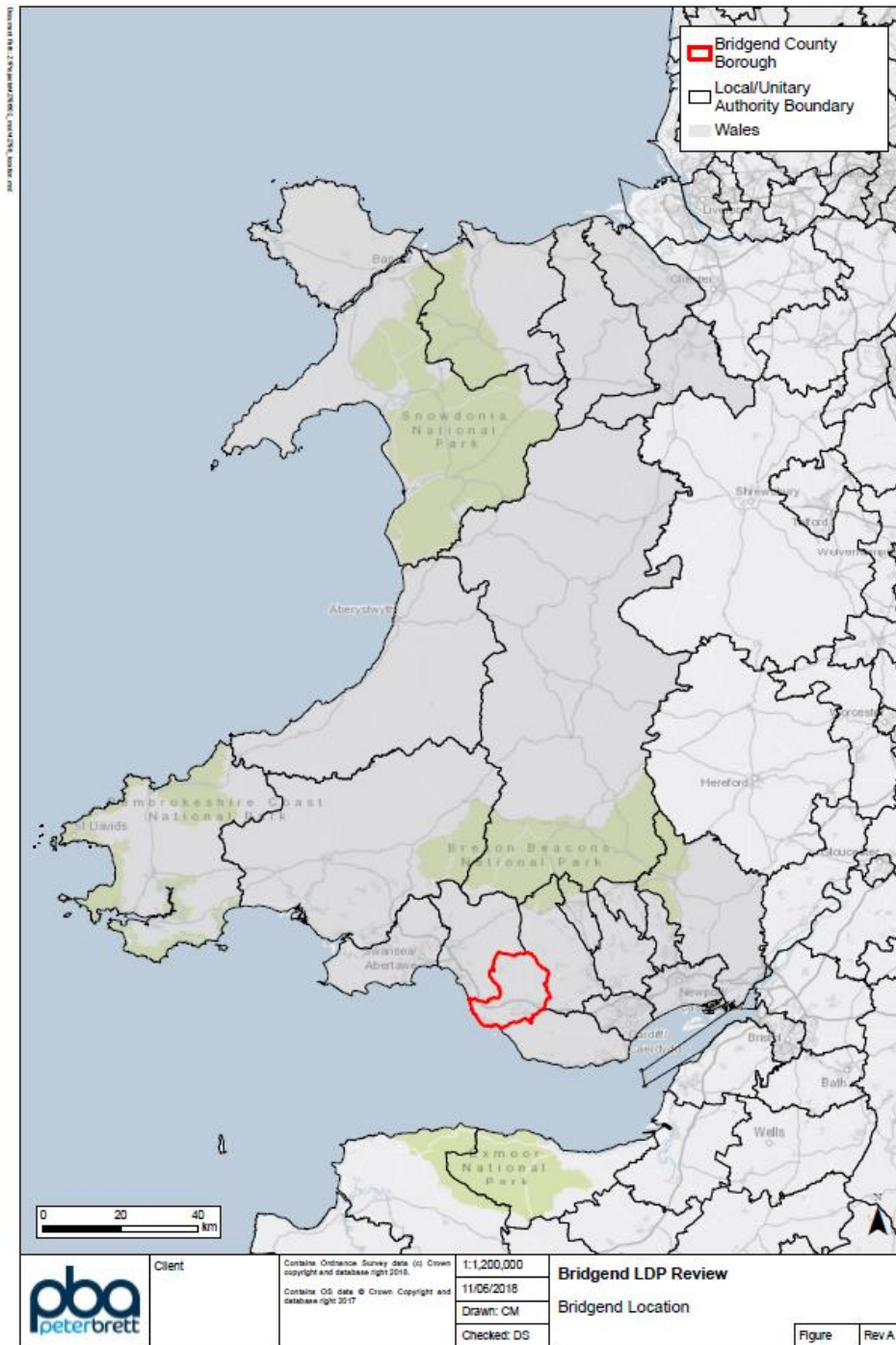
- 1.2.1 This report seeks the views of the SEA Consultation Authorities¹ on the proposed methodology and assessment framework for a legally compliant SA of the Bridgend LDP Review. The report also seeks the views of the SEA Consultation Authorities on a draft SEA screening determination to satisfy procedural requirements and to confirm that a SEA needs to be incorporated within the SA.

1.3 Overview of the Bridgend LDP Review

- 1.3.1 In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 ('the 2004 Act'), BCBC adopted the first LDP for its administrative area (shown in **Figure 1.1**) in September 2013.

¹ The SEA Consultation Bodies are defined by the SEA Regulations as Cadw and Natural Resources Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government will also be treated as a SEA Consultation Body for the purposes of this SA.

Figure 1.1: The Bridgend County Borough Council Area



1.3.2 BCBC have undertaken regular monitoring since 2013 and in 2018 prepared a LDP Review Report which concluded that the LDP should be subject to a ‘Full Review’, to be carried out in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 as amended (‘the 2005 LDP Regulations’). This review (‘the LDP Review’) is needed to allow BCBC to prepare and adopt a replacement LDP prior to the expiry of the current LDP at the end of 2021 and to ensure that the statutory Development Plan for the BCBC area remains up to date. In particular, a replacement LDP is needed to take account of a range of new Acts, policy frameworks, initiatives, evidence and spatial issues at national, regional and local levels since the adoption of the current LDP.

- 1.3.3 In Spring 2018 BCBC consulted on a draft Delivery Agreement to underpin the LDP Review and the finalised Bridgend Replacement LDP Delivery Agreement was subsequently agreed with the Welsh Assembly Government on 25th June 2018. This sets out the process, timescales and consultation arrangements to undertake a 'Full Review' of the existing LDP and in doing so to prepare and adopt a replacement LDP by September 2021. **Section 1.4** of the finalised Delivery Agreement outlines the proposed approach to undertaking a SA, incorporating SEA, of the LDP Review in accordance with relevant statutory requirements.

1.4 Statutory Requirements

LDP Preparation and Review

- 1.4.1 The publication of the Bridgend LDP Review Report (BCBC, 2018) has triggered a process through which a replacement LDP will be prepared and then adopted for the BCBC area. Statutory requirements relating to the preparation of LDPs are therefore now applicable to the LDP Review, including in respect of SA and SEA. In accordance with the 2005 LDP Regulations, the proposed approach, timescales and consultation arrangements for the LDP Review are set out within the finalised Bridgend LDP Review Delivery Agreement.

Sustainability Appraisal

- 1.4.2 Under Section 62(6) of the 2004 Act, emerging LDPs need to be subject to Sustainability Appraisal. This is statutorily required to guide the selection and development of policies and proposals for inclusion in LDPs in terms of their potential social, environmental and economic effects. The SA presently required for the LDP Review will need to build upon the SA, incorporating SEA, prepared for the first Bridgend LDP (adopted September 2013). As the 'Full Review' procedure is being used, the LDP Review will effectively mirror the original LDP preparation process and will result in the preparation and adoption of a replacement LDP (rather than the existing LDP only being subject to individual changes).

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.4.3 The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004 as amended ('the SEA Regulations') require Responsible Authorities, including local authorities such as BCBC, to assess the likely significant environmental effects of implementing relevant plans and programmes, as defined within the regulations. The SEA Regulations also require Responsible Authorities to examine the likely significant effects of reasonable alternatives to the plan or programme under consideration. Where required, the assessment is to be prepared following a staged reporting process known as Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Stages of SA and SEA

- 1.4.4 SA and SEA share a common focus on assessing environmental and wider sustainability performance and can therefore be undertaken and reported together. As directed by the SEA Regulations, SA and SEA comprise the following stages:
- **Screening:** Whereas Regulation 5(3) has the effect that a SEA will always be required in relation to the preparation of an LDP, Regulations 5(6) and 9(1) require "minor modifications" to an existing plan or programme to first be screened to determine whether the modifications are likely to have significant effects on the environment and therefore whether a full SEA needs to be undertaken. The Welsh LDP Manual 2nd Edition (2015) makes clear that SEA screening is required for all LDP Reviews as in legal terms the existing LDP is simply being reviewed and this could result in "minor modifications", although the SEA Regulations do not define the scope of this term. **This SA Scoping Report sets out a draft SEA Screening Determination for the consideration of the SEA Consultation Bodies (Section 3).**

- **Scoping:** Responsible Authorities must provide the SEA Consultation Bodies with sufficient information to enable them to consider the proposed scope, level of detail and consultation period for an 'Environmental Report' (ER) to accompany the emerging plan or programme. Where SEA is incorporated within a wider SA the term ER is interchangeable with SA Report as the latter necessarily includes all of the information that would be required within a standalone ER. **This SA Scoping Report responds to this statutory requirement, with the proposed SA Framework, SA methodology and SA consultation arrangements detailed in Sections 5 and 6;**
 - **Preparation and Consultation:** As noted above, Section 62(6) of the 2004 Act requires Responsible Authorities preparing LDPs in Wales to “*to carry out a sustainability appraisal of the proposals*” within it and to “*prepare a report of the findings of the appraisal*”. Given that the LDP Review will be an iterative process and in legal terms is a review of the existing LDP, a SA Report will need to accompany each substantive element of the replacement LDP as it emerges, in particular the preparation of LDP Pre-Deposit and subsequently LDP Deposit Documents. Each SA Report must be consulted on in tandem with the emerging replacement LDP, with the SA Report for the final LDP Deposit Document then submitted to the Welsh Assembly to support an independent examination of the replacement LDP. Similarly, Regulation 12 of the SEA Regulations requires Responsible Authorities to prepare and consult on an ER to “*identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing*” each iteration of a relevant and qualifying plan, as well as the effects of its reasonable alternatives. As above, the scope, level of detail and consultation period of the SA, fully incorporating all SEA requirements, should first be defined through screening and scoping;
 - **Preparation of a Post Adoption Statement:** By the end of the LDP Review process, a replacement LDP will have been adopted for the BCBC area. As detailed in Appendix A.4, this is required by the end of 2021 to avoid a planning policy vacuum. Once a replacement LDP is adopted, BCBC must prepare a statement setting out, amongst other matters, how the SEA's environmental considerations have been taken into account in the adopted LDP, and how the likely significant effects of the LDP on the environment (as predicted through the SA/SEA) will be monitored. Whilst there is no statutory requirement to prepare a SA (as opposed to SEA) Post Adoption Statement, in practice the incorporation of SEA within SA means this is necessary to ensure that all of the SEA findings and consultation responses from previous stages of the process are addressed;
- 1.4.5 The SEA Regulations also introduce a link between SEA and a need, in some cases, for a separate Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) of plans and projects where there is the potential for significant effects on European Sites (Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation). A HRA was undertaken by Baker Associates (now PBA) on behalf of BCBC for the first Bridgend LDP and an HRA is also being carried out in respect of the LDP Review. As with the SA and SEA, the HRA will build upon previous findings. Further details regarding the HRA are provided in the Initial HRA Screening Report submitted to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) in tandem with this SA Scoping Report.
- 1.4.6 The remainder of this report is structured as follows:
- **Section 2 – LDP Review Context and Proposed Content** describes the context in which the LDP Review is being undertaken and outlines the proposed form of the replacement LDP that will result, all of which requires to be assessed through this SA;
 - **Section 3 – Need for SEA** provides a draft determination to explain why BCBC considers it necessary to undertake a SEA as part of the SA for the LDP Review. The section also provides relevant information to enable the SEA Consultation Authorities to advise on whether, at this stage, the replacement LDP is likely to generate significant effects;

- **Section 4 – Environmental Information and Key Sustainability Issues** summarises relevant baseline characteristics, considers the evolution of the baseline in the absence of the LDP Review and notes the relationship between the Bridgend LDP and other relevant plans and programmes. Further relevant details are provided in **Appendices A and B**;
- **Section 5 – Proposed SA Framework** describes the assessment framework which will be used to identify and assess the likely effects from the LDP Review, in particular the preparation of a replacement LDP, as it evolves. This section identifies the likely components of the replacement LDP and sets out a proposed SA Framework to assess these as they emerge, including proposed SA Objectives and guide questions;
- **Section 6 – Proposed SA Methodology and Consultation Arrangements** builds upon Section 5 by detailing the proposed method of assessing the likely sustainability and environmental effects of each emerging substantive component of a replacement LDP. The section also outlines the proposed consultation arrangements for the SA reports which will be published in tandem with each substantive proposal for the emerging replacement LDP, namely the LDP Pre-Deposit and LDP Deposit Documents; and,
- **Section 7 – Next Steps** outlines next steps to be followed in the SA process and confirms how comments in respect of this SA Scoping Report should be submitted.

1.4.7 These sections of the Scoping Report are supported by two appendices:

- **Appendix A – Baseline Analysis** supports **Section 4** by providing a review of relevant environmental and socio-economic baseline characteristics. This describes aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the LDP Review and identifies relevant environmental issues, problems and environmental protection objectives which should be taken account of in the LDP Review and this SA process; and,
- **Appendix B – Review of Plans, Programmes and Strategies** supports **Section 4** by providing a review of all other plans and programmes of relevance to the LDP Review. This review identifies the relationship between these other documents, the existing Bridgend LDP and the LDP Review to identify key policy issues which should be considered in both the LDP Review itself and this SA process.

2 Bridgend LDP Review Context

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 This section provides a brief outline of the LDP Review, including its key facts, proposed form and expected content of the replacement LDP. This is to allow the SEA Consultation Bodies to understand the scope and purpose of the replacement LDP which is being subject to SA.

2.2 Bridgend LDP Review Key Facts

2.2.1 The key facts relating to the Bridgend LDP Review are detailed in **Table 2.1** below.

Table 2.1: Bridgend LDP Review Key Facts

Criteria	Details
Responsible Authority	Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC)
SEA Assessor on behalf of the Responsible Authorities	Peter Brett Associates LLP (PBA)
Plan Title	Bridgend LDP Review (resulting in a replacement LDP)
Expected Adoption Date	September 2021
What Prompted the Plan?	Planning legislation requires all local authorities to review and prepare local development plans (LDPs) for their areas.
Plan Subject:	The Bridgend LDP Review will result in the preparation and adoption of a replacement LDP for the BCBC area. This will set out new detailed planning policies and proposals for the future development and the use of all land. The replacement LDP will set a long term strategic planning framework, helping to tackle the key sustainability and regeneration issues and realise the main development opportunities across the BCBC area. It will cover a wide range of topics, including housing land, economic development, regeneration, sustainable design, renewable energy, town centres, tourism, infrastructure provision, transport etc.
Period covered by the Plan	Expected date of adoption: 2021 15 year plan period: 2018 - 2033.
Area covered by the Plan	The BCBC area.

2.3 Proposed Form and Content of the Replacement Bridgend LDP

2.3.1 The 2004 Act stipulates the process which must be undertaken for the LDP Review, in particular the preparation of LDP Pre-Deposit and Deposit Documents by the LPA, followed by an independent examination.

2.3.2 The 2004 Act and the 2005 Regulations prescribe the minimum content which must be included within any Welsh LDP, namely:

- The name of the area of the LPA for which the LDP is prepared;

- The date of adoption and expiry of the LDP;
 - The LPA's objectives in relation to the development and use of land in their area;
 - The LPA's general policies for the implementation of those objectives;
 - A proposals map of the LPA's area showing the proposals for the development and use of land; and,
 - A reasoned justification of the policies contained within the LDP.
- 2.3.3 In addition, LDPs typically include an overarching vision, suite of objectives and a spatial strategy, although none are specifically required under the 2004 Act or the 2005 Regulations.
- 2.3.4 At this stage it is envisaged that the replacement LDP for the BCBC area will comprise the following substantive components:
- Proposed LDP vision and LDP objectives;
 - A spatial strategy (and potential sub-area strategies);
 - Strategic policies;
 - Development management policies; and,
 - Site allocations.
- 2.3.5 Each emerging substantive component of the replacement LDP will need to be subject to SA, incorporating SEA, in line with the approach set out within this report.
- 2.3.6 The LDP will also include a reasoned justification for the inclusion of each substantive component and it will be supported by a suite of evidence base documents, all of which will inform the SA process where relevant.

3 SEA and Other Impact Assessment Requirements

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This section provides relevant information to enable the SEA Consultation Authorities to advise BCBC on whether, at this stage, significant effects on the environment are considered likely to arise from the replacement LDP that will result from the LDP Review, in which case a formal SEA will be required. **Section 3.3** also explains the need to undertake other impact assessments in a co-ordinated manner alongside the SA and SEA processes.

3.2 The Need for SEA Screening

- 3.2.1 The adopted Bridgend LDP (September 2013) was subject to a full SEA as part of the SA since it met the mandatory SEA criteria within Regulation 5(2) of the SEA Regulations in terms of being prepared for town and country planning and land use purposes and being likely to set the framework for future consent of developments listed in Annex I or II to Council Directive 85/337/EEC as amended. However, under the SEA Regulations, all proposed “*minor modifications*” to existing plans require the Responsible Authority to first determine, in consultation with the SEA Consultation Authorities, whether a SEA is required as a result of the modification being likely to have significant effects on the environment. The Welsh LDP Manual 2nd Edition (2015) advises that as the term “*minor modification*” is not statutorily defined, any review of an existing LDP (and thus any revisions to or replacement of it) should be subject to SEA screening to determine the need for a full SEA.
- 3.2.2 Even at this early stage owing to the intended comprehensive nature of the LDP Review, the replacement LDP is likely to comprise a suite of policies and site allocations that are substantially different from those in the existing LDP and which have the potential to result in significant effects (LSE) on the environment. Notwithstanding any advice forthcoming from the SEA Consultation Bodies, BCBC is therefore of the view that a formal SEA should be undertaken as part of the SA for the LDP Review.
- 3.2.3 Of note, even if it is determined that a formal SEA is not required this would make little difference, as all likely effects in relation to the environmental topics prescribed within Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations will still need to be assessed to present a robust assessment of the sustainability of the emerging replacement LDP, as required separately under the 2004 Act. The question of whether a formal SEA is required as part of the SA is therefore effectively a legal formality.

3.3 Draft SEA Screening Determination

- 3.3.1 Having regard to the Screening criteria specified in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations, BCBC are of the view that, at this stage, the LDP Review (which will result in the adoption of a replacement LDP) has the potential to generate LSE which have not previously been identified through the SEA of the existing LDP or of other plans and programmes. This is on account of:
- **Geographical Coverage:** As the ‘Full Review’ procedure is being adopted for the LDP Review, it will apply to the entire BCBC area rather than only to discrete sites or sub-areas. In consequence, the LDP Review will need to consider proposals for the management of environmentally sensitive areas, including sites designated at local, national and international levels for reasons of biodiversity conservation, geological importance or architectural significance. As such, the development of a replacement LDP is likely to result in a range of LSE in relation to these sensitive areas;
 - **Statutory Requirements:** As section 38(6) of the 2004 Act requires all planning applications to be determined in accordance with the relevant adopted Development Plan

unless material considerations indicate otherwise, the replacement LDP resulting from the LDP Review will have a high degree of influence in setting a consenting framework for all development activities within the BCBC area. This will include any projects of a type listed in Annex I or II to Council Directive 85/337/EEC (the original EIA Directive) as amended. In addition, the replacement LDP will be of particular importance in determining the acceptability, including in environmental terms, of the proposed location, nature, size and operating conditions of all development proposals. It is likely that the approach taken within a replacement LDP to plan for these factors in relation to at least some development types will differ substantially from the approach set out within the existing LDP to reflect changes in baseline conditions and in relevant higher level legislative and policy frameworks. Any such changes in policy within a replacement LDP could affect the distribution or key characteristics (design, physical, construction, operational characteristics, etc.) of development proposals and could give rise to new or different LSE from those previously predicted to arise from the existing LDP policies;

- **New Spatial Issues and Site Allocations:** The preparation of a replacement LDP should directly address existing socio-economic and environmental issues affecting Bridgend, as identified in **Appendix A**, through the development of new policy approaches and site allocations. Through addressing pertinent issues and problems, the LDP Review is likely to result in LSE. For example, the Bridgend LDP Review Report (BCBC, 2018) identifies that BCBC only have a 4-year housing land supply (which has since reduced to 3.4 years as identified in the 2018 JHLAS), meaning that the LDP Review will need to identify a suite of new housing allocations to ensure the objectively assessed need for new housing can be met. Other land allocations and physical interventions may also need to be allocated within the replacement LDP to ensure it can appropriately respond to all identified population needs. Whilst some candidate site allocations may have previously been subject to SA in relation to the first Bridgend LDP, due to the time that has elapsed and the need to allocate additional housing land it is highly likely that a range of new candidate sites will be proposed, each of which could generate a range of environmental effects which have not previously been assessed;
- **Plan Hierarchy:** As with the existing LDP, the replacement LDP should seek to direct particular types of development proposals to particular locations, and this may require lower level plans, for example Development Briefs, Materplans, Regeneration Strategies.....or Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) to be prepared to provide more locally specific guidance in conformity with the LDP. The LDP Review is therefore likely to have a high degree of influence on other plans within the Welsh planning policy hierarchy and this could result in a range of LSE; and,
- **Potential for LSE on European Sites:** An Initial HRA Screening Report has been prepared to identify European sites which at this stage have the potential to experience LSE from the development of a replacement LDP for the BCBC area. As detailed in **Appendix A**, this confirms that the BCBC area hosts three European Sites and 9 more have been identified either within 15km of or with potential connectivity to the BCBC area. This does not mean that LSE will actually occur from the LDP Review on these European Sites; indeed, in the absence of any substantive proposals or policies having been developed no evidence is currently available to indicate this. However, the possibility of the identified European Sites experiencing LSE from a replacement LDP cannot be ruled out at this stage and therefore requires further examination through undertaking a HRA as part of the LDP Review. The HRA process would include an Appropriate Assessment if sufficient evidence becomes available to indicate that any European Site would indeed experience LSE, and under Regulation 5(3) of the SEA Regulations, this alone would trigger the need for a statutory SEA.

3.3.2 Subject to views obtained from the SEA Consultation Bodies, BCBC therefore intends to make a determination under Regulation 9(1) of the SEA Regulations that a formal SEA will be carried out as part of the SA for the LDP Review. This aligns with the approach advocated within the Welsh LDP Manual 2nd Edition (2015).

- 3.3.3 In accordance with Regulation 9(2), the SEA Consultation Bodies are invited to provide their view and associated reasons regarding the potential for LSE to arise and the need (or otherwise) to undertake a SEA. Any advice to the effect that a formal SEA is not required would need to be supported by detailed evidence, as any decision not to undertake a formal SEA could be subject to legal challenge, which in turn could affect the validity of the whole LDP Review.

3.4 Relationship with other Impact Assessments

- 3.4.1 To ensure full compliance with relevant statutory requirements, a range of other impact assessments will be undertaken for the LDP Review, notably a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The SEA and HRA processes are being undertaken in tandem by PBA on behalf of BCBC and an integrated approach will be adopted to minimise duplication and maximise the value of both assessments to the plan making process. Details of the proposed approach to the HRA of the LDP Review are provided separately within an Initial HRA Screening Report.
- 3.4.2 Other impact assessments being undertaken in respect of the LDP Review include Wellbeing and Equalities Assessments to demonstrate compliance with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 as amended and the Equality Act 2010 as amended, as well as a Health Impact Assessment. All three impact assessments will build upon the findings of the SA in relation to likely effects from the emerging replacement LDP on health, wellbeing and socio-economic conditions.

4 Environmental Information

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 **Section 4.2** below provides a summary of relevant baseline environmental and socio-economic conditions identifying key sustainability issues of relevance to the LDP Review. **Section 4.3** then summarises the relationship between the Bridgend LDP and other relevant plans and programmes. Each section is supported by detailed baseline and policy reviews provided in **Appendices A** and **B** respectively.

4.2 Key Sustainability Issues

- 4.2.1 With reference to the environmental topics prescribed within Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations, a summary of the key environmental issues identified in **Appendix A** which need to be addressed within the LDP Review and taken account of in the associated SA is provided in **Table 5.1** below. This summary has also been informed by consideration of the likely evolution of baseline conditions in the absence of the LDP Review, as detailed in **Appendix A**. In short, this concludes that the absence of the LDP Review is likely to result in a planning policy vacuum within the BCBC area which could lead to development coming forward in unsustainable locations and contrary to BCBC's preferred spatial strategy simply in order to meet identified needs, principally for new housing.
- 4.2.2 In most cases, it is recommended that the identified sustainability issues should be addressed within the SA through the inclusion of relevant objectives within a framework ('the SA Framework') which will be used to assess the likely sustainability and environmental effects of the replacement LDP. Full details regarding the proposed SA Framework and constituent SA Objectives are set out in **Section 5**.

Table 4.1: Key Sustainability Issues relating to the Bridgend LDP Review

SEA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
<p>Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna</p> <p>Geology???</p>	<p>The need to conserve, protect and enhance biodiversity including important species and sites designated for reasons of biodiversity conservation or ecological importance. This extends to the protection of designated sites located outwith the BCBC area which have the potential to be affected by the LDP Review and development activity within the BCBC area.</p> <p>The need to safeguard and enhance the green infrastructure network in the BCBC area and green infrastructure connections to neighbouring authorities.</p>
<p>Population (including relevant socio-economic issues)</p>	<p>The need to deliver a sufficient quantum of good quality and well located new housing to meet a range of identified needs within the BCBC area.</p> <p>The need to deliver economic growth and increase employment opportunities in the BCBC area, including for local residents.</p> <p>The need to tackle deprivation, including areas with existing deprivation linked to poor accessibility to key services, facilities and economic opportunities.</p> <p>The need to ensure that community facilities and services are appropriate and accessible to users to meet the diverse needs of residents and workers in the BCBC area.</p> <p>The need to maximise socio-economic benefits from the implementation of the South Wales Metro and the Cardiff City Region City Deal.</p> <p>The need to align with the preparation of a Strategic Development Plan for the Cardiff City Region.</p> <p>The need to improve the accessibility of key destinations within the BCBC area and to other key locations through enhancing the transport network.</p>
<p>Human Health</p>	<p>The need to enhance all aspects of the health and wellbeing of the population, including physical health, mental health, social wellbeing, safety and security.</p> <p>The need to protect and enhance access to high quality open space provision and active travel routes.</p>

SEA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
	The need to create healthy and liveable urban environments
Soil	<p>The need to encourage and/or facilitate development on previously developed brownfield land.</p> <p>The need to maximize the efficient the use of available land and prioritise the redevelopment of brownfield land.</p> <p>The need to safeguard geodiversity important soil resources and to remediate areas of known contamination.</p>
Water	<p>The need to protect and enhance the quality of water sources and the water environment. This extends to the protection of cross-boundary watercourses which flow through the BCBC area and to the Bristol Channel bordering the BCBC area to the south west.</p> <p>The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk or to fully mitigate potential flood risks, considering the effects of climate change.</p>
Air	<p>The need to minimise the emissions of air pollutants.</p> <p>The need to safeguard and improve air quality, including through addressing areas with poor air quality.</p>
Climatic Factors	<p>The need to ensure that the built environment and infrastructure is resilient and adaptable to the effects of climate change, taking account of the coastal location of the BCBC area.</p> <p>The need to mitigate climate change including through the decarbonisation of key economic sectors.</p>
Material Assets	The need to maximise the efficient use of land, natural resources and existing infrastructure. This includes the need to prioritise the redevelopment of brownfield land.
Cultural Heritage	<p>The need to preserve, protect and enhance cultural heritage assets and their settings within the BCBC area.</p> <p>The need to safeguard and support the use of the Welsh language.</p>

SEA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
Landscape	The need to protect and enhance landscape character, townscape character, key views and visual amenity. This extends to the protection of cross-boundary landscapes stretching beyond the BCBC area.
Inter-related Effects	The need to deliver holistic improvements to wellbeing and to contribute to the delivery of sustainable development across the BCBC area.

