



# Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan 2018-2033



Background Paper 12:  
Conformity with the Future  
Wales 2040 NDF

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## **BRIDGEND REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) 2018-2033**

### **BACKGROUND PAPER 12: COMPATIBILITY ASSESSMENT OF THE LDP VISION, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIC POLICIES AGAINST THE FUTURE WALES 2040 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

#### **1. Background**

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

#### **2. Purpose of the Assessment**

- 2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to demonstrate that the Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) assists in the delivery of the Future Wales 2040 NDF across the plan period to 2033.

2.2 This assessment can be used to ascertain whether the Replacement LDP has given due consideration to the vision and goals of the Future Wales 2040 NDF Spatial Strategy in the preparation of the Plan's Strategic Policies, to ensure it aligns with the objectives set out at national level.

### **3. Replacement LDP Vision and Objectives**

3.1 This section sets out the LDP Vision and Objectives for the 2033 Replacement Plan (what the LDP is working towards). The LDP Vision has been developed to take into account the vision and goals of the Future Wales National Development Framework with the specific characteristics and key issues affecting the County Borough:

*Since the turn of the millennium, Bridgend and the wider County Borough has been on a journey to expand access to key services, enhance physical environmental quality and improve quality of life for residents, workers and visitors. This transformation will continue throughout the LDP period, resulting in the development of a safe, healthy and inclusive network of communities that connect more widely with the region to catalyse sustainable economic growth. The County Borough is already a major regional employment hub, with specific strengths in advanced manufacturing. These socio-economic assets will be enhanced to progressively improve the County Borough's economic competitiveness whilst significantly contributing to the success of the Cardiff Capital Region. Encouraging inward investment to improve infrastructure, employment provision and lifelong learning opportunities will attract and retain skilled workers that will in turn encourage businesses to bring further skilled employment into the area. Bridgend County Borough Council also has a vision to make Bridgend a decarbonised, digitally connected smart County Borough. In doing so it will transition to a low carbon, decentralised energy system that works for its individuals, communities and businesses. In achieving its vision of a decarbonised, digitally connected smart county borough, the Council aims to:*

- *decarbonise the energy sector,*

- *stimulate economic growth,*
- *provide new job opportunities, and*
- *attract new and existing businesses to trial initiatives and grow within the county borough*

*Specifically, Bridgend will remain the principal town, and supplementary growth will build on its success as a regional employment, commercial and service centre. Additional employment, commercial and residential development will be focussed around other established towns to achieve sustainable patterns of growth that support existing local services and facilities. Regeneration led growth will also be channelled towards Porthcawl through redevelopment of its waterfront to capitalise on the town's role as a premier seaside and tourist destination. In addition, the valley settlements will be earmarked for sustainable regeneration, with a recognition that Maesteg and the Llynfi Valley has the largest potential capacity and infrastructure to accommodate future growth. This vision will be achieved through maintaining and developing strong, interdependent, connected and cohesive settlements, whilst also protecting and enhancing the County Borough's environmental and heritage assets. This will offer people:*

- *the best start in life by providing effective learning environments to secure the best possible outcomes for learners;*
- *opportunities to reduce social and economic inequalities; and*
- *an improved quality of life and a healthy environment for all people living, working, visiting and relaxing in the area.*

- 3.2 The Strategic Policies of the Replacement LDP form the framework for implementing and delivering the Council's Preferred Strategy. It is imperative that 'sustainable development' principles are embed into the LDP (including strategic policies) in order to help achieve the delivery of the Future Wales 2040 National Development Framework.
- 3.3 The Replacement LDP Vision shall be delivered through 4 Strategic Objectives which seek to reflect updated national policy and legislation and address the issues facing the County Borough. The development of the Objectives has been informed by the SA/SEA process, particularly the succinct set of key sustainable issues which should be addressed in the Replacement LDP. These identified issues have been carried forward to underpin the SA process, thereby shaping the following four strategic objectives, which are central to the LDP:
- ***SOBJ1: To Create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)***
  - ***SOBJ2: To Create Active, Healthy, Cohesive and Social Communities***
  - ***SOBJ3: To Create Productive and Enterprising Places***
  - ***SOBJ4: To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places***
- 3.4 Acting together, the Vision and Strategic Objectives provide an overarching framework to underpin all other components of the Replacement LDP. Reflecting their importance, the Strategic Objectives have been subject to iterative testing and refinement through the SA process in tandem with preparing the Deposit Plan. Whilst necessarily high level, the resulting Strategic Objectives provide good coverage of all key sustainability issues which the Replacement LDP needs to address.
- 3.5 In turn, the Vision and 4 Strategic Objectives are supported by 35 Specific Objectives. These have been devised to create the right conditions to address the various social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being outcomes. The objectives will

also form part of the basis for monitoring the implementation of the Plan, once adopted and operational. These objectives are set out below;

SOBJ 1	To Create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)
OBJ 1a	To promote Bridgend as the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough where major employment, commercial and residential development is focused.
OBJ 1b	Develop a strategic hub in the northern part of the County Borough of Bridgend, focusing on employments sites, energy projects, residential developments, tourism and culture.
OBJ 1c	To revitalise Maesteg by recognising its role as the principal settlement serving the Llynfi Valley which has the potential capacity and infrastructure to accommodate future growth.
OBJ 1d	To realise the potential of Porthcawl as a premier seaside and tourist destination by prioritising the regeneration of its waterfront and investing in key infrastructure. This will also improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, whilst enhancing the vibrancy of the Town Centre.
OBJ 1e	To promote sustainable and attractive valley settlements with improved access to jobs and services.

