Cyd-bwyllgor Corfforedig De-Ddwyrain Cymru | South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee

Report for:	ACTION
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	NO

For Consideration By	South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee
Report Title	Strategic Development Plan: Draft Delivery Agreement
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Report Summary

This report provides an update to South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (SEWCJC) on the outcomes of the draft Delivery Agreement (DA) consultation for the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and seeks approval in principle of the DA, pending confirmation on financial support from Welsh Government (WG).

A final version of the DA is included as Appendix C.

Recommendations

1. The SEWCJC is asked to:

   1.1 Note the outcomes of the draft DA consultation;

   1.2 Provide comment on the final version of the DA;

   1.3 Approve the DA in principle, pending confirmation on financial support from WG;

1.4 Delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Policy, Impact and Partnerships to make minor editorial changes and amend the timetable as required.

Reasons for Recommendations and Options Considered

1. **Background & Context**

1.1. Regulations under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 impose statutory duties on Corporate Joint Committees related to regional economic well-being, spatial planning, and transport planning.

1.2. The aim is to promote collaborative regional working to deliver more effective outcomes for communities by ensuring key issues, development and associated infrastructure is planned for in an integrated and comprehensive way across a wider geographical area. This represents a more joined-up approach than has previously been employed; aligned tightly to economic development ambitions and Welsh Government's vision for a more strategic approach to both land-use and transport planning.

1.3. In regard to spatial planning, the statutory duty to prepare both a Local Development Plan (LDP) and an SDP is set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). SDP Regulations were made enabling CJCs to prepare an SDP. It is not anticipated that the SDP will be adopted until 2030 earliest, and LDPs must be kept up to date, ensuring, for example, that investment and sustainable development can continue to take place in a Plan-led way, providing confidence to all stakeholders including investors, developers and communities.

1.4. Given this context, on 3 June 2024, a paper was submitted to the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (SEWCJC) outlining a proposed approach for progressing the Delivery Agreement (DA) for the Strategic Development Plan (SDP). Following consideration, the SEWCJC resolved to establish a Strategic Development Sub-Committee Working Group to oversee the preparation and governance of the DA.

1.5. At the Strategic Development Sub-Committee Working Group meeting on 4 March 2025, the DA was endorsed, although it was noted that there was an outstanding need to understand how the delivery of the SDP will be supported by Welsh Government.

Strategic Development Plan (SDP)

1.6. The SDP will be central to shaping the future growth of the region, providing strategic proposals and land-use policies for the period 2026-2051.

1.7. By covering a broader geographical area, the SDP will ensure greater coordination across local government boundaries within the CCR. This will reflect the interconnectedness of communities, markets, transport systems, and businesses, offering a more unified approach than previously employed. The SDP will be closely aligned with economic development goals and the vision for a more strategic integration of land-use and transport planning.

1.8. Serving as a vital link between the National Plan: Future Wales and Local Development Plans (LDPs), the SDP will create a strategic framework to guide the preparation of future LDP Lites (LDPL). This will ensure consistency and alignment with broader regional and national objectives.

1.9. Beyond its statutory and strategic functions, the SDP also has a personal mission for the region: to address key challenges. A primary focus is fostering stronger integration of services, markets, and functions across the Cardiff Capital Region. This will not only drive economic growth but also unlock multiplier benefits and support polycentric city-region development. Additionally, the SDP will tackle regional disparities, addressing economic and social inequalities to build resilient, thriving communities and create a more equitable and prosperous future for all.

1.10. A fundamental objective of the development plan system in Wales is to ensure early, effective, and meaningful community involvement throughout the process. This engagement aims to foster a broad consensus regarding the spatial strategy, strategic policies, and proposals contained within the Strategic Development Plan (SDP).

1.11. To this end, the Cabinet Secretary issued a letter to all CJCs in Wales, requiring a Delivery Agreement (DA) to be submitted to the Welsh Government (WG) for agreement by the end of December 2024. Although this ambitious deadline has not been met, CJC officers have been in ongoing discussions with the Welsh Government's Planning Division to clarify the necessary requirements and establish a revised timeline for submitting the DA.

1.12. **The Role of the Delivery Agreement (DA)**

1.13. The DA is a public statement that contains the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS), setting out how and when stakeholders and the community can become involved in the plan-making process. This ensures transparency and inclusivity from the outset. It also includes a comprehensive timetable for preparing the SDP setting out clear timelines and milestones for various stages of the process.

Consultation and Engagement

1.14. **Informal Engagement with Key Stakeholders**

1.15. On 3 June 2024, the SEWCJC resolved that officers should undertake informal engagement with key stakeholders regarding the draft DA. This engagement included:

- Local Planning Authorities (LPAs);
- South East Wales Planning Officers Society (SEWPOS);
- Planning Officers Society Wales (POSW);
- South East Wales Strategic Planning Officers Group (SEWSPG);
- South East Wales Directors of Environment and Regeneration (SEWDER); and
- Welsh Government officials.

1.16. **Formal Consultation Process**

1.17. In addition to informal engagement, the SEWCJC approved officers to proceed with formal consultation with Specific Consultation Bodies, as defined under Regulation 6 of the Strategic Development Plan Regulations.

1.18. The formal consultation process commenced on 26 July 2024. A detailed Consultation Report is provided in Appendix A, outlining the key issues raised during the consultation and the corresponding responses. A summary of the main themes emerging from the consultation, along with the SEWCJC's responses, is presented below.

1.19. **Summary of Key Issues and CJC Responses**

1. **Key Issue: broad Support for Regional Planning and the Draft Delivery Agreement**

   Response: the positive feedback is noted and welcomed.

2. **Key Issue: some stakeholders expressed concerns regarding the feasibility of the proposed timescales**

   Response: the SDP Manual sets a five-year target; however, the Delivery Agreement (DA) proposes a six-year timeframe to ensure a balanced approach between timely delivery and realistic expectations. Welsh Government has confirmed its agreement with the revised timescales.

3. **Key Issue: calls for enhanced community engagement at key stages of SDP preparation**

   Response: the consultation version of the DA provided for mandatory six-week consultation periods at both the Preferred Strategy and Deposit stages, in line with legal requirements. In response to feedback, the DA has been revised to extend the consultation periods to **10 weeks** at both

stages. This adjustment ensures broader engagement and mitigates the risk of stakeholder exclusion due to time constraints. The detailed timetable has been amended accordingly.

4. **Key Issue: clarity sought regarding funding for the consultation database**

   Response: following engagement with the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG), an investment of approximately £100,000 has been identified for procuring a consultation database to support SDP delivery. In addition, an annual maintenance budget will be required to ensure its continued functionality.

   However, beyond SDP requirements, CCR has identified the need for a comprehensive consultation portal / database to facilitate engagement on other future initiatives such as the Regional Transport Plan (RTP).

   To avoid duplication and ensure efficiency, the cost of procuring and maintaining the database will be incorporated into the SEWCJC Budget.

5. **Key Issue: stakeholders requested clarity on funding for the SDP**

   Response: funding for the SDP has been identified within the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP). Future MTFS updates will review and adjust budgetary requirements as necessary.

6. **Key Issue: concerns were raised regarding whether the proposed team structure is sufficient to manage the complexity of the SDP**

   Response: the proposed team represents the minimum viable structure necessary to deliver a project of this scale, in accordance with the SDP Manual. However, resource requirements will be regularly reviewed to ensure the team remains adequately resourced.

7. **Key Issue: Opportunities to improve efficiency through shared resources and graduate scheme**

   Response: combining these across the SDP and RTP teams will enhance operational efficiency. Funding for shared resources will be considered as part of the SEWCJC Budget. In addition, a graduate scheme could support team capacity, introduce fresh talent, and align with regional skills development objectives. Funding for the scheme will be considered as part of the SEWCJC Budget. A phased recruitment approach will be adopted to ensure effective team establishment while managing LPA resource constraints.

9. **Key Issue: Some stakeholders questioned whether sufficient resources are available to support both SDP and LDP preparation simultaneously**

   Response: the CJC acknowledges these concerns and will monitor resource capacity across LPAs. Collaboration and resource-sharing opportunities will be explored to ensure the effective delivery of both workstreams without compromising quality.

Engagement with Town and Community Councils

1.20. To enhance engagement with Town and Community Councils (T&CCs) beyond the distribution of standard consultation letters, a structured and interactive approach was implemented. This involved commissioning Planning Aid Wales (PAW) to deliver dedicated briefing sessions that:

- Provided a clear and accessible overview of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP), including its purpose, scope, and key elements, ensuring T&CCs were well-informed from the outset.

- Distributed concise, non-technical summaries of key issues to improve accessibility and understanding among all participants.

- Facilitated open discussion and relationship-building through PAW's neutral role and expertise, ensuring impartiality and fostering collaboration.

1.21. The PAW report concluded that attendees welcomed the update on the SDP process and sought clarification on specific aspects. However, no concerns or objections were raised regarding the draft Delivery Agreement (DA). The PAW report is attached as Appendix B.

Engagement with General Consultation Bodies

1.22. On 26th October 2024, it was considered appropriate to broaden the scale of engagement and over 750 General Consultation Bodies were invited to participate in the process. While the overall response rate was limited, the initiative effectively increased awareness of the SDP and its process, ensuring these organisations are better positioned for future engagement.

2. **Governance**

2.1. The Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) was initially formed as a working group to oversee the development of the Delivery Agreement.

2.2. Statutory guidance anticipates the formal establishment of a Sub-Committee responsible for preparing the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for approval by the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC). The SDSC will ensure political representation and input throughout the preparation and implementation process. It will also serve as a platform for broader engagement, facilitating expert and sector-specific advice to support CJC decision-making.

2.3. The Sub-Committee comprises 13 members:

- The Executive Member responsible for Planning from each of the 10 Constituent Councils;
- A Member appointed by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority; and
- Two non-voting CJC Members, nominated annually, who will serve as Chair and Deputy Chair.

2.4. A representative from Welsh Government's Development Plans team will have a standing invitation to attend SDSC meetings.

2.5. To support the SDP, Thematic Steering Groups (TWGs) will be established to advance work on key themes, issues, and policies, including cross-cutting matters. These groups, managed by the SDP team, will involve local authority officers and sector experts as needed. The anticipated TWGs include:

- Population & Household
- Growth & Spatial Strategy
- Housing
- Economic Growth
- Transport (aligned with the Regional Transport Sub-Committee)
- Infrastructure
- Environment
- Energy
- Development Management Policies
- Waste & Minerals

Comments of the s.151 Officer

3. There are no direct financial implications associated with this report. It should, however, be noted that the approval of the DA can only be done in principle at this stage, pending confirmation of future financial support from Welsh Government.