4.3 Relationship between the LDP Review and Other Relevant Plans and Programmes

4.3.1 The following types of plans and programmes were examined for their relevance to the LDP Review and this SA:

- International conventions and treaties;
- European Directives and associated legislation;
- Legislation enacted by the UK Parliament and the Welsh Assembly; and,
- Policy documents and strategies published at the national, regional and local levels, including by the UK Government, the Welsh Assembly Government (and its agencies) and BCBC.

4.3.2 A detailed review of the other plans and programmes identified as relevant to the LDP Review is provided in **Appendix B**. From this review it is clear that the replacement LDP should:

- Capitalise on the socio-economic opportunities presented by the Cardiff City Region City Deal and the implementation of the South Wales Metro;
- Align with the emerging National Development Framework (NDF) for Wales and the preparation of a Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the Cardiff City Region;
- Seek to enhance all aspects of health and wellbeing for the population of the BCBC area, including through providing high quality health infrastructure, improving physical and mental health and providing opportunities to enhance social wellbeing. The LDP must seek to implement the locally defined wellbeing objectives set out within the Bridgend Wellbeing Plan (2018-2023);
- Secure sustainable economic growth and inward investment across the BCBC area through allocating suitable sites for development and delivering the infrastructure required to increase connectivity, improve community and social infrastructure and increase access to high quality employment and economic opportunities. It will also be important for the LDP to set out a spatial strategy which maximises the economic competitiveness of the BCBC area, taking account of its existing economic base and the industrial strengths of South Wales
- Identify and plan to meet the needs of all residents and workers within the BCBC area, in particular with respect to the provision of adequate community infrastructure;
- Deliver well-designed and affordable homes to meet identified housing needs, including providing a range of sizes and tenures;
- Reduce car dependencies and improve active travel infrastructure;
- Deliver improved and expanded transport links, public transport and enhanced communications infrastructure, both to communities within the BCBC area and to key destinations in neighbouring authorities;
- Protect and enhance access to high quality outdoor sports facilities, parks and open spaces;
- Conserve, preserve, protect and enhance sites designated at international, national and local levels for reasons of biodiversity conservation, ecological importance, geological importance or heritage significance, in ways appropriate to their status;

- Develop effective community engagement techniques to respond to the views of wider communities and facilitate effective community cohesion;
 - Promote the efficient use of resources, including moving towards a low carbon economy, use of waste as a resource, energy efficient buildings, and appropriate renewable and low carbon energy;
 - Improve air quality and tackle areas with known poor air quality across the BCBC area;
 - Ensure there are no significant negative impacts on internationally and nationally designated nature sites (refer to separate Habitats Regulations Assessment Initial Screening Report for further details);
 - Give full consideration to the potential impacts on water, including water quality, ecosystems, sustainable use of water, capacity of sewerage, flood risk and the opportunities to improve flood risk management;
 - Seek ways to maximise multi-functional green infrastructure coverage and ensure they provide a network of linked wildlife corridors (across a wide range of scales and increase ecosystems services including biodiversity);
 - Seek ways to maximise the health benefits of green infrastructure;
 - Use land efficiently by prioritising the use of previously developed land;
 - Consider soil quality and agricultural land classification when assessing potential development sites;
 - Recognise the different landscapes in the BCBC area and their capacity to accommodate change; and,
 - Promote development that minimises landscape impacts and protects landscapes appropriate to their significance.
- 4.3.3 To ensure that the LDP Review addresses these key policy issues it will be necessary for them to be considered within the approach to SA preparation. As with the identified key sustainability issues, this is done through the development of relevant SA Objectives within a holistic SA Framework, as detailed in **Section 5**.

5 Proposed Bridgend LDP Review SA Framework

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section identifies and seeks the views of the SEA Consultation Bodies regarding a proposed assessment framework ('the SA Framework') to assess LSE from the emerging replacement LDP and any identified reasonable alternatives. Once finalised this SA Framework will be applied in accordance with the assessment methodology outlined in **Section 6** and will therefore underpin the SA and SEA of the LDP Review.
- 5.1.2 Establishing an appropriate SA Framework is central to identifying LSE as this allows the SA to focus on key sustainability issues and to proportionately assess each substantive component as it emerges. Broadly, the SA Framework should comprise a suite of related objectives which, when applied together, should define in objective terms the direction of travel and spatial outcomes required for the plan or programme to contribute positively to the delivery of sustainable development. These SA Objectives are therefore distinct from, but should relate to, policy objectives defined at multiple spatial levels including within the emerging plan which is being subject to SA.
- 5.1.3 To be effective tools for assessment, SA Objectives and the overall SA Framework must be grounded within a detailed understanding of the socio-economic, environmental and policy contexts within which a replacement LDP will operate. The SA Objectives also need to be targeted towards addressing key sustainability issues of relevance to both the spatial context of the BCBC area and the proposed content of the emerging replacement LDP.

5.2 Review of the Existing Bridgend LDP SA Framework

- 5.2.1 The starting point of this SA process is to consider whether the SA Framework devised for the SA (incorporating SEA) of the first Bridgend LDP remains valid or if a revised framework is needed to allow the LDP Review SA to proportionately and effectively respond to key sustainability issues identified in **Section 4**. **Table 5.1** lists the Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (SA Objectives) of the existing Bridgend LDP Framework and considers their continuing validity.

Table 5.1: Review of the Existing Bridgend LDP SA Framework

Bridgend LDP SA Objective Title	Bridgend LDP SA Objective	Assessment of Continuing Validity
<i>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</i>		
1. Accessibility	To ensure an increase in accessibility to opportunities, transport and to all services and information in the County Borough.	This SA Objective usefully focuses on accessibility as a socio-economic outcome, rather than merely the technical performance of the transport network. However, the potentially wide-ranging socio-economic and environmental implications of implementation of the South Wales Metro system necessitates further examination of the adequacy and impacts of transport infrastructure within the SA Framework for the LDP Review. This would also help demonstrate compliance with Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations with regard to the assessment of likely significant effects from the LDP Review on “material assets”. One or more SA Objectives within the SA Framework for the LDP Review could also more clearly address non-transport related connectivity issues, in particular the provision of high speed broadband and utilities within urban and rural communities.
2. Housing	To provide the opportunity for people to meet their housing needs.	This SA Objective usefully focuses on meeting housing needs but no details are provided to define these (e.g. housing availability, quality, types, etc), meaning that individual Guide Questions are needed to address each form of housing need individually. Given the identification of a current housing land shortfall and the importance placed within PPW (2015) on planning for housing delivery, it will be critical for the SA Framework for the LDP Review to include a SA Objective regarding housing. However, this SA Objective could more clearly articulate the range of housing needs which must be addressed within a replacement LDP and the relationships between these.
3. Health, safety and security	To improve overall levels of health and safety, including the sense of security, for all in the County Borough.	Similar to Objective 2 – Housing, whilst this SA Objective usefully identifies the need for health and safety improvements it does not address specific issues related to planning within these generic topics. To ensure that the SA complies with Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations, takes account of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and aligns with the Wellbeing and Health Impact Assessments for the LDP Review, it will be important for the SA Framework to include one or more SA Objectives regarding health and wellbeing. This should assess the contribution of the emerging replacement LDP towards a holistic interpretation of health and wellbeing,

Bridgend LDP SA Objective Title	Bridgend LDP SA Objective	Assessment of Continuing Validity
		including physical health, mental health, social wellbeing, safety and security. As such, the scope of this or other SA Objectives should be broadened to explicitly capture issues including mental health, educational attainment, crime prevention, residential amenity, and multiple deprivation.
4. Community	To maintain, promote and where suitable enhance, the distinctive character of the communities of Bridgend.	The focus of this SA Objective on community distinctiveness means it is clear whether the Objective also addresses social inclusion/exclusion, community cohesion or societal inequalities. These issues should explicitly be addressed within the SA Framework to ensure the SA helps to demonstrate compliance with the Equality Act 2010 and aligns with the Wellbeing and Equalities Impact Assessments (EqIA) which are also being undertaken.
<i>Effective protection of the environment</i>		
5. Biodiversity	To maintain and enhance the diversity and abundance of species, and safeguard areas of significant nature conservation value.	This SA Objective usefully addresses both ecological sites and species and this approach must be maintained within the SA Framework for the LDP Review. However, the reference to “ <i>significant</i> ” nature conservation areas is not fully clear and the scope of the SA Objective is relatively narrow. To fully address the identified key sustainability issues, it will be important for the SA Objective to also tackle wider issues related to biodiversity, including green infrastructure and human-environmental relations, e.g. the provision of access to nature for all communities.
6. Landscape	To maintain and enhance the quality and character of the landscape, including its contribution to the setting and character of settlements.	This SA Objective succinctly identifies the key elements of landscape protection of relevance to the BCBC area and therefore demonstrates compliance with Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations with regards to the assessment of likely significant effects on “landscape”. However, as the BCBC area comprises urban and rural landscapes with a range of sensitivities, the SA Framework for the LDP Review should also explicitly consider changes in settlement patterns and the protection of visual amenity.
7. Built Environment	To maintain and enhance the quality of the built environment, including the cultural/historic heritage.	In accordance with Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations, this SA Objective clearly allows for an assessment of likely significant effects on cultural heritage assets. However, PPW (2015), TAN 20, the draft PPW – 10 th Edition and the Welsh LDP Manual 2 nd Edition (2015) all now require the SA process to explicitly assess the likely impacts of emerging LDPs on the use of the Welsh Language. This could be captured under a SA Objective regarding

Bridgend LDP SA Objective Title	Bridgend LDP SA Objective	Assessment of Continuing Validity
		socio-economic issues, but due to the cultural and historical significance of the Welsh Language it is recommended that it should instead be addressed within an overarching Cultural Heritage SA Objective. This SA Objective should also address likely impacts on the integrity and setting of the historic environment.
8. Air	To reduce all forms of air pollution in the interests of local air quality and the integrity of the atmosphere.	This SA Objective usefully defines air pollution in broad terms, allowing for a range of point source and diffuse pollution impacts to be assessed in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations. However, it is not fully clear what the intended outcome is in relation to the reference to the “ <i>integrity of the atmosphere</i> ”. To allow the SA Framework for the LDP Review to address climate change mitigation and adaptation priorities, in particular the need to decarbonise key economic sectors, and thus to demonstrate compliance with Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations, a separate SA Objective regarding climate change should be developed. This should consider both climate change mitigation and adaptation issues in tandem.
9. Climate change	To ensure that new development takes account of the effects of climate change.	Taking account of the consideration of the “ <i>integrity of the atmosphere</i> ” within SA Objective 8, this SA Objective relates only to climate change adaptation. As above it is recommended that a clearer, standalone SA Objective regarding both climate change mitigation and adaptation should be included within the SA Framework for the LDP Review. This would allow a holistic assessment of all climate change impacts and implications of the emerging replacement LDP to be carried out.
10. Water	To maintain and improve the quality and quantity of ground waters, river waters and coastal and bathing waters.	This SA Objective succinctly identifies the key elements of the coastal and water environments of relevance to the BCBC area and therefore demonstrates compliance with Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations with regards to the assessment of likely significant effects on “ <i>water</i> ”. However, no explicit reference is made to drainage and flood risk issues, which are important to the BCBC area and will require to be addressed through an expanded SA Objective within the SA Framework for the LDP Review.
11. Land / Soil	To use land efficiently, retaining undeveloped land and bringing damaged land back into use	This SA Objective usefully focuses on land use efficiency, redevelopment and the protection of greenfield land. However, the reference to “ <i>bringing</i>

Bridgend LDP SA Objective Title	Bridgend LDP SA Objective	Assessment of Continuing Validity
		<i>damaged land back into use</i> ” is not fully clear and the SA Objective relates mainly to land use issues rather than effects on contaminated land, soil resources, geodiversity or important geological features. To demonstrate compliance with Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations and address key sustainability issues including the need for urban regeneration, the SA Framework for the LDP Review should include one or more SA Objectives regarding effects on both soil/land quality and land use.
12. Minerals and waste	To maintain the stock of minerals and non-renewable primary resources	Whereas the title of this SA Objective relates to both minerals and waste, the latter is not explicitly referenced in the text that follows. The SA Framework should explicitly cover both issues and in relation to waste should address key issues such as the need to develop a circular economy and to implement the waste hierarchy.
13. Renewable energy	To increase the opportunities for energy generation from renewable energy sources.	This SA Objective usefully focuses on renewable energy generation and helped to ensure that the first Bridgend LDP provided an appropriately supportive policy framework for the deployment of renewable energy schemes within the BCBC area. The focus of this SA Objective on renewables was appropriate given the climate change mitigation agenda which arose from the enactment of the Climate Change Act 2008 and associated carbon emission reduction targets. However, as noted in relation to SA Objectives 8 – Air and 9 – Climate Change above, there is now a need for a holistic approach to the assessment of all climate change related impacts and implications of the emerging replacement LDP, which is best achieved through the development of a new climate change SA Objective. In addition, as noted in relation to SA Objective 1 – Accessibility, the SA Framework would benefit from a clearer approach to the consideration of infrastructural issues, including in relation to energy generation and utilities.
Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment		
14. Employment	To ensure that there is a vibrant local economy which is at the forefront of a wider regional economy and provide diversity of employment within the County Borough and support a culture of entrepreneurship	This SA Objective usefully addresses impacts on employment and the local economy, and this dual approach must be maintained within the SA Framework for the LDP Review to allow all likely significant effects on “ <i>population</i> ” to be assessed as required under Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations. The SA Objective would benefit from the inclusion of an explicit

Bridgend LDP SA Objective Title	Bridgend LDP SA Objective	Assessment of Continuing Validity
		<p>reference to the nested position of the BCBC local economy to enhance the consideration of strategic issues and allow the contribution of the BCBC area to the regional economy of the Cardiff City Region to be properly reflected . This is particularly important given the need for the emerging replacement LDP to take account of the emerging South Wales Metro and to align with a future SDP for the Cardiff City Region.</p>
<p>15. Wealth creation</p>	<p>To achieve a clear connection between effort and benefit, by making the most of local strengths, seeking community regeneration, and fostering economic activity.</p>	<p>This SA Objective usefully identifies the need for regeneration, but as worded has a high degree of overlap with other SA Objectives and does not set clear outcomes of relevance to the identified current key sustainability issues affecting the BCBC area. To ensure the SA for the LDP Review remains proportionate it is recommended that this SA Objective should be removed. It should be replaced with explicit references to regeneration, economic activities and social inclusion within new SA Objectives regarding land use, economic growth and wellbeing.</p>

5.3 Proposed SA Objectives for the LDP Review

- 5.3.1 The review of the existing Bridgend SA Framework presented in **Table 5.1** indicates a revised Framework based around a suite of new SA Objectives is needed to allow the SA to proportionately and effectively address key sustainability issues through the LDP Review.
- 5.3.2 Having regard to the proposed spatial scale, form and content of the replacement LDP (**Section 2**), relevant baseline characteristics and key sustainability issues (**Section 4.2** and **Appendix A**), the objectives and requirements of other relevant plans and programmes (**Section 4.3** and **Appendix B**) and the need for this SA to remain proportionate, the proposed SA Objectives to be included within the SA Framework for the LDP Review are detailed in **Table 5.2** below. The emphasis on implementing a holistic approach to improved wellbeing across many of the SA Objectives is intended to demonstrate compliance with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and to align with the Draft PPW – 10th Edition (2010) and the emerging National Development Framework for Wales.

Table 5.2: Proposed SA Objectives for the LDP Review

Proposed SA Objective	Proposed SA Objective
1. Health and Wellbeing	Improve all aspects of the health and wellbeing of the population, including with respect to physical and mental health, social wellbeing and community safety.
2. Equality and Social Inclusion	Reduce poverty and inequality, tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion, including through enhancing access to community facilities.
3. Employment and Skills	Increase the number and quality of employment opportunities to meet identified needs, whilst improving educational attainment and skill levels.
4. Transport and Communications	Enhance the accessibility of public services, economic opportunities and markets through improving infrastructure and creating a sustainable transport network, whilst also ensuring access to high quality communications and utilities.
5. Housing	Provide a sufficient quantum and range of good quality and affordable housing in sustainable locations to meet identified needs.
6. Economic Growth	Deliver sustainable economic growth and maximise the economic contribution of the BCBC area to the Cardiff City Region, including through diversifying and strengthening the local economic base.
7. Air Quality	Prevent and reduce emissions and concentrations of harmful atmospheric pollutants and minimise exposure to poor air quality.
8. Climate Change	Adopt appropriate mitigation and adaption measures to reduce and respond to the impacts of climate change.
9. Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Soil	Conserve, protect and enhance all biodiversity and geodiversity interests, including through safeguarding important sites and species, improving green infrastructure provision and safeguarding important soil resources.
10. Water and Flood Risk	Conserve, protect and enhance the water environment, water quality and water resources, whilst reducing the risk of flooding.
11. Materials and Waste	Contribute to the implementation of the circular economy, manage waste with minimal environmental impacts and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, including for energy generation and the provision of an adequate supply of minerals and materials for construction.
12. Sustainable Placemaking	Maximise the efficient use of land and enhance design quality to create great places for people.
13. Cultural Heritage	Conserve, protect and enhance the historic environment and cultural assets, including the use of the Welsh language.

14. Landscape	Protect and enhance landscape character, visual amenity and the legibility of settlements.
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5.3.3 These proposed SA Objectives are designed to complement each other, avoid assessment duplication and relate to the specific content of the LDP Review, to underpin a proportionate and effective SA. To demonstrate compliance with the SEA Regulations, **Table 5.3** below shows the link between the proposed SA Objectives and the topics specified in Schedule 2 (paragraph 6, points a – m) of the SEA Regulations.

Table 5.3: Relationship between the proposed SA Objectives and the SEA Regulations

Proposed SA Objective		Environmental Topic(s) as per SEA Regulations – Schedule 2
1.	Health and Wellbeing: Improve all aspects of the health and wellbeing of the population, including with respect to physical and mental health, social wellbeing and community safety.	B, C
2.	Equality and Social Inclusion: Reduce poverty and inequality, tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion, including through enhancing access to community facilities.	B, J
3.	Employment and Skills: Increase the number and quality of employment opportunities to meet identified needs, whilst improving the level of educational attainment and skills amongst residents.	B, J
4.	Transport and Communications: Enhance the accessibility of public services, economic opportunities and markets through improving infrastructure and creating a sustainable transport network, whilst also ensuring access to high quality communications and utilities.	B, I, J
5.	Housing: Provide a sufficient quantum and range of good quality and affordable housing in sustainable locations to meet identified needs.	B, J
6.	Economic Growth: Deliver sustainable economic growth and maximise the economic contribution of the BCBC area to the Cardiff City Region, including through diversifying and strengthening the local economic base.	B, J
7.	Air Quality: Prevent and reduce emissions and concentrations of harmful atmospheric pollutants and minimise exposure to poor air quality.	H
8.	Climate Change: Adopt appropriate mitigation and adaption measures to reduce and respond to the impacts of climate change.	I
9.	Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Soil: Conserve, protect and enhance all biodiversity and geodiversity interests, including through safeguarding important sites and species, improving green infrastructure provision and safeguarding important soil resources.	A, D, E, F
10.	Water and Flood Risk: Conserve, protect and enhance the water environment, water quality and water resources, whilst reducing the risk of flooding.	G
11.	Materials and Waste: Contribute to the implementation of the circular economy, manage waste with minimal environmental impacts and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, including for energy generation and the provision of an adequate supply of minerals and materials for construction.	F, J

Proposed SA Objective		Environmental Topic(s) as per SEA Regulations – Schedule 2
12.	Sustainable Placemaking: Maximise the efficient use of land and enhance design quality to create great places for people.	B, J, L
13.	Cultural Heritage: Conserve, protect and enhance the historic environment and cultural assets, including the use of the Welsh language.	B, K
14.	Landscape: Protect and enhance landscape character, visual amenity and the legibility of settlements.	L

5.3.4 **Table 5.3** demonstrates that there is good coverage of all SEA topics within the proposed SA Objectives and that they will allow related sustainability issues to be addressed in tandem. This should ensure that any conflicts between either the SA Objectives or the components of the emerging replacement LDP can be identified and resolved through the SA process.

5.4 Proposed SA Framework for the LDP Review

5.4.1 To enable this SA, incorporating SEA, to be undertaken in a proportionate and targeted manner a SA Framework will be used, comprising:

- the proposed SA Objectives (see **Table 5.2**);
- a suite of relevant Guide Questions relating to each SA Objective. Subject to views expressed by the SEA Consultation Bodies, this will be used in a qualitative assessment of each emerging substantive component of the replacement LDP, and any identified reasonable alternatives, to proportionately identify their LSE; and,
- a suite of spatially based criteria relating to each SA Objective. Subject to the availability of suitable datasets, information from site promoters and any views expressed by the SEA Consultation Authorities, these criteria will be used to undertake a GIS led appraisal of candidate site allocations during the LDP Review. The proposed criteria may be subject to further refinement before being confirmed within the Bridgend LDP Review Call for Sites Consultation Document. At this point, a transparent scoring system will be published to allow all prospective site promoters to consider the likely performance of their candidate site against the assessment criteria.

5.4.2 The proposed SEA Framework is detailed in **Table 5.4** below. During the assessment stage of the SA a further suite of indicators will be developed to provide a framework for monitoring the LSE of the replacement LDP once adopted, in accordance with the SEA Regulations. This monitoring framework will also be used by BCBC to monitor the effectiveness of the replacement LDP and to assess whether key targets, for example the maintenance of a 5-year housing land supply, are being met.

Table 5.4: Proposed SA Framework for the LDP Review

Proposed SA Objectives	Proposed SA Guide Questions – <i>Will the replacement LDP...</i>	Proposed Candidate Site Assessment Criteria
<p>1. Health and Wellbeing: Improve all aspects of the health and wellbeing of the population, including with respect to physical and mental health, social wellbeing and community safety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and improve access to healthcare services and facilities? • Reduce health inequalities and improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of communities? • Facilitate or encourage active travel or physical recreation? • Increase the accessibility and quality of open space provision? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to and the capacity of healthcare facilities. • Proximity to existing active travel networks. • Proximity to existing open space provision. • Proposed provision of new or upgraded healthcare facilities, active travel networks or open space within candidate sites.
<p>2. Equality and Social Inclusion: Reduce poverty and inequality, tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion, including through enhancing access to community facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote a culture of equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment? • Reduce poverty and social exclusion? • Promote social cohesion and integration? • Promote equity between population groups? • Provide access to affordable cultural activities? • Reduce fuel poverty? • Protect and enhance access to high quality community facilities, public services and key amenities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to existing community facilities, public services and key amenities. • Proposed provision of new or upgraded community facilities, public services or key amenities within candidate sites.
<p>3. Employment and Skills: Increase the number and quality of employment opportunities to meet identified needs, whilst improving the level of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to employment, especially for local people? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment capacity of the site.

Proposed SA Objectives	Proposed SA Guide Questions – <i>Will the replacement LDP...</i>	Proposed Candidate Site Assessment Criteria
<p>educational attainment and skills amongst residents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase and diversify employment opportunities? • Enhance opportunities for education and lifelong learning? • Improve educational attainment and skill levels, especially within the working age population? • Support the growth of further and higher education institutions? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site suitability for mixed use development. • Proximity to existing and planned key employment locations (business parks, industrial estates and urban employment clusters). • Proximity to and the capacity of education infrastructure. • Proposed provision of new or upgraded education infrastructure within candidate sites.
<p>4. Transport and Communications: Enhance the accessibility of public services, economic opportunities and markets through improving infrastructure and creating a sustainable transport network, whilst also ensuring access to high quality communications and utilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the accessibility of public services, economic opportunities and markets? • Improve connectivity within the BCBC area and to other areas? • Reduce car dependencies and encourage a shift to more sustainable forms of travel, including for people and freight? • Support the increased uptake of active travel? • Improve the accessibility, capacity and safety of the transport network? • Reduce traffic flows and congestion? • Enhance the quality and integration of public transport? • Enhance the provision of high quality communications infrastructure? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to the public transport network (bus stops and train stations). • Proximity to the strategic road network (motorways and trunk roads). • Proximity to existing active travel networks. • Proximity to congestion pinch points. • Availability and the capacity of utilities infrastructure to serve the site. • Proposed provision of new or upgraded transport or communications infrastructure within or connecting to candidate sites.

Proposed SA Objectives	Proposed SA Guide Questions – <i>Will the replacement LDP...</i>	Proposed Candidate Site Assessment Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve utilities infrastructure to support economic growth and meet population needs? 	
<p>5. Housing: Provide a sufficient quantum and range of good quality and affordable housing in sustainable locations to meet identified needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to facilitate the increased delivery of house to meet a range of identified needs? • Improve the quality of the housing stock? • Reduce homelessness and overcrowding? • Increase the mix, range and affordability of housing? • Provide housing that encourages a sense of community? • Delivery adequate pitches and plots required for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing capacity of the site. • Deliverability of affordable housing as a component of any residential development. • Site suitability for mixed use development. • Adjacent land uses. • Proximity to COMAH sites • Proximity to European Sites vulnerable to recreational pressures.
<p>6. Economic Growth: Deliver sustainable economic growth and maximise the economic contribution of the BCBC area to the Cardiff City Region, including through diversifying and strengthening the local economic base.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the right type of development and economic activities in the right location to maximise economic competitiveness? • Help to diversify the local economy? • Encourage inward investment? • Support innovation and new enterprises? • Promote the co-location of synergistic economic activities, industries and land uses? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site capability for industrial and economic uses. • Adjacent land uses, including potential agglomeration benefits. • Proximity to the strategic road and public transport networks.