OBJ 1f	To recognise the strategic potential of Pencoed within the wider Cardiff Capital Region.
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SOBJ 2	To Create Active, Healthy, Cohesive and Social Communities
OBJ 2a	To provide a land use framework that recognises the needs of deprived areas within the County Borough, which affords those communities the opportunities to tackle the sources of their deprivation.
OBJ 2b	To ensure that there is equality of access to community services for all sectors of the community, addressing the particular needs of younger people, families, older people and those with disabilities.
OBJ 2c	To deliver the level and type of residential development to meet the identified needs of the County Borough ensuring that a significant proportion is affordable and accessible to all.
OBJ 2d	To enable Bridgend Town to become an attractive and successful regional retail and commercial destination within the Cardiff Capital Region which also meets the needs of its catchment, supported by a network of viable town, district and local centres that serve their local communities.
OBJ 2e	



	To provide for the required quantity and range of accessible education, leisure, recreational, health, social and community facilities throughout the County Borough.
OBJ 2f	Promote accessibility for all by supporting the transport hierarchy (set out in PPW) that prioritises walking and cycling (active travel), then public transport and finally motor vehicles. New development should be located and designed in accordance with this hierarchy to prioritise the use of sustainable transport, reduce related airborne pollution, reduce the need to travel and reduce the dependency on private vehicles.
OBJ 2g	To ensure that new development helps deliver active travel routes in the County Borough.
OBJ 2h	Create walkable neighbourhoods, where a range of facilities are within walking distance of most residents, and the streets are safe, comfortable and enjoyable to walk and cycle.
OBJ 2i	Resolve localised junction capacity issues at Junction 36 of the M4 and the Penprysg Road Railway Bridge, Pencoed to improve extant traffic flow issues and enhance sustainable growth opportunities within the respective settlements in the future.
OBJ 2j	Promote new development that is designed to minimise the impact of transport emissions.

SOBJ 3	To Create Productive and Enterprising Places
OBJ 3a	To build a more diverse, dynamic and self-reliant economy and business environment.
OBJ 3b	To provide a realistic level and variety of employment land to facilitate the delivery of high quality workspaces and job opportunities.
OBJ 3c	Deliver a balanced portfolio of new and modern employment buildings with a focus on small to medium enterprises and start-up businesses.
OBJ 3d	Provide effective learning environments to secure the best possible outcomes for learners.
OBJ 3e	Promote and support the refurbishment of existing employment floor space.
OBJ 3f	Develop a commercial and education cluster around Bridgend train station with a focus on commerce and education.
OBJ 3g	To bring the benefits of regeneration to the valley communities by directing new development to those areas at a scale which acknowledges their geographical constraints and infrastructure capacity.
OBJ 3h	Develop a strong rural economy to support sustainable and vibrant rural communities, recognising the role of leisure and tourism.

OBJ 3i	Support transport infrastructure and fast communication networks to facilitate necessary improvements and development to support the growth aspirations of the Cardiff Capital Region.
OBJ 3j	Promote developments that are well located and designed to assist in meeting energy demand with renewable and low carbon sources in accordance with the energy hierarchy for planning' (set out in PPW), including delivery of net zero carbon homes in the first instance, thereby helping to both mitigate the causes of climate change and tackle the 'climate emergency' declared by Welsh Government and the Council.
OBJ 3k	To meet the Council's regional and local commitments for mineral resources, waste management and waste disposal.
OBJ 3l	Promote the circular economy and make the best use of material resources for the benefit of both the built and natural environments.
OBJ 3m	Follow the priority order of the waste hierarchy in waste prevention and management – prevention, re-use, recycling, treatment, recovery and disposal.
OBJ 3n	To counter-balance the locally ageing population by accommodating sustainable levels of growth to attract and retain economically active households, ensuring the County Borough remains an attractive prospect for employers to expand within and move into.