4. Without sufficient funding it will not be possible to deliver the progress set out in the DA.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

5. Regulation 13 of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Regulations 2021 conferred upon the CJC the function of preparing a strategic development plan in accordance with the provisions of Part 6 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

6. The SDP must set out:

   (a) the CJC's objectives in relation to the development and use of land in its area; and

   (b) the CJC's policies for the implementation of those objectives.

7. The Town and Country Planning (Strategic Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2021 set out the procedure for SDPs to be prepared.

8. Each CJC much prepare a Delivery Agreement (DA) at the start of the plan preparation process. The DA is made up of two parts:

   (1) a Community Involvement Scheme; and

   (2) a timetable for SDP preparation.

9. The delivery agreement must be approved by resolution of the CJC and then submitted to the Welsh Ministers for their agreement.

10. A community involvement scheme must include the following:

   (a) a list of the consultation bodies to be involved in the exercise;

   (b) the principles of the policy to be adopted by the CJC for seeking the involvement of consultees;

   (c) details as to the timing of and the method by which:

      (i) community involvement will be sought, and at which planned stage of the SDP procedure; and

      (ii) the CJC will respond to issues raised;

   (d) details of how the CJC will use responses and representations it receives, and at which planned stage, in developing the content of its SDP.

11. The timetable for SDP preparation must include all key dates, including:

   (a) a definitive date for each planned stage of the SDP procedure up to and including the stage requiring the submission of the SDP to the Welsh Ministers;

   (b) indicative dates for each planned stage of the SDP procedure, other than those falling within paragraph (a), up to and including the stage of adoption of the SDP; and

   (c) those in respect of the preparation and publication of:

(i) the sustainability appraisal report, and

(ii) the annual monitoring report.

Staffing Implications

12. To ensure the effective implementation of the SDP timetable the CJC will need to assign an appropriate level of staff and budget resources for future years. The CJC will incorporate the requirement to prepare an SDP into the revised Corporate Plan and the Medium-Term Financial Plan. Discussions are ongoing with Welsh Government on support for the development of the SDP.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

12. The Committee must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty arising under s.149 of the Equality Act 2010, and the need to: (1) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Act; (2) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not; and (3) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not.

13. There are no specific equalities implications arising from this report.

Sustainability and Climate Considerations

14. There are no specific sustainability or climate change implications arising from this report. Any implications arising will be addressed as part of future reports.

Welsh Language Implications

15. In accordance with the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, and the CJC's statutory obligations, consideration has been given to the impact the recommendations made in this report may have on opportunities for people to use and promote the Welsh Language, whether the proposals treat the Welsh Language more or less favourably than the English Language, and opportunities for increasing the positive effects, or decreasing the negative effects, of the proposals on the Welsh Language. No negative impacts were identified which would prevent approval being sought to implement the proposal. In particular, consultees will be offered an equal opportunity to respond in either the Welsh or English language.

Well-being of Future Generations

16. In developing the Recommendations of this report, regard has been had to the well-being duty arising under the to the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act'), and no negative impact has been identified.

Background Papers

Further background on the Strategic Development Plan was provided to SEWCJC at the meeting of:

- 9 October 2023 - Regional Transport Plan and Strategic Development Plan
- 3 June 2024 - Strategic Development Plan: Delivery Agreement

Colan Mehaffey, Strategic Director of Policy, Impact & Partnerships

31 March 2025

Appendices

Appendix A: Draft Delivery Agreement Consultation Report

Appendix B: Planning Aid Wales: Town & Community Council Engagement Report

Appendix C: Composite final version of the Delivery Agreement

Appendices to the Delivery Agreement

Appendix 1: Evidence Base Assessments

Appendix 2: Summary of community & stakeholder involvement in SDP key stages

Appendix 3: General Consultation Bodies

Appendix 4: Local Government Principal Offices and Libraires

Appendix 5: SDP Detailed Timetable

Appendix 6: Risk Assessment

Appendix A: Draft Delivery Agreement Consultation Report

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Table 1: Specific Consultation Bodies

Body	Comments	Response and Action
Welsh Water	No comments received	NA
Transport For Wales	No comments received	NA
Utility companies	No comments received	NA
Adjoining Corporate Joint Committees	No comments received	NA
Local Health Boards	No comments received	NA
UK Government	No comments received	NA
CJC Members		
Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority	Appendix 4 – insert reference to Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority.	Appendix 4 amended to reference Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority
Cllr Gauden	Appendix 3 – insert reference to Torfaen Economic Forum.	Appendix 3 has been amended to include a reference to the Torfaen Economic Forum.
Welsh Government		
REF: WAG 1	Para 3.4 / 3.5 It is critical to emphasise that until the Delivery Agreement (DA) receives formal approval from the Welsh Government (WAG), the	Comments noted.

	Strategic Development Plan (SDP) process cannot officially commence. Furthermore, it is important to clarify that the DA will not be agreed upon until the necessary funding is secured. The successful progression of the SDP is entirely contingent on the availability of adequate financial resources, and no further formal steps can be taken without this prerequisite being met. This ensures that all stakeholders are aligned and that the process moves forward in a structured and sustainable manner.	
REF: WAG 2	Para 4.4 incorporate a reference to the broad scale and distribution of growth within the context of a spatial framework for LDP Lites.	Agreed. Paragraph 4.4 (bullet point 5) has been revised accordingly.
REF: WAG 3	Para 4.7 Incorporate the reference to the SDP Community Guide prepared by Planning Aid Wales.	Agreed. Paragraph 4.7 has been revised to include a reference to the SDP Community Guide prepared by Planning Aid Wales.
REF: WAG 4	Include reference to the minerals evidence base.	Appendix 1 has been updated to include reference minerals evidence base.
REF: WAG 5	Para 4.30 emphasise engaging in collaborative efforts with other CJCs in Wales and relevant spatial planning bodies and local authorities in England to address cross-regional issues	The SDP will not only focus on local and regional priorities but will also consider the strategic context of neighbouring regions. This cross-border collaboration will ensure that the SDP is aligned with broader regional growth ambitions

	(including pan-regional partnership for South Wales and Western England).	and infrastructure strategies, supporting connectivity and shared economic opportunities. The SDP will contribute to a coordinated approach to spatial planning, recognising the importance of integrated development and infrastructure across different regions, enhancing opportunities for collaboration and mutual benefit. Paragraph 4.30 has revised to reference pan-regional partnerships.
REF: WAG 6	Para 6.3 table – emphasise that formal commencement of SDP cannot start until the resources are secured and the DA is formally agreed by WAG.	Agreed. Paragraph 6.3 has been revised accordingly.
REF: WAG 7	Para 7.5 The successful progression of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) is directly dependent on securing sustainable funding through the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTF). The MTF must explicitly allocate resources necessary to support both the commencement and the ongoing development of the SDP. Without this financial provision, the SDP cannot proceed beyond the Delivery Agreement stage. The inclusion of SDP funding within the MTF is not only critical for the initial phases but also	Comments noted and no amendments required.

	ensures long-term viability, covering key stages such as evidence base preparation, stakeholder engagement, and plan adoption. A failure to align the MTF with the SDP's financial requirements would delay the plan's delivery, impeding regional development and growth objectives. Therefore, it is essential that the MTF includes a clear, earmarked funding stream for the SDP to guarantee its successful implementation.	
REF: WAG 8	Include a reference to the preparation of a Green Belt Study in Appendix 1.	Agreed. Appendix 1 has been revised to reference ‘Green Belt Study’.
Natural Resources Wales (NRW)		
REF: NRW 1	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Delivery Agreement (DA) for the South East Wales Strategic Development Plan. We acknowledge the proposed timetable for plan preparation within the draft DA and we would like to take the opportunity to offer our support, including informal engagement, throughout the plan preparation process. All correspondence should be sent to our southeast planning e-mail	Comments noted and no amendments required.

	address southeastplanning@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk We would like to be kept informed of any changes to the timetable particularly when we are required to formally respond e.g. pre-deposit plan and preferred strategy, and we note this may be advertised through the website.	
REF: NRW 2	We note that a Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment will be prepared as part of the Evidence Base Assessment. We support this and will provide advice during its preparation. Information on strategic flood consequences assessments is available on our website Natural Resources Wales / Strategic flood consequences assessments. We refer you to the South East Wales and South Central Area Statements, which outline the key challenges for these areas, what we can all do to meet those challenges and how we can better manage our natural resources for the benefit of future generations.	Comments noted and no amendments required.
Network Rail		

REF: NR1	Network Rail is a statutory undertaker responsible for maintaining and operating the country's railway infrastructure and associated estate. Network Rail owns, operates, maintains and develops the main rail network. This includes the railway tracks, stations, signalling systems, bridges, tunnels, level crossings and viaducts. The preparation of development plan policy is important in relation to the protection and enhancement of Network Rail's infrastructure. Strategic Alignment and Integration of Transport Planning: Network Rail strongly supports the SDP's focus on integrating land-use planning with transport and economic development, recognising the vital role of transport infrastructure in achieving sustainable growth. As a critical part of the region's rail infrastructure, we encourage the following: • Early Engagement: Ensure early and sustained collaboration between the SDP team and Network Rail to align regional and national rail infrastructure projects with the plan's strategic objectives.	Comments noted.

	Regional Transport Plan (RTP) Coordination: As the RTP progresses, rail transport considerations, such as capacity enhancements, station improvements, freight and connectivity to strategic growth areas, should be prioritised to support the SDP's spatial strategy.	
REF: NR2	Housing Developments and Level Crossings As part of the SDP's focus on future housing growth, Network Rail highlights the potential impact of new housing developments on the use and safety of level crossings: Any development of land which would result in a material increase or significant change in the character of traffic using rail crossings should be refused unless, in consultation with Network Rail, it can either be demonstrated that they safety will not be compromised, or where safety is compromised serious mitigation measures would be incorporated to prevent any increased safety risk as a requirement of any permission. It is Network Rail's and the Office of Rail Regulation's (ORR) policy to reduce risk at level crossings. The Office of Rail Regulators, in their	Comments noted.