Proposed SA Objectives	Proposed SA Guide Questions – <i>Will the replacement LDP...</i>	Proposed Candidate Site Assessment Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support a range of business types and sizes? • Provide the infrastructure and workspace required for new and existing businesses? 	
<p>7. Air Quality: Prevent and reduce emissions and concentrations of harmful atmospheric pollutants and minimise exposure to poor air quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain or improve air quality? • Reduce exposure to poor air quality? • Prevent and reduce emissions of harmful pollutants? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA). • Proximity to congestion pinch points. • Potential operational emissions.
<p>8. Climate Change: Adopt appropriate mitigation and adaption measures to reduce and respond to the impacts of climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from key economic sectors? • Support the minimisation of energy use? • Support the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources? • Facilitate investment in and promote the use of low carbon and sustainable infrastructure? • Implement adaptation measures to address the likely effects of climate change, including increased flood risks? • Promote sustainable design that minimises GHG emissions and is adaptable to the effects of climate change? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site provision or renewable or low carbon energy generation. • Proximity to the public transport network. • Capacity of the site to include climate change adaptation measures.
<p>9. Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Soil: Conserve, protect and enhance all biodiversity and geodiversity interests, including through</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate safeguards for the integrity and conservation objectives of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to and potential effects on sites designated at international,

Proposed SA Objectives	Proposed SA Guide Questions – <i>Will the replacement LDP...</i>	Proposed Candidate Site Assessment Criteria
<p>safeguarding important sites and species, improving green infrastructure provision and safeguarding important soil resources.</p>	<p>sites designated at international, national or local levels for reasons of biodiversity or geodiversity value or species protection?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect valued species and habitats? • Safeguard against habitat loss or fragmentation? • Protect or enhance protected trees or important woodland areas? • Improve access to nature? • Remediate known contamination of land and groundwater? • Safeguard the best quality and locally important agricultural land? • Protect and enhance important soil resources? 	<p>national and local levels for reasons of biodiversity conservation, ecological importance or geological importance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to designated woodlands and important trees or hedgerows. • Evidence of valued habitats or species on or adjacent to the site. • Potential impacts on habitat fragmentation and connectivity. • Agricultural land classification. • Soil type and quality.
<p>10. Water and Flood Risk: Conserve, protect and enhance the water environment, water quality and water resources, whilst reducing the risk of flooding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of waterbodies helping to meet the objectives of the Water Framework Directive? • Maintain or enhance the ecological and chemical status of the water environment? • Affect the volume of surface water runoff into or abstraction from water bodies? • Support improvements to water infrastructure (water supply and sewerage)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to Flood Risk Zones. • Proximity to waterbodies and aquifers.

Proposed SA Objectives	Proposed SA Guide Questions – <i>Will the replacement LDP...</i>	Proposed Candidate Site Assessment Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the risk of flooding from all sources of flooding to all people, property, infrastructure and environmental assets? • Manage residual flood risks appropriately and avoid new flood risks? • Seek to minimise new development in areas prone to flood risk or mitigate the potential for such risk? • Promote the deployment of sustainable urban drainage systems? 	
<p>11. Materials and Waste: Contribute to the implementation of the circular economy, manage waste with minimal environmental impacts and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, including for energy generation and the provision of an adequate supply of minerals and materials for construction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the production of waste? • Promote the principles of circular economy? • Treat and process waste with minimal environmental impact? • Minimise the demand for raw materials and the need for minerals extraction? • Promote the use of local resources and minimise the importation of minerals? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity of waste collection facilities. • Establishment of locational need for minerals extraction.
<p>12. Sustainable Placemaking: Maximise the efficient use of land and infrastructure and enhance design quality to create great places for people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote high quality architecture and design which strengthens local distinctiveness and fosters a sense of place? • Create and maintain a safe and attractive public realm which encourages people to walk and cycle? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previously developed brownfield land or greenfield land. • Proximity to active travel networks.

Proposed SA Objectives	Proposed SA Guide Questions – <i>Will the replacement LDP...</i>	Proposed Candidate Site Assessment Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate siting, scale, massing and density of development? • Make the best use of land, including through prioritising the redevelopment of brownfield sites and locating high footfall uses close to the public transport network? • Reduce opportunities for crime and antisocial behaviour through the siting and design of new development? • Provide public realm which feels safe to all users at all times? 	
<p>13. Cultural Heritage: Conserve, protect and enhance the historic environment and cultural assets, including the use of the Welsh language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase availability and accessibility of culture, leisure and recreation (CLR) activities/venues? • Conserve, protect and enhance the integrity, character and setting of heritage assets? • Protect and enhance the qualities of areas of historical or cultural significance? • Promote the sensitive re-use of historic or culturally important buildings? • Preserve and, where appropriate, enhance important archaeological resources? • Safeguard and increase the use of the Welsh language? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to and potential effects on designated heritage assets and areas. • Proposed re-use of historic or culturally important buildings. • Proposed inclusion of Welsh language signage within candidate sites.

Proposed SA Objectives	Proposed SA Guide Questions – <i>Will the replacement LDP...</i>	Proposed Candidate Site Assessment Criteria
14. Landscape: Protect and enhance landscape character, visual amenity and the legibility of settlements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance landscape character? • Safeguard important landscape and townscape features? • Protect visual amenity and valued views? • Prevent urban sprawl? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to and potential effects on nationally and locally designated landscapes; • Evidence of potential impacts on visual amenity or key views; • Evidence of integration or coalescence with, or separation from, existing settlements.

6 Proposed SA Methodology and Consultation Arrangements

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Building upon the proposed SA Framework detailed in **Section 5**, this section outlines and seeks the views of the SEA Consultation Bodies regarding the proposed methodology and consultation arrangements to be adopted for the SA of the LDP Review.

6.2 Proposed SA Reporting

6.2.1 In accordance with the 2004 Act, the Bridgend LDP Review Delivery Agreement confirms that two iterations of the emerging replacement LDP will be subject to statutory consultation on, namely a Preferred Strategy – LDP Pre-Deposit Document and then a full LDP Deposit Document. This LDP Deposit Document will subsequently be subject to an independent examination, following which it will be considered for formal adoption as the replacement LDP for the BCBC area. The SA methodology will be applied and the findings reported within iterative SA Reports which will accompany the Preferred Strategy (LDP Pre-Deposit) and Pre-Deposit Documents, with the SA Report updated between these stages to reflect changes to the emerging LDP:

- The SA Report for the Preferred Strategy will focus on assessing likely significant effects from the proposed LDP options, spatial strategy and strategic policies; and,
- The SA Report for the LDP Deposit Document will identify and assess all LSE from each substantive component of the LDP Deposit Document, including all proposed site allocations and policies.

6.2.2 Following the completion of an independent examination of the LDP Deposit Document, all binding recommendations made by the appointed Inspector will be subject to SA and SEA screening to determine whether they would give rise to any new or different LSE not previously reported within the SA Report for the LDP Deposit Document. This SEA Screening will be documented within an SA Addendum.

6.3 Proposed SA Methodology

6.3.1 Based on the intended form of the LDP Review, as detailed in **Section 2**, it is envisaged that the SA Framework set out in **Table 5.4** will be used to assess all proposed substantive components of the replacement LDP as it emerges, as well as any identified reasonable alternatives to these proposals. In general terms, the SA will therefore need to include appraisals of a proposed LDP vision, LDP objectives, a spatial strategy (and potential sub-area strategies), strategic policies, development management policies and site allocations. The proposed approach to undertaking a proportionate SA of each of these components is set out below.

SA of LDP Vision and Objectives

6.3.2 It is important that the vision and objectives of the replacement LDP are aligned with the SA Framework and reflect the identified key sustainability issues affecting the BCBC area, as all other LDP components will flow from them. The key attributes of the vision and objectives for the replacement LDP will therefore be assessed for their compatibility with each SA Objective within the SA Framework.

6.3.3 Owing to the high-level nature of the LDP vision and objectives it is not likely to be possible to identify the significance of individual predicted effects from these components of the emerging

replacement LDP, but where possible the SA will seek to provide an indication of this, with any uncertainties also noted. Should the proposed vision or objectives for the replacement LDP be judged to be incompatible with the SA Objectives, suitable mitigation measures in the form of revised wording will be recommended.

- 6.3.4 A compatibility matrix similar to the example presented in **Table 6.1** will be used to record the appraisal of the LDP vision and objectives within the SA reports for the LDP Pre-Deposit and Deposit Documents. For brevity and formatting reasons it is not proposed to reproduce the SA Guide Questions associated with each SA Objective (see **Table 5.4**) within the final version of any appraisal matrices within the SA reports, but they will be used where relevant to undertake the SA.

Table 6.1: Proposed Compatibility Matrix to Assess Replacement LDP Vision and Objectives

SA Objective		LDP Vision	LDP Objective 1	LDP Objective 2	Etc.
1.	Health and Wellbeing: Improve all aspects of the health and wellbeing of the population, including with respect to physical and mental health, social wellbeing and community safety.				
2.	Equality and Social Inclusion: Reduce poverty and inequality, tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion, including through enhancing access to community facilities.				
3.	Employment and Skills: Increase the number and quality of employment opportunities to meet identified needs, whilst improving the level of educational attainment and skills amongst residents.				
4.	Transport and Communications: Enhance the accessibility of public services, economic opportunities and markets through improving infrastructure and creating a sustainable transport network, whilst also ensuring access to high quality communications and utilities.				
5.	Housing: Provide a sufficient quantum and range of good quality and affordable housing in sustainable locations to meet identified needs.				
KEY		+	Compatible		
		0	Neutral		
		?	Uncertain		
		-	Incompatible		
		~	No Clear Relationship		

SA of Proposed Spatial Strategies and Policies

- 6.3.5 At the LDP Pre-Deposit Stage it is likely that BCBC will identify a suite of preferred high level spatial and policy options to meet identified needs (e.g. housing delivery) and challenges (e.g. the achievement of locally defined wellbeing objectives), together with potential reasonable alternatives to these options. The spatial options are likely to include potential growth options and may extend to the identification of preferred strategic site allocations (see below regarding the SA of candidate site allocations), whilst the policy options are likely to include a range of thematic policy approaches to address key issues.
- 6.3.6 Owing to the high level nature of the spatial and policy options that are likely to be included within the LDP Pre-Deposit Document, it may be necessary to adopt the same approach as for the LDP vision and objectives (**Table 6.1**) in terms of focusing on their compatibility with the SA Framework. However, the SA will also seek to identify relevant sustainability issues and mitigation or enhancement measures which should be incorporated within the spatial and policy options as they are developed further for the LDP Deposit Document. Where possible, the SA of the proposed spatial and policy options will determine whether they are likely to result in any significant effects.
- 6.3.7 The preferred spatial and policy options will be refined to take account of representations received regarding the LDP Pre-Deposit Document, resulting in the inclusion of a fully developed spatial strategy (potentially supported by sub-area strategies) and suite of strategic and development management policies within the LDP Deposit Document. At this stage, these components will be assessed in detail against the SA Framework using a standard matrix approach. For reasons of proportionality each policy grouping within the LDP Deposit Document will be assessed together using a standard SA matrix and scoring system similar to those shown in **Tables 6.2** and **6.3** below.

Table 6.2: Proposed Scoring System to Establish LSE from Proposed LDP Policies

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant (Major) Positive Effect	The proposed policy contributes significantly to the achievement of the SA Objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The proposed policy contributes to the achievement of the SA Objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral Effect	The proposed policy is related to but does not have any effect on the achievement of the SA Objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The proposed policy detracts from the achievement of the SA Objective but not significantly	-
Significant (Major) Negative Effect	The proposed policy detracts significantly from the achievement of the SA Objective. Mitigation is therefore required.	--
Uncertain Effect	The proposed policy has an uncertain relationship to the SA Objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. Additionally, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.	?
No Clear Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the proposed policy and the achievement of the SA Objective, or the relationship is negligible.	~

Table 6.3: Proposed Assessment Matrix for Proposed LDP Policies

Policy Grouping: Economic Growth				
SA Objective	Policy 1 Score	Policy 2 Score	Policy 3 Score	Commentary
1. Health and Wellbeing: Improve all aspects of the health and wellbeing of the population, including with respect to physical and mental health, social wellbeing and community safety.	++	+	++	<p><u>Assessment of Predicted Effects</u></p> <p><u>Mitigation and Enhancement</u></p> <p><u>Assumptions</u></p> <p><u>Uncertainties</u></p>
2. Equality and Social Inclusion: Reduce poverty and inequality, tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion, including through enhancing access to community facilities.	+	-	--	<p><u>Assessment of Predicted Effects</u></p> <p><u>Mitigation and Enhancement</u></p> <p><u>Assumptions</u></p> <p><u>Uncertainties</u></p>



Policy Grouping: Economic Growth				
SA Objective	Policy 1 Score	Policy 2 Score	Policy 3 Score	Commentary
3. Employment and Skills: Increase the number and quality of employment opportunities to meet identified needs, whilst improving the level of educational attainment and skills amongst residents.	-	~	?	<u>Assessment of Predicted Effects</u>
				<u>Mitigation and Enhancement</u>
				<u>Assumptions</u>
				<u>Uncertainties</u>
Etc.				

6.4 SA of Proposed Site Allocations

6.4.1 As noted in **Section 5.4**, a GIS led appraisal will be undertaken of all candidate sites² to determine whether their allocation would have any LSE. Subject to any views expressed by the SEA Consultation Bodies, the proposed criteria listed within the third column of **Table 5.4** will be refined before being confirmed within the Bridgend LDP Review Call for Sites Consultation Document. At this point, a transparent scoring system will be published to allow all prospective site promoters to consider the likely performance of their candidate site against the assessment criteria. All candidate sites submitted to BCBC within the defined LDP Call for Sites period and not discounted due to site size will then be subject to SA using the pre-determined appraisal criteria and scoring system, with the findings detailed within the SA Reports for the LDP Pre-Deposit and Deposit Documents.

6.5 Assessment of Cumulative Effects and Reasonable Alternatives

Cumulative and Synergistic Effects

6.5.1 Following from the appraisal of all individual substantive components of within the LDP Pre-Deposit and Deposit Documents, a further round of SA will be conducted to identify any likely cumulative or synergistic effects as a result of interactions between the emerging replacement LDP components. This will seek to demonstrate compliance with cumulative assessment requirements within the SEA Regulations in a proportionate manner.

SA of Reasonable Alternatives

Identification of Reasonable Alternatives

6.5.2 The SEA Regulations require the likely significant effects of implementing both a plan or programme (i.e. the emerging replacement LDP) and reasonable alternatives to it to be examined, as well as the rationale for identifying reasonable alternatives to be described. The SEA Regulations further state that to be considered as reasonable alternatives, options (e.g. alternative policy criteria or site allocations) must relate to the plan or programmes' corresponding objectives and geographical scope. To be eligible for consideration in this SA process, reasonable alternatives must therefore be:

- **Realistic**, in that they are plausible alternatives which could be implemented instead of proposals within the emerging replacement LDP and are consistent with relevant national and other policy frameworks;
- **Related** to the objectives of the emerging replacement LDP; and,
- Within the **geographical scope** of the emerging replacement LDP, i.e. any reasonable alternatives would need to relate to the distribution or characteristics of future development within the BCBC area.

6.5.3 Given that reasonable alternatives must relate to the objectives of the plan under consideration, it is not likely to be possible to identify any clear reasonable alternatives to the LDP vision and objective, as any alternatives would change the strategic direction of the emerging replacement LDP. However, the following types of reasonable alternatives will be identified where possible and subject to SA in the same way as the corresponding preferred option or proposed component of the emerging replacement LDP:

- Alternative policy options, criteria and tests considered during the preparation of the LDP Pre-Deposit and LDP Deposit Documents, e.g. setting higher or lower housing land

² Excluding those discounted from further consideration owing to being below minimum site sizes, which will be confirmed within the LDP Review Call for Sites Consultation Document.

requirements (to inform site allocations) or the application of a higher or lower affordable housing provision requirements (to assess planning applications);

- Alternative spatial options considered during the preparation of the LDP Pre-Deposit and LDP Deposit Documents, e.g. directing housing or employment growth to particular locations instead of others; and,
- Alternative site allocations – all candidate sites submitted to BCBC during the defined LDP Call for Sites period and not discounted due to site size will be subject to the same level of SA, regardless of whether BCBC subsequently decides to allocate the site within the emerging replacement LDP. The SA Report for the LDP Deposit Document will also provide a justification to explain the proposed allocation or non-allocation of each candidate site.

Approach to Identifying Uncertainties, Assumptions and Mitigation

- 6.5.4 The identification of any assumptions and uncertainties is an important element of the SA process, as the emerging replacement LDP will need to be unambiguous to ensure the plan can be implemented as intended.
- 6.5.5 The proposed SA reporting matrices (**Table 6.1** and **6.3** above) have been designed to allow uncertainties, inconsistencies and other issues which could undermine the implementation of the emerging replacement LDP to be identified in relation to the proposed LDP vision, objectives, spatial strategy and policies. The iterative nature of the SA process will enable corresponding recommendations to be devised and incorporated into the emerging replacement LDP to address any identified issues, in particular to avoid likely significant adverse effects from occurring.
- 6.5.6 The identification of mitigation measures to avoid likely significant adverse effects from the allocation of proposed sites is also of critical importance. Such mitigation measures usually take the form of policy requirements to undertake technical assessments regarding potential environmental effects from development proposals and, depending on the outcome of these assessments, to implement mitigation, compensatory and/or offsetting measures through the implementation of any planning permission granted for the proposal. The proposed site assessment criteria listed in the third column of **Table 5.4** will enable any LSE from the potential allocation of each candidate site to be identified. Should the relevant candidate site be proposed for allocation, appropriate site-specific mitigation would then need to be included within the emerging replacement LDP such that the SA report for the LDP Deposit Document is able to conclude that the proposed site allocations would not result in any unmitigated likely significant adverse effects.

6.6 Presentation of SA Key Findings

- 6.6.1 All matrix based detailed assessments of individual components of the emerging replacement LDP will be contained within appendices to the SA report, with key findings set out within the main body of the report. In accordance with the SEA Regulations, a separate Non-Technical Summary (NTS) document will be prepared to provide the information prescribed within Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations and present the key findings of the SA in non-technical language.

6.7 Proposed SA Consultation Arrangements

- 6.7.1 Iterative versions of the SA report will be published for consultation in tandem with the Preferred Strategy – LDP Pre-Deposit and LDP Deposit Documents. In accordance with the timescales set out within the finalised Bridgend LDP Delivery Agreement, each consultation will take place over a 6-week period. Additionally, an LDP Call for Sites exercise will take place in Autumn 2018, with all submitted candidate sites subsequently being subject to SA.

- 6.7.2 An online consultation hub will be used to facilitate consultation regarding both the emerging replacement LDP and the SA. However, representations and comments can also be made in writing to email and postal addresses which will be confirmed prior to the LDP Pre-Deposit consultation period commencing.

7 Next Steps

7.1 Overview

- 7.1.1 This SA Scoping Report has defined a proposed SA Framework (Section 5) and appraisal methodology (Section 6) for use in undertaking the SA in respect of the LDP Review. Subject to any comments received from the SEA Consultation Bodies, this SA Framework and methodology will be used to assess the LSE of the replacement LDP for the BCBC area that will result from the LDP Review. The assessment will be an iterative process and will involve the development and refinement of LDP options by testing the strengths, weaknesses and likely environmental effects of proposed components.
- 7.1.2 Reflecting the requirements of the 2004 Act and the SEA Regulations, the iterative SA Reports which will accompany the Preferred Strategy – LDP Pre-Deposit Document and the LDP Deposit Documents are proposed to comprise the following sections:
- A Non-Technical Summary;
 - A chapter setting out the scope and purpose of SA and the assessment methodology, as defined in this SA Scoping Report (subject to any amendments required to address any comments received from the SEA Consultation Bodies);
 - A chapter providing an overview of the form, content and development of the emerging replacement LDP to date;
 - A chapter summarising relevant environmental and wider sustainability issues and problems which require consideration (to be developed from **Appendix A** of this report);
 - A chapter summarising the relevance and key objectives of other identified plans and programmes (to be developed from **Appendix B** of this report);
 - A chapter detailing the identified LSE the implementation of the emerging replacement LDP and reasonable alternatives, including cumulative effects, mitigating measures, uncertainties and risks. The reasons for selecting the preferred options and rejection of alternatives will also be explained; and,
 - A chapter presenting views on implementation and monitoring.

7.2 Request for Comments from the SEA Consultation Authorities

- 7.2.1 The SEA Consultation Authorities are invited to provide:
- Their view and associated reasons regarding the potential for LSE to arise from the LDP Review and the need (or otherwise) to undertake a SEA; and,
 - Comments regarding the proposed scope of and approach to undertaking a SA, incorporating SEA, in respect of the LDP Review.
- 7.2.2 Any comments should be provided within the statutory timescales prescribed within the SEA Regulations (i.e. within 5 weeks of receiving this report) and directed to:

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Appendix A Baseline Review

A.1 Introduction

A.1.1 This Appendix supports **Section 4** of the Bridgend LDP Review SA (incorporating SEA) Screening and Report by providing a review of current environmental and socio-economic conditions within the area likely to be affected by the LDP Review, in particular (but not exclusively) the BCBC administrative area. In doing so this review:

- Identifies relevant aspects and characteristics of the environment, including those likely to be significantly affected by the outcome of the LDP Review (i.e. the replacement Bridgend LDP). This includes the identification of sites designated at international or national levels for reasons of biodiversity conservation, geological importance, heritage or landscape value which have the potential to be affected by the LDP Review;
- Identifies relevant socio-economic trends and baseline conditions, again focusing on matters likely to be significantly affected by the outcome of the LDP Review (i.e. the replacement Bridgend LDP); and,
- Outlines how the identified environmental and socio-economic characteristics and baseline conditions should be addressed within a replacement LDP for the BCBC area and considered within this SA. The terms “*must*” and “*should*” are used to differentiate between statutory requirements to consider particular issues and non-statutory considerations, for example evidence from the baseline analysis which indicates a need to improve environmental quality.

A.1.2 This evidence is then used to:

- Outline the expected evolution of baseline sustainability (including environmental) conditions in the absence of the LDP Review; and;
- Define a suite of key sustainability issues which will need to be addressed within the LDP Review and which should be considered throughout this SA (incorporating SEA) process.

A.1.3 The purpose of this baseline review is therefore to inform both emerging proposals for the LDP Review and the content of a SA Framework that will be used to assess all substantive components of the LDP Review (i.e. all emerging policy and site options, including reasonable alternatives to those preferred by BCBC)

A.2 Overview of Designated Sites

A.2.1 **Table A.1** identifies sites designated at international, national or local level for reasons of biodiversity conservation, geological importance, heritage or landscape value with the potential to be affected by the LDP Review. This draws upon an Initial HRA Screening Report which has been prepared to identify European sites (both within and outwith the BCBC area) which at this stage have the potential to experience LSE from the development of a replacement LDP for the BCBC area. The site-specific context of all identified designated sites needs to be considered when characterising the sustainability baseline position and identifying the relevance of existing issues and problems to the LDP Review, as detailed in **Section A.3**.

Table A.1: Designated Sites of relevance to the Bridgend LDP Review

Relevant Sites	Designation Type	Qualifying Features / Interests	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Biodiversity				
International/European				
Within the BCBC area: - None Outwith the BCBC area: - None	Special Protection Area (SPA)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Within the BCBC area: - Blackmill Woodlands - Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr / Cefn Cribwr Grasslands - Kenfig / Cynffig	Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Blackmill Woodlands: Old sessile oak woodlands at the southern extreme of the habitat's range in Wales.	Any replacement LDP resulting from the LDP Review must support the management of all internationally designated sites (including possible or proposed new European Sites) in pursuit of their defined conservation objectives.	Relevant SA objectives must afford adequate protection to international designations, taking account of their site-specific characteristics and qualifying features.
		Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr / Cefn Cribwr Grasslands: Fen-meadow (Molinia) grasslands, and marsh fritillary butterfly.		
		Kenfig / Cynffig: An assemblage of coastal habitats including sand dune systems, shallow lakes, and salt marsh along with two species of plant, the fen orchid and petalwort.		
Outwith the BCBC area (distance from boundary): - Dunraven Bay (3.7 km) - Blaen Cynon (10.6 km) - Cardiff Beech Woods (12.4 km) - Coedydd Nedd a Mellte (12.0 km)		Dunraven Bay: The 20 or so plants of shore dock Rumex rupestris growing on damp coastal limestone are the only remnant of the species' former Bristol Channel range.		