SOBJ 4		To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places
<b>OBJ 4a</b>	<i>To promote, conserve and enhance the natural, historic and built environment of the County Borough.</i>	
<b>OBJ 4b</b>	<i>To safeguard the quality of water, air and soil and tackle all sources of pollution, including noise pollution.</i>	
<b>OBJ 4c</b>	<i>Ensure adequate water supply, sewerage and drainage infrastructure (including sustainable drainage systems).</i>	
<b>OBJ 4d</b>	<i>Promote multi-functional green infrastructure with an emphasis on its integration with existing and new development.</i>	
<b>OBJ 4e</b>	<i>To manage development in order to avoid or minimise the risk and fear of flooding and enable and improve the functionality of floodplains.</i>	

- 4. Does the Replacement LDP (including Strategic Policies) help deliver the Future Wales 2040 National Development Framework?**
- 4.1 An assessment to determine if the Replacement LDPs Strategic Policies will help to deliver the Future Wales objectives is set out below:

4.2 The following section assesses the contribution of the Replacement LDP strategic and specific objectives against the 18 Future Wales NDF Spatial Strategy Policies using the model below;

+	Objective makes a significant positive contribution towards the Future Wales 2040 National Development Framework
0	Objective is considered to make a neutral contribution to the Future Wales 2040 National Development Framework
-	Objective is considered to have a significant negative impact upon the Future Wales 2040 National Development Framework

NDF Policy Number	Future Wales 2040 NDF Policy Wording	LDP Contribution to NDF Spatial Strategy	Bridgend Replacement LDP Cross-Reference
1	<p><b><u>Where Wales will grow</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government supports sustainable growth in all parts of Wales. In three National Growth Areas there will be growth in employment and housing opportunities and investment in infrastructure. The National Growth Areas are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiff, Newport and the Valleys</li> <li>• Swansea Bay and Llanelli</li> <li>• Wrexham and Deeside</li> </ul> <p><i>The National Growth Areas are complemented by Regional Growth Areas which will grow, develop and offer a variety of public and commercial services at regional scale.</i></p> <p><i>There are Regional Growth Areas in three regions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The South West • Mid Wales • The North</li> </ul>		<p><b><u>SP1: Regeneration and Sustainable Growth Strategy</u></b></p> <p>In order to deliver Bridgend’s Regeneration and Sustainable Growth Strategy between 2018- 2033, the Plan will make provision for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 71.7 hectares of employment land to accommodate up to 7,500 additional jobs; and</li> <li>2) 9207 new homes to meet a housing requirement of 7,575 (based on a 20% Flexibility Allowance) including 1977 affordable homes.</li> </ol> <p>Regeneration and Sustainable Development in the County Borough will be focused in the following Growth Areas:</p>

*Development and growth in towns and villages in rural areas should be of appropriate scale and support local aspirations and need.*

- a) Maesteg and Llynfi Valley Regeneration Growth Area
- b) Porthcawl Regeneration Growth Area
- c) Bridgend Sustainable Growth Area
- d) Pencoed Sustainable Growth Area
- e) Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly Sustainable Growth Area

Local, community based development will be enabled in the following Regeneration Areas:

- f) Garw Valley Regeneration Area
- g) Ogmore Valley Regeneration Area

This Strategy will be enabled through allocation of Mixed-Use Strategic Development Sites (PLA1-PLA5), Housing Sites (COM1) and Employment Sites (ENT1). In accordance with the SA and HRA carried out for the Plan, proposals for development on allocated sites must, as a minimum, accord with relevant policy requirements listed in Schedules 1 and 2 in Appendix 5 – Implementation and

Delivery. Depending on the locational, physical, construction and operational characteristics of development proposals (on both allocated and other sites), other relevant policies will also be engaged. Applicants are encouraged to engage with the Council at the earliest opportunity to discuss the likely impacts of development proposals and associated design and information requirements for planning applications.

**SF1: Settlement Hierarchy and Urban Management**

Development will be permitted within settlement boundaries at a scale commensurate with the role and function of settlements as set out in the hierarchy below:

**Primary Key Settlement**

- Bridgend (*including Brackla, Broadlands, Bryntirion and Cefn Glas, Central Bridgend, Coity / Parc Derwen, Coychurch and North Bridgend / Litchard*)

**Main Settlements**

- Maesteg



- Pencoed
- Porthcawl
- Pyle, Kenfig Hill and North Cornelly
- Valleys Gateway (*including Aberkenfig, Bryncethin, Brynmenyn, Coytrahen, Sarn, Tondu and Ynysawdre*)\*

*\* This area faces significant constraints and is therefore currently much less suitable for sustainable development than the other Main Settlements, as detailed in the Settlement Assessment, Spatial Options Background Paper and M4 Junction 36 Background Paper.*

#### **Local Settlements**

- Bettws
- Blaengarw
- Caerau
- Cefn Cribwr
- Evanstown and Glynogwr
- Heol-y-Cyw
- Laleston and Merthyr Mawr

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lewiston, Blackmill and Pantyrwel</li> <li>• Llangeinor, Lluest and Pontyrhyl</li> <li>• Nanttyffyllon</li> <li>• Nantymoel</li> <li>• Ogmore Vale</li> <li>• Pen-y-fai</li> <li>• Pontryhydycyff, Llangynwyd and Cwmfelin</li> <li>• Pontycymmer</li> </ul>
2	<p><b><u>Shaping Urban Growth and Regeneration – Strategic Placemaking</u></b></p> <p><i>The growth and regeneration of towns and cities should positively contribute towards building sustainable places that support active and healthy lives, with urban neighbourhoods that are compact and walkable, organised around mixed-use centres and public transport, and integrated with green infrastructure. Urban growth and regeneration should be based on the following strategic placemaking principles:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>creating a rich mix of uses;</i></li> <li>• <i>providing a variety of housing types and tenures;</i></li> </ul>		<p><b><u>Objective - SOBJ 1 - To Create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)</u></b></p> <p><u>OBJ 1a</u></p> <p>To promote Bridgend as the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough where major employment, commercial and residential development is focused.</p> <p><u>OBJ 1b</u></p> <p>Develop a strategic hub in the northern part of the County Borough of Bridgend, focusing on employments sites, energy projects, residential developments, tourism and culture.</p>