	policy, hold Network Rail accountable under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, and that risk control should, where practicable, be achieved through the elimination of level crossings in favour of bridges or diversions. Engagement on Level Crossing Management: Early and detailed consultation with Network Rail is essential to assess and mitigate potential impacts on level crossings. This may include upgrades, diversions, or closure and replacement with alternative infrastructure where necessary which should be secured through plan policy or conditions. Where necessary developers will be required to provide mitigation at a level crossing where risk to that crossing has increased as a result of the development. These financial contributions should be secured through a S106 agreement. As Network Rail is a publicly funded organisation with a regulated remit it would not be reasonable to require Network Rail to fund rail improvements necessitated by commercial development. It is therefore	

	appropriate to require developer contributions to fund such improvements. Strategic Planning for Safe Connectivity: Incorporating transport assessments, that assess level crossing usage, into the SDP evidence base will ensure that housing allocations are planned with rail safety and operational efficiency in mind.	
Penarth Town Council		
REF: PTC 1	As a member of Penarth Town Council, I have only recently been made aware of this Consultation following an invitation from Planning Aid Wales but note the Consultation closes on 26th November. I note that the proposed Agreement entails a complex set of consultees, and for some the subject matter will be novel and set against the background of reaching consensus among ten Principal Councils.	Comments noted.
REF: PTC 2	Addressing the contribution which individual Town or Community Councils can bring is difficult. Our Council would in the first instance look for	Comments noted. The SDP DA is not the appropriate mechanism for reconciling the varying stages of RLDP preparation across the region. The primary function of the

	advice from One Voice Wales, our representative body. To a degree we are in uncharted waters. The Consultation process would need to unravel the coexistence of draft deposit and recently adopted LDP's on which TCC's have been involved with and with emerging SDP's. This is not an easy matter. If, as in the Vale of Glamorgan, communities believe we have strategic sites, and settlements hierarchies etc mapped out in a forthcoming draft deposit replacement development plan, there is a danger of confusion and consultation fatigue. The CIS will need to handle this.	DA is to set out the process, timelines, and opportunities for community engagement in the SDP's preparation. In principle, all RLDPs within the CCR should be adopted or nearing adoption by the time the SDP Preferred Strategy is published for consultation. This approach is expected to minimise any potential public confusion regarding the concurrent preparation of RLDPs and the SDP. The adopted RLDPs will provide the foundation for the first iteration of the SDP (SDP1). Following its adoption, Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) will transition to preparing streamlined 'LDP lites' to ensure that local policies align with the overarching strategic framework established by the SDP. However, given the varied progress of RLDPs across the region, some flexibility may be required to maintain momentum and prevent unnecessary delays in the SDP's preparation.
REF: PTC 3	Community Involvement Scheme: I note that this CIS will be finalised through this consultation, which on the basis of Principles set out in the Scheme allows details to be settled as	OVW have been added to the list of General Consultation Bodies to ensure timely engagement on the SDP.

	the process develops . I agree that they will help focus the exercise and suggest it would be helpful if OVW were engaged at an early stage. You note against the 'Appropriateness' Principle that you "seek to engage through the most appropriate methods as determined through consultation on this document". Consequently considering the diversity of the TCC Sector, may I suggest you use the existing OVW arrangement of Area Committees. There are sixteen covering the whole of Wales and four covering this Region. This would help to focus discussion and debate, achieving a degree of Realism and Productivity (two others of your Principles), and potentially arriving at a consensus but should this not be achieved provide the many individual TCC's with a framework for their response.	
REF: PTC 4	CJC Committees: Although it is not dealt with directly in this consultation, OVW in the initial Welsh Government consultation on CJC's in 2021, suggested that it might be helpful to have a	Once formalised, the Strategic Development Steering Committee (SDSC) Steering Group will consider the potential co-option of a representative from One Voice Wales (OVW) to ensure the interests of town and

	coopted member on the relevant sub committee in each region to help support the process discussed above, observing in passing that the Sector constitutes the first tier of government.	community councils are appropriately represented in its discussions.

Table 1a: Local Planning Authorities (officer comments)

LPA	COMMENTS	RESPONSE & ACTION
Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority		
REF: BBNPA 1	Omits consideration of the NPA as an LPA throughout.	Agreed. The draft DA has been amended with the following changes proposed: • Para 2.3 reference to Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority (BBNPA) included. • Para 4.3 BBNPA is referenced. • Appendix 4 amended to reference BBNPA's Principal Office • Para 4.23 revised to ensure consistency with the draft SDP Manual. The following text has been included: o Test 4: Does it have regard to the relevant Area Statements? Is it consistent with regional plans, strategies, and utility provider programmes? Is it compatible with the plans of neighbouring CJCs? o Test 5: Does it have regard to the Well-being Plan(s) or the National Park Management Plan(s)?

REF: BBNPA 2	Omits appropriate consideration of the Env Act 1995 – CJC s62(2) duty and National Parks Management Plans which are of National Significance.	Agreed. The draft DA has been revised to reference the Environment Act 1995, s62(2) duty and National Parks Management Plans.
REF: BBNPA 3	Appears to mix up application of Wellbeing Goals with pursuing Wellbeing Objectives of the CJC (SD principle in WFGA).	Paragraph 4.14 has been reviewed and remains unchanged, as it is considered appropriate without any further amendments.
REF: BBNPA 4	References European Sites (now National Networks).	Agreed. The draft DA has been revised to reference National Networks.
REF: BBNPA 5	Evidence studies in Appendix A are missing – esp. establishing regional Resilient Ecological Networks and considering / modelling the impact of proposals on GHG reduction trajectories.	Establishing regional resilient ecological networks would be considered as part of a wider comprehensive Green Infrastructure Strategy. However, for clarity Appendix 1 has been amended to reference resilient ecological networks. Regarding GHG reduction trajectories, the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) indeed will play a critical role. Without pre-empting the SDP process, the SDP could provide a strategic framework to enable coordinated efforts to reduce emissions across sectors such as transport, housing, and energy. It will be important to outline how land-use planning, sustainable transport networks, and renewable energy integration can help achieve decarbonisation targets within the SDP.

REF: BBNPA 6	Omits consideration of integrating with relevant wider land use strategies.	Agreed. Paragraphs 1.4 and 4.7. have been revised to emphasise the importance of ensuring coherence and alignment with broader regional and national strategies and objectives. Specifically, they now include references to Area Statements and National Park Management Plans, ensuring that the DA aligns with key environmental and strategic planning frameworks.
REF: BBNPA 7	The current approach seems to imply that we would take on the responsibility of consulting members and keeping them informed on behalf of the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC). However, it is important to clarify that the CJC cannot impose such responsibilities on us, and this needs to be addressed to ensure roles and expectations are properly defined.	Under Regulation 6 of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) Regulations, the CCR (CJC) is required to consult relevant local authorities as specific consultees. While there is no direct statutory obligation to consult individual councillors, the CCR acknowledges the importance of councillor engagement in fostering support and buy-in for the SDP process. **Key Challenge** The main challenge in engaging councillors will be maintaining an up-to-date record across multiple local authorities. Councillor appointments frequently change due to resignations, by-elections, and local elections, making direct communication complex and administratively challenging.

		Proposed Approach To ensure an efficient and structured approach to councillor engagement, the CCR will implement the following measures: • Request local authorities distribute information on the SDP to their respective councillors, utilising their existing records and communication channels. • Extend an invitation to individual councillors to join the SDP consultation database, allowing them to receive direct updates and relevant information. **Risk Management and Mitigation Measures** There is a minor risk that some local authorities may not fully disseminate the communication materials, which could lead to gaps in engagement. To mitigate this risk, the CCR will: • Develop and circulate detailed communication protocols to local authorities, ensuring clarity on expectations and processes. • Maintain detailed records of all correspondence with local authorities regarding councillor engagement.

		• Implement a structured follow-up process, including issuing reminders to local authorities to verify message dissemination and ensure effective communication. **Alternative Approach Considered** An alternative method would involve requesting local authorities to provide the CCR with direct contact details for all councillors and updating these records periodically. However, this approach introduces additional administrative complexities and the potential for duplication of effort. Given these considerations, this method is not recommended. **Recommendation** It is recommended that the CCR proceed with the approach set out in the draft DA, leveraging local authorities' existing networks to ensure an efficient and practical communication strategy. In addition, the CCR will encourage councillors to join the SDP consultation database, thereby establishing a direct communication channel and reducing dependence on intermediary dissemination methods.

REF: BBNPA 8	Staffing grades / scale points aren't shown which is an issue as they should be equivalent "substantially similar" to LPA / drive more standardisation.	During the preparation of the draft DA, it was necessary to formulate and appraise options for a proposed SDP core team, including indicative roles to inform the indicative budget for the SDP programme. While this was essential for estimating resources, it is important to note that formal Job Descriptions and Person Specifications (JDPS) for these roles have not yet been prepared or undergone formal evaluation. Assigning grades at this stage could be perceived as prejudging the integrity of the job evaluation process.
REF: BBNPA 9	It's unclear which database the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) is acquiring for £20k over six years.	Following engagement with officers from the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG), it has been agreed that an investment of approximately circa £100,000 is required for the procurement of a suitable consultation database to support the delivery of the SDP. In addition, a recurring annual maintenance budget will be required to ensure the continued functionality and effectiveness of the database. However, beyond the immediate requirements of the SDP, the CCR has identified the need for a more comprehensive consultation portal. This portal would serve multiple functions, including facilitating consultations for future iterations of the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and other regional initiatives. As such, a CCR-wide consultation database / portal is

		considered essential to support the broader statutory responsibilities of the CCR. To address these wider consultation needs, it has been agreed that the cost of procuring and maintaining the consultation database will be absorbed as part of the wider CCR budget. This approach ensures alignment with the CCR's overarching duties and avoids duplication of resources.
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council		
REF:BGCBC 1	Timetable - the proposed 6-year timetable goes beyond the 5-year required in the draft SDP Manual. This is considered to be appropriate and still provides a challenging timescale given the evidence base requirements and regional engagement that will be required for the first South East Wales SDP.	Comments noted and no amendments required.
REF:BGCBC 2	SDP Programme Budget - producing the SDP represents a significant commitment for the CJC and local authorities. It is acknowledged the indicated costs provide best estimates at this point in time, however the allowances for the consultation database and translation/printing costs appear to be low for this scale of Plan.	Refer to the response given for REF: BBNPA 9 on page 17 above.

REF:BGCBC 3	Resourcing Strategy - the proposal for the phased recruitment of the SPD Team, including the shared use of resources with the RTS Team, is supported. Recruiting and retaining staff is identified as a risk and this is a concern for planning teams across the region. Development of the SDP will inevitably require input from local authority planners and officers in other supporting departments, which will place additional demands on local authorities. This should also be recognised.	Comments noted.
REF:BGCBC 4	Appendix 3 – List of General Consultation Bodies - the Blaenau Gwent section should be updated to include the housing associations and other consultees identified by Blaenau Gwent in the attached list which may be relevant for future SDP consultation and engagement (set out on the second page of the attached list). It is noted the General Consultation Bodies list currently set out by authority area will be rationalised once the SPD Team is established.	Comments noted. Appendix 3 has been updated as requested.
Bridgend		
REF: BCBC 1	The draft DA is considered robust and reasonable.	Comments noted.