Relevant Sites	Designation Type	Qualifying Features / Interests	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crymlyn Bog / Cors Crymlyn (12.2 km) - Cwm Cadlan (14.0 km) - River Wye / Afon Gwy (30 km) - River Usk / Afon Wysg (55 km) 		<p>Blaen Cynon: The site contains an extensive complex of damp pastures and heaths supporting marsh fritillary.</p>		
		<p>Cardiff Beech Woods: Cardiff Beech Woods contains one of the largest concentrations of Asperulo-Fagetum beech forests in Wales.</p>		
		<p>Coedydd Nedd a Mellte: A complex of old sessile oak woodland habitats.</p>		
		<p>Crymlyn Bog / Cors Crymlyn: A complex of wetland habitats including traditional mires, quaking bogs, and calcareous fens.</p>		
		<p>Cwm Cadlan: Fen-meadow (Molinia) grasslands, and alkaline fens.</p>		
		<p>River Wye/Afon Gwy: A range of riverine habitats and associated species including white-clawed crayfish, Atlantic salmon, and otter.</p>		
		<p>River Usk/Afon Wysg: A range of riverine habitats and associated species Atlantic salmon and otter.</p>		

Relevant Sites	Designation Type	Qualifying Features / Interests	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Crymlyn Bog (12.2 km from BCBC area)	Ramsar Site	Comprises a floodplain-valley mire located within a lowland coastal context and is the most extensive wetland of its type in Wales.		
National				
<p>14 SSSIs have been designated within the BCBC area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blackmill Woodlands; - Bryn - Bach, Cefn Cribwr - Brynna A Wern Tarw; - Caeau Cefn Cribwr; - Coed Y Mwstwr Woodlands; - Cwm Cyffog; - Cwm Du Woodlands; - Cwm Risca Meadow; - Cynffig/Kenfig; - Daren Y Dimbath; - Merthyr Mawr; - Penycastell, Cefn Cribwr; - Waun Cimla; - Waun-Fawr; and, Cefn Cribwr. 	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	The identified SSSIs have been designated owing to the presence of nationally important or rare habitat types within each.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review must support the management of all nationally designated sites in pursuit of their defined conservation objectives.	Relevant SA objectives must afford adequate protection to national designations, taking account of their site-specific characteristics and qualifying interests.
<p>Kenfig Pool and Dunes</p> <p>Merthyr Mawr Warren</p>	National Nature Reserve (NNR)	Kenfig Pool NNR hosts Glamorgan's largest lake whilst Merthyr Mawr Warren NNR is home to the highest dune in Wales, known as the Big Dipper.		
Local				

<p>The following SINCS are currently designated at the local level within the BCBC area: Ewenny Moor; Cefn Glas Wood (Graig-y-Casnewydd); Heronstone House Meadow; River Wood; Wildmill Community Park; Tremains; Coychurch Road Verge; Hendir-Uchaf; Heol-y-Cyw (east); Wern Fawr/Fernbank; Dre-Fach; Blaencrymlyn; Nant Crymlyn; Rockwool Grounds; Heol-y-Cyw (west); Gelli-Feddgaer Wood; Moor Farm; Crematorium Wood; Waterton Alderwood; Bedford Park; Mynydd Bach; Waun Dafydd Farm; Waun Fawr / Coed Uchaf; Cefn Cribwr; Cwn Ffos Farm; Tymaen Farm Entrance Verge; Cwn Ffos (East); Coed Parc-Gawr; Derwen Wood; Coedcraigddu; Coed Lais; Lime Kiln Wood; Coed-y-Morfa; Parc Farm; Smallhold Wood; Junction 36 Heath; Cornelly Quarry; North Eastern Dunes; Old Ballas Wood; Ty Tanglwyst Wood; St James Church Wood; Sker Rocks/ Pink Bay; Kenfig NNR Field; Eastern Frog Pond Wood; Afon Cynffig; Waunbant Road Trianlge; Waunbant Road (north); Ffroch Wen Mosaic; Craig Ddu; Blaengarw North-East; Bryngarw Park East; Cwm Garw; Nant Mwrth; North Bettws Woodland; Bettws West; Disused Railway Woods; Moelgilau Fawr; Tylacoch North; Talycoch South; Stormy Down; Coed-Ty-Maen; Laleston Meadows; Cae Pen-y-Bryn; Craig-y-Parcau; Cae-Porth; Laleston County Primary School; Llangewydd (north of railway); Coed-y-Gains; Coed Pentwyn; Coed Tondu; Nant Cwmbach; Coed Coytrahen; Cwm Cefnydfa; Ton Philip Farm; Gilfach Uchaf; Gelliheblig; Nant Bryncynon Woods; Waun-y-Gilfach Woods; Llan Road Woods; Cwm Nant Gwyn; Drysity'n-y-waun; Llety Woods; Ty'n-y-Waun; Nant Y Castell Grasslands; LLwyn-y-Brian; Llety Brongu; Caerau West; Caerau North; Blaen-Cwmdu; Nant-y-Crynwydd;</p>	<p>Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)</p>	<p>The identified SINCS host a wide range of locally important habitat types and either the observed presence of or potential to support a wide range of floral and faunal species, including indicator species. A number of the SINCS overlap with higher level statutory designations.</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide an appropriate level of protection and enhancement opportunities for biodiversity sites designated at the local level.</p>	<p>Relevant SEA objectives must afford an appropriate level of protection for all designated sites, commensurate with their status and purpose.</p>
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Relevant Sites	Designation Type	Qualifying Features / Interests	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
<p>Abercerdin Wood; Garth Grassland; Caergymrig; Cwm Sychbant; Cemetery Fields; Nant Cwm-Du-Bach; Cwm Cerwyn; Llwydarth Woods; Tudor West; Sychbant Fields; St John's Colliery Field; Llyn-y-Felin; Coed Cwintin; Cwm-y-Befos; Home Wood and Long Belt; Coed Pwll-du; Chapel Hill; Merthyr Mawr Common; Coed y Tyle; Island Farm POW Camp; Verville; Ar-Graig Field; Coed y Nawern; Craig-an-Wood; Kiln Field; Pwll-y-Mor; Pennsylvania Wood; Penyfai Common; Cefn Cribwr Wood; Ffwyl Wood (South); Coed-y-Waun; Coed-yr-Hela; Longacre Meadow; Court Colman Fish Pond; Penylan Farm Wood; Parc pond; Angelton Common; Aberkenfig West; Cwm Dyfolog; Cwm Dyfolog; Cwm Dimbath; Bryn y Wrach; Glynogwr Woods; Cwm Cyffog; Rhiw Fer; Pant-yr-Awel; Peter Sturgess; Glynllan West; Hirwaun Common; Bryngwenith and Ty Chwith; Brynau Gwynian; Coed Isetyn; Ewenny River Fields; Newton Burrows; Locks Common; Pant-y-Hyl; Graig Wood; The Wilderness; Manor Farm Fields; Coedargraig; Newton Point; The Beacons; Nottage Court Wood; Rych Point; Pwll-y-waun; Grove Common; Trafalgar Wood; Pink Bay Pond; Moor Lane Pond; Cefn Hirgoed; Pant Farm/Hirwaun Common; Coed Caehelyg; Tyncoed Farm, Bryncethin; Rifle Range Wood; Brynmenyn.</p>				

Relevant Sites	Designation Type	Qualifying Features / Interests	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
The following LNRs are currently designated at the local level within the BCBC area: Craig Y Parcau; Frog Pond Wood; Locks Common; Tremains Wood.	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	LNR are sites which have interesting wildlife or geology but are also important for local residents, schools and are places where people who may have no specific interest in natural history can enjoy access to nature. BCBC's countryside team aim to make the LNRs exemplars in the management of designated sites and green space, with the goals of conserving nature, providing opportunities for study or research and allowing access and recreation.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide an appropriate level of protection and enhancement opportunities for nature reserves designated at the local level.	Relevant SEA objectives must afford an appropriate level of protection for all designated sites, commensurate with their status and purpose.
Geological				
National				
Stormy Down	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Geological SSSIs are designated owing to the presence of nationally important or rare geological features.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review must support the management of all nationally designated sites to maintain or improve their current condition.	Relevant SA objectives must afford adequate protection to national designations, taking account of their site-specific characteristics and qualifying interests.
Local				
12 RIGS have been designated within the BCBC area: Wildmill Community Park; Coed y Mwster Cave; Pant Mawr Quarry; Stormy Down Quarry; Gaen Quarry; Candleston Quarry; Lock's Common; Black Rocks; Schwyll Risings; Pales (House Quarry near Llandegley); Craig Ogwr Tors; Cwm Parc	Regionally Important Geodiversity Site (RIGS)		Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide an appropriate level of protection for locally designated regionally important geodiversity sites.	Relevant SEA objectives must afford an appropriate level of protection for all designated sites, commensurate with their status and purpose. There is also a need to assess likely effects on important geological features under the 'soil' environmental topic as prescribed within Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations.

Relevant Sites	Designation Type	Qualifying Features / Interests	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Cultural Heritage				
National				
60 Scheduled Monuments across the BCBC area	Scheduled Monuments (SM)	Of the 60 identified Scheduled Monuments (SM, 3 date from the Early Medieval period, 23 from the Medieval period, 8 Post Medieval/Modern, 23 Prehistoric, 2 Roman and 1 from an unknown period. The majority are sited within Merthyr Mawr (14). A wide range of historic structures have been designated, including hill forts, chapels, standing stones, ironworks, castles and cairns, each of which is of historical significance and forms an important landscape feature.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review must support the protection and enhancement of all nationally designated heritage assets, including their setting. The identified heritage assets benefit from statutory protection which must be taken account of within policies, proposals and guidance within the replacement LDP.	Relevant SA objectives must afford adequate protection to nationally designated heritage assets, taking account of site-specific characteristics and the relevance of heritage assets to the BCBC area.
373 Listed Buildings across the BCBC area	Listed Buildings	A wide range of structures and buildings have been listed owing to their features of architectural importance.		
There are 16 Conservation Areas within the BCBC area: Bridgend: Bridgend Town Centre; Newcastle Hill; Merthyr Mawr Road; Porthcawl Town Centre; Nottage; Newton; Tythegston; Maesteg Town Centre; Derllwyn road; Llangeinor; Llangynwyd; Coity; Laleston; Nantymoel; Merthyr Mawr; Preswylfa	Conservation Areas	The designated Conservation Areas are centred upon clusters of Listed Buildings or other structures of architectural importance.		
Landscape				
National				
None	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Relevant Sites	Designation Type	Qualifying Features / Interests	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Local				
<p>The following SLAs are currently designated at the local level within the BCBC area: Foel y Dyffryn; the Northern Uplands; the Western Uplands; Bryngarw Country Park; Mynydd y Gaer; Kenfig Burrows; Laleston; Porthcawl Coast; Merthyr Mawr Warren.</p> <p>Additionally, the Craig Ogwr Tors and Cwm Parc RIGS are recognised by BCBC for their significant landscape value.</p>	<p>Special Landscape Areas (SLA)</p>	<p>Policy ENV3 within the existing Bridgend LDP identifies these 9 Special Landscape Areas (SLAs) as being unique, exceptional or distinctive to the BCBC area.</p> <p>Policy ENV4 within the existing Bridgend LDP advises of the need for development to be compatible with the nature conservation or scientific interest of designated areas including RIGS, whilst promoting their educational role</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide an appropriate level of protection and enhancement opportunities for landscapes designated at the local level.</p>	<p>Relevant SEA objectives must afford an appropriate level of protection for all designated sites, commensurate with their status and purpose.</p>

A.3 Environmental and Socio-economic Baseline Conditions

- A.3.1 Informed by **Table A.1**, **Table A.2** below outlines the current environmental and socio-economic conditions within the area likely to be affected by the LDP Review, in particular (but not exclusively) the BCBC administrative area. This review also identifies associated existing environmental and socio-economic problems and issues which the LDP Review should address and which should be considered throughout this SA (incorporating SEA) process.

Table A.2: Review of Relevant Environmental Aspects, Issues and Problems

SEA Topic	Baseline Key Characteristics	Existing Objectives, Issues and Problems	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA			
1. Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	<p>Designated sites: As detailed in Table A.1, the BCBC area hosts a number of designated sites at European, national and local levels for reasons of biodiversity conservation and value, whilst other designated sites outwith the BCBC area could also be affected by the LDP Review. At the European level the BCBC area hosts 3 SACs and 9 other relevant European sites have been identified outwith the BCBC area. At the national level the BCBC area hosts 15 SSSIs, some of which overlap with the 3 SACs, as well as 2 NNRs. At the local level, BCBC has designated 4 LNRs and an extensive set of SINCS owing to their green infrastructure and locally important biodiversity features.</p>	<p>All identified sites are designated for specific reasons of ecological important or biodiversity conservation and have conservation objectives related to these, e.g. the protection of relevant qualifying features. Table A.1 above identifies the qualifying features of relevant European sites (SACs and Ramsar sites). There is a need to safeguard these qualifying features from adverse effects, protect the integrity of designated sites and work towards the achievement of defined conservation objectives.</p>	<p>Any proposals for development within the BCBC area could adversely impact designated sites and biodiversity through a range of direct and indirect effects, potentially including loss of roosting, foraging and other habitats, physical or noise disturbance, abstraction of river water, discharge of effluent, contamination and air pollution. As such, all proposals and policies within the emerging replacement LDP arising from the LDP Review must take account of relevant ecological sensitivities. This includes the need to support the management of all designated sites in relation to their status and in pursuit of their defined conservation objectives. Any replacement LDP must also provide an appropriate level of protection for protected species and non-designated ecological interests.</p>	<p>The SA Framework must include objectives relating to the appropriate conservation, protection and enhancement of statutorily and non-statutorily designated sites.</p>			
	<p>Priority and other notable habitats: BCBCs habitats includes ancient woodlands, unimproved wet grasslands, chalk grassland, river valleys and rocky gorges, coastal sand dunes and saltmarsh. These habitats support varied flora and fauna, including many protected, rare or declining species. Protected species with a known presence in the BCBC area include dormice, water vole, great crested newts and the marsh fritillary butterfly.</p>				<p>The SA Framework should include appropriate objectives to assess potential effects on habitats and species from proposals (including cumulative development) and policies within the emerging replacement LDP. This should include consideration of impacts such as habitat loss, recreational impacts, water abstraction, pollution and disturbance effects.</p>		
2. Population (including relevant socio-economic conditions)	<p>Governance and Statistical Geographical Units: BCBC is the unitary authority responsible for local government across a 285km² area of South Wales. The authority hosts four lower level Town Councils and 16 Community Councils.</p> <p>The BCBC area is centred on the principal settlement of Bridgend, also taking in Maesteg, the seaside resort of Porthcawl, Pencoed to the east and the Llynfi, Garw and Ogmere valleys. As a unitary authority, BCBC is also the single local planning authority (LPA) for the area. The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 provides a legal framework for the preparation of Strategic Development Plans at the regional level (refer to Appendix B for further details). An SDP is expected be prepared in due course for the Cardiff City Region, which the BCBC area forms part of alongside 9 other local authorities: Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Torfaen and the Vale of Glamorgan.</p> <p>In terms of statistical units, there are 88 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) within the BCBC area, representing 4.6% of the 1909 total LSOAs in Wales.</p>	N/A	<p>The preparation of any replacement LDP will need to be closely aligned with the preparation of the Cardiff City Region SDP to ensure that once adopted, both documents provide a coherent framework for effectively and efficiently addressing relevant planning issues.</p>	<p>A separate SA/SEA process will need to be undertaken for the emerging Cardiff City Region SDP once the lead Responsible Authority for the preparation of this plan has been determined. As with this LDP Review, SA/SEA Scoping will be needed to set an assessment framework prior to the development of substantive SPD components.</p> <p>The SA Framework proposed for use in the SA of the LDP Review (Section 5) should be kept under review and tested for compatibility against the SA Framework for the Cardiff City Region SPD once this has been produced.</p>			
	<p>Demographics: BCBC has an estimated population of 143,400 (2016³), around 4.6% of the total population of Wales (3,113,200).</p> <p>2011 based projections suggest that the population will increase from 139,410 in 2011 to 146,242 by 2021, whilst 2014 based projections indicate that population levels will continue to increase from 141,214 to 144,093 between 2014 and 2021. Additionally, the mid-year estimates for the period 2011 to 2016 identify a steady increase from 139,410 to 143,408, which equates to an increase of 0.57% per year over the last five years.</p>				<p>Projected population ageing is likely to create issues for long term workforce replacement and increase pressures on a range of public services.</p>	<p>The LDP Review must take into account the characteristics of the resident and working populations of the BCBC area, particularly with regard to current and future predicted labour supplies, employment needs, skill levels and socio-economic factors (as detailed below).</p> <p>It will be important for the replacement LDP to set out coherent strategies in respect of housing land and community infrastructure provision to meet current and expected future needs. Robust evidence to identify these needs should also therefore be collated and kept up to date throughout the LDP Review.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include appropriate objectives to assess the ability of the emerging replacement LDP to meet existing and predicted future population needs, in particular with regards to the accessibility and provision of public services.</p>

³ NOMIS: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157395/report.aspx>

SEA Topic	Baseline Key Characteristics	Existing Objectives, Issues and Problems	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	<p>Housing: The JHLAS (2018) indicates that BCBC has a housing land supply, assessed against the current housing requirement of the Bridgend LDP, of 4-years. This is the first year since the LDP adoption in 2013 that the land supply has fallen below the 5-year target. 2018 JHLAS see earlier comment.</p> <p>There are three housing market areas within the BCBC area: the North consisting of Ogmre, Garw & Upper Llynfi Valley and Western Settlements, the West consisting of Porthcawl, and Rural and East consisting of Bridgend, Pencoed & Hinterland. In total there are an estimated 62,462 dwellings across the BCBC area, of which approximately 70% are owner occupied, 16% privately owned and the remaining 14% rented from registered social landlords.</p> <p>Housing prices within BCBC increased by 12.1% from July 2016 (£136,701) to July 2017 (£153,242) which is £2,396 above the average property prices for Wales (July 2017⁴).</p> <p>Whilst approximately 1160 affordable dwellings have been provided to date over the existing LDP period, the estimated annual need for affordable housing far exceeds average annual rates of total housing completions.</p>	<p>The identification of a current housing land shortfall means that insufficient housing is likely to be delivered through the planning system to meet identified needs. However, a replacement LDP must be underpinned by up to date and objective calculations of housing need, which may differ from the housing land requirements set under different economic conditions in 2013 for the existing LDP.</p> <p>Alongside the ageing population, housing demand is anticipated to increase with projected increases in the number of single person/lone parent households.</p> <p>At present the overall level of demand for affordable housing is not being met across the BCBC area. Furthermore, BCBC has identified clear shortfalls in the provision of extra care housing and smaller dwellings, in particular that of two bedroom properties, across the affordable and general purpose housing sectors.</p>	<p>The LDP Review calculate the objectively assessed housing need (OAN) level for the BCBC area over the intended period of the replacement LDP and set a new housing land requirement accordingly. Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review will then need to be underpinned by a clear housing land strategy and will need to allocate a sufficient quantum and appropriate range of housing sites to satisfy the identified housing land requirement.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to housing provision to meet identified needs, both in terms of the availability and quality of the housing stock.</p>
	<p>Educational Attainment/Qualifications⁵: In 2017, 11.3% of the working age population (16 to 64yr) in the BCBC area held no qualifications, which is higher than the percentage of the population with no qualifications across Wales (8.7%). This trend was also observed each year between 2012 – 2016. The level of attainment achieved by the working age population with qualifications is also lower in Bridgend than across Wales: 49% in Bridgend are qualified to level NVQ3 or above compared with 54.6% across Wales and 31.5% are qualified to level NVQ4 or above compared with 35.1% at the national level. These statistics correlate with the findings of the Bridgend Business Research report, in which almost a third of businesses surveyed (60 out of 202) stated that they needed a more skilled workforce⁶.</p> <p>More positively, in 2016-17 the percentage of pupils achieving 'Level 2 Threshold' qualifications was 67.9% in Bridgend compared to 67.0% across Wales.</p>	<p>The latest available statistics highlight that as a whole, the working age population within the BCBC area holds fewer and less advanced qualifications than across Wales, although current educational attainment amongst school aged people is similar across both geographies.</p> <p>The observed high proportion of the working age population with no qualifications is of concern as the limits the ability of a sizeable demographic group to be economically active and restricts local access by employers to high skilled labour.</p>	<p>The LDP Review should identify adequate provision of community infrastructure to meet existing and projected future population needs, including with respect to education infrastructure capacity and choice.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include appropriate objectives to assess the ability of the emerging replacement LDP to meet existing and predicted future population needs, including with regards to the adequacy, quality and spatial distribution of education infrastructure provision.</p>
	<p>Community Infrastructure:</p> <p><u>Bridgend North</u> Three comprehensive schools in the area (Maesteg, Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen & Ysgol GG Llangynwyd. It is served by the following town and community councils: Maesteg Town Council, Llangynwyd Middle and Lower Community Council, Garw Valley Community Council, Ogmre Valley Community Council, St Brides Minor Community Council, Ynysawdre Community Council, Newcastle Higher Community Council. Awen Cultural trust operates 6 libraries in the area (Aberkenfig, Betws, Maesteg, Ogmre Vale, Pontycymmer and Llynfi (Maesteg)). There are</p>	<p>The Bridgend Wellbeing Assessment (2017) indicates that the BCBC area is presently served by a range of good quality community infrastructure and open spaces. It will be important that these are protected and where possible enhanced and that the infrastructure is capable of meeting the changing needs of the population. In addition, further community infrastructure and open space provision will be required to support projected population growth within the BCBC area.</p>	<p>The LDP Review should identify adequate provision of community infrastructure to meet existing and projected future population needs, including with respect to outdoor sport provision, children's playing space, community halls, accessible natural open space and allotment provision.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include appropriate objectives to assess the ability of the emerging replacement LDP to meet existing and predicted future population needs, including with regards to the provision and quality of community infrastructure.</p>

⁴ UK House Price Index - Wales (July 2017): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-house-price-index-wales-july-2017/uk-house-price-index-wales-july-2017>

⁵ Educational attainment statistics sourced from NOMIS: Labour Market Profile - Bridgend

⁶ Wavehill (2016) Bridgend Business Research

SEA Topic	Baseline Key Characteristics	Existing Objectives, Issues and Problems	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	<p>swimming pools in Ynysawdre and Maesteg and fitness centres in Pontycymmer, Ogmore Vale and Maesteg.</p> <p>Other community facilities include: Blaengarw Hall, Maesteg Town Hall, Bryngarw Country Park and Parc Slip.</p> <p><u>Bridgend East</u> There are 4 comprehensive schools in the area, plus Heronsbridge Special School: Pencoed, Bryntirion, Brynteg, Archbishop McGrath. It is served by the following town and community councils: Bridgend Town Council, Pencoed Town Council, Coychurch Higher Community Council, Laleston Community Council, Coity Higher Community Council, Brackla Community Council and Merthyr Mawr Community Council. Six GP practices serve the area, with a good geographic spread in Pencoed, Bridgend Town, Brackla and Cefn Glas. Awen Cultural Trust operates 2 libraries, one in Bridgend Town Centre and one in Pencoed. Other community facilities include MacArthur Glen Retail Park, Life Centre & swimming pool (Bridgend Town) and swimming pool (Pencoed), Bridgend College (inc Weston House) and Carnegie House. HMP and YOI Parc are also within the area.</p> <p><u>Bridgend West</u> There are three schools within the area (Cynffig, Porthcawl & St Clare's (Bridgend's only privately-run school). It is served by the following town and community councils: Porthcawl Town Council, Cornelly Community Council, Cefn Cribbwr Community Council & Pyle Community Council. Awen Cultural trust operates two libraries in Pyle and Porthcawl. Other community facilities include two blue flag beaches (Trecco Bay and Rest Bay), the Grand Pavillion and Kenfig Nature Reserve.</p> <p>Five areas of Bridgend had Green Flag status in 2016: the Wilderness Allotment, Coychurch Crematorium, Bryn Garw Country Park and Maesteg Welfare Park. The Green Flag Community Award was also given to the Wilderness Lake at Porthcawl.</p>			
	<p>Employment⁷: In 2017 the employment rate within the BCBC area was 70%, which was lower than across Wales (74.1%) and Great Britain (76%), whilst the percentage of the working age population that is economically active was also lower. The official unemployment rate in the BCBC area stood at 5.2% for 2017, which was higher than the unemployment rate across Wales (4.8%) and Great Britain (4.4%). Related to this, in 2016 the BCBC area had a jobs density of 0.74 (ratio of jobs to resident working age population) compared with 0.76 across Wales and 0.84 for Great Britain.</p> <p>The latest available statistics indicate that the largest employment sectors in Bridgend are for the wholesale and retail trade/repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (15.5%) and human health and social work activities (15.5%). This is comparable to that of Wales overall. Manufacturing is the third largest employer by industry at 13.8%.</p> <p>ONS Annual Population Survey data indicates that over the period since 2010 there has been a small shift in the industry of</p>	<p>In recent years the BCBC area has consistently experienced a higher unemployment rate than the national averages for Wales and Great Britain. This indicates either that insufficient or unsuitable employment opportunities are provided for residents of the BCBC area, taking account of education and skills levels (which, as detailed below, are also below national averages).</p>	<p>The LDP Review should develop and appropriate employment land and economic development strategy for the replacement LDP. It will be important for emerging policies, proposals and guidance to support the creation of a broad range of new employment opportunities which match the skill levels of the existing labour market, whilst also seeking to attract high value sectors such as energy, advanced manufacturing, logistics and ports.</p>	<p>The SA should assess whether the replacement LDP will be effective in providing increased employment opportunities in appropriate locations and appropriate sectoral diversification into high value industries. The SA Framework should therefore include objectives relating to high quality employment, economic growth, sectoral diversification and inward investment.</p>

⁷ All data sourced from NOMIS: Labour Market Profile - Bridgend

SEA Topic	Baseline Key Characteristics	Existing Objectives, Issues and Problems	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	<p>employment of residents of the BCBC area, as the proportion of those who work in manufacturing and public administration, education and health has decreased whereas the proportion who worked in distribution, hotels and restaurants, and transport and communications increased⁸.</p> <p>In 2017, full-time workers gross weekly pay in Bridgend averaged at £536.00, which was £37.60 above the level Wales but below that from Great Britain by £16.30. Females in Bridgend received £123.30 less in their gross weekly pay than the total average.</p>			
	<p>Inequality, Social Exclusion and Deprivation: The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2014) identifies deprivation pockets throughout Wales.</p> <p>In 2014, of the 88 LSOAs in the BCBC area, 9 were in the most deprived 10% of Wales; 20 were in the most deprived 20%; 37 were in the most deprived 30% and 50 were in the most deprived 50% LSOAs.</p> <p>The percentage of households that are workless in Bridgend is 4.7% above that for Great Britain. 16.1% of those in Bridgend of claiming government benefits; 1.7% above that for Wales and 5.1% above that for Great Britain.</p> <p>The level of worklessness is reflected through gross disposable household income (GDHI) per head, which is lower in Bridgend than the Wales average. GDHI has declined by £163 per household since 2010. In 2014, GDHI was £14,753.00. Median Weekly Wages in Bridgend in 2015 were £500, higher than that of Wales at £484.40.</p>	<p>Some parts of the BCBC area, especially in the Valley communities, are among the most deprived areas of Wales, with low levels of economic activity and access to facilities and services, particularly for children, young people and elderly populations.</p>	<p>A holistic strategy is needed to address multiple deprivation within parts of the BCBC area, including but not limited to the creation of new, high quality employment opportunities. Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should set out a clear employment land strategy to support the provision of new employment opportunities in appropriate and accessible locations. The replacement LDP should also include a regeneration strategy and associated policies and proposals to catalyse a range of physical, environmental, health and socio-economic improvements within identified deprived communities.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include appropriate objectives relating to equality, social inclusion, access to public services, employment opportunities, access to healthcare, access to open spaces and exposure to pollution (air, water, soil, etc).</p>
3. Human Health	<p>Life expectancy⁹: Males born within the least deprived areas of Bridgend are expected to live 9.2 years longer than those born in the most deprived areas; while females born within the least deprived areas of Bridgend are expected to live 9 years longer than those born in the most deprived areas. Across Wales, the life expectancy gap for females is 7.3 years while the life expectancy gap for males is 8.9 years.</p> <p>Healthy life expectancy for males is ranked at 21.9, the second highest rank across Wales (Cardiff is the highest at 24.4) with Wales itself being ranked at 18.7¹⁰.</p> <p>Healthy life expectancy for females is ranked at 16.2 below that for Wales at 18.2. This indicated that there is a higher level of inequality in a healthy life expectancy for males in Bridgend.</p> <p>Physical Health/Lifestyle Choices: According to the 'Our Healthy Future Interactive Tool 2015' adults living within Bridgend (2013-2014) undertook moderate to vigorous physical activity for 30 minutes or more on 2.2 times a week on average, this is slightly below the Wales average (2.4)¹¹.</p> <p>The percentage of adults who reported to have eaten five or more portions of fruit and vegetables the previous day in Bridgend was</p>	<p>It is clear to see that there are large gaps in life expectancy between most and least deprived areas of Bridgend.</p> <p>Measures need to be put in place to firstly tackle deprivation which should then have a positive impact on life expectancy of both males and females.</p> <p>Physical health and lifestyle choices within BCBC are under performing when compared to that for Wales. Increased education and awareness would be beneficial to the population of the County Borough.</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should take into consideration the lower life expectancy and notable health inequalities of the BCBC area resident population compared with regional and national averages. It should set out proposals, policies and guidance to safeguard and improve amenity, quality of life and health outcomes (physical and mental) for all within the BCBC area, i.e. for both the workforce and residents.</p>	<p>The Framework should include objectives relating to amenity, quality of life, health outcomes, physical health, mental health, wellbeing, safety and security. These issues should be considered holistically when assessing the proposed components of the emerging replacement LDP.</p>

⁸ Bridgend Public Service Board (2017) Assessment of Local Well-being

⁹ ONS, Life expectancy of females/males

¹⁰ Bridgend Public Service Board (2017) Assessment of Local Well-being

¹¹ NHS Wales Informatics Service, Our Healthy Future Interactive tool 2015, Average number of days of 30 mins or more moderate to vigorous physical activity (capped) reported by adults, age standardised.