- *building places at a walkable scale, with homes, local facilities and public transport within walking distance of each other;*
- *increasing population density, with development built at urban densities that can support public transport and local facilities;*
- *establishing a permeable network of streets, with a hierarchy that informs the nature of development;*
- *promoting a plot-based approach to development, which provides opportunities for the development of small plots, including for custom and self-builders; and*
- *integrating green infrastructure, informed by the planning authority's Green Infrastructure Assessment. Planning authorities should use development plans to establish a vision for each town and city. This should be supported by a spatial framework that guides growth and regeneration, and establishes a structure within*

OBJ 1c

To revitalise Maesteg by recognising its role as the principal settlement serving the Llynfi Valley which has the potential capacity and infrastructure to accommodate future growth.

OBJ 1d

To realise the potential of Porthcawl as a premier seaside and tourist destination by prioritising the regeneration of its waterfront and investing in key infrastructure. This will also improve the attractiveness of the town as a place to live and work, whilst enhancing the vibrancy of the Town Centre.

OBJ 1e

To promote sustainable and attractive valley settlements with improved access to jobs and services.

OBJ 1f

To recognise the strategic potential of Pen-coed within the wider Cardiff Capital Region.

	<p><i>which towns and cities can grow, evolve, diversify and flourish over time.</i></p>		
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b><u>Supporting Urban Growth and Regeneration – Public Sector Leadership</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government will play an active, enabling role to support the delivery of urban growth and regeneration. The Welsh Government will assemble land, invest in infrastructure and prepare sites for development. We will work with local authorities and other public sector bodies to unlock the potential of their land and support them to take an increased development role. The public sector must show leadership and apply placemaking principles to support growth and regeneration for the benefit of communities across Wales. The public sector’s use of land, developments, investments and actions must build sustainable places that improve health and wellbeing. Planning authorities must take a proactive role and work in collaboration with the Welsh Government and other public sector bodies</i></p>		<p><b><u>N/A</u></b></p>

	<i>to identify the best locations for growth and regeneration, and provide certainty about how they should be developed.</i>		
<b>4</b>	<p><b><u>Supporting Rural Communities –</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government supports sustainable and vibrant rural communities. Strategic and Local Development Plans must identify their rural communities, assess their needs and set out policies that support them. Policies should consider how age balanced communities can be achieved, where depopulation should be reversed and consider the role of new affordable and market housing, employment opportunities, local services and greater mobility in tackling these challenges.</i></p>		<p><b><u>SOBJ 3 - To Create Productive and Enterprising Places</u></b></p> <p><u>OBJ 3h –</u> Develop a strong rural economy to support sustainable and vibrant rural communities, recognising the role of leisure and tourism</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b><u>Supporting the rural economy -</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government supports sustainable, appropriate and proportionate economic growth in rural towns that is planned and managed through Strategic and Local Development Plans. Strategic and Local Development Plans must plan positively to meet the employment needs of rural</i></p>		<p><b><u>SOBJ 3 - To Create Productive and Enterprising Places</u></b></p> <p><u>OBJ 3h –</u> Develop a strong rural economy to support sustainable and vibrant rural communities, recognising the role of leisure and tourism</p>

	<p>areas including employment arising from the foundational economy; the agricultural and forestry sector, including proposals for diversification; start-ups and micro businesses.</p> <p>The Welsh Government also strongly supports development of innovative and emerging technology businesses and sectors to help rural areas unlock their full potential, broadening the economic base, and creating higher paid jobs.</p>		
6	<p><b><u>Town Centre First</u></b></p> <p>Significant new commercial, retail, education, health, leisure and public service facilities must be located within town and city centres. They should have good access by public transport to and from the whole town or city and, where appropriate, the wider region.</p> <p>A sequential approach must be used to inform the identification of the best location for these developments and they should be identified in Strategic and Local Development Plans.</p>		<p><b><u>Objective - SOBJ 1 - To Create High Quality Sustainable Places (Placemaking)</u></b></p> <p><u>OBJ 1a –</u></p> <p>To promote Bridgend as the Primary Key Settlement of the County Borough where major employment, commercial and residential development is focused.</p>
7	<p><b><u>Delivering Affordable Homes</u></b></p>		<p><b><u>SP1: Regeneration and Sustainable Growth Strategy</u></b></p>

*The Welsh Government will increase delivery of affordable homes by ensuring that funding for these homes is effectively allocated and utilised. Through their Strategic and Local Development Plans planning authorities should develop strong evidence based policy frameworks to deliver affordable housing, including setting development plan targets based on regional estimates of housing need and local assessments. In response to local and regional needs, planning authorities should identify sites for affordable housing led developments and explore all opportunities to increase the supply of affordable housing.*

In order to deliver Bridgend's Regeneration and Sustainable Growth Strategy between 2018- 2033, the Plan will make provision for:

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opportunity to discuss the likely impacts of development proposals and associated design and information requirements for planning applications.