REF: BCBC 2	Further clarity around funding for the SDP programme is required.	The CCR will identify funding for the SDP within its Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP). In addition, discussions are ongoing with the Welsh Government (WG) regarding potential financial support for SDP1. These developments will provide greater financial certainty for the progression of the SDP and may help to address previous concerns regarding budget constraints. Further clarity on the level and nature of WG's financial contribution is expected as discussions progress.
Caerphilly		
REF: CCBC 1	Para 2.7 Include culture to cover the four sustainability pillars?	Agreed. The draft DA has been amended to reference 'culture'.
REF: CCBC 2	Additional reference to the socio-economic and biodiversity duties required.	Agreed. The draft DA has been amended accordingly and updated as follows: • Paragraph 2.7: a reference to the socio-economic duty has been added. • Paragraph 2.18: a reference to the socio-economic duty has been added. • Paragraph 4.8: a reference to section 6 has been added. • Paragraph 4.4: an additional reference to section 6, specifically addressing the biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty, has been added.

		• Economic well-being: this concept has been referenced multiple times throughout the document. • Biodiversity (Section 6 of the Environment Act): paragraph 4.7 has been strengthened.
REF: CCBC 3	Para 2.4 Figure 1. This implies that the RTP and SDP are elements and subservient to the Economic and Industrial Plan. Is this correct given the range of matters the SDP covers?	Agreed. Figure 1 has been revised to avoid implying that the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) are subordinate to the Economic and Industrial Plan. The update ensures that all plans are presented as equally important, working in alignment with one another under the broader strategic framework.
REF:CCBC 4	Para 4.1 (table) It seems that some authorities are opting for longer consultation periods than the statutory 6-week consultations. Is it the intention to maintain the six-week period as this can have significant implications for reporting and the timetable.	The draft DA (consultation version) ensured mandatory six-week consultation periods for both the Preferred Strategy and Deposit stages of the SDP, meeting legal requirements. In response to feedback, the DA now allocates 10 weeks for public consultation at both these stages. This increase accommodates the need for broader engagement and reduces the risk of stakeholder exclusion due to time constraints. This approach strikes a balance between statutory adherence, meaningful public engagement, and operational efficiency. The detailed timetable has been amended accordingly.
REF: CCBC 5	Para 4.2 Does this imply a 2-stage approval process or is the SDSC part integral and iterative pat of preparation. A 2-stage process can again have significant implications for the timetable.	The statutory guidance requires the formation of a Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) responsible for overseeing the preparation of the SDP before seeking

		approval from the CJC. The timetable for the SDP has been carefully planned to ensure that all key documents are presented to the SDSC for review prior to being submitted to the CJC for final approval. This process allows adequate time for the SDSC to provide feedback and ensures that the CJC receives fully reviewed and refined documents.
REF:CCBC 6	Para 4.4 (bullet point 4) A key element that will undoubtedly give rise to issues given the differing approaches to settlement function and hierarchy used by each LA.	Comments noted and no amendments required.
REF:CCBC 7	Para 4.9 (2nd bullet point) Only WG, (Cadw) and NRW are required to be consulted on scope.	Agreed. The draft DA has been amended to reference that only Welsh Government, Cadw and Natural Resources Wales are required to be consulted on the ISA Scoping Report.
REF: CCBC 8	Para 4.10 Given that the Deposit Plan should be the plan that the CJC consider should be approved and there is no provision for amendments to the Deposit Plan, there is little, if any, scope for changes to the Environmental Report published at Deposit. A technical point but one that has implications for the process.	Comments noted and no amendments required.
REF: CCBC 9	Para 4.12 You might want to include that this is prepared when sites are known and identified, which more often than not is at Deposit (unless there are Strategic Sites - but even then the cumulative impact cannot be assessed as the non-strategic sites are not identified).	Agreed. Paragraph 4.12 has been amended accordingly.
REF: CCBC10	Para 5.23 This would be key for us, with Welsh Government considering sites of 2,500 to be too big for LDPs and should be pursued through the SDP the threshold will need to address this.	Comments noted and no amendments required.

REF: CCBC11	Para 5.36 (2nd bullet point) Using LA social media channels could widen the scope of this.	Agreed. The draft DA has been updated, and paragraph 5.36 now includes a reference to utilising Local Authority social media channels to broaden the reach of consultations (where appropriate).
REF: CCBC12	Para 5.38 Will you be issuing privacy notices to all who register? If yes, it might be worth noting this here.	Agreed. Paragraph 5.38 has been revised to include a reference to privacy notices.
REF: CCBC13	It might be helpful to set out there that it is the date of receipt that determines duly made reps and only where there have been unforeseen delays in delivery (or circumstances that could not have been anticipated) will consideration be given to allowing a late submission. The last sentence should specifically reference that reps should be submitted so that the CJC receives them within the consultation periods.	Agreed. The draft DA has been revised accordingly.
REF: CCBC14	Para 6.13 Is this just the sitting days, might be useful to include the whole period to cover things like the PIM and other procedures that the Inspector may request.	Agreed. The draft DA has been revised accordingly.
REF: CCBC15	Having procured one of these relatively recently this is way short of the mark. Our database is also a consultation portal and cost circa £40,000 with £10,000 annual maintenance. The likelihood you will need to procure modules from a global management system than be able to get a standalone database.	Following engagement with officers from the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG), it has been agreed that an investment of approximately £100,000 is required for the procurement of a suitable consultation database to support the delivery of the SDP. In addition, a recurring annual maintenance budget will be required to ensure the continued functionality and effectiveness of the database. Beyond the immediate requirements of the SDP, the CCR has identified the need for a more comprehensive consultation portal/database . This portal would serve multiple functions,

		including facilitating consultations for future iterations of the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and other regional initiatives. As such, a CCR-wide consultation database is considered essential to support the broader statutory responsibilities of the CCR. To address these wider consultation needs, it has been agreed that the cost of procuring and maintaining the consultation database will be absorbed as part of the wider CCR budget. This approach ensures alignment with the CCR's overarching duties and avoids duplication of resources.
REF: CCBC16	Para 7.9 Whole-heartedly endorse this. On area to look at would be the next round of Pathways to Planning - we have secured a post on that. These are graduates, but not in planning, who want to do planning and the WLGA funds their attendance to do the masters conversion at Cardiff.	Comments noted and no amendments required.
Cardiff City Council		
REF: CCC 1	Page 15 - The Delivery Agreement proposes an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) incorporating a Health Impact Assessment, Equalities Impact Assessment and Welsh Language Impact Assessment – should these however be standalone assessments that feed into the	The draft SDP Manual suggests the integration of statutory and key elements such as WBFGA 2015 requirements, Equalities Act, Welsh language, Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and the Environment Act (section 6) (where relevant) into a single Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) will enable a more

	ISA to ensure these themes are specifically and comprehensively considered?	transparent, holistic and rounded assessment of the sustainability implications of growth options, objectives, policies and proposals. An ISA can maximise efficiencies, avoid duplication, and provide a clear audit trail to communities and plan users on how the range of issues have been considered, and how they have influenced the plan. However, the proposed approach advocated (CCC1) has proved robust during the preparation of Replacement Local Development Plans. Ultimately, the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) team, once appointed, and SDSC will determine the most appropriate method.
REF: CCC 2	Page 15 – Should the list of assessments also include a "Child's Rights Impact Assessment" given the content and timeline for the SDP?	A Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) is a tool that can be used to mainstream children's rights principles and the articles of the United Nations into strategic planning and commissioning, policy development, problem-solving, programme prioritisation, budget-setting, and service design, delivery and evaluation. A CRIA sets out what children and young people should be able to expect from local government and its partners. It looks at proposals through a 'child rights lens', measuring the impact on children against the articles of the UNCRC. In conjunction with the SDSC, further consideration can be given to preparing a Child Rights Assessment once the SDP team has been appointed.

REF: CCC 3	Page 28 - Revisit terminology – need to re-consider reference to hard-to-reach groups (suggest we state “those who have not traditionally engaged in development plan consultations”) and ethnic minorities (Cardiff Council use the term “minority ethnic”)?	Agreed. The draft DA has been amended accordingly.
REF: CCC 4	Page 36 – The budget estimates set out in the table seem conservative especially for consultation (£20,000) and translating and printing (£20,000). These significantly underestimate the cost for these elements given experience with the Cardiff LDP and RLDP. For example such a budget would not allow for virtual consultation methods and the use of independent third parties to facilitate the consultation such as Planning Aid?	Following engagement with officers from the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG), it has been agreed that an investment of approximately £100,000 is required for the procurement of a suitable consultation database to support the delivery of the SDP. In addition, a recurring annual maintenance budget will be required to ensure the continued functionality and effectiveness of the database. Beyond the immediate requirements of the SDP, the CCR has identified the need for a more comprehensive consultation portal/database . This portal would serve multiple functions, including facilitating consultations for future iterations of the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and other regional initiatives. As such, a CCR-wide consultation database is considered essential to support the broader statutory responsibilities of the CCR.

		To address these wider consultation needs, it has been agreed that the cost of procuring and maintaining the consultation database will be absorbed as part of the wider CCR budget. This approach ensures alignment with the CCR's overarching duties and avoids duplication of resources.
REF: CCC 5	Page 36 – Resourcing Strategy – It is noted that funding for the core SDP team is estimated to be £2,303,664 over the 6-year preparation period and it would be helpful to provide more detail on the how this will be funded. There is already significant pressure on Local Authority budgets and the cost of the preparing the SDP should not fall solely on Local Authorities already stretched resources.	The CCR will identify funding for the SDP within its Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP). In addition, discussions are ongoing with the Welsh Government (WG) regarding potential financial support for SDP1. These developments will provide greater financial certainty for the progression of the SDP and may help to address previous concerns regarding budget constraints. Further clarity on the level and nature of WG's financial contribution is expected as discussions progress.
REF: CCC 6	Page 38 – Secondments – Whilst it is recognised that secondments may be a cost-effective means of acquiring specialised knowledge and skills it is important to recognise that staff resources in LPA's are under significant pressure delivering existing workloads and given this it should be clearly stated that secondments will only be considered where existing workload demands permit this arrangement.	Paragraph 7.7 has been revised to specify that secondments will only be considered if existing workload demands allow for such an arrangement.

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council		
REF: MTCBC 1	MTBC has been engaged throughout this process and is broadly satisfied with the content of the draft Delivery Agreement.	Comments noted.
Monmouthshire County Council		
REF: MCC 1	We welcome the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the Draft Delivery Agreement for the SE Wales SDP. Overall, the Draft Delivery Agreement sufficiently covers the key requirements at this stage in terms of the Plan's timetable and community involvement scheme.	Comments noted.
REF: MCC 2	5.32 notes the default approach of the CJC will be to prioritise electronic communication and virtual engagement. A blended approach to engagement is considered more appropriate, including for example the use of in-person drop-in engagement events during consultation stages across the region, to ensure effective and inclusive engagement throughout the process. Sufficient time should be factored into the timetable to enable effective engagement.	Appendix 2 references engagement sessions. For clarity, the text has been updated to explicitly include 'in-person engagement sessions' to ensure stakeholders understand that face-to-face opportunities for participation will be part of the consultation process. Paragraph 5.32 has been revised to clarify that in-person events will be held during the formal Preferred Strategy and Deposit consultation stages.