SEA Topic	Baseline Key Characteristics	Existing Objectives, Issues and Problems	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	<p>30% which is slightly below the average for Wales at 32% (2014-2015). The figure for Bridgend was seen to be at its lowest in 2013 (26%)¹².</p> <p>Between 2010 and 2015 the proportion of those who had eaten five or more portions of fruit and vegetables the previous day for Bridgend has steadily increased, though this has consistently still been below the average for Wales.</p> <p>Childhood obesity is a significant issue in Bridgend with 26.3% of children aged 4-5 years being classed as obese in 2015.</p> <p>In 2015, 19% of adults in Bridgend identified as currently being a smoker compared to the 20% average across Wales.</p> <p>Binge drinking among adults within the last week for Bridgend was at 25% compared with 24% across Wales (2015). Despite this, in 2016 Bridgend was the local authority with the lowest proportion of individuals accessing treatment for alcohol misuse per 100,000 population in Wales, with 153 per 100,000 of the population; substantially below the Wales average of 241 per 100,000 of the population.</p> <p>Between 2011 and 2016, the rate of individuals accessing treatment for alcohol misuse in Bridgend ranged substantially between 94 to 198 individuals per 100,000 population, but each year it was substantially below the Wales average rate.</p> <p>Additionally, in 2016, the rate of individuals accessing treatment for drug misuse per 100,000 population in Bridgend was also far lower than the Wales average (215) at 137. Moreover, between 2011 and 2016, the rate in Bridgend ranged substantially between 107 and 170 individuals per 100,000 population, but still below the Wales average rate year to year.</p>			
	<p>Mental Health and Wellbeing: Bridgend's health board (Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board) recorded 136.1 deaths per 100,000 residents in 2016 which were due to mental health and behavioural issues.</p> <p>Projected numbers of residents in Bridgend who have at least one mental disorder is expected to increase from 27,095 (2015) to 27,289 (2035)¹³</p>	<p>In line with the Bridgend Wellbeing Plan (2018 – 2022) there is a need to improve all aspects of the health and wellbeing of the resident population of the BCBC area, including physical health, mental health and social wellbeing.</p>		
	<p>Health Infrastructure: BCBC's health infrastructure now falls within the remit of the Cwm Taf University Health Board, having previously been under the control of Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board until April 2018.</p> <p>The Princess of Wales Hospital is a district general hospital which opened in 1985. The hospital is located on the outskirts of Bridgend town in South Wales, and provides acute health services to the local population¹⁴.</p> <p>Within Bridgend there are 23 GP Surgeries¹⁵ and 19 Dentist Practices¹⁶.</p>	<p>Adequate health infrastructure need to be located in accessible locations to meet the needs of existing and future populations. A range of high quality physical and mental health facilities are required to address the changing health needs of the population, in particular given projected population ageing.</p>	<p>The LDP Review should identify adequate provision of community infrastructure to meet existing and projected future population needs, including with respect to healthcare facilities and services.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include appropriate objectives to assess the ability of the emerging replacement LDP to meet existing and predicted future population needs, including with regards to the adequacy, quality and spatial distribution of healthcare facilities and services.</p>

¹² Welsh Health Survey (WG) (2014-2015 data)

¹³ Western Bay Population Assessment <http://www.westernbaypopulationassessment.org/en/mental-health/>

¹⁴ NHS Wales: <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/863/page/39377>

¹⁵ NHS Wales – GPs: <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/ourservices/directory/abertawebromorgannwguniversityhealthboard/gps>

¹⁶ NHS Wales – Dentists: <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/ourservices/directory/abertawebromorgannwguniversityhealthboard/dentists>

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4. Soil	<p>Geological and Ground Conditions: The BCBC area has varied geological and soil characteristics including deep peaty soil, modified deep peaty soil, shallow peaty soil and soil with peaty.</p> <p>The developed area of Bridgend itself is primarily underlain by 'limestone and mudstone interbedded', with some areas of 'shell-limestone' and 'sandstone'. Although limestone is non-porous it is soluble in weak acid solutions and over geological timescales a wide variety of features develop such as fractures, caves, gorges and sinkholes. This propensity for erosion often provides drainage pathways for water through the limestone.</p> <p>There are small isolated pockets of peat in the northern part of the BCBC area which are generally in forested areas and presumed to coincide with localised depressions. In the low-lying coastal areas and estuarine parts of the River Ogmore the drift geology is almost entirely sand.</p> <p>In 2003 and 2004, 1 site was identified by BCBC as contaminated land. None are known to have been identified since however Shared Regulatory Services are currently preparing a Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy for Bridgend which could identify more sites¹⁷.</p>	<p>New development must be appropriately sited and designed to reflect the geological and soil characteristics of the BCBC area.</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should set out appropriate proposals and policies to safeguard important geological characteristics and soil resources within the BCBC area, as well as a framework for remediating contaminated land</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to contaminated land remediation, soil quality and pollution to ground receptors. Consequential human health and ecological risks and impacts should also be considered in a holistic manner.</p>
5. Water	<p>Waterbodies: The BCBC area has two groundwater bodies' classified poor under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). There are three areas in which groundwater is identified to be vulnerable to pollution, and one Nitrate Vulnerable Zone designed to prevent groundwater pollution.</p> <p>A number of waterbodies within the BCBC area are at risk of having poor water quality owing to 'point source pollution'. This is further highlighted by the reasons and number of time waterbodies in Bridgend have failed under the WFD, namely:¹⁸</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abandoned mines and contaminated land x 4 • Barriers to fish migration x 1 • Industrial discharges x 1 • Natural conditions x 2 • Sewage discharges x 1 • Other x 1 • Unknown x 4 <p>Flood risks: Significant areas along all the main rivers and watercourses of the County Borough are identified as being at risk of flooding. Rivers are a major source of flooding in Bridgend, and land and sea (tidal) flooding in the Porthcawl area. Ogmore is also at risk of flooding from the sea (tidal flooding).</p> <p>The principal watercourses are the River Ogmore, the River Llynfi and the River Ewenny.</p> <p>The existing urban areas of Aberkenfig and Pencoed are highly constrained by flood plains. There is also a risk of tidal flooding and storm surges in parts of Porthcawl and along the coast.</p>	<p>Waterbodies across the BCBC area vary in quality, ecological value and present condition. Management of water quality is essential for improving the long-term health of populations and the environment.</p> <p>Flood risk is an ongoing issue within BCBC due to the setting of the local authority. Housing developments should be restricted where possible from development on flood plains, particularly within Aberkenfig and Pencoed.</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals and guidance to protect and enhance the water environment and water resources, including surface and groundwater quantity and quality. This should include measures to eliminate contamination sources which harm the water environment and to regulate pollution discharges from new developments into receiving watercourses.</p> <p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should seek to manage flood risks in a sustainable manner, including by directing development away from known flood risk areas.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the quality of the water environment and water resources, as well as to manage flood risks.</p>

¹⁷ Shared Regulatory Services - Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy, Bridgend <http://www.srs.wales/en/Environmental-Health/Noise-and-Air-Pollution/Contaminated-Land.aspx>

¹⁸ Bridgend, Local Evidence Package (2012): <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/2038/sd97.pdf>

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6. Air	<p>Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and Poor Air Quality: There are no identified AQMAs within BCBC however there is a risk of poor air quality along the M4 corridor where it crosses the County Borough.</p>	Continued monitoring of air quality within BCBC is required with particular attention along the M4 corridor as development and industry grows within the County Borough.	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals and guidance to tackle known areas of poor air quality and the likely impacts of new development on air quality, including from traffic.</p> <p>Any replacement LDP should seek to reduce local air pollution through setting out policies and proposals to promote sustainable and active travel modes.</p>	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to local air quality and associated health impacts. The SA should also recognise that changes to air quality can have an impact on ecosystem services which affect biodiversity and other environmental assets.
7. Climatic Factors	<p>Greenhouse Gas Emissions: 2015 statistics from InfoBase Cymru¹⁹ show that total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from within BCBC (6.1) show CO2 levels per resident (tonnes) below the Welsh average (8.7). Although positive, reductions in the level of GHG emissions need to continually be made.</p> <p>BCBC provided 4% of the renewable energy capacity for Wales in 2015. However, this can be improved through further generation of future renewable capacity.</p>		<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals and guidance to support the transition to a low carbon economy. This should include the provision of a supportive policy framework for renewable and low carbon energy generation in appropriate locations. The replacement LDP should also include policies to encourage low carbon design and should set out a sustainable transport strategy which capitalises on existing rail and port infrastructure within the BCBC area to contribute to the decarbonisation of the transport sector.</p>	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to energy use, resource efficiency, sustainable transport, GHG emissions and climate change mitigation.
	<p>Climate Change Impacts: Climate change research predicts an increase in the severity and frequency of rainfall events. Flooding from rivers, sewers and surface water is therefore likely to increase throughout BCBC in the future. BCBC is also expected to become increasingly vulnerable to tidal flooding as sea levels rise.</p> <p>The 2004 Foresight Future Flooding report suggested that the annual economic damages in Wales will rise from £70 million in 2004 to £1,235 million in the 2080s under the most likely scenario. However, as the Stern Report found, acting now can reduce the longer term total economic damage.</p>	Predicted impacts from climate change up to 2050 will place significant strain on infrastructure and available resources across the UK, including within the BCBC area. In particular, the effects associated with flood risk.	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals and guidance which responds to predicted climate change impacts and allows communities and businesses in the BCBC area to adapt to the changing climate.</p>	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to climate change adaptation and the resilience of environmental assets within the BCBC area.
8. Material Assets	<p>Land Use: Bridgend, Maesteg and Porthcawl-Pyle act as hubs for services, employment, housing and retail developments for the surrounding communities. Bridgend in particular, has an existing status as the major service centre for the Llynfi, Ogmere and Garw Valleys.</p> <p>Bridgend Town Centre in particular is positioned at the top of the retail and commercial hierarchy of the County Borough and is defined as a Sub-Regional Centre. Maesteg, Porthcawl and the combined settlements of the Valleys Gateway²⁰ play a strategic role within the County Borough as focus points for services, transport and community activity. Porthcawl equally plays an important role as a leisure and tourism destination.</p> <p>The Valleys communities themselves consist of a high number of small communities with strong local characteristics which have faced, and will continue to face, challenging times (particularly following the closure of mining industries).</p> <p>The existing LDP identifies four Strategic Regeneration Growth Areas (SRGAs) within the BCBC area; Porthcawl; Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley; and The Valleys Gateway together with four Strategic Employment Sites (Brocastle, Waterton, Bridgend Island Farm,</p>	There is an ongoing need to regenerate communities within the BCBC area which have experienced post industrial decline and have high levels of multiple deprivation. There is also a need to provide suitable land uses to meet identified needs, including increased housing and employment provision, whilst protecting sensitive land uses such as agriculture.	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should help support and promote the efficient and appropriate use of material assets. It should set out a spatial strategy, proposals and guidance to optimise the use of land, natural resources and infrastructure. In particular, the replacement LDP should set out a spatial strategy, proposals and policies which optimise the use of and safeguard existing infrastructure within the BCBC area.</p> <p>Any requirements for upgraded or new infrastructure to address existing capacity constraints, decarbonise key economic sectors or to support population, employment and economic growth should be planned for through the LDP Review and must take account of relevant environmental issues. This means that the replacement LDP should include a policy framework to support the deployment of renewable energy technologies and heat networks in appropriate locations.</p>	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to resource efficiency, land use, waste management, energy, natural resources, climate change mitigation, connectivity and accessibility.

¹⁹ InfoBase Cymru <http://www.infobasecymru.net/IAS/themes/environmentandsustainability/environment/tabular?viewId=518&geoid=1&subsetId=>

²⁰ The villages are Aberkenfig, Bryncethin, Brynmenyn, Sam and Tondau.

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	<p>Bridgend Pencoed Technology Park, Pencoed Ty Draw Farm, North Cornelly) which may have already benefited from planning permission.</p> <p>Agricultural land classifications within the BCBC are range from Grade 1 to Grade 5 with grades 4 and 5 the most prevalent.</p> <p>Transport infrastructure:</p> <p><i>Road Network</i> The Core Roads Network connects the BCBC area to adjacent County Boroughs and to regional transport consortium areas. The following roads constitute the Core Roads Network in the BCBC area: M4, A48 and A473.</p> <p>The Strategic Roads Network connects the major settlements and population centres in the county borough and comprises mainly the A-roads (including the Core Roads Network). The following roads are identified as the Strategic Roads Network: A4063, A4064, A4061, A4229, A4106, A4093, A4065 and B4181.</p> <p>The local highway network connects local areas of population to the major settlements and comprises mainly the B road networks and all classified unnumbered routes within the BCBC area. These include the B4180, B4281, B4622, B4283 and B4282.</p> <p><i>Public Transport</i> Bridgend has a mainline station on the Inter City rail service from London (Paddington) to Swansea (with connections to West Wales) and also provides direct services to many other major destinations. Hourly service operating from Maesteg to Cardiff stop at both Bridgend and Pencoed.</p> <p>The Bridgend Town Centre's modern bus station provides comprehensive local, short and medium distance bus services, including direct services to Cardiff and Swansea.</p> <p>The South Wales Metro is currently being implemented across the Cardiff City Region, involving substantial investment in new rail and bus infrastructure and the reconfiguration of rail routes²¹. The current phase of the Metro project does not involve major infrastructure changes within the BCBC area, but likely future changes awaiting approval from the Welsh Assembly Government include a new Brackla Station and a bus rapid transit network between Porthcawl & Bridgend. Additional potential transport infrastructure changes which require more feasibility work include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bus priority measures between Bridgend and Cardiff city centre via Cowbridge and between Bridgend and Treorchy via Sarn and Nantymoell; - A new rail station at Bridgend College/Cowbridge Road; and, - Either double rail track between Garth and Tondy to enable 2 trains per hour or conversion of the Maesteg line to light rail (trams) with some limited street-running in Bridgend and possible onward journeys to Cardiff. <p><i>Aviation and Maritime</i> Cardiff International Airport is located within a 20 minute journey of Bridgend and allows access to both National and International destinations for passengers and freight.</p>	<p>At present, parts of the highway network experience congestion especially at peak times.</p> <p>The development of the South Wales Metro will bring a step-change in public transport connectivity which should be used to catalyse economic growth and improve access to employment and public services within the BCBC area.</p>		

²¹ Welsh Assembly Government: South Wales Metro <https://gov.wales/topics/transport/public/metro/?lang=en>

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	<p>The four major deep water docks in Wales (Swansea, Port Talbot, Barry and Newport) are all within 30 minutes of Bridgend, providing freight access worldwide.</p> <p><i>Active Travel</i> There are various active travel routes within the BCBC area²² of which the majority of these are located in Bridgend (11 routes). Other active travel routes are present in Maestag (4 routes), Ogmere Vale (3 routes), Pencoed (1 route), Pontycymer (2 routes), Porthcawl (3 routes) and Pyle (4 routes). Part of the active travel routes include Bridgend County's Coastal Path which is an 11.5 mile pathway part of the All Wales Coastal Path, that provides a continuous walking route around the whole of Wales and totals 870 miles.</p> <p>Utilities infrastructure:</p> <p><u>District Heating</u> In 2014 BCBC was selected as a demonstrator for the Smart Systems and Heat (SSH) programme, commissioned by the Energy Technologies Institute (ETI) to focus on creating future-proof and economic local heating solutions for the UK. Two heat network demonstrator schemes have since been taken forward within the BCBC area: Bridgend Town Heat Network and the Upper Llynfi Valley Heat Network (Caerau Minewater) Project. Related to this, an analysis of the Bridgend Gas Network has been carried out by Wales and West Utilities.</p> <p><u>Solar Energy</u> The BCBC Planning Register²³ indicates that in 2017 there were 2 consented solar energy applications including a Solar farm to generate 1MW of electricity with 2016 and 2015 each having 2 consented applications which support Solar Farms (such as track access points and caballing).</p> <p><u>Wind Farms</u> The Pant y Wal²⁴ wind farm is located 4kms to the north of the village of Glynogwr in BCBC. The site is located on flat upland mountain plateau between the Cwm Ogwr Fawr to the west and Cwm Ogwr Fach to the east which flows through the settlement on Gilfach Goch. The site can produce up to 25MWe, which is the equivalent of the energy required to supply 18,000 homes.</p> <p>The Fforch Nest²⁵ wind farm is located 4kms to the north of the village of Glynogwr and to the north west of Gilfach Goch. The site is located on flat upland mountain plateau between the Cwm Ogwr Fawr to the west and Cwm Ogwr Fach to the east which flows through the settlement on Gilfach Goch. The site spans the Bridgend County Borough and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough areas (and lies adjacent to the Pant y Wal windfarm). The site can produce up to 27.5MWe, which is the equivalent of the energy required to supply 19,000 homes.</p>	<p>There is a need for continued decarbonisation of the energy generation sector across Wales to support the transition to a low carbon economy and to help mitigate climate change. At the same time, a mix of energy generation sources is required to ensure continued security of supply and to overcome intermittency issues associated with wind and solar technologies. The selection of BCBC as a demonstrator for district heat networks means there is a need to support the deployment of heat networks in appropriate locations within the BCBC area.</p>		

²² Bridgend County Council: Active Travel Existing Routes Map <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/3356/bcbc-active-travel-overview-map.jpg>

²³ Bridgend County Council: Planning Register <http://planning.bridgend.gov.uk/Search/Results>

²⁴ Pennant Walters - Pant y Wal <http://pennantwalters.co.uk/projects/Pant-y-Wal>

²⁵ Pennant Walters - Fforch Nest: <http://pennantwalters.co.uk/projects/fforch-nest>

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	<p>The Pant-y-Wal Extension²⁶ wind farm is located to the immediate west of the existing Pant-y-Wal and Fforch Nest windfarms on Mynydd-yr-Aber and east of the settlements in the Ogwr Valley. The site can produce up to 20MWe, which is the equivalent of the energy required to supply 15,000 homes.</p> <p>The Pen y Cymoedd Wind Energy Project²⁷ is the largest onshore wind farm in England and Wales and Vattenfall's largest onshore wind farm. The site can produce up to 228MWe, which is the equivalent of the energy required to supply 188,000 homes.</p>			
	<p>Waste management: No significant landfill capacity currently exists for waste disposal in the BCBC area. Instead, BCBC has a partnership agreement with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council to process residual waste at a purpose built waste treatment plant, known as the Materials Recovery and Energy Centre (MREC). The MREC, located at Crymlyn Burrows near Swansea assists both Councils in diverting a large percentage of waste that would otherwise be destined for landfill. In consequence, in 2016-2017, of the total 68,843 tonnes of municipal waste generated, 39,860 tonnes were re-used, recycled or composted, and 16,610 tonnes were incinerated. This left only 16,465 tonnes which was sent to landfill.²⁸</p>	<p>The reliance upon energy recovery facilities outwith of the BCBC area has the potential to generate environmental impacts from waste transportation and impact upon recycling activities.</p>		
	<p>Natural resources: A dominant feature of BCBC is the small valleys and associated uplands that form part of the former South Wales Coalfield. The industrialisation of the Ogmere valley, especially in the 19th century, however damaged the natural environment in the main river and many of its tributaries. Coal mining in particular affected the river and the Rivers Garw and Llynfi. Although mining activity in the area has ceased many disused mines still exist today and may affect hydraulic pathways below and on the surface.</p>	<p>There is a need to continue efforts to restore landscapes previously affected by minerals extraction.</p>		
9. Cultural Heritage	<p>Historic assets: As detailed in Table A.1 above, there are 60 identified Scheduled Monuments within the BCBC area. Of these, 3 are Early Medieval, 23 Medieval, 8 Post Medieval/Modern, 23 Prehistoric, 2 Roman and 1 unknown. The majority are located within Merthyr Mawr (14). There are also 360 listed buildings across the BCBC area, ranging from bridges to castles (e.g. Ogmere Castle).</p>	<p>The BCBC area hosts a range of designated heritage assets, each of which need to be appropriately protected from effects on their integrity and setting.</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies and proposals to protect and enhance heritage assets across the BCBC area, including in terms of impacts on the setting of such assets and upon unknown archaeological resources.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the preservation, conservation, protection and enhancement of the historic environment.</p>
	<p>Welsh language: BCBC's Welsh Language Strategy commits the Council to treating Welsh and English on an equal basis when carrying out public business. BCBC are additionally dedicated to helping to raise the profile of the Welsh language and culture to residents and employees.</p> <p>The 2011 census²⁹ identified that 9.7% of the resident population within the BCBC area (13,103) stated that they spoke Welsh. These census returns indicate a higher percentage of younger residents speaking Welsh, with this declining with age.</p>	<p>There is a need to safeguard and support the increased use of the Welsh language amongst the resident population of the BCBC area.</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should include policy provisions to support growth in the use of the Welsh language.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection of the Welsh language.</p>
10. Landscape	<p>Designated areas: As detailed within Table A.1 above there no AONBs within the BCBC area, but there are 2 NNRs and 9 SLAs have also been designated at a local level.</p>	<p>There is a need to provide appropriate protection for designated landscapes, important landscape features and sensitive landscape character areas. There is also</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out a spatial strategy, policies and proposals which protect and enhance key landscape features,</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to landscape features, landscape character and visual impacts. The SEA should</p>

²⁶ Pennant Walters - Pant-y-Wal Extension: <http://pennantwalters.co.uk/projects/Pant-y-Wal%20Extension>

²⁷ Vattenfall - Pen y Cymoedd Wind Energy Project: <https://corporate.vattenfall.co.uk/projects/operational-wind-farms/pen-y-cymoedd/about-this-project/>

²⁸ Stats Wales: Waste managed (tonnes) by management method and year

²⁹ Bridgend County Borough Council: Welsh Language <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-council/equalities-and-engagement/welsh-language/>

SEA Topic	Baseline Key Characteristics	Existing Objectives, Issues and Problems	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	<p>Landscape fabric, character and capacity: BCBC covers an area of some 255 square kilometres. The County Borough extends about 20 kilometres from east to west, encompassing the Ogmore, Garw and Llynfi valleys to the north and bordering the Bristol Channel to the south. The largest settlements are Bridgend, Maesteg and the seaside town of Porthcawl.</p> <p>Outside of the main settlements, which are generally found within the river valleys, the land of BCBC is a mixture of grassland, forest (predominantly coniferous) and scrub. Other habitats are present including: ancient woodlands; unimproved wet grasslands; chalk grassland; rocky gorges; coastal sand dunes; and saltmarsh.</p> <p>A dominant feature of the landscape is in fact the small valleys and associated uplands that form part of the former South Wales Coalfield. The settlement pattern and land use reflects the typical ribbon type associated with this area. Further south the landscape opens out into a fairly broad limestone plateau and runs down to the coast with a mixture of active sand systems (Kenfig), coastal beaches and rocky headlands.</p> <p>BCBC is seen to be traversed by the M4 motorway, A48 trunk road and the Swansea-Paddington railway line, which all influence the surrounding landscape.</p> <p>Visual amenity:</p> <p>Visual amenity is adversely impacted in places by high levels of deprivation, resulting in buildings and infrastructure not being well maintained. In addition, Sandy Beach is currently experiencing litter issues which are negatively impacting upon visual amenity at this recreational area.</p>	<p>a need to protect key views and safeguard visual amenity.</p>	<p>improve the quality of the local landscape character, are sensitive to relevant visual receptors and encourage local distinctiveness. The replacement LDP should also ensure that new developments are well integrated with existing communities to create a strong sense of place.</p>	<p>assess the impacts of emerging spatial strategies, proposals, policies and guidance on these aspects to ensure that the LDP Review safeguards and where appropriate enhances the level of protection afforded to the landscape.</p>

A.4 Evolution of baseline conditions in the absence of the LDP Review

A.4.1 This section responds to the requirement within the SEA Regulations to consider the likely evolution of the current state of the environment in the absence of the plan or programme under consideration, namely LDP Review.

The need for the LDP Review

A.4.2 BCBC has determined that a review of the existing LDP (adopted September 2013) is needed to allow BCBC to prepare and adopt a replacement LDP prior to the expiry of the current LDP in September 2021. The Bridgend LDP Review Report (BCBC, 2018) concludes that the 'Full Review' procedure is needed to undertake a comprehensive review of the existing LDP and prepare a replacement LDP, as opposed to the 'Short Form' procedure which would only result in minor revisions (e.g. changes to the wording of individual policies or the addition of individual allocated sites) to the existing LDP. It is considered that a replacement LDP is needed to take account of a range of new Acts, policy frameworks, initiatives, evidence and spatial issues at national, regional and local levels since the adopted of the current LDP.