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- Lewiston, Blackmill and Pantyrwel
- Llangeinor, Lluest and Pontyrhyl
- Nanttyffyllon
- Nantymoel
- Ogmore Vale

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pen-y-fai</li> <li>• Pontryhydycyff, Llangynwyd and Cwmfelin Pontycymmer</li> </ul>
8	<p><b><u>Flooding</u></b></p> <p><i>Flood risk management that enables and supports sustainable strategic growth and regeneration in National and Regional Growth Areas will be supported.</i></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government will work with Flood Risk Management Authorities and developers to plan and invest in new and improved infrastructure, promoting nature-based solutions as a priority.</i></p> <p><i>Opportunities for multiple social, economic and environmental benefits must be maximised when investing in flood risk management infrastructure.</i></p> <p><i>It must be ensured that projects do not have adverse impacts on international and national statutory designated sites for nature conservation and the features for which they have been designated.</i></p>		<p><b><u>SOBJ 4 - To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places</u></b></p> <p><u>OBJ 4e –</u></p> <p>To manage development in order to avoid or minimise the risk and fear of flooding and enable and improve the functionality of floodplains.</p>

9

**Resilient Ecological Networks and Green Infrastructure**

*To ensure the enhancement of biodiversity, the resilience of ecosystems and the provision of green infrastructure, the Welsh Government will work with key partners to:*

- identify areas which should be safeguarded and created as ecological networks for their importance for adaptation to climate change, for habitat protection, restoration or creation, to protect species, or which provide key ecosystems services, to ensure they are not unduly compromised by future development;*
- and*
- identify opportunities where existing and potential green infrastructure could be maximised as part of placemaking, requiring the use of nature-based solutions as a key mechanism for securing*

**SOBJ 4 - To Protect and Enhance Distinctive and Natural Places**

OBJ 4a

To promote, conserve and enhance the natural, historic and built environment of the County Borough.

OBJ 4b

To safeguard the quality of water, air and soil and tackle all sources of pollution, including noise pollution.

OBJ 4c

Ensure adequate water supply, sewerage and drainage infrastructure (including sustainable drainage systems).

OBJ 4d

Promote multi-functional green infrastructure with an emphasis on its integration with existing and new development.

OBJ 4e

	<p><i>sustainable growth, ecological connectivity, social equality and well-being.</i></p> <p><i>Planning authorities should include these areas and/or opportunities in their development plan strategies and policies in order to promote and safeguard the functions and opportunities they provide. In all cases, action towards securing the maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity (to provide a net benefit), the resilience of ecosystems and green infrastructure assets must be demonstrated as part of development proposals through innovative, nature-based approaches to site planning and the design of the built environment.</i></p>		<p>To manage development in order to avoid or minimise the risk and fear of flooding and enable and improve the functionality of floodplains.</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b><u>International Connectivity</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government identifies the following Strategic Gateways to facilitate international connectivity:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cardiff Airport</i></li> <li>• <i>Holyhead Port</i></li> </ul>		<p><b><u>N/A</u></b></p>

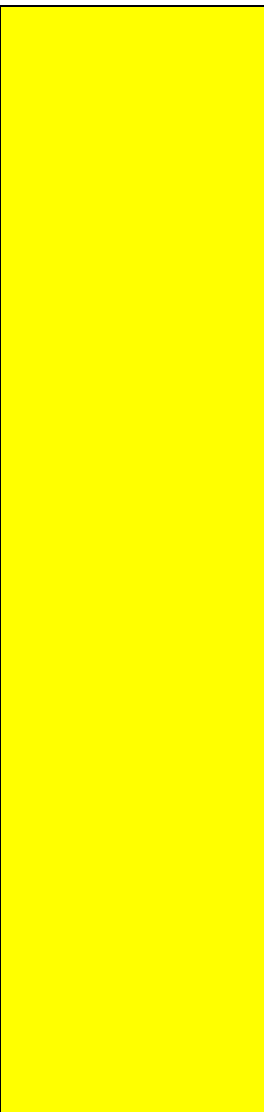
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Haven Waterway, including the Ports of Milford Haven and Pembroke Dock</i></li> <li>• <i>Fishguard Port</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The Welsh Government will work with the operators, investors and local authorities to support Strategic Gateways and maintain their international connectivity roles.</i></p> <p><i>Strategic and Local Development Plans should support the Strategic Gateways by maximising the benefits they provide to their respective regions and Wales.</i></p> <p><i>New development around the Strategic Gateways should be carefully managed to ensure their operation is not constrained or compromised.</i></p>		
11	<p><b><u>National Connectivity</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government will support and invest in improving national connectivity. Our priorities are to encourage longer-distance trips to be made by public transport, while also making longer journeys possible by electric vehicles. The Welsh</i></p>		<b><u>N/A</u></b>