REF: MCC 3	Table 1 sets out the timetable for SDP preparation which suggests a start date of January 2026 (albeit some stage 2 preparation work is anticipated in 2025) with adoption in December 2030. Question whether this is sufficient time for plan preparation given the vast scope of SDPs as set out in the Draft SDP Manual. In view of this, it is essential that the SDP team is adequately resourced from the outset if this timescale is to be met.	Comments noted. The timetable is considered a reasonable timeframe for preparing the SDP (albeit challenging). It is agreed that the SDP must be sufficiently resourced to ensure its successful delivery.
REF: MCC 4	Note 6-week consultation is proposed at Preferred Strategy and Deposit stages. Given the geographical scope of the region and the need to effectively engage across all local authorities and with a broad range of stakeholders (including hard to reach groups), 6-week consultation periods may prove challenging.	The draft DA (consultation version) ensured mandatory six-week consultation periods for both the Preferred Strategy and Deposit stages of the SDP, meeting legal requirements. In response to feedback, the DA now allocates 10 weeks for public consultation at both these stages. This increase accommodates the need for broader engagement and reduces the risk of stakeholder exclusion due to time constraints.
REF: MCC 5	How have political reporting processes (including engaging with each LA in the region) been factored into the timetable? How will these be managed at the LA level? Local authorities need to take ownership of the SDP as it is their regional plan, that LDP lites will need to align with.	Each constituent authority retains the discretion to determine how SDP related documents are reported to their respective Council meetings. This ensures that local processes and preferences are respected while maintaining transparency and accountability. At the regional level, the SDP will be considered by the Strategic Development Steering Group (SDSG) and the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC).
REF: MCC 6	Some of the costs, for example in relation to consultation database, seem conservative based on experience of LDP preparation.	Following engagement with officers from the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG), it has been agreed that an investment of approximately £100,000 is required for the procurement of a suitable consultation database to support the delivery of the SDP. In addition, a recurring annual

		maintenance budget will be required to ensure the continued functionality and effectiveness of the database. Beyond the immediate requirements of the SDP, the CCR has identified the need for a more comprehensive consultation portal/database . This portal would serve multiple functions, including facilitating consultations for future iterations of the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and other regional initiatives. As such, a CCR-wide consultation database is considered essential to support the broader statutory responsibilities of the CCR. To address these wider consultation needs, it has been agreed that the cost of procuring and maintaining the consultation database will be absorbed as part of the wider CCR budget. This approach ensures alignment with the CCR's overarching duties and avoids duplication of resources.
REF: MCC 7	A core team of 6 officers is proposed. Question whether this is adequate to effectively and efficiently deliver the SDP given the significant scope of the process? It is essential that the SDP team is appropriately resourced including with experienced planning policy officers to progress the SDP in line with the proposed timetable.	The proposed resource represents the minimum viable team required to deliver a project of this scale, complexity, and significance, as reinforced by the SDP Manual, which outlines the extensive requirements and challenges associated with preparing an SDP. However, as SDP preparation is a new and evolving process, resource requirements should be regularly monitored and reviewed to ensure the team remains adequately equipped to address emerging challenges and demands.

		Proposed SDP Core Team Structure Following an internal review and consultation feedback, the proposed team structure for delivering the SDP has been refined to add capacity and establish a clear hierarchy of roles and responsibilities. This structure ensures effective leadership, management, and operational delivery: • Head of Strategic Development: provides overall leadership, overseeing the strategic vision, delivery, and stakeholder engagement for the SDP and technical work. • Strategic Development Managers (x2): coordinate and manage specific workstreams (and technical aspects) to ensure efficient operations and high-quality outputs. • Senior/Principal Planners (x4): manage technical aspects of the SDP and engage in detailed plan-making processes. These roles will be responsible for managing the technical aspects of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and undertaking detailed plan-making processes. Key responsibilities include overseeing the preparation and review of technical evidence, ensuring compliance with statutory and policy requirements, and contributing to the drafting and refinement of the SDP. For the purposes of the draft Delivery Agreement, these posts are identified as either Senior or Principal Planner positions to provide flexibility during the recruitment process. The final designation of these roles will be determined prior to formal recruitment. It is anticipated that the structure will comprise two Senior Planner positions and two Principal Planner positions, subject to further clarification.

		Resource Sharing with Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) Team There are opportunities for resource sharing with the RTS team to improve efficiency and enhance collaborative delivery: • Shared GIS and Administrative Resources: Combining these resources across the SDP and RTS teams will streamline operations and ensure cohesive data management. • Cross-Team Collaboration: Integration of resources will promote shared expertise, tools, and knowledge, fostering collaboration between initiatives. • The funding for the shared GIS and Administrative resource will be considered as part of the CJC corporate budget. **Graduate Scheme** There is potential to support long-term capacity building and workforce development, by potentially introducing a graduate scheme. This initiative will: • Enhance team capacity by introducing new talent with fresh perspectives. • Align with the region's strategic goals to foster skills development and professional growth within the planning field. • The funding for the graduate scheme will be considered by the corporate CJC budget. A phased recruitment approach is proposed to ensure the effective establishment of the SDP team without draining LPA resources. The CCR will collaborate with LPAs to oversee and manage this process.

REF: MCC 8	Note that GIS/ admin support etc will be a shared resource. Again, this element of the team needs to be appropriately resourced.	Comments noted.
REF: MCC 9	Note that funding for resourcing is not yet in place. When is this likely to be agreed?	The CCR will identify funding for the SDP within its Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP). In addition, discussions are ongoing with the Welsh Government (WG) regarding potential financial support for SDP1. These developments will provide greater financial certainty for the progression of the SDP and may help to address previous concerns regarding budget constraints. Further clarity on the level and nature of WG's financial contribution is expected as discussions progress.
REF: MCC 10	Note that WG can't agree the Delivery Agreement until budget and resources are in place.	Comments noted.
REF: MCC 11	Some concern over reference to seconding planning policy officers, as needed throughout the SDP process, from local authorities. Existing planning policy teams are already stretched and there is a shortage of experienced officers in the region, meaning that any pull on these resources will impact on the timely progression and delivery of RLDPs.	Agreed. Paragraph 7.7 has been revised to reference that secondments will only be considered where existing workload demands permit this arrangement.
Newport City Council		
REF: NCC 1	In general, NCC has no significant issues with the content.	Comments noted and no amendments required.

	It is a comprehensive document that outlines a realistic timeframe for delivery given where we are at the present time and in advance of a team being set up. The Delivery Agreement (DA) does what is required of it in our view, setting out how and when stakeholders and the community can become involved in the plan making process and a timetable for preparing/revising an LDP.	
REF: NCC 2	Whilst the Authority will happily help provide information to yourselves as and when required, it is important that this document is consulted upon by the CCR rather than to be seen to be “owned” by individual LPAs. As the document notes, we will have a part to play in informing the Plan as it progresses and it should be clear that whilst we will happily help update local residents and community groups, the CCR is the driver of the process, and all consultation/ representations should be made directly to the CCR. The SDP will be well-resourced so this shouldn’t be an issue.	Comments noted. The draft DA clearly establishes that the CCR is the lead authority for the Strategic Development Plan (SDP). It is confirmed that all future consultation responses must be submitted directly to the CCR.
REF: NCC 3	My only comment in terms of substance is the make-up of the planning team to progress the SDP which appears somewhat top-heavy in NCC’s view. Firstly, it is questioned whether a Chief Officer and a Team Leader is	The proposed resource represents the minimum viable team required to deliver a project of this scale, complexity, and significance, as reinforced by the SDP Manual, which outlines the extensive requirements and challenges associated with preparing an SDP. However, as SDP preparation is a new and evolving process, resource requirements should be regularly monitored

	required for the preparation of a regional plan such as this and then support from two Principal Planners and two Senior Planners (with further additions as and when required and the scheme progresses). This has the potential to pull senior officers away from existing LPAs who are currently preparing RLDPs in our view. It is unclear when the additional resource is anticipated to come on board and whilst I appreciate much will depend on how much “in-house” work is undertaken, the costs associated with consultation appear quite significant suggesting a lot of the work will be outsourced. NCC would be of the view that the core team should be reduced by at least 1 senior role and supported by graduates if required rather additional principal and senior planner positions (with associated resource implications and potential knock-on effects of staffing in LPAs). It would be useful to include these future costs in the breakdown as well.	and reviewed to ensure the team remains adequately equipped to address emerging challenges and demands. **Proposed SDP Core Team Structure** Following an internal review and consultation feedback, the proposed team structure for delivering the SDP has been refined to add capacity and establish a clear hierarchy of roles and responsibilities. This structure ensures effective leadership, management, and operational delivery: • Head of Strategic Development: provides overall leadership, overseeing the strategic vision, delivery, and stakeholder engagement for the SDP and technical work. • Strategic Development Managers (x2): coordinate and manage specific workstreams (and technical aspects) to ensure efficient operations and high-quality outputs. • Senior/Principal Planners (x4): manage technical aspects of the SDP and engage in detailed plan-making processes. These roles will be responsible for managing the technical aspects of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and undertaking detailed plan-making processes. Key responsibilities include overseeing the preparation and review of technical evidence, ensuring compliance with statutory and policy requirements, and contributing to the drafting and refinement of the SDP. For the purposes of the draft Delivery Agreement, these posts are identified as either Senior or Principal Planner positions to provide flexibility during the recruitment process. The final designation of these roles will be determined prior to formal recruitment. It is anticipated that the structure will comprise two Senior Planner positions and two Principal Planner positions, subject to further clarification.

		Resource Sharing with Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) Team There are opportunities for resource sharing with the RTS team to improve efficiency and enhance collaborative delivery: • Shared GIS and Administrative Resources: Combining these resources across the SDP and RTS teams will streamline operations and ensure cohesive data management. • Cross-Team Collaboration: Integration of resources will promote shared expertise, tools, and knowledge, fostering collaboration between initiatives. • The funding for the shared GIS and Administrative resource will be considered as part of the CJC corporate budget. **Graduate Scheme** There is potential to support long-term capacity building and workforce development, by potentially introducing a graduate scheme. This initiative will: • Enhance team capacity by introducing new talent with fresh perspectives. • Align with the region's strategic goals to foster skills development and professional growth within the planning field. • The funding for the graduate scheme will be considered by the corporate CJC budget.