A.4.3 In the absence of any LDP Review taking place, BCBC would be unable to either prepare a replacement LDP (as proposed) or propose minor revisions to the existing LDP before it expires in September 2021. This would result in a policy vacuum at the local level as the 2004 Act does not permit Welsh LDPs to continue in force after their expiry date. so from September 2021 onwards the BCBC area would be devoid of a competent statutory Development Plan. It would also be contrary to TAN1, which advises that the identification of any shortfall in an authority's five-year land supply should trigger a LDP review to ensure that a sufficient land supply can be maintained.

A.4.4 The Bridgend LDP Review Report (BCBC, 2018) makes clear that the absence of a competent statutory Development Plan for the BCBC area would be likely to be exploited by the development industry, not least due to the identified housing land supply shortfall. In these circumstances development is likely to come forward that is not in accordance with the existing LDP's regeneration-led strategy and there would be significant pressure to release greenfield sites in unsustainable locations. Both outcomes would be likely to result in a range of unacceptable significant adverse effects on the environmental topics prescribed within Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations, including:

- **Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna:** Increased development pressure in unsustainable locations or contrary to the LDP strategy could put pressure on biodiversity, including the loss and fragmentation of habitats, whilst increases in traffic and noise could disturb sensitive species;
- **Population:** Increased development pressure in unsustainable locations or contrary to the LDP strategy could result in a spatial mismatch between housing supply and demand for public service provision, economic opportunities and transport infrastructure. It could also result in the inability of public services and community infrastructure to meet identified population needs, including in relation to the demands of an ageing population;
- **Health:** The absence of a competent and up to date LDP would restrict BCBC's ability to improve the physical and mental health of the population through spatial planning policies and interventions. If significant increases in physical activity and active travel are not achieved, health issues including obesity, inactivity and poor air quality will continue to affect the population of the BCBC area, causing increases in ill-health, exacerbating health inequalities and restricting life expectancy. The absence of the LDP Review would also prevent BCBC from fully implementing the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and in particular from discharging the public sector duty under Section 3 of the Act, as there would be no mechanism available to align BCBC's planning policy framework with the objectives specified within the Bridgend Local Wellbeing Plan 2018-2023. Additionally, increased development pressure in unsustainable locations or

contrary to the LDP strategy could lead to the loss of areas of open space, reducing opportunities for physical activity, with associated adverse health outcomes;

- **Soil:** Increased development pressure in unsustainable locations or contrary to the LDP strategy could prevent contaminated land from being remediated and result in the irreversible loss of important soil resources (e.g. high quality peatland). In the absence of an up to date LDP spatial strategy, increased pressure for the development of new facilities, housing and employment generating uses could also lead to the loss of the best quality and locally important agricultural land;
- **Water:** Increased development pressure in unsustainable locations or contrary to the LDP strategy could put pressure on water resources and adversely affect the quality of the water environment;
- **Air Quality & Climatic Factors:** Dependency on private cars to access employment and services could increase if development takes places in unsustainable locations or contrary to the LDP strategy. Additionally, opportunities to pro-actively encourage transport modal shift to walking, cycling and public transport would be lost. In the absence of a major short term shift towards the use of electric vehicles, the resulting increase in traffic would increase fossil fuel combustion, carbon emissions and local atmospheric pollution, in particular greater release of particulate matter. This would act against wider policy efforts to decarbonise key economic sectors including transport mitigate climate change. It could also lead to worsening air quality and result in BCBC requiring to designate Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) to address areas of poor air quality;
- **Material Assets:** Increased development pressure in unsustainable locations or contrary to the LDP strategy would be likely to increase pressure and capacity constraints on a range of essential infrastructure. This could itself result in a range of environmental effects as well as restricting long term housing, economic and employment growth across the BCBC area. In short, without the LDP Review it is likely that a range of infrastructure required to meet identified needs across the BCBC area would not be delivered;
- **Cultural Heritage:** Increased development pressure in unsustainable locations or contrary to the LDP strategy could add pressure to sensitive areas of historic and/or archaeological interest, as well as undermining the character of conservation areas; and,
- **Landscape:** Increased development pressure in unsustainable locations or contrary to the LDP strategy could have a significant negative impact on the landscape character of the BCBC area, especially if additional new development were to be concentrated within areas of high landscape value (e.g. within the existing 9 SLAs across the BCBC area).

A.4.5 In addition, in the absence of having a competent and up to date statutory Development Plan, BCBC's planning resources may need to be diverted away from development planning activities in pursuit of preparing a new LDP towards resisting undesirable 'planning by appeal' cases. It is therefore expedient for BCBC to undertake the LDP Review whilst the existing LDP remains in force, allowing time for a replacement LDP to be adopted before September 2021.

Use of the Full or Short Form LDP Review Procedure

A.4.6 In the event that the Short Form procedure was used instead of the Full Review procedure for this LDP Review, any resulting changes to the existing LDP would be limited in scope. This would prevent the LDP from fully taking account of the range of new Acts, policy frameworks, initiatives, evidence and spatial issues at national, regional and local levels which have emerged since September 2013. The resulting adverse environmental effects are likely to be similar to, albeit not as severe as, those listed above in relation to the potential absence of a competent statutory Development Plan for the BCBC area.

A.4.7 The LDP Review is therefore being undertaken in accordance with the 'Full Review' procedure to allow BCBC to prepare a comprehensive and up to date replacement LDP prior to September 2021.

Appendix B Review of Plans and Programmes

B.1 Introduction

B.1.1 This Appendix supports **Section 4** of the Bridgend LDP Review SA Scoping Report by providing a review of relevant qualifying plans, programmes and strategies of relevance to the LDP Review. The main purpose of this review is to identify relevant environmental protection objectives and policy requirements within the identified policy documents which should be taken account of within (or otherwise inform) the LDP Review and this associated SA process.

B.2 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

B.2.1 **Table B1.1** below sets out a review of other plans and programmes of relevance to the LDP Review and the associated SA process. This review will be updated as required throughout the LDP Review process to take account of emerging policy developments and it will be appended to each iteration of the Bridgend LDP Review SA Report. Of note, **Table B1.1** does not consider the implications of Welsh national planning policy documents for the LDP Review; rather, these are addressed separately within **Table B1.2** given their central importance in determining the soundness of the replacement LDP which will result from the LDP Review.

Table B.1: Review of Other Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
International				
Population (including relevant socio-economic issues)	United Nations (2016) Habitat III (Quinto), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (1998) The Aarhus Convention	These documents provide an international framework for promoting sustainable development within all decision making. National and local developments should take sustainability into account and openly share relevant information to the public.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance which furthers the delivery of sustainable development and safeguards transparency in decision making. The LDP Review process itself must also be objective, transparent, evidence based and conducted fairly.	Applied as a whole, the SA Framework should provide a holistic suite of assessment criteria to determine the contribution of any replacement LDP to the delivery of sustainable development.
Human Health	United Nations (1989) UN convention on the Rights of the Child 1989, United Nations (2016) Committee on the Rights of the Child Recommendations Report, World Health Organization (1999) Guidelines for Community Noise 1999, World Health Organisation (2004) Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe	These documents provide an international framework which recognises the importance of the preservation and protection of human health when undertaking development activities.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the prevention of negative effects to human health from local developments in line with international legislations.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection of human health.
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1971), EU Biodiversity Strategy - Our Life Insurance, Our Nature Capital: An EU Biodiversity Strategy (2011), AEW (1995) Convention on the Agreement on the Conservation of African – Eurasian Migratory Water birds (The Bonn Convention), UNESCO (1973) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, United Nations (1992) The Rio Convention on Biodiversity,	These documents provide an international framework to protect sites designated at the international level for reasons of biodiversity conservation and important species from harm.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the avoidance of effects on biodiversity when allocating sites for redevelopment activities.	The SA Framework must include objectives relating to the appropriate conservation, protection and enhancement of designated sites.
Soil & Land	United Nations (2001) Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants	This convention aims to reduce the production and use of persistent organic pollutants.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the objective of ensuring that all development activities restrict the use of these pollutants.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the restriction of Persistent Organic Pollutants.
Water	United Nations (1982) Convention on Law of the Sea,	This convention demonstrates the rights and responsibilities of nations for fair use of the world's oceans.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the objective of ensuring that all development activities adhere with the conventions guidelines.	The SA Framework should include objectives pertaining to the protection of coastal areas and the avoidance of negative effects on the sea caused by development.
Air	WHO Air Quality Guidelines, United Nations (1979) Geneva Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution	These guidelines provides a scientific assessment of the health impacts of Air Pollution	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to local air quality and associated health impacts.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		and provides guidelines applicable worldwide for various pollutants.	policies, proposals, advice and guidance for acceptable levels of Air Quality and proximity of communities to developments which may cause unacceptable levels of air quality.	
Climatic Factors	Kyoto Protocol to the UN Convention on Climate Change, The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations (2009) The Copenhagen Accord, United Nations (2010) Cancun Adaptation Framework, United Nations (2016) Paris Agreement,	These documents provide an international framework which identifies the need for climate change mitigation and adaptation action.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the mitigation of climate change effects caused by development and meet the key requirements as outlined by the policies.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to energy use, resource efficiency, sustainable transport, GHG emissions and climate change mitigation within the BCBC area.
Material Assets	United Nations (1989) Basel Convention	This convention seeks to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations and the amounts/toxicity of waste generated.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the reduction in toxic waste generated.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to resource efficiency, land use, waste management, energy, connectivity and accessibility.
Cultural Heritage	World Cities Culture Report 2015 – measures and cultural assets, UNESCO (1972) Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, UNESCO (2001) Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage,	These documents provide an international framework to identify and protect cultural heritage assets. They aim to ensure the cultural heritage assets have a function in the community and are integrated into various planning programmes.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the protection, preservation and presentation of cultural heritage assets as set out in international policy.	The SAA Framework should include objectives relating to the preservation, conservation, protection and enhancement of the historic environment.
Landscape	N/A			
Interrelated Effects	Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, Communication COM (2005) 666: Taking Sustainable use of resources forward, United Nations (1992) The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, United Nations (2002) The World Summit on Sustainable Development	Commits the sustainable use of resources and promotes sustainable development.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the promotion of sustainable development.	The SA Framework should include guidance for achieving sustainable development goals.
European – all legislative and policy frameworks are informed by relevant higher level international frameworks				
Population (including relevant socio-economic issues)	European Commission (2003) Public Sector Information Directive (PSI) 2003/98/EC, European Commission (2010) Europe 2020: A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, European Commission (2013) Towards Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion 2014-2020, McKinsey Centre for Business and Environment (2015) Growth within: A Circular Economy Vision for a Competitive Europe	These documents provide a European framework to further social cohesion, freedom of information, economic growth and inclusion.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for relevant socio-economic issues as outlined in the European Policies.	The SA Framework should include objectives to facilitate positive growth for the economy and improving social cohesion.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Human Health	Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC), European Commission (2002) Environmental Noise Directive (END) 2002/49/EC, European Commission (2007) Together for Health - A Strategic Approach for the EU 2008-2013	These documents provide a European framework to reduce noise pollution and promote a strategic vision for improving health standards.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the improvement of health and wellbeing, including in relation to reducing noise pollution.	The SA Framework should include objectives for acceptable noise and other safety levels for the protection of human health.
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Council of Europe (1981) Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats - The Bern Convention, EU Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC/ on the conservation of wild birds), EU Habitats Directive (EU Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (As amended by 97/62/EC)), EU Biodiversity Strategy - Our Life Insurance, Our Nature Capital: An EU Biodiversity Strategy (2011), European Commission (2004) European Commission (2008) Environmental Quality Standards Directive 2008/105/EC	These documents provide a European framework to protect sites designated at the European level for reasons of biodiversity conservation and important species from harm.	Any Replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the protection of biodiversity in accordance with European legislation & policy.	The SA Framework should include appropriate objectives to assess potential habitat loss, recreational impacts, water abstraction, pollution and disturbance effects from policies, proposals, advice and guidance contained within any replacement LDP resulting from the LDP Review.
Soil & Land	European Thematic Strategy on Soil Protection European Commission (2006), Environmental Liability Directive 2004/35/EC	These documents provide a European framework to promote the sustainable use of soil resources, soil restoration and the prevention of land degradation.	Any Replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the sustainable use of soils within local development.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to contaminated land remediation, soil quality and pollution to ground receptors. Consequential human health and ecological risks and impacts should also be considered in a holistic manner.
Water	EU Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC), EU Floods Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC), European Commission (2006) Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC, European Commission (1991) The Urban Waste Water Directive 91/271/EEC, European Commission (1998) The Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC, European Commission (2006) The Bathing Waters Directive 2006/7/EC, European Commission (2008) Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC	These documents provide a European framework which seek to protect the quality of the water environment, including through ensuring safe levels for bathing and drinking water and by promoting sustainable urban drainage.	Any Replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for mitigating flood risk, protecting the drinking water supply and the protection of the community from unsafe water levels.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the quality of the water environment and water resources, as well as to manage flood risks.
Air	Industrial Emissions Directive (Directive 2010/75/EU), EU Air Quality Directive (Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe), European Commission (1991) The Nitrates Directive 91/676/EEC, European Commission (2001) The Clean Air for Europe Programme (CAFÉ), European Commission (2005) EU Thematic Strategy on Air Quality, European Commission (2008) Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive 2008/50/EC	These documents provide a European framework to protect and enhance air quality. A number of key measures include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit values and alert thresholds for a number of air pollutants, including nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter; and, 	Any Replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for controlling levels of air pollution caused by local development and adhere with European legislation.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to assessing health impacts and causes of poor air quality.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	and Air Quality Framework Fourth Daughter Directive 2004/107/EC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory monitoring/reporting of air quality and the production of action plans where limits are exceeded. 		
Climatic Factors	<p>EU (2009) Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC), A Resource Efficient Europe, United Nations (1994), EU (2009) Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC), European Council (2013) Seventh EU Environmental Action Plan (EAP) (2013-2020), European Commission (2001) National Emissions Ceiling Directive 2001/81/EC, European Commission (2007) The Integrated Climate and Energy Package, European Commission (2010) Energy 2020 - A Strategy for Competitive, Sustainable and Secure Energy, European Commission (2011) A Roadmap for Moving to a Competitive Low Carbon Economy in 2050, European Commission (2012) Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU), European Commission (2013) Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, European Commission (2013) Seventh Environmental Action Programme to 2020 'Living well, within the limits of our planet', European Commission (2014) 2030 Policy Framework for Climate and Energy, European Union (2005) Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS)</p>	<p>These documents provide a European framework to respond to the global challenge of climate change. Primarily, the minimisation of future climate change through mitigation and the implementation of adaptation measures are key themes.</p> <p>Key targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each Member State has a target calculated according to the share of energy from renewable sources in its gross final consumption for 2020. The UK is required to source 15% of energy needs from renewable sources, including biomass, hydro, wind and solar power by 2020. From 1 January 2017, biofuels and bioliquids share in emissions savings should be increased to 50% 	<p>Any Replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the avoidance of contributing factors of climate change.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives for the reduction of negative environmental effects from local development.</p>
Material Assets	<p>The Packaging Waste Directive, The Landfill Directive, EU Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC), Towards a Circular Economy: A Zero Waste Programme for Europe (2014), EU Directive on the Incineration of Wastes, EU Waste Oil Directive, EU Revised Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC), EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (Directive 2002/91/EC on the Energy Performance of Buildings), European Commission (1999) Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC), European Commission (2002) Mineral Waste Directive 2006/21/EC, European Commission (2011) Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area</p>	<p>These documents provide a European framework to promote the circular economy and manage waste responsibly.</p> <p>Key targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refreshed recovery and recycling targets for all EU member states are set every 5 years. Reduction of biodegradable material sent to landfills by 35% of 1995 levels. By 2020, 50% of certain waste materials from 	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the proper disposal of waste in line with European directives.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to resource efficiency, land use, waste management, energy, connectivity and accessibility.</p>

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<p>households and other origins similar to households for re-use and recycling, and 70% preparing for re-use, recycling and other recovery of construction and demolition waste.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UK is required to source 15% of energy needs from renewable sources, including biomass, hydro, wind and solar power by 2020. From 1 January 2017, biofuels and bioliquids share in emissions savings should be increased to 50% 		
Cultural Heritage	European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (1992)	This document provides a European framework for the protection of designated cultural and archaeological heritage sites in accordance with European legislation.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the preservation and protection of cultural and archaeological heritage within the LDP boundary area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to protection of heritage assets.
Landscape	European Landscape Convention (The Florence Convention, 2000)	This document provides a European framework to define and protect important landscapes which contribute to cultural and social heritage and quality of life.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the preservation of landscapes within the local area and should recognise the significance of landscapes during the creation of new policy.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to landscape features, landscape character and visual impacts.
Interrelated Effects	European Spatial Development Perspective, EU Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment), EU Environmental Action Programme: Living Well, Within the Limits of Our Planet, European Sustainable Development Strategy 2001 (Renewed 2006, Reviewed 2009), European Commission (1999) European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) (97/150/EC), European Commission (2009) Review of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy European Commission, European Union (2001) SEA Directive (2001/42/EC), European Union (2014) Environmental Impact	These documents provide an overarching European framework to support the delivery of sustainable development, including through spatial planning systems.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the promotion of sustainable development goals as set out by International Legislation and policy.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to sustainable development targets.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	Assessment Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU			
National (UK) - all legislative and policy frameworks are informed by relevant higher level European and international frameworks				
Population (including relevant socio-economic issues)	The Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013, The Plan for Growth (BIS, 2011), Equality Act 2010, Local Growth: Realising every Place's potential (BIS, 2010), HM Government (2013) Aviation Policy Framework	These documents provide a framework at the UK level to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth across all economies. They aim to encourage investment and create an equal opportunity environment.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the promotion of sustainable growth within the BCBC area for the benefit of its resident population.	The SA Framework should include guidelines pertaining to achieving economic growth as designated by national policy.
Human Health	The Marmot Review, The Health and Social Care Act (2012), Child Obesity Plan (2016), Health Protection Agency (2007) Children's Environment and Health Action Plan, Health Protection Agency (2008) Health Effects of Climate Change in the UK 2008 - An update of the department of Health report 2001/2002, Health Protection Agency (2009) Health Strategy for the United Kingdom 2, Health and Safety Executive (2009) The Health and Safety of Great Britain: Be Part of the Solution, Sustainable Development Commission (2010) Sustainable Development: The Key to Tackling Health Inequalities	These documents provide a framework at the UK level to reduce health inequalities and make improvements to public health while promoting active lifestyles.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for access to good quality health services as set out in International and European legislation.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to tackling health issues and creating adequate health and safety guidelines.
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	The UK Post 2010 Biodiversity Framework (JNCC, 2012), The Protection of Badgers Act 1992, The Natural Environment White Paper (DEFRA, 2012), Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006), The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) and amendments (2012)), 25 Year Environment Plan (UK Government, 2018), Defra (2007) Conserving Biodiversity the UK Approach 2007, Defra, Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government (2008) The Invasive and Non-Native Species Framework Strategy for Great Britain, HM Government (1981) Wildlife and Countryside Act, HM Government (1990) Environmental Protection Act, HM Government (2010) Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010 (as amended 2011), HM Government (2010) Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations, Joint Nature Conservation Committee and Defra (2012) UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework, Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (2010), UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011) UK National Ecosystem Assessment: Understanding Nature's Value to Society	These documents provide a framework at the UK level to provide protection for protected species and habitats.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for protection of protected habitats and species, including any special protection areas.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to national policy on the protection of Biodiversity, flora and fauna.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Soil & Land	Guiding Principles for Land Contamination, HM Government (1986) Agriculture Act (with numerous revisions) 1986	These documents provide a framework at the UK level to identify and remediate contaminated land, as well as regarding the management of agricultural land.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the protection of agricultural assets and land contamination policies.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to contaminated land remediation, soil quality and pollution to ground receptors. Consequential human health and ecological risks and impacts should also be considered in a holistic manner.
Water	The Pitt Review: Learning Lessons from the 2007 Floods (2008), Flood and Water Management Act (2010), Defra (2005) Safeguarding Sea Life, Defra (2007) Fisheries 2027: A long-term vision for sustainable fisheries, Defra (2009) Our Seas – a Shared Resource: High Level Marine Objectives, Defra (2010) Adapting to Coastal Change: Developing a Policy Framework, Defra (2012) Marine Strategy Part 1: UK Initial Assessment and Good Environmental Status, DECC (2010) Marine Energy Action Plan, Department for Transport (2007) Ports Policy Review Interim Report, Department for Transport (2011) National Policy Statement for Ports, Environment Agency (2005) Cleaner Coasts, Healthier Seas: EA Marine Strategy, Environment Agency (2013) Groundwater Protection Policy and Practice (GP3), HM Government (1973) The Protection of Wrecks Act 1973, HM Government (2003) The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017, HM Government (2007) Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007 (as amended 2010), HM Government (2009) Flood Risk Regulations, HM Government (2009) The Marine and Coastal Access Act, HM Government (2010) Marine Strategy Framework Directive - putting in place the legal framework for implementation, HMG, NI Executive, Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government (2011) UK Marine Policy Statement, Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities Bylaws (various), Natural England and JNCC (2011) Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Project, NERC (2010) Marine Environmental Mapping Programme (MAREMAP), UK Marine Monitoring and Assessment Strategy (2010) Charting Progress 2: The State of UK Seas	These documents provide a framework at the UK level regarding flood risk management and the protection of water and coastal environments.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to coastal preservation and management and flood risk within the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to marine guidelines for cleaner oceans and provide flood risk mitigation.
Air	The Air Quality Standards Regulations (2010) as amended, Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, UK's Air Quality Action Plan (Defra, revised January 2016), The Environment Act (1995), Defra (2010) Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate, Defra (2011) Air Quality Plans for the Achievement of EU Air Quality	These documents provide a framework at the UK level to implement objectives for the reduction of air pollution.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the preservation of acceptable levels of air quality during local	The SA Framework should include objectives pertaining to the protection and enhancement of local air quality and the minimisation of air pollution.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	Limit Values for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) in the UK: List of UK and National Measures		development in the BCBC area.	
Climatic Factors	The Carbon Plan (DECC, 2011), Committee on Climate Change (2008) Building a Low-Carbon Economy - the UK's Contribution to Tackling Climate, DECC (2009) UK Ports for the Offshore Wind Industry: Time to Act, DECC (2011) Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future., DECC (2009) Framework for the Development of Clean Coal, DECC (2011) National Policy Statements for Energy Infrastructure, DECC (2011) UK Renewable Energy Roadmap, DECC (2014) UK National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, Environment Agency (2010) Managing the Environment in a Changing Climate, HM Government (1998) Petroleum Act, HM Government (2006) The Stern Review: The Economics of Climate Change, HM Government (2008) Climate Change Act 2008, HM Government (2008) The Energy Act, HM Government (2015) Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations 2015, HM Government (2017) UK Climate Change Risk Assessment	These documents provide a framework at the UK level regarding the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change. In particular, the Climate Change Act 2008 sets a legally binding target of reducing the UK's GHG emissions by 80% by 2050 compared with 1990 and requires a programme of rolling carbon budgets to be set to achieve this.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the prevention of environmental effects caused by local redevelopment and the pursuit of renewable energies where possible.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to renewable energy use, resource efficiency, sustainable transport, GHG emissions and climate change mitigation.
Material Assets	The National Infrastructure Plan (2011), HM Treasury (2014) National Infrastructure Plan, Reducing and Managing Waste Policy (DEFRA, 2013, Waste Incineration (England and Wales) Regulations 2002, The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016, The Waste Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations SI 2010/1155 amending The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) (Waste Management Licensing) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006, The Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005 (England and Wales), The Waste Regulations 2011 (England and Wales), Landfill Regulations 2002 (England and Wales, amended 2005), Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003 (Amended), National Planning Policy for Waste (DCLG, 2014), Meeting the Energy Challenge: A White Paper on Energy (DECC, 2007), The UK Renewable Energy Strategy (HM Government, 2009), Defra (2012) National Policy Statement for Waste Water, HM Government (1995) Environment Act 1995	These documents provide a framework at the UK level regarding infrastructure development, environmental permitting, waste management and energy generation.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the efficient use of material assets, the deployment of renewable and low carbon energy generation sources and sustainable waste management within the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to resource efficiency, land use, waste management, energy, connectivity and accessibility.
Cultural Heritage	Heritage Protection for the 21st Century: White Paper (DCMS, 2007), The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, HM Government (1979) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, HM Government (1996) The Treasure Act 1996	These documents provide a framework at the UK level regarding the protection and conservation of cultural and heritage assets, including listed buildings, ancient monuments and archaeological resources.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the protection and promotion of cultural and heritage assets in the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection, enhancement, conservation and preservation of heritage assets.
Landscape	Hedgerow Regulations 1997, Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act	These documents provide a framework at the UK level	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to landscape features, landscape character and visual impacts.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	(2006), HM Government (1949) National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, HM Government (1967) Forestry Act 1967, HM Government (2000) Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, HM Government (2006) Commons Act 2006	regarding the protection of national parks, countryside and rural communities including rights of way and protection of forests.	Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the protection of landscapes and hedgerows; including protected areas within the BCBC area.	
Interrelated Effects	The UK Sustainable Development Strategy (HM Government, 2005), National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012), Planning Practice Guidance, Defra (2011) Mainstreaming Sustainable Development, Department for Transport (2008) Delivering a Sustainable Transport System, HM Government (1990) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, HM Government (2000) Transport Act 2000, HM Government (2006) Government of Wales Act 2006, HM Government (2017) The Wales Act, Royal Town Planning Institute (2017) Digital Economy and Town Planning, Sustainable Development Commission (2005) One Future – Different Paths. Shared Framework for Sustainable Development	These documents provide a framework at the UK level to promote sustainable development and sustainable transport initiatives.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the promotion of sustainable development in the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to sustainable development targets.
National (Wales) - all legislative and policy frameworks are informed by relevant higher level UK, European and international frameworks				
Population (including relevant socio-economic issues)	Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Housing (Wales) Act, 2014 Growth and Competitiveness Commission (2016) Cardiff Capital Region City Deal – Report and Recommendations, Welsh Government Valleys Task Force Our Valleys, Our Future (July 2017), Welsh Government Future Trends Report (2017), The Strategy for Older People in Wales: Living Longer, Ageing Well (2013-2023 (Welsh Assembly Government), Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, Welsh Assembly Government (2007) One Wales – A Progressive Agenda for the Government of Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Getting On Together - a Community Cohesion Strategy for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Improving Lives and Communities – Homes in Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2006) Play Policy Implementation Plan, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Farming, Food and Countryside: Building a Secure future – A New Strategy for Farming, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Living Well Living Independent Lives, Welsh Assembly Government (2010) Economic Renewal: A New Direction, Welsh Assembly Government (2010) Food for Wales, Food from Wales 2010:2020, Welsh Assembly Government (2010) Fulfilled Lives, Supportive Communities, Welsh Assembly Government (2010) Welsh Medium Education Strategy 2010, Welsh Assembly Government (2011) Sustainable Social Services for Wales: A	These policies are informed by International, European and UK policies and broadly focus on progressive agendas for increasing economic growth and enhancing social wellbeing in Wales.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to relevant socio-economic and population issues within the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the creation of acceptable policies for the benefit of the population. The quality of social services, job provision, equality legislation and economic growth targets should be considered in a holistic manner.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	<p>Framework for Action, Welsh Assembly Government (2011) Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011, Welsh Assembly Government (2013) Partnership for Growth: The Welsh Assembly Government Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020, Welsh Assembly Government (2013) Vibrant and Viable Places New Regeneration Framework, Welsh Assembly Government (2013) The Strategy for Older People in Wales 2013-2023, Welsh Assembly Government (2013) Framework for Action on Independent Living, Welsh Assembly Government (2014) Declaration of Rights for Older People, Welsh Assembly Government (2014) Housing (Wales) Act 2014, Welsh Assembly Government (2015) Green Growth Wales: Investing in the Future, Welsh Assembly Government (2015) Child Poverty Strategy for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2015) Volunteering Policy, Supporting Communities, Changing Lives, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Strategic Equalities Plan, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Social Services: The national outcomes framework for people who need care and support and carers who need support, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Early Years Outcomes Framework, Welsh Assembly Government (2017) Prosperity for All :The National Strategy, Welsh Assembly Government 2015/16 Review of evidence of inequalities in Wales, Welsh Assembly Government Future Trends Report (2017), Welsh Assembly Government Population and Household Projections (2017)</p>			
Human Health	<p>The Active Travel (Wales) Act (2015), Children’s Commissioners for Wales (2016) Annual Report 15-16, (2017) Public Health (Wales) Act 2017, NHS Wales (2011) Together for Health, Public Health Wales (2015) A Healthier, Happier and Fairer Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2008) Designed to Add Value - a third dimension for One Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Rural Health Plan, Welsh Assembly Government (2010) Setting the Direction: Primary & Community Services Strategic Delivery Programme, Welsh Assembly Government (2006) Climbing Higher – A Strategy for Sport and Physical Activity, Welsh Assembly Government (2012) Working Differently – Working Together, Welsh Assembly Government (2012) Together for Mental Health: A Strategy for Mental Health and Wellbeing in Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2013) A Noise Action Plan for Wales 2013-2018, Welsh Assembly Government/ NHS (2016) Measuring the health and well-being of a nation: Public Health Outcomes Framework for Wales</p>	<p>These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level to improve the physical and mental health of the population.</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for key health provisions and targets within the BCBC area.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to adequate health provisions for all communities regardless of location.</p>