*Government will work with Transport for Wales, local authorities, operators and partners to support the delivery of the following measures to improve national connectivity:*

- Rail Network – Transform the rail network and improve the quality of rail services for passengers.*
- Bus Network – Invest in the development of the national bus network, fully integrated with regional and local bus networks, to increase modal share of bus travel and improve access by bus to a wider range of trip destinations.*
- Strategic Road Network – Invest in road improvements to reduce journey times, deliver a safer and more resilient road network, and improve air and noise quality.*

*Create a network of rapid-charging points to enable longer distance travel by electric vehicles throughout Wales.*

- National Cycle Network – Revitalise the National Cycle Network to create a network of traffic-free*



	<p><i>paths connecting cities, towns and countryside across Wales.</i></p> <p><i>Planning authorities should support developments associated with improvements to national connectivity and, where appropriate, maximise the opportunities that arise from them.</i></p> <p><i>Planning authorities must ensure that, where appropriate, new development contributes towards the improvement and development of the National Cycle Network and key links to and from it.</i></p>		
12	<p><b><u>Regional Connectivity</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government will support and invest in improving regional connectivity. In urban areas, to support sustainable growth and regeneration, our priorities are improving and integrating active travel and public transport. In rural areas our priorities are supporting the uptake of ultra-low emission vehicles and diversifying and sustaining local bus services.</i></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government will work with Transport for Wales, local authorities, operators and partners</i></p>		<p><b><u>SOBJ 2 - To Create Active, Healthy, Cohesive and Social Communities</u></b></p> <p><u>OBJ 2f</u></p> <p>Promote accessibility for all by supporting the transport hierarchy (set out in PPW) that prioritises walking and cycling (active travel), then public transport and finally motor vehicles. New development should be located and designed in accordance with this hierarchy to prioritise the use of sustainable transport, reduce related airborne pollution, reduce the need to travel and reduce the dependency on private vehicles.</p>



*to deliver the following measures to improve regional connectivity:*

- Active Travel – Prioritising walking and cycling for all local travel. We will support the implementation of the Active Travel Act to create comprehensive networks of local walking and cycling routes that connect places that people need to get to for everyday purposes.*
- Bus – Improve the legislative framework for how local bus services are planned and delivered. We will invest in the development of integrated regional and local bus networks to increase modal share of bus travel and improve access by bus to a wider range of trip destinations.*
- Metros – Develop the South East Metro, South West Metro and North Wales Metro. We will create new integrated transport systems that provide faster, more frequent and joined-up services using trains, buses and light rail.*
- Ultra-Low Emission Vehicles – Support the roll-out of suitable fuelling infrastructure to facilitate*

OBJ 2i

Promote new development that is designed to minimise the impact of transport emissions.

**SOBJ 3 - To Create Productive and Enterprising Places**

OBJ 3i

Support transport infrastructure and fast communication networks to facilitate necessary improvements and development to support the growth aspirations of the Cardiff Capital Region.

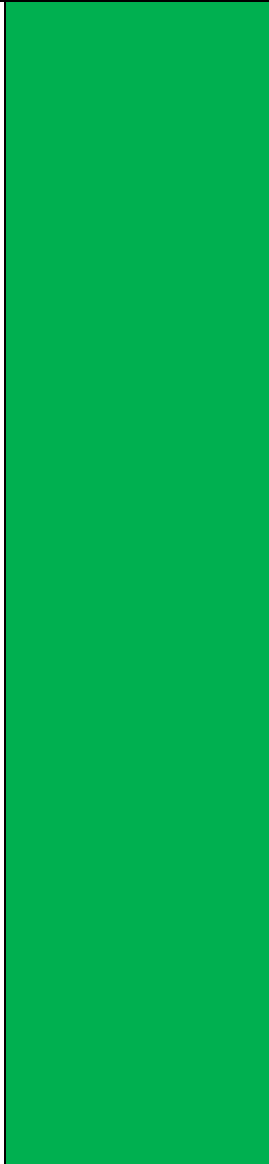
*the adoption of ultra-low emission vehicles, particularly in rural areas.*

*Planning authorities must plan the growth and regeneration of the National and Regional Growth Areas to maximise opportunities arising from the investment in public transport, including identifying opportunities for higher density, mixed-use and car-free development around metro stations.*

*Active travel must be an essential and integral component of all new developments, large and small. Planning authorities must integrate site allocations, new development and infrastructure with active travel networks and, where appropriate, ensure new development contributes towards their expansion and improvement.*

*Planning authorities must act to reduce levels of car parking in urban areas, including supporting car-free developments in accessible locations and developments with car parking spaces that allow them to be converted to other uses over time.*