		A phased recruitment approach is proposed to ensure the effective establishment of the SDP team without draining LPA resources. The CCR will collaborate with LPAs to oversee and manage this process.
REF: NCC 4	At a smaller scale, Figure 1 should show the 3 plans on an equal footing as it could be read that the bottom two plans feed into the top plan.	Figure 1 has been revised to avoid implying that the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) are subordinate to the Economic and Industrial Plan. The update ensures that all plans are presented as equally important, working in alignment with one another under the broader strategic framework.
REF: NCC 5	Table 1 should state the consultation runs until November not December.	The table indicated "December" to provide the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) with flexibility regarding the timing of consultation.
REF: NCC 6	Para 5.5.1 needs to be clarified – will hard copies be available at the principal offices or is the expectation that residents can view an electronic copy at our principal offices. Just so you are aware, Newport's Civic Centre is not open 5 days a week throughout the year so it may be wise to place one copy in the Civic Centre and one copy in the Central Library. I am unsure if this situation is reflected elsewhere but important to note.	To ensure compliance with SDP regulations and accessibility for all residents, the following measures have been adopted to provide consultation documents: **Hard Copy Availability** 1. CJC Principal Office: hard copies of consultation documents will be available at the CJC's principal office at Sbarc|Spark, Maindy Road, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ.

		2. Principal LG Offices: copies will also be provided at the principal offices of each Local Planning Authority (LPA) within the CJC area, as listed in Appendix 4 of the Delivery Agreement (DA). 3. Main Libraries: to further enhance accessibility, hard copies will be deposited at the main library in each local government administrative area, detailed in Appendix 4. This approach addresses the challenge of some Local Government Civic Offices not being open five days a week while managing the financial and logistical constraints of distributing hard copies to every library and community hub. **Digital Access** • Online Availability: all consultation documents and representation forms will be accessible electronically on the CJC website. • Library Access: for residents without internet access at home, the documents can be viewed online at local libraries or community hubs, which typically provide public computer access.

		Additional Support Residents facing challenges in accessing the consultation documents can contact the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) for assistance or to arrange alternative solutions. To find your nearest library or hub, visit: https://www.gov.wales/find-your-local-libraries. **Revised Paragraph 5.5.1** The Strategic Development Plan (SDP) documents and representation forms will be made available electronically at appropriate stages of the process via the CJC website: [Insert Website Link]. Hard reference copies will also be available for inspection at the following locations: • The CJC Principal Office at Sbarc|Spark, Maindy Road, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ. • The principal offices of the Local Planning Authorities, as listed in Appendix 4. • The main library in each local government administrative area, also listed in Appendix 4.

		For residents without access to a computer or the internet, consultation documents can be viewed online at local libraries or hubs, subject to public computer availability. For assistance or to arrange alternative access, contact the CCR.
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council		
REF: RCT1	For any future drafts can you amend any reference to the Local Authority as Rhondda Cynon Taf i.e. with just one 'f', (in both Welsh and English). This is just in appendix 3 and 4 of your documents. (Where consultation groups have taff or taf – that is what it is, no need to change). Also, in appendix 4, our new headquarters is as follows (please delete reference to Sardis House); 2 Llys Cadwyn, Stryd y Taf, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH.	Agreed. The draft DA has been amended accordingly.
REF: RCT2	Amendments are required to Appendix 1 to include a reference to the evidence base for Minerals.	Agreed. The draft DA has been amended accordingly and Appendix 1 updated to reference the evidence base for minerals.
Torfaen County Borough Council		
REF: TCBC 1	The Delivery Agreement makes clear at para 7.6 Welsh Government will not be able to agree the DA until budget and resources are in place. This is yet to be agreed and	Comments noted.

	implications for Local Authorities, CCR and WG budgets need to be understood and agreed.	
REF: TCBC 2	I can't find the period for which the SDP is intended to cover or when and how this is to be determined (although not technically required for the DA). This would be an important issue for the developing plan and would be useful to add.	Paragraph 1.2 refers to the role of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) in spatial planning, stating that it will play a pivotal role in shaping the future growth of the region by setting out strategic proposals and land-use policies over the period **2026-2051.** For clarity, the front cover has been updated to include the plan period 2026-2051.
REF: TCBC 3	The Torfaen RLDP is anticipated to have been submitted to Welsh Government in January 2028 and the details of strategy and sites will need to be respected in the SDP development process.	Comments noted.
REF: TCBC 4	*Para 2.8 Of equal importance, the SDP will drive collaboration between different areas of the CCR, shifting the focus from a zero-sum approach—where one area's gain is seen as another's loss—to a perspective of mutual benefit. By transparently identifying and balancing strategic trade-offs, the SDP will ensure that regional growth is coordinated and sustainable, optimising the use of shared resources and seizing opportunities for the collective benefit of the entire region. In conclusion, the SDP is vital for aligning the region's strategies and*	Comments noted.

	ensuring that CCR's growth is not only cohesive and coordinated but also geared towards creating a resilient, equitable, and prosperous future for all This will be a challenging process and issues such as where development is to be focused and the location and extent of a proposed SEW Green Belt will be developed as part of the plan process. It is important that the SDP recognises the needs, strategies, vision and objectives of Local Authorities in this process.	
REF: TCBC 5	2.14 Figure 1 the 3 strands of Economic, Transport and Planning need to work together – Figure 1 appears to show transport and planning sitting below the Regional Economic and Industrial Plan (REIP) when all 3 should work together. This balance should also be emphasised in the following paragraphs 2.17-2.18	Agreed. The draft DA has been amended accordingly and Figure 1 has been revised to avoid implying that the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) are subordinate to the Economic and Industrial Plan. The update ensures that all plans are presented as equally important, working in alignment with one another under the broader strategic framework. Paragraphs 2.17 – 2.18 have been reviewed and are considered appropriate as currently drafted. No changes are recommended at this stage.
REF: TCBC 6	Section 3 is Role of the Delivery Agreement (DA) and Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) Noted – although precises timetable and formal agreement of the DA will require the agreement of	Comments noted.

	resources and governance, and the final DA will need to detail this. It is noted that the SDP Manual will not be available till Spring/Summer 2025. This detail is needed to ensure that the SDP process can continue in an organised and agreed manner detailing the scope of work, issues and details needed. A Strategic Development Plans Manual (DPM) was published for informal consultation (September – December 2022), before a formal consultation this spring, 2025, and publication summer/autumn 2025. This guidance sets out the key concepts, content and scope of an SDP. In combination with Future Wales and the SDP Regulations this will provide guidance to enable an SDP to be prepared.	
REF: TCBC 7	Governance – The SDSC will be the main vehicle for developing the SDP (see paras 4.2-4.3) Resourcing including who is providing the resources is still not fully resolved and so the DA does not fully cover this issue – This needs to be resolved before finalising the timetable and formal approval of the DA.	The CCR will identify funding for the SDP within its Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP). In addition, discussions are ongoing with the Welsh Government (WG) regarding potential financial support for SDP1. These developments will provide greater financial certainty for the progression of the SDP and may help to address previous concerns regarding budget

	4.2 Statutory guidance required the establishment of a Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC), with responsibility for preparing the SDP for approval by the CJC. The SDSC will ensure political representation and input into the preparation and implementation of the SDP. The SDSC will provide a platform for involving others and ensuring appropriate expert and sector specific advice is available to support the CJC's decisions. *4.3 The SDSC Sub-Committee is comprised of 13 Members, including the Executive Member with responsibility for Planning from each of the 10 Constituent Councils, a Member appointed by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, and 2 non-voting Members of the CJC, nominated annually, who will act as the Sub-Committee's Chair & Deputy Chair.* *As approved by the CJC on 3 June 2025, the Sub-Committee was established initially as a Working Group to oversee the development of the DA. The Working Group makes recommendations on key aspects of the DA for approval, and also consider the requirement for resourcing.*	constraints. Further clarity on the level and nature of WG's financial contribution is expected as discussions progress.

REF: TCBC 8	Resourcing Strategy and Programme Budget: overall concern about the level of budget (source) and staffing including support services such as communications. Not sure the size and resource of the team will be sufficient to drive through such a complex and sensitive plan.	The CCR will identify funding for the SDP within its Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP). In addition, discussions are ongoing with the Welsh Government (WG) regarding potential financial support for SDP1. These developments will provide greater financial certainty for the progression of the SDP and may help to address previous concerns regarding budget constraints. Further clarity on the level and nature of WG's financial contribution is expected as discussions progress. The proposed resource represents the minimum viable team required to deliver a project of this scale, complexity, and significance, as reinforced by the SDP Manual, which outlines the extensive requirements and challenges associated with preparing an SDP. However, as SDP preparation is a new and evolving process, resource requirements should be regularly monitored and reviewed to ensure the team remains adequately equipped to address emerging challenges and demands.
REF: TCBC 9	Appendix 3 – List of General Consultation Bodies: one addition to the Consultation bodies for Torfaen - Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in any part of the CJC's area • Torfaen Strategic Economic Forum	Appendix 3 has been amended to include a reference to the Torfaen Economic Forum.
Vale of Glamorgan Council		

REF: VOG 1	I have reviewed and this looks robust, and the timetable appears reasonable.	Comments noted and no amendments required.
REF: VOG 2	A budget of £20,000 for a consultation database over six years seems notably low, especially when compared to previous costs. For example, we jointly procured a system across three Local Authorities (LAs) at nearly £40,000 each.	Following engagement with officers from the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG), it has been agreed that an investment of approximately £100,000 is required for the procurement of a suitable consultation database to support the delivery of the SDP. In addition, a recurring annual maintenance budget will be required to ensure the continued functionality and effectiveness of the database. Beyond the immediate requirements of the SDP, the CCR has identified the need for a more comprehensive consultation portal/database . This portal would serve multiple functions, including facilitating consultations for future iterations of the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and other regional initiatives. As such, a CCR-wide consultation database is considered essential to support the broader statutory responsibilities of the CCR. To address these wider consultation needs, it has been agreed that the cost of procuring and maintaining the consultation database will be absorbed as part of the wider CCR budget.

		This approach ensures alignment with the CCR's overarching duties and avoids duplication of resources.
REF: VOG 3	The staff resources included are based on just the core team, which are the 6 officers listed in para 7.3. However, it is suggested that this may need to be scaled up. Should a cost be factored in for this so that the cost estimations are more realistic? At the very least there will be a need for some admin and GIS support.	Noted. If operational requirements necessitate additional resources, these will be considered in future revisions of the Mid-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). The need for Admin and GIS support will be assessed within the wider CCR budget, with an expectation that these resources will be shared with the future Regional Transport Plan (RTP) team.
REF: VOG 4	Whilst I appreciate the regs/manual say 6 weeks for consultation, I think there will be pressure to consult for a longer period, particularly as there has been a trend recently for longer consultations in recent RLDPs and this consultation will be much wider. I note there is a reference to a 'minimum of 6 weeks' in respect of the Preferred Strategy (Appendix 2), but I would suggest this also be referenced in respect of the Deposit Plan and also potentially in the Table after para 4.1 of the DA.	The draft DA (consultation version) ensured mandatory six-week consultation periods for both the Preferred Strategy and Deposit stages of the SDP, meeting legal requirements. In response to feedback, the DA now allocates 10 weeks for public consultation at both stages. This increase accommodates the need for broader engagement and reduces the risk of stakeholder exclusion due to time constraints.