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Environment (Wales) Act, 2016, (2009) Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) (Wales) Regulations 2009, Wales Biodiversity Partnership (2010) Wales Biodiversity Framework, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Woodlands for Wales Strategy, Welsh Assembly Government (2015) The Nature Recovery Plan for Wales – Setting the course for 2020 and beyond	These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level to protect biodiversity interests, including designated sites and important species.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should set out policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the protection of biodiversity, flora and fauna within the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the preservation, protection and conservation efforts of biodiversity levels.
Soil & Land	Environment (Wales) Act, 2016, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (ongoing) Geological Conservation Review, Welsh Assembly (2012) Contaminated Land (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2012, The Nitrate Pollution Prevention (Wales) Regulations	These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level regarding the avoidance and remediation of contaminated land and the creation of an geological profile of Wales.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance for local developments which may be taking place on protected areas or contaminated land.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to contaminated land remediation, soil quality and pollution to ground receptors. Consequential human health and ecological risks and impacts should also be considered in a holistic manner.
Water	Environment (Wales) Act, 2016, Countryside Council for Wales (now Natural Resources Wales) (2015) National Seascape Assessment for Wales, LUC, NRW, Environment Agency (2015) The Severn River Basin Management Plan, Natural Resources Wales (2015) Dee River Basin Management Plan, Natural Resources Wales (2015) Welsh Coastal Tourism Strategy (Welsh Assembly Government, 2008), Interim Marine Aggregates Dredging Policy (Welsh Assembly Government, 2007), Coastal Access Improvement Programme (Welsh Assembly Government, 2007) Making the Most of Wales' Coast: The Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy for Wales (Welsh Assembly Government, 2008), Wales Fisheries Strategy (Welsh Assembly Government, 2011) Strategic Policy Position on Water (Welsh Assembly Government, 2011) Marine Renewable Energy Strategic Framework, Welsh Assembly Government (2013) National Flood and Coastal Erosion Strategy for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2013) Wales Marine and Fisheries Strategic Action Plan Welsh Assembly Government (2015) The Welsh National Marine Plan – Initial Draft, Welsh Assembly Government (2015) Water Strategy for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2015) Wales Marine Evidence Report, Welsh Water (2008) Surface Water Management Strategy, Welsh Water (2014) Final Water Resources Management Plan, Welsh Regional Coastal Groups, SMP 20 Lavernock Point to St Ann's Head (South Wales), The	These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level regarding the management of coastal and river areas, marine renewable energies, surface water management and coastal tourism.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance for local developments which may be affected by rising water levels, poor flood risk management or may be assisted by coastal and tourism strategies in the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the quality of the water environment and water resources, as well as to manage flood risks.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	Nitrate Pollution Prevention (Wales) Regulations			
Air	Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations (2010)	This document provides a framework at the Welsh level regarding the protection and improvement of air quality in accordance with limits set within European legislative.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance for appropriate levels of local air quality management within the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to air quality and air pollution controls, as well as provide acceptable air quality levels for health purposes.
Climatic Factors	Environment (Wales) Act, 2016, Committee on Climate Change (2017) UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 Evidence Report, Summary for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2006) Environment Strategy for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2010) Climate Change Strategy for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2010), Capturing the Potential: A Green Jobs Strategy for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2010), Low Carbon Revolution – the Welsh Assembly Government Energy Policy Statement, Welsh Assembly Government (2011) Policy Statement: Preparing for a Changing Climate, Welsh Assembly Government (2011) Preparing Wales for Climate Change: Adaptation Delivery Plan, Welsh Assembly Government (2012) Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition, Welsh Assembly Government (2014) Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition Delivery Plan, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Environment (Wales) Act 2016	These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level to respond to the need to mitigation and adapt to climate change. The framework focuses on seeking to decarbonise key economic sectors, encouraging low carbon energy generation and enhancing the reliance of the natural environment.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the prevention of environmental effects caused by local redevelopment and the pursuit of renewable energies where possible.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to renewable energy use, resource efficiency, sustainable transport, GHG emissions and climate change mitigation within the BCBC area.
Material Assets	Cardiff Capital Region (2015) Powering the Welsh Economy, HM Government (2010) Waste (Wales) Measure 2010, Natural Resources Wales (2015) LIFE Natura 2000 Programme for Wales Natural Resources Wales (2016) State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR), Sustainable Development Commission (2009) Low Carbon Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2008) One Wales: Connecting the Nation, Welsh Assembly Government (2008) Wales Transport Strategy, Welsh Assembly Government (2010) Towards Zero Waste One Wales: One Planet. The Overarching Waste Strategy Document for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2012) Sustaining a Living Wales: A Green Paper on a New Approach to Natural Resource Management in Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2012) Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan, Welsh Assembly Government (2013) Active Travel (Wales) Act, Welsh Assembly Government (2015) Green Growth Wales: Local Energy, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Active Travel Action Plan for Wales, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Energy Efficiency in Wales: A Strategy for the Next 10 years 2016-2026, Welsh Assembly	These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level regarding the protection of natural resources, infrastructure development strategies and investment strategies and transport strategies and policies.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the enhancement and protection of material assets within the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to waste regulations, protection of natural resources, resource management and green growth.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
	Government (2017) Natural Resources Policy, Active Travel Act (Wales) 2013			
Cultural Heritage	Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Valuing the Welsh Historic Environment Welsh Assembly Government (2010), Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, Cymraeg 2050 A million Welsh speakers, Welsh Assembly Government, Welsh Assembly Government (2017), Light Springs through the Dark: A vision for culture in Wales (2016)	These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level regarding the protection of cultural heritage; including heritage assets and the use of the Welsh language.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the protection, preservation and presentation of cultural heritage and where possible, the inclusion of the Welsh language wherever relevant in the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objections relating to the protection of cultural heritage assets.
Landscape	Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Countryside Council for Wales (now Natural Resources Wales) (2001) Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest, Natural Resources Wales (ongoing) LANDMAP Programme	These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level regarding the protection and mapping of natural resources, protected and important landscapes of historic interest.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance for the preservation of protected landscapes and natural resources within the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to landscape features, landscape character and visual impacts.
Interrelated Effects	Environment (Wales) Act, 2016, (2015) Planning (Wales) Act 2015, Welsh Assembly Government (2008) People, Places, Future – The Wales Spatial Plan, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) One Wales: One Planet, A New Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales (2018), Welsh Assembly Government (2011) Rural Development Plan for Wales (2014-2020), Welsh Assembly Government (2012) City Regions Final Report, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Planning Policy Wales – Edition 9, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Welsh Assembly Government Programme for government, Taking Wales Forward 2016-2021, Welsh Assembly Government: Wales We Want National Conversation, Reforming Local Government: Resilient and Renewed – Welsh Assembly Government Whitepaper (Jan 2017)	These documents provide a framework at the Welsh level regarding sustainable urban and rural development, city regional development and spatial planning.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance for adhering to sustainable development guidelines where possible within the BCBC area.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to sustainable development targets.
Regional (Proposed SDP Level)				
Interrelated effects	Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (2017), Emerging Cardiff City Region (South East Wales) Strategic Development Plan	The Cardiff City Region City Deal is a 20 year / £1.28 billion investment programme which aims to achieve a 5% uplift in the Region's GVA by delivering a range of programmes which will increase connectivity, improve physical and digital infrastructure, as well as regional business governance. Over its lifetime, local partners expect the City Deal to deliver up to 25,000 new jobs and leverage an additional £4 billion	The preparation of any replacement LDP will need to be closely aligned with the preparation of the Cardiff City Region SDP to ensure that once adopted, both documents provide a coherent framework for effectively and efficiently addressing relevant planning issues.	A separate SA/SEA process will need to be undertaken for the emerging Cardiff City Region SDP once the lead Responsible Authority for the preparation of this plan has been determined. As with this LDP Review, SA/SEA Scoping will be needed to set an assessment framework prior to the development of substantive SPD components. The SA Framework proposed for use in the SA of the LDP Review (Section 5) should be kept under review and tested for compatibility against the SA Framework for the Cardiff City Region SPD once this has been produced.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<p>of private sector investment by 2036. It has 6 Objectives:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connecting the Cardiff Capital Region; 2. Investing in innovation and the digital network; 3. Developing a skilled workforce and tackling unemployment; 4. Supporting enterprise and business growth; 5. Housing development and regeneration; and 6. Developing greater city-region governance across the Cardiff Capital Region. <p>At the time of writing, local planning authorities have been invited to consider the development of Strategic Development Plans in addition to their own LDP reviews currently being undertaken. 3 SPDs are proposed to cover North Wales, Mid and West Wales and South East Wales (i.e. the Cardiff City Region, including the BCBC area).</p>		
Local (BCBC & Neighbouring Local Authorities) - all legislative and policy frameworks are informed by relevant higher level Welsh, UK, European and international frameworks				
Population (including relevant socio-economic issues)	<p>Bridgend Band B School Modernisation Programme (BCBC, 2017). Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023), Bridgend Band B School Modernisation Programme, Aging Well in Bridgend Plan, Bridgend Public Services Board Assessment of Local Well-being April 2017, Bridgend County Borough Community Strategy, Bridgend CBC Corporate Improvement Plan “Pulling Together – Pushing for Improvement”, Bridgend Local Housing Strategy 2004, Bridgend CB Sustainable Economic Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan, Bridgend LEA Draft Single Education Plan 2006-2008, Bridgend County Borough Tourism Strategy, A Revised Tourism Strategy for South East Wales (Capital Regional Tourism) 2003, Bridgend Community Safety Partnership Crime and Disorder Strategy, Bridgend Young People’s Partnership Strategy</p>	<p>Local policies regarding socio-economic issues broadly address the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving quality of life for all • Protecting and enhancing the environment • Increasing prosperity • Delivering safer and more inclusive communities • Achieving a healthier County Borough • Ensure good quality housing <p>The Bridgend Wellbeing Assessment (2017) summarises the challenges to Economic, Environmental and Social Wellbeing affecting residents of the BCBC area, as</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP Review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the wellbeing and the prosperity for the community in the BCBC area.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the creation of acceptable policies for the benefit of the population. The quality of social services, job provision, equality legislation and economic growth targets should be considered in a holistic manner.</p>

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<p>required under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Informed by the Wellbeing Assessment, the Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023) identifies policy changes and actions to improve the health and wellbeing of the population within the BCBC area;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A work plan to inform the improvement of information sharing and support services for children in the first 1000 days of life. • The strengthening and expansion of community infrastructure in the BCBC area. • The implementation of additional policy to create safe, confident communities and tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. • Work to promote community cohesion and workplace cultures. • Promoting the upskilling of the workforce to reduce economic inequality. 		
Human Health	<p>Bridgend Health, Social Care & Wellbeing Strategy, Bridgend Local Health Board Primary Care Estates Strategy, Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023), Bridgend Public Services Board Assessment of Local Well-being April 2017</p>	<p>The health policies relevant to BCBC address issues encompassing social inclusion, lifestyle and health and social care. The aim of the Bridgend LHB's primary care estate strategy is to provide health solutions for the local community.</p> <p>The Bridgend Wellbeing Assessment summarises the challenges to Economic, Environmental and Social Wellbeing for residents in the Bridgend area in accordance with the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Informed by the Wellbeing Assessment, the Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023) provides key health guidelines</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to healthcare targets set by BCBC in their LDP area.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to tackling health issues and creating adequate health and safety guidelines.</p>

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<p>for future local development plans;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The improvement of health information and facilities for teenage parents and their families. Use lessons learned from the Policing Vulnerability Early Intervention and Prevention Project to support vulnerable children and young people. The creation of co-ordinated health and wellbeing activities to improve the health of the Bridgend County Workforce and their families. 		
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Bridgend Nature Recovery Plan / Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2014)	This local biodiversity action plan aims to map/quantify biodiversity and identify its importance for the BCBC area.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP review should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance to protect biodiversity, flora and fauna and its habitats from being destroyed by local development.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation, protection and enhancement of biodiversity interests.
Soil & Land	N/A			
Water	N/A			
Air	N/A			
Climatic Factors	Bridgend County Borough Council Declaration on Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	<p>This declaration recognises the challenges brought by climate change and commits BCBC to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> work with the national assembly and central government to deliver the UK climate change programme in Wales and consider climate change issues within community strategies. Make a public declaration to deliver significant reductions in greenhouse gas 	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation. In particular, the LDP Review should plan for upgraded and new infrastructure to support the decarbonisation of key economic sectors within the BCBC area. The replacement LDP should therefore include a policy framework to support the deployment of renewable	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<p>emissions, improve energy efficiency in council offices and homes and increase the use of green energy from renewable resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the progress of our plan against the actions needed and publish the results. 	<p>energy technologies and heat networks in appropriate locations.</p>	
Material Assets	<p>Bridgend Local Transport Plan, Bridgend Local Transport Plan and subsequent Annual Progress Reports, Regional Waste Plan for the South West Wales Region, Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023), Bridgend Public Services Board Assessment of Local Well-being April 2017</p>	<p>These policies provide guidance for road traffic reduction, road safety, public transport, parking, managing the transportation network and; cycling and walking.</p> <p>The regional waste plan policy aims to provide a land use planning framework at the regional level. Each Local Planning Authority (LPA) shall develop which service best suits their needs and manage their own waste.</p> <p>The Bridgend Wellbeing Assessment summarises the challenges to Economic, Environmental and Social Wellbeing for residents in the Bridgend area in accordance with the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Informed by the Wellbeing Assessment, the Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023) identifies strategic policy measures to improve wellbeing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building upon the existing evidence base (Bridgend Nature Recovery Plan) to improve quality and access to open space; and, • Encouraging community involvement within the management of open spaces through the Green Flag scheme. 	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the reasoned provision of transport.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the growth of material assets.</p>
Cultural Heritage	<p>Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023), Bridgend Public Services Board Assessment of Local Well-being April 2017, Bridgend Borough Council Welsh Language Strategy (2016)</p>	<p>The Bridgend Borough Council Five Year Welsh Language Strategy (2016) describes how BCBC will aim to raise the profile of the Welsh language</p>	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the preservation and promotion</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the preservation of cultural heritage assets.</p>

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<p>and culture with its residents and employees.</p> <p>The Bridgend Wellbeing Assessment summarises the challenges to Economic, Environmental and Social Wellbeing for residents in the Bridgend area in accordance with the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Informed by the Wellbeing Assessment, the Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023) identifies strategic policy measures to improve wellbeing, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to maximise the benefit of residents of BCBC from cultural, built and natural assets understanding welsh heritage by mapping sites and buildings, promoting the use of the welsh language and promote awareness of the benefits of these assets. 	<p>of the welsh language and promote the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of the BCBC area.</p>	
Landscape	N/A			
Interrelated Effects	Bridgend Public Services Board Well-Being Plan (2018-2023), Bridgend Public Services Board Assessment of Local Well-being April 2017,	As noted above, these documents identify a wideranging set of socio-economic and wellbeing challenges affecting residents within the BCBC area and identify wellbeing objectives and associated measures to address these.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP must respond to the locally identified wellbeing objectives and demonstrate compliance with the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to all aspects of health and wellbeing, including each of the wellbeing objectives defined within the Bridgend Wellbeing Plan 2018 – 2023.

B.3 Review of National Planning Policy Requirements

B.3.1 Table B.2 below presents a review of Welsh national planning policies and guidance in order to identify key policy requirements which will need to be taken account of within the LDP Review. Of note, whilst national planning policy is presently contained within Planning Policy Wales (PPW) - 9th Edition (2015), a draft version of PPW – 10th Edition was published for consultation in Spring 2018. Fundamentally, PPW Edition 10 has been restructured into policy themes concerning well-being goals in line with the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. PPW – 10th Edition also includes policy updates where necessary to reflect new Welsh Assembly Government strategies and policies.

Table B.2: Implications of Welsh National Planning Policies for the LDP Review

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Approved Policy Documents				
Population (including relevant socio-economic issues)	<p>Planning Policy Wales (2015), Welsh Assembly Government (2015) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 1: Joint Housing Land Availability Studies, Welsh Assembly Government (2006) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 2: Planning and Affordable Housing, Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 4: Retail and Commercial Development, Welsh Assembly Government (2010) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 6: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 16: Sport, Recreation and Open Space, Welsh Assembly Government (2014) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 23: Economic Development, Technical Advice Note (TAN) 13: Tourism, Welsh Assembly Government (2013)</p>	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordinate development with infrastructure provision; • Support national, regional, and local economic policies and strategies; • Align jobs and services with housing, wherever possible, so as to reduce the need for travel, especially by car; • Promote the re-use of previously developed, vacant and underused land; • Deliver physical regeneration and employment opportunities to disadvantaged communities. • Guide and control economic development to facilitate regeneration initiatives and promote environmental and social sustainability. • Reflect work with neighbouring authorities and other relevant stakeholders to plan strategically for employment land provision; • Be underpinned by an up to date and appropriate evidence base to support policy choices and land allocations for economic development; • Set out an evidence based economic vision for the area, including a broad assessment of anticipated employment change by broad sector and land use; • Provide targets on land provision for the employment uses (Classes B1-B8), showing net change in land/floorspace for offices and industry/warehousing separately, and protect these sites from inappropriate development; • Include policies relating to future development on existing employment sites to protect them from inappropriate development: – to encourage the regeneration and re-use of sites which are still suitable and needed for employment; – to control and manage the release of unwanted employment sites to other uses; • Seek to provide the right amount of land and qualitative mix of sites to meet the market demand for economic development uses; • Propose specific locations for those necessary industries which are detrimental to amenity and may be a source of pollution; 	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to relevant socio-economic and population issues within the BCBC area.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to socio-economic issues including economic competitiveness and economic growth, employment provision, social wellbeing, housing and open space.</p>

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek to promote and facilitate development that will deliver physical regeneration; • Prioritise sites that deliver appropriate job and training opportunities to disadvantaged communities; • Concentrate development that attracts large numbers of people, including retail and offices, in city, town and village centres; • Include criteria-based policies to deal with development not specifically allocated in the development plan and help respond to unexpected change; • Include policies on the scope for new economic development in and adjoining rural settlements and identify suitable sites. In remote rural areas and smaller settlements, a criteria-based approach should be considered; • Include policies encouraging farm diversification and new rural development opportunities; • Identify protection zones around establishments that hold hazardous substances and protect the ability of existing establishments to operate or expand by preventing the incremental development of vulnerable uses in the vicinity of such sites. • Adopt the 'town centres first' principle with consideration always given to an existing centre. • Establish a local retail hierarchy which identifies the nature, type and strategic role to be performed by retail and commercial centres; • Set out measures to reinvigorate particular centres, as appropriate, including linking to centre-wide strategies, masterplans and place plans; • Promote vibrant, attractive and viable retail and commercial centres; • Identify the boundaries of retail and commercial centres contained within the hierarchy on the proposals map; • Allocate sites for retail and commercial centre uses where there is assessed to be a quantitative or qualitative need and where size and scale are in accord with the retail strategy. Sites should be identified using the sequential approach and, where appropriate, assessed for their impact on other centres; • Include a criteria-based policy against which proposals coming forward on unallocated sites can be judged; • Set out policies for primary and secondary areas, where appropriate; • Develop policies which deal flexibly with changes to existing buildings; • Include policies relating to future development on existing retail sites to protect them from inappropriate development and to control and manage the release of unwanted retail sites to other uses; 		

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the health of retail centres to assess the effectiveness of policies; • Adopt a sequential approach to development applying to all retail and other uses which are complementary to retail and commercial centres. LPAs should work in partnership with the private sector to identify sites which accord with the sequential approach and are in line with the LDPs retail strategy. • Establish a strategic framework for the protection, provision and enhancement of well-designed tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities in the BCBC area. • Protect from development playing fields and open space that has significant amenity or recreational value to local communities. • Locate facilities which may generate high levels of travel demand in or close to town centres where possible. • Consider the scope to use disused land and routes as parks, linear parks or greenways in urban areas.; and, • Encourage the multiple use of open space and facilities, where appropriate, to increase their effective use and reduce the need to provide additional facilities. 		
Human Health	Planning Policy Wales (2015), Welsh Assembly Government (1997) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 11: Noise,	These documents require the preparation of LDPs to take into account EU limits and target values and WHO guidelines on the detrimental effects of noise on health.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to all aspects of human health and wellbeing.
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Planning Policy Wales (2015), Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5: Nature Conservation and Planning, Welsh Assembly Government (1997) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 10: Tree Preservation Orders,	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify all international, national and local designated sites (including potential SPAs, candidate SACs and listed Ramsar sites); • Provide criteria against which a development affecting the different types of designated site will be assessed, reflecting their relative significance; • Include locally-specific policies for the conservation and, where appropriate, enhancement of landscape and amenity; • Provide for the conservation and, where appropriate, enhancement of biodiversity and landscape outside designated areas, in particular identifying opportunities to conserve important local habitats and species, and to safeguard and manage landscape features of major importance for nature conservation or amenity; • Make appropriate provision for Local Nature Reserves; • Include, where appropriate, locally-specific policies for conserving native woodland and protecting and planting trees; 	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the protection and preservation of biodiversity, flora and fauna in accordance with national planning policy.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to biodiversity conservation.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify how biodiversity will be safeguarded outside statutory designated sites without unduly restricting development that is otherwise appropriate; Provide for the protection and enhancement of open space of conservation value, seeking to identify opportunities to promote responsible public access for enjoyment and understanding of the natural heritage where this is compatible with its conservation and existing land uses; and Recognise the potential of, and encourage land uses and land management practices that help to secure carbon sinks. Consider the location of fragile habitats and species Encourage the diversification of farm enterprises and other parts of the rural economy for appropriate tourism, sport, recreation and leisure uses, subject to adequate safeguards for the character and appearance of the countryside, particularly its landscape, biodiversity and local amenity value. 		
Soil & Land	Planning Policy Wales (2015)	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take account of the physical and environmental constraints on development of land, including, for example, the level of contamination and stability Ensure new development is not undertaken without an understanding of the risks, including those associated with the previous land use, mine and landfill gas emissions, and rising groundwater from abandoned mines; Ensure new development does not take place without appropriate remediation; Ensure consideration is given to the potential impacts which remediation of land contamination might have upon the natural and historic environments. Ensure new development is not undertaken without an understanding of the risks, including those associated with subsidence, landslips or rock falls; Ensure development does not take place without appropriate precautions; Take account of coastal / land erosion risks; Seek to restore unstable and contaminated land. 	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the safeguarding and efficient use of land and soil resources.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the safeguarding and efficient use of land and soil resources.
Water	Planning Policy Wales (2015), Welsh Assembly Government (1998) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 14: Coastal Planning, Welsh Assembly Government (2004) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15: Development and Flood Risk	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take account of the physical and environmental constraints on development of land, including flood risk Consider PPW (2015) 'Infrastructure and Services' objectives when considering the effects of development on water supply and waste water management, development plans and water and development management and water. When preparing LDPs, LPAs should consult with adjacent authorities and Natural Resources Wales and ensure that, 	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the protection and enhancement of water quality, water resources and the water environment.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of water quality, water resources and the water environment.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		as well as not being at risk itself, development does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.		
Air	Planning Policy Wales (2015)	These documents require the preparation of LDPs to consider the effects of development on air quality and recognise that air quality impacts from development proposals must be assessed.	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to air quality.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to air quality.
Climatic Factors	Planning Policy Wales (2015), Welsh Assembly Government (2005) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8: Renewable Energy,	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that tackling the causes and consequences of climate change is taken into account in locating new development (see Sections 5.6 to 5.8 and 13.2 to 13.4 of PPW (2015)). • Consider the increased risk of physical and environmental constraints as a result of climate change • Consider PPW (2015) 'Infrastructure and Services' objectives when considering the effects of development on the adoption of renewable and low carbon energy. 	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
Material Assets	Planning Policy Wales (2015), Welsh Assembly Government (2007) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 18: Transport, Welsh Assembly Government (2002) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 19: Telecommunications, Welsh Assembly Government (2014) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 21: Waste, Welsh Assembly Government (2009) Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) Wales 2: Coal, Welsh Assembly Government (2004) Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) Wales 1: Aggregates Welsh Assembly Government (2004)	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be consistent and integrated with the strategies and policies contained in Local Transport Plans and other relevant strategies. Any LTP proposal that directly involves the development or use of land, or has land use implications, should appear as a policy or proposal in the development plan. • Ensure that transport centred projects' undergo an assessment in accordance with the Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WeITAG). • LDPs must support PPW (2015) objectives (promoting active travel, supporting public transport, managing traffic and parking and planning for roads, railways, airports, ports and inland waterways). • Set out the land use/transportation strategy, addressing accessibility and the provision of strategic and integrated transport facilities, including roads, railways and interchanges; • Locate major generators of travel demand within existing urban areas, or in other locations that can be well served by walking, cycling and public transport; • Ensure that development sites which are highly accessible to non-car modes are used for travel intensive uses, reallocating their use if necessary; • In rural areas, designate local service centres, or clusters of settlements where a sustainable functional linkage can be demonstrated, as the preferred locations for new development; • Include specific measures to promote active travel in accordance with the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013; • Set out policies to promote the use of public transport including new and improved interchange facilities and, where appropriate, park and ride schemes; 	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to infrastructure development, waste management and the sustainable use of natural resources.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to infrastructure development, waste management and the sustainable use of natural resources.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include appropriate traffic management policies; • identify the primary road network, including trunk roads, and separately identify the core network; • Identify proposals for new roads and major improvements to the primary route network and the broad policy on priorities for minor improvements; • Include policies and proposals relating to the development of transport infrastructure other than roads; • Identify, and where appropriate protect, routes required for the sustainable movement of freight; • Protect disused transport infrastructure, including railways, rail sidings, ports, harbours and inland waterways from development that would compromise their future transport use, where re-use is a possibility; • Minimise the adverse impacts of transport infrastructure projects on the natural, historic and built environment and on local communities. • LDPs should maximise the use of existing infrastructure and should consider how the provision of different types of infrastructure can be co-ordinated. • LDPs should consider PPW (2015) 'Infrastructure and Services' objectives when considering the effects of development on the management of waste, development plans and waste planning, development management and waste planning. • LDPs should set out policies and proposals for the location of telecommunications equipment, allocating sites for major developments and including criteria-based policies to guide telecommunications developments where sites other than those identified in the plan may be proposed. 		
Cultural Heritage	<p>Planning Policy Wales (2015), Welsh Assembly Government (2016) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 12: Design, Welsh Assembly Government (1997) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20: Planning and the Welsh Language, Welsh Assembly Government (2017) Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment,</p>	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure (2011) to support the preservation of the Welsh language; • Provide policies relating to the protection and preservation of world heritage sites, archaeological remains, listed buildings and conservation areas, local historic assets and historic parks and gardens. • Identify locally specific policies in relation to the historic environment and cover those heritage assets deemed to be important considerations from a local planning perspective. • Consider the risk archaeological and historic sites by housing developments. 	<p>Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the protection and enhancement of the historic environment and the promotion of the Welsh language.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of the historic environment and the promotion of the Welsh language.</p>