*Where car parking is provided for new*



	<p><i>non-residential development, planning authorities should seek a minimum of 10% of car parking spaces to have electric vehicle charging points.</i></p>		
<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b><u>Supporting Digital Communications</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government supports the provision of digital communications infrastructure and services across Wales.</i></p> <p><i>Planning authorities must engage with digital infrastructure providers to identify the future needs of their area and set out policies in Strategic and Local Development Plans to help deliver this.</i></p> <p><i>New developments should include the provision of Gigabit capable broadband infrastructure from the outset.</i></p>		<p><b><u>Chapter 4 – LDP Strategic Framework</u></b></p> <p><b><u>4.1.2 Council Priorities</u></b></p> <p>The County Borough is already a major regional employment hub, with specific strengths in advanced manufacturing. These socio-economic assets will be enhanced to progressively improve the County Borough’s economic competitiveness whilst significantly contributing to the success of the Cardiff Capital Region and Swansea Bay Region. Encouraging inward investment to improve infrastructure, employment provision and lifelong learning opportunities will attract and retain skilled workers that will in turn encourage businesses to bring further skilled employment into the area. Bridgend County Borough Council also has a vision to make Bridgend a decarbonised, digitally connected smart County Borough. In doing so it will transition to a low carbon, decentralised energy system that works for its individuals, communities and businesses. In achieving its vision of a decarbonised,</p>

			<p>digitally connected smart county borough, the Council aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• decarbonise the energy sector,</li> <li>• stimulate economic growth,</li> <li>• provide new job opportunities, and</li> <li>• attract new and existing businesses to trial initiatives and grow within the county borough</li> </ul>
14	<p><b><u>Planning in Mobile Action Zones</u></b></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government supports increased mobile phone coverage and the associated economic and social benefits it brings.</i></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government will identify Mobile Action Zones, showing locations where there is little or no mobile telecommunications coverage.</i></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government, planning authorities and mobile telecommunications operators must work together to achieve increases in mobile coverage within Mobile Action Zones.</i></p>		<b><u>N/A</u></b>
15	<p><b><u>National Forest</u></b></p>		<b><u>N/A</u></b>

	<p><i>The Welsh Government is committed to developing a national forest through the identification of appropriate sites and mechanisms. Action to safeguard proposed locations for the national forest will be supported.</i></p>		
<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b><u>Heat Networks</u></b></p> <p><i>Within Priority Areas for District Heat Networks planning authorities should identify opportunities for District Heat Networks and plan positively for their implementation.</i></p> <p><i>Large scale mixed-use development should, where feasible, have a heat network with a renewable / low carbon or waste heat energy source. Planning applications for such development should prepare an Energy Masterplan to establish whether a heat network is the most effective energy supply option and, for feasible projects, a plan for its implementation.</i></p>		<p><b><u>Implementation &amp; Delivery - Paragraph 5.4.94</u></b></p> <p>Domestic heating is a major contributor to Bridgend County Borough’s carbon emissions therefore decarbonising heat is critical to achieving a low carbon energy system and is a national and local challenge. Future Wales identifies Bridgend as a ‘Priority Area for District Heat Networks’ and requires planning authorities to identify opportunities for District Heat Networks and plan positively for their implementation. The Bridgend Local Area Energy Strategy and Renewable Energy Assessment identifies those areas considered to be suitable for development for district heat, hybrid and electric-heating solutions in combination with different levels of targeted fabric retrofit.</p> <p><b><u>ENT11: Low Carbon Heating Technologies for New Development</u></b></p>

The Council has an aspiration for all new homes to be net zero carbon in the first instance. New major development must:

1) Be accompanied by an 'Energy Masterplan' that demonstrates that the most sustainable heating and cooling systems have been selected. This must include consideration of the proposed system as a whole, including the impact of its component materials on greenhouse gas emissions.

2) Demonstrate that heating systems have been selected in accordance with the following sequential approach:

a) Connection to an existing heat network or installation of a new heat network or connection from the point of occupation (If installation or connection is not feasible or financially viable, then development must be designed so as not to prejudice any future installation or connection to a District Heat Network);

17

**Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and Associated Infrastructure**

*The Welsh Government strongly supports the principle of developing renewable and low carbon energy from all technologies and at all scales to meet our future energy needs. In determining planning applications for renewable and low carbon energy development, decision-makers must give significant weight to the need to meet Wales' international commitments and our target to generate 70% of consumed electricity by renewable means by 2030 in order to combat the climate emergency.*

*In Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy the Welsh Government has already modelled the likely impact on the landscape and has found them to be capable of accommodating development in an acceptable way. There is a presumption in favour of large-scale wind energy development (including repowering) in these areas, subject to the criteria in policy 18.*

**SOBJ 3 - To Create Productive and Enterprising Places**

OBJ 3j

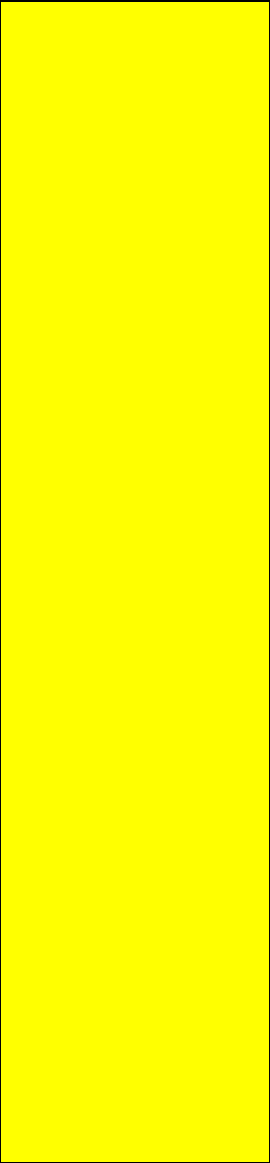
Promote developments that are well located and designed to assist in meeting energy demand with renewable and low carbon sources in accordance with the energy hierarchy for planning' (set out in PPW), thereby helping to both mitigate the causes of climate change and tackle the 'climate emergency' declared by Welsh Government and the Council.