Table 2: General Consultation Bodies

Body	Comments	Response and Action
Minerals Products Associations		
REF: MPA1	It is with much disappointment and dismay that we feel the SDP-DA is fundamentally a missed opportunity. Delivery of the aspirations of the CCR cannot take place without the basic raw materials and there is no single reference to aggregates or other minerals products within the document. Undoubtedly	The Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) fully acknowledges the strategic importance of ensuring an adequate supply of minerals and safeguarding mineral sites within the Strategic Development Plan (SDP), in line with the requirements set out in the SDP Manual.

	the Regional Technical Statement requires urgent review and the delivery of infrastructure, housing, roads etc cannot take place without the strategic thought being given to mineral supply. Reference is made to the Regional Economic & Industrial Plan, the Regional Transport Plan and the Strategic Development Plan, yet not one reference to the RTS or the need for the strategic supply of minerals to facilitate. Whether land-won or marine aggregates the lack of strategic consideration is bewildering. The document states that the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 responded to the need for a strategic approach to both land-use and transport, planning and working in a more joined-up regional way that has previously been achieved, and aligned tightly to ambitions around economic development, yet a basic strategic land-use planning requirement, has no mention in the document. The document also states that through the recent transition to this new form of regional public body, we have a unique opportunity to develop transformational regional policy & interventions however, this is undoubtedly a missed opportunity.	Responsibility for reviewing the Regional Technical Statement (RTS) rests with the South Wales Aggregates Working Party and Welsh Government. The Delivery Agreement (DA) does not reference individual topics such as minerals, as this is beyond its scope. However, it is reiterated that minerals will be comprehensively addressed within the SDP. To reinforce this commitment, Appendix 1 has been updated to include references to the minerals evidence base.

	Growth and economic well-being cannot be delivered without the foundations or primary material supply. For example, to deliver the Floating Offshore Wind which would undoubtedly benefit the CCR and estimated raw material supply of 3 or 4 Hinckley Power Stations is required. Section 4.7 takes of a suite of documents which are relevant to the preparation of SDPs and which should be considered alongside the SDP Manual. Disappointedly, there is no reference to the RTS. Even the key Documents & Evidence Base Assessments makes no reference to the Mineral Supply, aggregates or the RTS. As wee as mineral supply to deliver the aspirations of the plan, it is imperative that mineral resources and minerals infrastructure are safeguarded for future generations and are not needlessly sterilised by shortsightedness. Finally, we recommend that to gain an understanding of the supply needs for the area a proper resource assessment is undertaken of the SDPs aspirations and considered alongside supply chain considerations. In summary, it is important for the SDP to consider and to understand the foundations of	

	sustainable development, raw material supply and we that this omission will be remedied when the initial draft of the SDP is produced.	

Planning Aid **Wales**
Cymorth Cynllunio **Cymru**

Community Engagement

South East Wales Strategic Development Plan Delivery Agreement Consultation

Engagement Events Report

February 2025

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1.0 Context

1.1 Planning Aid Wales (PAW) was commissioned by Cardiff Capital Region (the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) to carry out community and town council engagement in relation to the South East Wales Strategic Development Plan (SEW SDP) draft Delivery Agreement on 10 October 2024.

1.2 Our instructed brief was to prepare and deliver a series of community and town council engagement events during November and December 2024, the initial consultation period was 15 October 2024 – 26 November 2024. The events were targeted at all community and town councils in the SEW SDP area, see map below. All events were held online using the Microsoft Teams platform.

1.3 To deliver the brief our work involved:

- Analysis and understanding of the draft Delivery Agreement.
- Selecting, defining objectives and programming methods of engagement for the events.

- Attending and leading all events as facilitators for discussions and to encourage understanding of the SDP process and the Draft Delivery Agreement consultation.
- The purpose of the events was to raise awareness and encourage responses to the Draft Delivery Agreement consultation which initially had a deadline on Thursday 26th November 2024, this was subsequently extended to by the CJC to 28 January 2025.

1.4 In relation to the events our role was:

(i) To arrange suitable dates and venues, where applicable, for the events. Send invitations to interested parties to attend events.

(ii) Introduce the purpose, aims and key stages involved in the SDP preparation process.

(iii) Explanation of the key themes and proposals put forward in the draft Delivery Agreement consultation document.

(iv) Facilitate a discussion to capture initial feedback on the draft Delivery Agreement consultation document.

(v) Advise on next steps and how communities / stakeholders can input into the process.

1.6 Following completion of the engagement events Planning Aid Wales were asked to prepare a consultation report for the CJC. The role of Planning Aid Wales in drafting this report is to report back the issues and comments raised by attendees at each event and do not represent the views of Planning Aid Wales.

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2.0 About Planning Aid Wales (PAW)

2.1 Planning Aid Wales is a registered charity that advocates and supports community involvement in planning in Wales. Founded in 1978, we have over 40 years' experience of helping individuals and community groups to understand and engage with the planning system. Our core services include delivering planning training to a range of audiences, developing easy read planning guidance and a free planning advice helpline. We are an organisation that has been commissioned for many community engagement planning projects in Wales; we have built a significant repository of engagement methods, tools and techniques and regularly publish news on good engagement practice.

2.2 We recognise SDP preparation is an important avenue for securing more effective public involvement in planning; our current business plan identifies planning policy review as one of the three elements in the planning process on which we focus our engagement efforts.

2.3 Planning Aid Wales is an advocate of meaningful community engagement in planning. Through our work, we seek to raise the knowledge and capacity of communities to engage, but not just in the activity at hand - we seek to enable people to effectively participate in planning activities on an ongoing basis.

2.4 As an independent third party organisation, we have found time and again that communities are willing to engage with us, even where Local Planning Authorities have encountered barriers to engagement in the past. As part of our process, we encourage active collaboration between Local Planning Authority (LPA) staff and community groups, thereby building better relationships for future engagement. We take no view on any local policy or specific development; we only support individuals and communities to express their own views effectively.

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2.5 We recognise that the planning system can be complex and the needs / wants of communities do not always align with other interests. We manage expectations by helping our beneficiaries understand that planning is a holistic system that seeks to address a wide variety of priorities and clearly explain the scope and limitations of what the planning system (or particular activity) can achieve.

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3.0 CTC Engagement Events

3.1 The CJC commission only required community and town councils located in the SEW SDP area to be involved in these engagement events. The list of the authorities is included at appendix 1.

3.2 All CTCS were notified of these events by email and places could be booked either using an online booking system or by email to Planning Aid Wales.

3.3 Two events were held during the initial consultation period and given the time of commission and start of the consultation period a further event to explain the process was held after the end of the initial consultation period, albeit as mentioned the CJC subsequently extended the consultation deadline to 28 January 2025. The date and format of the events is listed below:

1. Tuesday 12th November 2024 10am – 11.30am
2. Monday 25th November 2024 6pm – 7.30pm
3. Thursday 12th December 2024 6pm – 7.30pm

3.4 It was agreed with CJC at the outset of the project that the Planning Policy Team would not attend the events to allow for an independent discussion of issues.

Format of events

3.5 All events followed a similar format. Planning Aid Wales Officers introduced the event and provided an explanation of Planning Aid Wales and their role as independent facilitators for the event. The main presentation covered:

- What are your issues?
- SDP Process
- Draft Delivery Agreement Consultation
- Discussions
- How to get involved in the consultation process.

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3.6 The events concluded with Planning Aid Wales repeating the deadline for comments on the draft Delivery Agreement consultation of 26 November 2024 It was emphasised that this was an appropriate time to make meaningful comments to influence the SDP as once the document moves forward the opportunity to influence the plan will become less.

Event attendance

3.8 All CTCs were invited to attend at least one event, invitations were sent by email and also sent out by the CJC. Copies of the invites are included in Appendix 2. A total of 137 invites were initially sent. Follow up contact was also made with CTCS to highlight the events. Participants were offered simultaneous Welsh translation at the events, if required. The table below summarises the bookings and attendance at each event:

Event	**No. Attending**
12th November 2024	5
25th November 2024	7
12th December 2024	9

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4.0 Summary of Issues Raised

4.1 Whilst those who attended the vents appreciated the update on the SDP process and some clarification of the process was raised. No issues or comments were made in relation to the draft Delivery Agreement.

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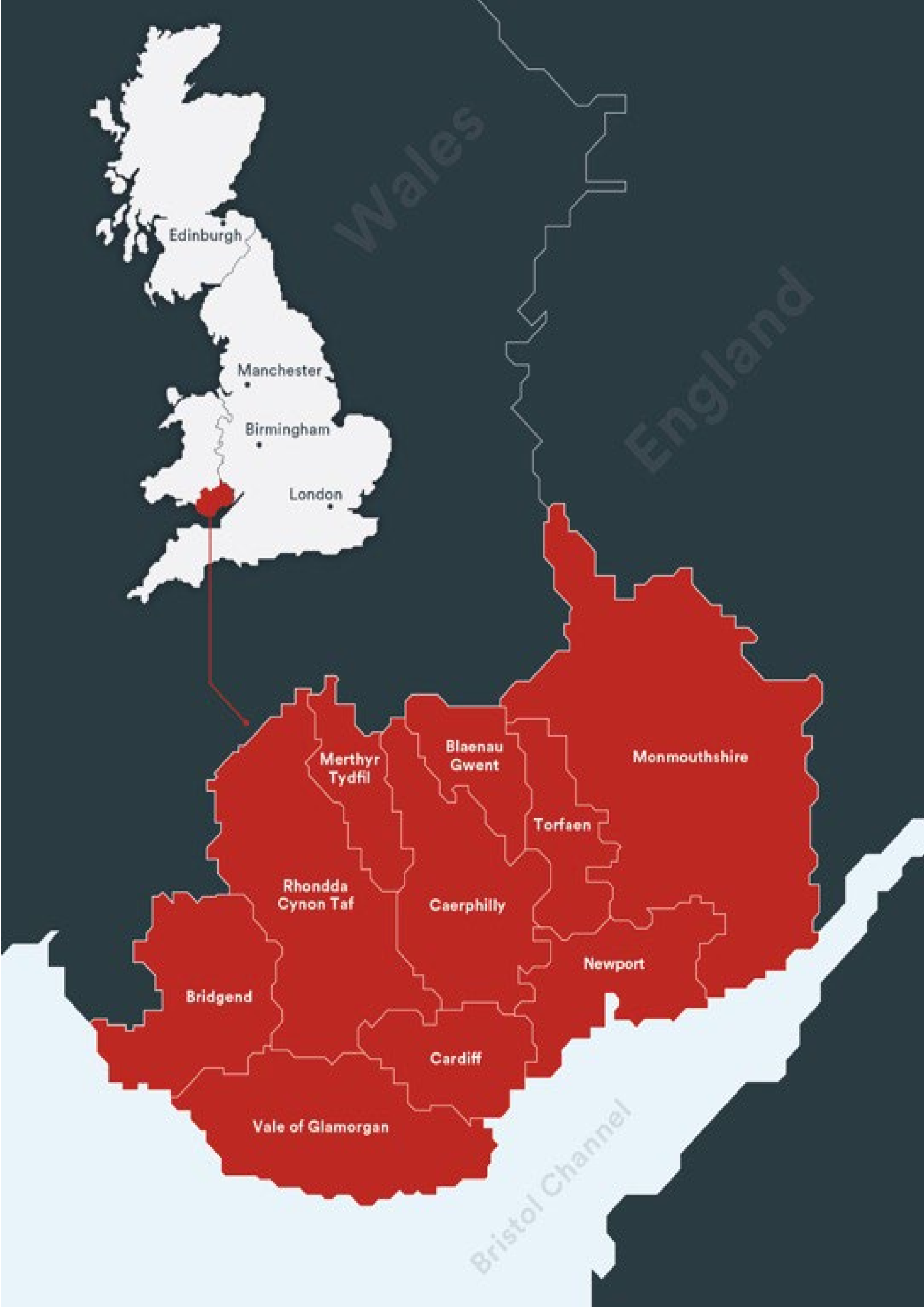
Strategic Development Plan
(2026 -2051)