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
Landscape	Planning Policy Wales (2015), Technical Advice Note (TAN) 7 Outdoor Advertisement Control,	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take into account designated historic landscapes in Wales and where it is appropriate, develop locally specific policies which will contribute to their conservation. Consider the physical risks to landscape as a result of housing developments. 	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance relating to the protection and enhancement of designated landscapes, landscape character, landscape features and visual amenity.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of designated landscapes, landscape character, landscape features and visual amenity.
Interrelated Effects	Planning Policy Wales (2015), Technical Advice Note (TAN) 3: Simplified Planning Zones (Welsh Assembly Government, 1996),	<p>These documents require the preparation of LDPs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote sustainable patterns of development, identifying previously developed land and buildings, and indicating locations for higher density development at hubs and interchanges and close to route corridors where accessibility on foot and by bicycle and public transport is good; Maintain and improve the vitality, attractiveness and viability of town, district, local and village centres (Chapter 10); Development for tourism, sport and leisure uses should, where appropriate, be located on previously developed land. Encourage higher density and mixed-use development near public transport nodes, or near corridors well served by public transport; Foster development approaches that recognise the mutual dependence between town and country, thus improving linkages between urban areas and their rural surroundings; Locate development so that it can be well serviced by existing infrastructure (including for energy supply, waste management and water) (PPW Chapter 12); Ensure that development encourages opportunities for commercial and residential uses to derive environmental benefit from co-location (PPW Chapter 12); Locate development in settlements that are resilient to the effects of climate change, by avoiding areas where environmental consequences and impacts cannot be sustainably managed. Where development takes place in areas of known risks, ensure that the development is designed for resilience over its whole lifetime (PPW Chapter 13); Include strategic policies on the location of potentially polluting developments and should set out criteria by which applications for such developments will be determined, but they should not exclude provision for such projects or prohibit all applications to set them up. <p>With reference to the protection of Green Belts and Green Wedges; LDPs should:</p>	Any replacement LDP resulting from this LDP should provide policies, proposals, advice and guidance to support the delivery of sustainable development.	The SA Framework should provide a suite of linked objectives to support the delivery of sustainable development.

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide opportunities for access to the open countryside; • provide opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation; • maintain landscape/wildlife interest; • retain land for agriculture, forestry, and related purposes; • improve derelict land; and • provide carbon sinks and help to mitigate the effects of urban heat islands. <p>PPW (2015) also promotes the protection of agricultural land and the re-use of brownfield land alongside further sustainability guidelines. LDPs should identify opportunities to ensure higher sustainable building standards are adopted, ensure that proposed developments are evidence based and viable and encourage applications which reflect key principles of climate responsive developments.</p> <p>The preparation of LDPs must ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient land is available or will become available to provide a 5-year supply of land for housing • The availability of previously developed sites and empty or underused buildings and their suitability for housing use; • The location of potential development sites and their accessibility to jobs, shops and services by modes other than the car, and the potential for improving such accessibility; • The capacity of existing and potential infrastructure, including public transport, water and sewerage, other utilities and social infrastructure (such as schools and hospitals), to absorb further development, and the cost of adding further infrastructure; • The scope to build sustainable communities to support new physical and social infrastructure, including consideration of the effect on the Welsh language (see 4.13), and to provide sufficient demand to sustain appropriate local services and facilities; • The compatibility of housing with neighbouring established land uses which might be adversely affected by encroaching residential development • Proposals for new settlements should be promoted through and fully justified in the LDP • LDPs must include an authority wide target for affordable housing based in the LHMA and identify the expected contributions that policy approaches identified in the LDP will make to meeting this target. • LDPs should also include site thresholds or a combination of thresholds and site-specific targets including the correct proportion of affordable housing. • LDPs must be supported by an assessment of the accommodation needs at Gypsy/traveller sites. 		

SEA Topic	Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies	Overview of Purpose and Key Requirements	Implications for Bridgend LDP Review	Implications for SA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantify the housing requirement (both market and affordable housing); • Set an affordable housing target; • Set out a settlement strategy; • Allocate housing land on the basis of the search sequence specified in 9.2.8 and the criteria in 9.2.9 within PPW (2015); • Include clear policy criteria against which applications for development of unallocated sites will be considered; • Specify the circumstances in which previously developed sites would be deemed to perform so poorly that their use would not be favoured before that of a (particular) greenfield site; • Include clear development management policies to guide the determination of applications, including guidance on design, access, density, off-street parking and open space provision for particular areas as appropriate; • Specify mechanisms to be used to monitor the take up of housing land; • Include policies for affordable housing in areas where need has been identified, including any areas where exception sites will be considered; and • Include policies to indicate where developer contributions will be expected toward infrastructure, community facilities and affordable housing. 		

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All of our work, from the engineering of landmark buildings and critical infrastructure to the spatial planning and economic evidence in support of development, is evidence based and informed by a deep understanding of what it takes to deliver construction.



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Bridgend LDP Review

Initial HRA Screening Report

On behalf of **Bridgend County Borough Council**



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This report has been prepared by Peter Brett Associates LLP ('PBA') on behalf of its client to whom this report is addressed ('Client') in connection with the project described in this report and takes into account the Client's particular instructions and requirements. This report was prepared in accordance with the professional services appointment under which PBA was appointed by its Client. This report is not intended for and should not be relied on by any third party (i.e. parties other than the Client). PBA accepts no duty or responsibility (including in negligence) to any party other than the Client and disclaims all liability of any nature whatsoever to any such party in respect of this report.

Contents

- 1 Introduction 1**
 - 1.1 Background 1
 - 1.2 Report Purpose 1
 - 1.3 Overview of the Bridgend LDP Review 1
 - 1.4 Statutory Requirements..... 3
 - 1.5 HRA Process 3
- 2 Identification of Sites 5**
 - 2.1 Introduction 5
 - 2.2 Site Identification Process 5
 - 2.3 European Sites Identified within Bridgend County Borough Council Area..... 6
 - 2.4 Sites within 15 km of the Bridgend County Borough Council Area 6
 - 2.5 Sites over 15 km of Bridgend County Borough 7
- 3 Conclusion 9**
 - 3.1 Overview..... 9
 - 3.2 Questions for Natural Resources Wales 9
 - 3.3 Next Steps 9

Tables

- Table 1: Details of European sites identified with the BCBC area 6
- Table 2: Details of European sites identified with 15 km of the BCBC area 6
- Table 3: Details of European sites identified outwith 15 km of the BCBC area 8

Figures

- Figure 1: The Bridgend County Borough Council Area 2

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Peter Brett Associates LLP (PBA) has been commissioned by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) to undertake a Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) for the Bridgend LDP Review ('the LDP Review'). This report outlines the proposed approach to undertaking the HRA, provides baseline information and identifies sites designated at the European level of relevance to the LDP Review and to this HRA process.
- 1.1.2 This report is the first stage of a HRA process to identify, assess and address any likely significant effects on European sites from the LDP Review and from the resulting replacement LDP for the BCBC area.

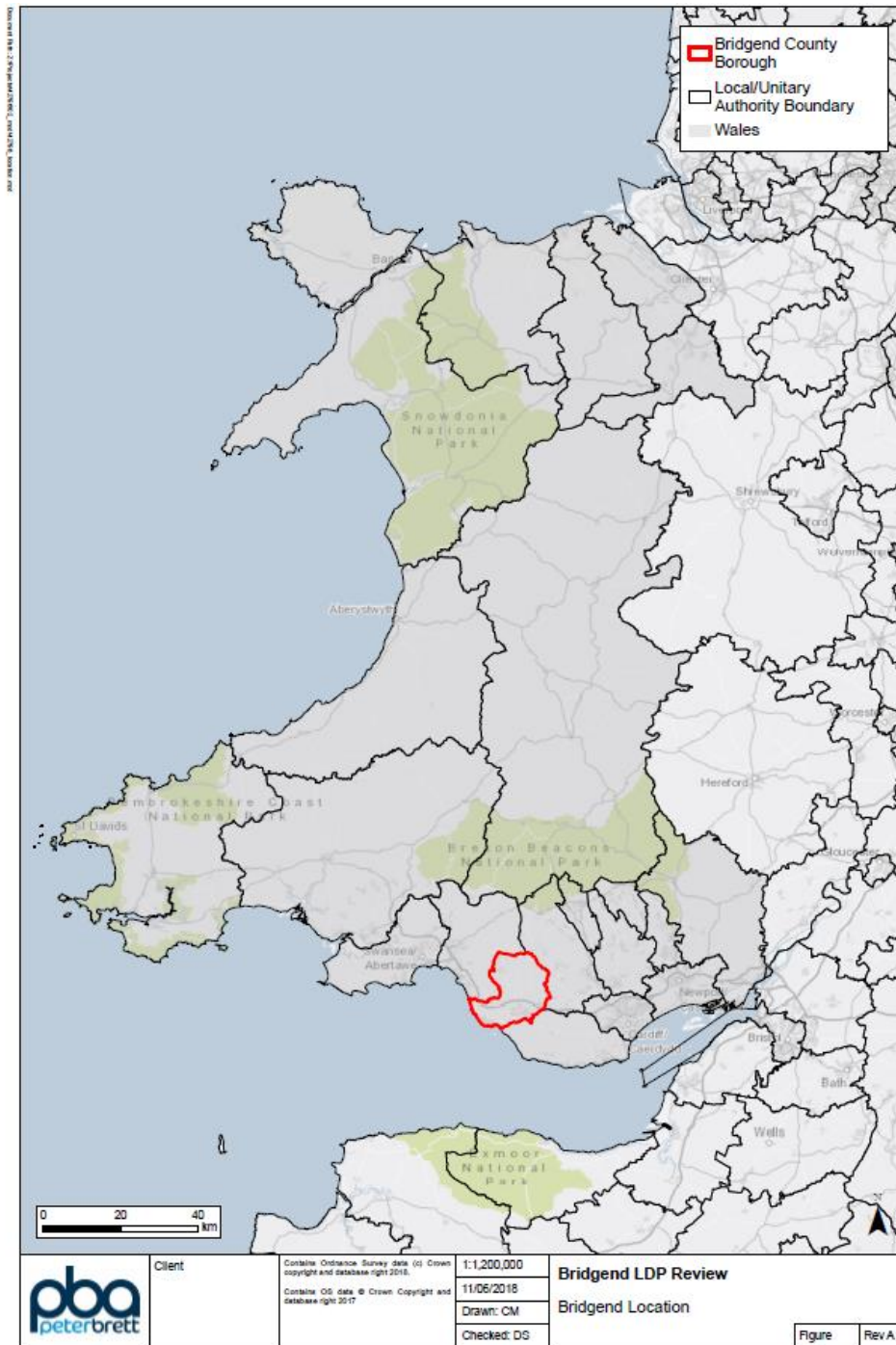
1.2 Report Purpose

- 1.2.1 This report seeks the views of the Statutory Nature Conservation Body (SNCB) for Wales, namely Natural Resources Wales, on the proposed list of European sites to take forward for a legally compliant HRA of the Bridgend LDP Review. The HRA is required to assess whether there would be a 'likely significant effect' (LSE) from the LDP Review (and the subsequent adoption of a new LDP) on any European sites, as required by Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

1.3 Overview of the Bridgend LDP Review

- 1.3.1 In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 ('the 2004 Act'), BCBC adopted the first LDP for its administrative area (shown in **Figure 1**) in September 2013.

Figure 1: The Bridgend County Borough Council Area



1.3.2 BCBC have undertaken regular monitoring of the LDP since 2013 and in 2018 prepared a LDP Review Report which concluded that the LDP should be subject to a ‘Full Review’, to be carried out in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 as amended (‘the 2005 LDP Regulations’). This review (‘the LDP Review’) is needed to allow BCBC to prepare and adopt a replacement LDP prior to the expiry of the current LDP in 2021 and to ensure that the statutory Development Plan for the BCBC area remains up to date. In particular, a replacement LDP is needed to take account of a range of new Acts, policy frameworks, initiatives, evidence and spatial issues at national, regional and local levels since the adoption of the current LDP.

- 1.3.3 In Spring 2018 BCBC consulted on a draft Delivery Agreement to underpin the LDP Review and the finalised Bridgend replacement LDP Delivery Agreement was subsequently agreed with the Welsh Assembly Government on 25th June 2018. This sets out the process, timescales and consultation arrangements to undertake a 'Full Review' of the existing LDP and in doing so to prepare and adopt a replacement LDP by September 2021. **Section 1.5** of the finalised Delivery Agreement outlines the proposed approach to undertaking a staged HRA of the LDP Review in accordance with relevant statutory requirements.

1.4 Statutory Requirements

- 1.4.1 In the UK, the European Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna) (European Commission, 1992) has been transposed into national legislation in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the Habitat Regulations). The aim of the Habitats Directive and the Habitat Regulations is to contribute to biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
- 1.4.2 In accordance with Article 6.3 of the Habitats Directive and Regulation 63 of the Habitat Regulations, before deciding to authorise an emerging plan or project a competent authority is required to assess whether this would have a 'likely significant effect' (LSE) on any European sites included in the Natura 2000 network, namely:
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under European Council Directive 92/43/EEC(a) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (the Habitats Directive) (European Commission, 1992); and,
 - Special Protection Areas (SPA) designated under the European Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the Birds Directive) (European Commission, 2009).
- 1.4.3 As a matter of policy, the Welsh Assembly Government expects competent authorities in Wales to treat all Ramsar sites and pSPAs as though they were statutory European sites, and they should be treated as such in HRA¹. The term 'European sites' is therefore used in this report to collectively refer to SACs, SPAs, Ramsar sites and pSPAs.
- 1.4.4 The assessment of LSE follows a staged process known as Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA). BCBC is the relevant competent authority for plans and projects within their administrative area when they act as the decision maker, including for the adoption of LDPs and the determination of planning applications. The LDP Review is a relevant emerging plan for the purposes of the Habitat Regulations as it will result in the adoption of a replacement LDP for the BCBC area and at this stage has the potential to result in LSE on relevant European sites. The LDP Review must therefore be subject to an HRA.

1.5 HRA Process

- 1.5.1 In accordance with the Habitats Regulations, the HRA process follows a series of stages which will be undertaken for the LDP Review, as necessary, to meet with the requirements of the Regulations:
- Stage 1 - HRA Screening: to determine whether the LDP Review is likely to have significant effects on any European sites. Screening will be undertaken for each draft of the emerging replacement LDP, namely the Preferred Strategy – LDP Pre-Deposit and LDP Deposit Documents. This report provides identifies relevant European sites for consideration within the HRA Screening;

¹ Welsh Assembly Government (2009). Technical Advice Note 5: Nature Conservation and Planning.

- Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment: If the HRA Screening indicates that the LDP Review is likely to have significant effects, a further level of assessment is needed to consider whether the LDP Review could adversely affect the integrity of one or more European site(s), either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of their established conservation objectives and conservation status. If the potential for adverse effects on site integrity are identified, the Appropriate Assessment should also consider mitigation measures to control the identified impacts in order to avoid adverse effects on site integrity; and,
 - Stage 3 and 4 – Consideration of Alternatives and Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest: Only where significant effects remain at the end of Stage 2 in the HRA process, is there a need to consider alternatives and Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest.
- 1.5.2 This report is the first stage of the HRA being carried out in respect of the LDP Review, which will need to build upon the HRA carried out for the first Bridgend LDP (adopted September 2013). This was undertaken by Baker Associates (now part of PBA) on behalf of BCBC.
- 1.5.3 It is intended that the HRA process will run concurrently with the plan making process and form an iterative part of the LDP Review, involving the consideration of all emerging policy and site options at the appropriate stage of plan preparation. As the SNCB for Wales, Natural Resources Wales will be consulted throughout the HRA process.
- 1.5.4 The HRA process will be undertaken in conjunction with a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) which is also being carried out in respect of the LDP Review by PBA on behalf of BCBC. Whilst respecting the separate statutory requirements applicable to HRA and SA, an integrated approach will be adopted to complete these processes. In particular, the findings from the HRA in terms of any likely significant effects from the emerging replacement LDP on European sites will inform a wider assessment of likely significant effects on biodiversity and ecological interests within the SA.

2 Identification of Sites

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The initial step in the HRA process is identify and agree a list of European sites to take forward in consideration of the potential for likely significant effects (LSE) to arise as a result of the LDP Review. This includes European sites within the Bridgend County Borough Council area (the BCBC area) and others located outwith this but within the surrounding zone of influence which could be affected by the LDP Review.
- 2.1.2 The identification of European sites is based on the likely impacts of the LDP Review and the presence of conceivable effect pathways between the BCBC area and the European sites, which could expose the qualifying features of the European sites to significant effects. Whilst the LDP Review can only directly determine planning strategy or development within the boundary of the BCBC area, there may be trans-boundary effects as a result of its implementation, for instance through air pollution, aquatic impacts or recreational pressure. In consideration of this, a 15km buffer area has been used around the BCBC area to identify those European sites that could conceivably be affected by the LDP Review. The nature and scale of potential effects is typically limited by distance, and it is considered that beyond 15 km, in most situations any potential effects arising from the LDP Review would be so minimal as to have an imperceptible effect on European sites beyond this distance. The 15 km distance has been extended in certain situations where source-receptor pathways, such as hydrological connectivity, are evident.
- 2.1.3 The use of a 15 km search area is the same approach as agreed with NRW for the HRA of the first Bridgend LDP in 2013.

2.2 Site Identification Process

- 2.2.1 All European sites within the BCBC area and within 15 km of its boundaries have been identified using current GIS datasets (as of June 2018). Potential additional source-receptor pathways have also been considered, such as roads or rivers that may increase risks from the implementation of policies within the BCBC area to other European sites outwith the identified zone of influence. This includes consideration of the potential need to include the two additional European sites located outwith the zone of influence which NRW requested be considered within the HRA carried out for the first Bridgend LDP.

2.3 European Sites Identified within Bridgend County Borough Council Area

2.3.1 Details of European sites identified with the BCBC area can be shown in **Table 1** below.

Table 1: Details of European sites identified with the BCBC area

Site Name	Status	Site Code	Area (ha)	Qualifying features of the site
Blackmill Woodlands	SAC	UK0030090	70	Old sessile oak woodlands at the southern extreme of the habitat's range in Wales.
Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr / Cefn Cribwr Grasslands	SAC	UK0030113	58	Fen-meadow (<i>Molinia</i>) grasslands, and marsh fritillary butterfly.
Kenfig / Cynffig	SAC	UK0012566	1187	An assemblage of coastal habitats including sand dune systems, shallow lakes, and salt marsh along with two species of plant, the fen orchid and petalwort.

2.3.2 These are the same European sites within the BCBC area which were considered within the HRA carried out for the first Bridgend LDP.

2.4 Sites within 15 km of the Bridgend County Borough Council Area

2.4.1 Details of European sites identified within 15 km of the BCBC area are shown in **Table 2** below:

Table 2: Details of European sites identified with 15 km of the BCBC area

Site Name	Status	Site Code	Distance from the BCBC area	Area (ha)	Qualifying features of the site
Dunraven Bay	SAC	UK0030139	3.7 km	6 ha	The 20 or so plants of shore dock <i>Rumex rupestris</i> growing on damp coastal limestone are the only remnant of the species' former Bristol Channel range.

Site Name	Status	Site Code	Distance from the BCBC area	Area (ha)	Qualifying features of the site
Blaen Cynon	SAC	UK0030092	10.6 km	67	The site contains an extensive complex of damp pastures and heaths supporting marsh fritillary.
Cardiff Beech Woods	SAC	UK0030109	12.4 km	115	Cardiff Beech Woods contains one of the largest concentrations of Asperulo-Fagetum beech forests in Wales.
Coedydd Nedd a Mellte	SAC	UK0030141	12.0 km	377	A complex of old sessile oak woodland habitats.
Crymlyn Bog / Cors Crymlyn	SAC	UK0012885	12.2 km	299 ha	A complex of wetland habitats including traditional mires, quaking bogs, and calcareous fens.
Crymlyn Bog	Ramsar site	UK14006	12.2 km	267 ha	Comprises a floodplain-valley mire located within a lowland coastal context and is the most extensive wetland of its type in Wales.
Cwm Cadlan	SAC	UK0013585	14.0 km	84 ha	Fen-meadow (Molinia) grasslands, and alkaline fens.

2.4.2 These are the same European sites within the zone of influence outwith the BCBC area that were considered within the HRA carried out for the first Bridgend LDP.

2.5 Sites over 15 km of Bridgend County Borough

2.5.1 Details of European sites identified outwith 15 km of the BCBC area are shown in **Table 3** below

Table 3: Details of European sites identified outwith 15 km of the BCBC area

Site Name	Status	Site Code	Distance from BCBC area	Area (ha)	Qualifying features of the site
River Wye/Afon Gwy	SAC	UK0012642	30 km	2148	A range of riverine habitats and associated species including white-clawed crayfish, Atlantic salmon, and otter.
River Usk/Afon Wysg	SAC	UK0013007	55 km	968 ha	A range of riverine habitats and associated species Atlantic salmon and otter.

2.5.2 Subject to any views expressed by NRW it is proposed to include these two sites within the HRA on a precautionary basis and to ensure continuity in the HRA process.

3 Conclusion

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 This report has outlined the requirement to undertake a Habitats Regulations Appraisal in respect of the Bridgend LDP Review, which is intended to result in a replacement LDP being adopted by Bridgend Borough County Council for their administrative area by September 2021. The report has also identified relevant European sites (also including any relevant Ramsar sites and proposed Special Protection Areas) for consideration within the HRA process.
- 3.1.2 Twelve European sites (11 SACs and 1 Ramsar site) have been identified to take forward to the next stage of the HRA process. Three of these sites are within the BCBC area, 7 are within 15 km of the BCBC boundary and 2 are over 15 km from the BCBC boundary. These are the same sites that were considered previously within the HRA carried out in respect of the first Bridgend LDP (adopted September 2013).

3.2 Questions for Natural Resources Wales

- 3.2.1 NRW, as the Statutory Nature Conservation Body (SNCB) for Wales, are requested to confirm whether:
- NRW is content for a 15 km radius to be adopted around the BCBC boundary as the zone of influence for any LSE from the LDP Review (i.e. from the emerging replacement LDP for the BCBC area); and whether,
 - NRW is content for the River Wye SAC and the Usk SAC to be included within this HRA on a precautionary basis.

3.3 Next Steps

- 3.3.1 Reflecting the requirements of the Habitat Regulations, iterative HRA Screening Reports will accompany the Preferred Strategy – LDP Pre-Deposit Document and the LDP Deposit Documents. These will determine whether any further stages of the HRA process, as outlined in **Section 1.5** (i.e. any need for Appropriate Assessment) need to be undertaken for the LDP Review. The HRA Screening Reports are proposed to comprise the following sections:
- A Non-Technical Summary;
 - A chapter setting out the scope and purpose of HRA and the assessment methodology;
 - A chapter providing an overview of the form, content and development of the emerging replacement LDP to date;
 - A chapter summarising the pertinent baseline conditions of identified European sites, including their qualifying features, conservation objectives, current status and known vulnerabilities;
 - A chapter setting out whether the implementation of the emerging replacement LDP would have LSE on any European sites. This will take account of the baseline conditions of identified European sites, any likely cumulative effects from the emerging replacement LDP in combination with other relevant plans and projects, identified uncertainties and risks; and,
 - A chapter presenting views on the further assessment and monitoring of any identified LSE.

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