	<p><i>Applications for large-scale wind and solar will not be permitted in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and all proposals should demonstrate that they will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the environment. Proposals should describe the net benefits the scheme will bring in terms of social, economic, environmental and cultural improvements to local communities.</i></p> <p><i>New strategic grid infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of energy should be designed to minimise visual impact on nearby communities. The Welsh Government will work with stakeholders, including National Grid and Distribution Network Operators, to transition to a multi-vector grid network and reduce the barriers to the implementation of new grid infrastructure.</i></p>		
18	<p><b><u>Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments of National Significance</u></b></p> <p><i>Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy projects (including repowering) qualifying as</i></p>		<b><u>N/A</u></b>



*Developments of National Significance will be permitted subject to policy 17 and the following criteria:*

- 1. outside of the Pre-Assessed Areas for wind developments and everywhere for all other technologies, the proposal does not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the surrounding landscape (particularly on the setting of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty);*
- 2. there are no unacceptable adverse visual impacts on nearby communities and individual dwellings;*
- 3. there are no adverse effects on the integrity of Internationally designated sites (including National Site Network sites and Ramsar sites) and the features for which they have been designated (unless there are no alternative solutions, Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI) and appropriate compensatory measures have been secured);*



*4. there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on national statutory designated sites for nature conservation (and the features for which they have been designated), protected habitats and species;*

*5. the proposal includes biodiversity enhancement measures to provide a net benefit for biodiversity;*

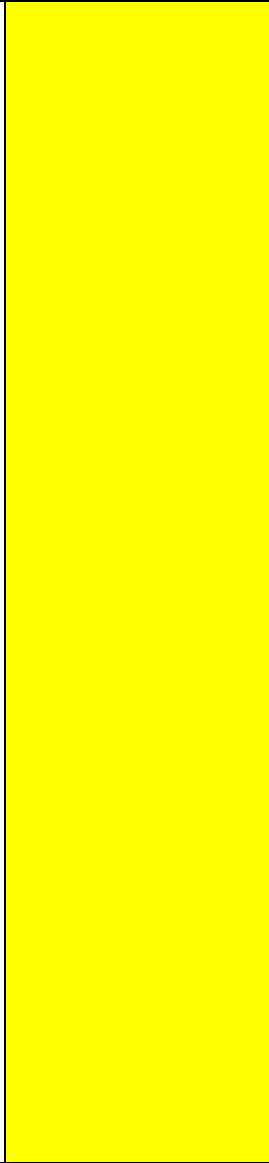
*6. there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on statutorily protected built heritage assets;*

*7. there are no unacceptable adverse impacts by way of shadow flicker, noise, reflected light, air quality or electromagnetic disturbance;*

*8. there are no unacceptable impacts on the operations of defence facilities and operations (including aviation and radar) or the Mid Wales Low Flying Tactical Training Area (TTA-7T);*

*9. there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on the transport network through the transportation of components or source fuels during its construction and/or ongoing operation;*

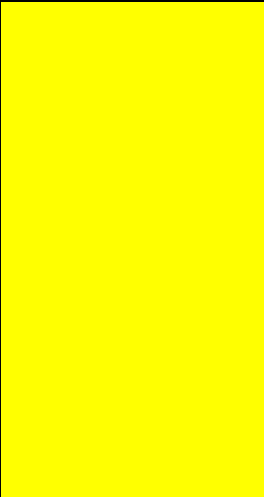
*10. the proposal includes consideration of the materials needed or generated by the*



*development to ensure the sustainable use and management of resources;*

*11. there are acceptable provisions relating to the decommissioning of the development at the end of its lifetime, including the removal of infrastructure and effective restoration.*

*The cumulative impacts of existing and consented renewable energy schemes should also be considered.*



## **5. Conclusions**

- 5.1 As the model above demonstrates, the Bridgend Replacement LDP overwhelmingly aligns with the objectives of the Future Wales 2040 NDF and makes a positive contribution. At a local and regional level, the replacement LDP is well-placed to implement the vision and objectives of the NDF by ensuring that it includes Strategic Objectives that adhere to principles of place making and sustainable development.
  
- 5.2 As described in the model above, the Future Wales NDF includes policy provisions for issues at a national level such as National Forests and International Connectivity. These are shown in yellow on the model above, to indicate that the replacement LDP makes a neutral contribution to these areas. Whilst the replacement LDP does not directly include provisions for these issues, they are not considered to have a material impact on the ability of the LDP to align with the over-arching vision and objectives of the NDF.