Delivery Agreement
March 2025

Prifddinas Ranbarth Caerdydd | Cardiff Capital Region


Wales
England
Edinburgh
Manchester
Birmingham
London
Merthyr Tydfil
Blaenau Gwent
Monmouthshire
Torfaen
Rhondda Cynon Taf
Caerphilly
Newport
Bridgend
Cardiff
Vale of Glamorgan
Bristol Channel

Prifddinas Ranbarth Caerdydd | Cardiff Capital Region

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1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) has a strong determination to align and leverage the new statutory powers of Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs). This presents a unique opportunity to develop transformational policies and interventions by integrating economic wellbeing, spatial planning, and transport planning. The CCR aims to achieve this through the preparation of the key plans listed below and integration with key corporate policies that aim to promote productivity, inclusivity and sustainability in our region:

- Regional Economic Frameworks (as reflected in CCR's Regional Economic & Industrial Plan)
- Strategic Development Plans (SDP)
- Regional Transport Plans (RTP)

1.2 In regard to spatial planning, the SDP will play a pivotal role in shaping the future growth of the region by setting out strategic proposals and land-use policies over the period 2026-2051.

1.1 By covering a wider geographical area, the SDP will ensure alignment and cooperation across the local government administrative boundaries in the CCR, reflecting the ways in which people live, how markets operate, and how the transport system and the region's businesses all interact and function. This represents a more joined-up approach than has previously been employed; aligned tightly to economic development ambitions and our vision for a more strategic approach to both land-use and transport planning.

1.2 The SDP will function as a crucial link between the National Plan: Future Wales and Local Development Plans (LDPs). It will establish a strategic framework to guide the preparation of future LDP Lites (LDPL), ensuring coherence and alignment with broader regional and national strategies and objectives.

1.3 In addition to fulfilling its statutory and strategic purposes, our Spatial Plan (SDP) has a more personal objective for the region: to actively address the key challenges we face. Chief among these is fostering a closer integration of services, markets, and functions across the Cardiff Capital Region, ensuring that we not only achieve economic growth but also unlock multiplier benefits and spillover effects that will drive polycentric city-region development. Moreover, the SDP will play a critical role in addressing regional imbalances

by tackling economic and social disparities, ensuring that future development strengthens our communities, builds resilience, and creates a more equitable and prosperous future for all.

1.4 This document marks the first step in the development of the SDP and sets out how and when stakeholders and the community can become involved in the plan-making process. It also includes a comprehensive timetable for its preparation setting out clear timelines and milestones for key stages of the process. This approach is designed to foster engagement and ensure that all voices are heard.

2. Policy Context

Our Ambition - a Competitive, Connected, Resilient Region

2.1 Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) has been working successfully as a partnership of the ten local authorities of South East Wales through the City Deal – a £1.2bn programme covering innovation, infrastructure, skills and challenge.

2.2 On 2 April 2024, CCR City Deal became part of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (SEWCJC), a new type of statutory regional public body in Wales. We are still known as CCR, ensuring we build on the collaborative work and reputation already in place, but SEWCJC is our legal name.

2.3 CCR represents the joint commitment made up of the ten local authorities of South East Wales, Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority, the UK Government and Welsh Government, to build on the region's sectoral strengths, high skill base and three successful universities.

2.4 The Regional Economic & Industrial Plan (REIP) (2023-28) sets out our ambition to be, "a proud region where everyone is connected locally and globally, enjoying work, business and life opportunities that make us the place to fulfil potential".

2.5 CCR takes a comprehensive approach to achieving the strategic goals of being a more **Competitive, Connected and Resilient** region – from the focus on clusters; Research and Innovation; to green investment plans; infrastructure that connects within and across our places; and an emphasis on increasing our workforce size and quality and demand-

driven skills. Liveability and productivity are hallmarks of CCR, and we believe this can be achieved through greater devolution and support for regional economic leadership.

2.6 The focused goals detailed below respond directly to each of the missions highlighted in the REIP – tackling economic disparity & boosting growth; improving physical & digital infrastructure; enhancing innovation capability & capacity; and, decarbonising our environment by 2050. Responding to the climate challenge is at the core of our approach and runs through each of our strategic goals, ensuring focus on the green economy; sustainable housing and transport; and energy security.

2.7 The SDP will play a crucial role in aligning regional strategies across the CCR and is essential for promoting sustainable and resilient growth. By providing a cohesive framework, the SDP ensures that key sectors such as land use, transport, housing, and economic development are addressed in an integrated manner rather than in isolation. This alignment of policies supports long-term planning that balances economic environmental, human, and cultural sustainability. Through a shared vision, the SDP will enable the region to make strategic decisions that not only meet current needs but also anticipate future challenges, including climate change, infrastructure improvements, and increasing housing demand and discharging our socio-economic duty.

2.8 Of equal importance, the SDP will drive collaboration between different areas of the CCR, shifting the focus from a zero-sum approach—where one area's gain is seen as another's loss—to a perspective of mutual benefit. By transparently identifying and balancing strategic trade-offs, the SDP will ensure that regional growth is coordinated and sustainable, optimising the use of shared resources and seizing opportunities for the collective benefit of the entire region. In conclusion, the SDP is vital for aligning the region's strategies and ensuring that CCR's growth is not only cohesive and coordinated but also geared towards creating a resilient, equitable, and prosperous future for all (socio-economic duty).

Opportunity of the CJC Policy Context

2.9 In June 2022, the requirement for local authorities to produce a Strategic Development Plan (SDP) was transferred to the four regional CJCs by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. The Act established four CJCs in Wales: North, Mid, South West and South East Wales.

2.10 The Act responded to the need for a strategic approach to both land-use and transport planning, working in a more joined-up regional way than has previously been achieved, and aligned tightly to ambitions around economic development.

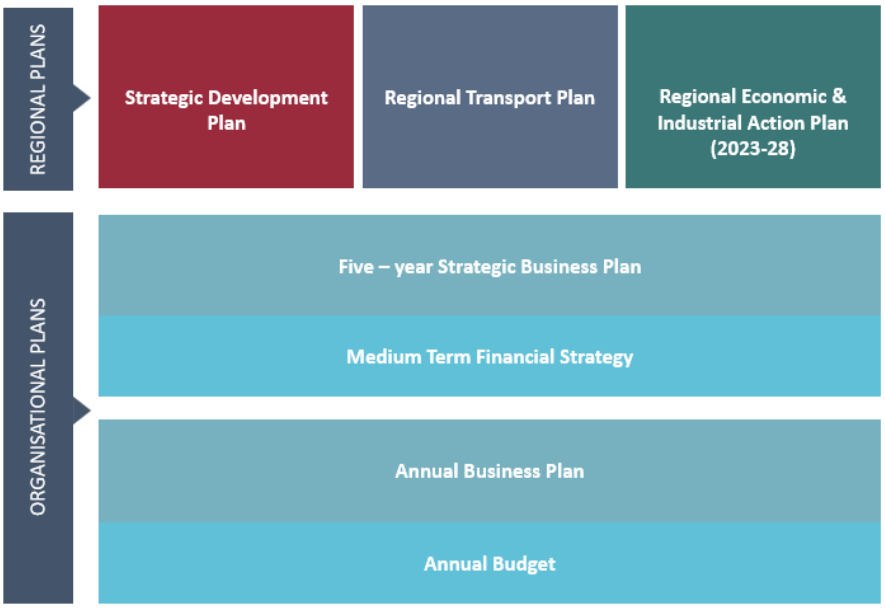
2.11 To that end, CJCs are required via statutory instrument to promote economic wellbeing, spatial planning and regional transport planning. The Act states that the CJCs will support the integration of transport and land use planning through their three broad functions, which are to prepare:

- Regional Economic Framework (in CCR's case, this is reflected in the REIP);
- Strategic Development Plan (SDPs); and
- Regional Transport Plan (RTPs).

2.12 Through the recent transition to this new form of regional public body, we have a unique opportunity to develop transformational regional policy & interventions. This will be achieved through achieving connectivity across economic well-being, spatial planning and transport, to ensure we leverage their potential.

2.13 Our focus on placemaking and driving inclusive growth in the region depends on being able to create symbiosis between the new statutory powers and CCR has designed its architecture of strategies and plans to achieve this. The diagram below shows how this is being achieved within the CCR.

2.14 Figure 1: Alignment of regional and organisation plans



2.15 The statutory guidance for CJCs (published on 25 January 2022), recognises the concurrence of economic wellbeing duties, where constituent councils and CJCs have broadly the same powers. In this case, the CJC, "would seek to agree a process with its constituent councils that sets out how the exercise of concurrent functions will be managed."

2.16 However, for the non-concurrent powers of strategic spatial planning and regional transport planning, the "delivery of functions at the local level will be dependent on the decisions made regionally by CJCs; that is in terms of the nature of the decision and the timing of when decisions are made."

2.17 The guidance focused on the statutory and constitutional arrangements for CJCs, as opposed to specific detail on the functions to be exercised. To that end, CCR is required to develop both an SDP and RTP following the publication of separate guidance specifically for these non-concurrent duties.

2.18 As strategic planning and transport are key elements in placemaking, it is also important that the RTP and SDP are closely aligned. However, the first iteration of the SDP is not due to be developed within the timescale of the first RTP. It is likely that the first iteration of RTP will not be able to fully take into account strategic development planning but should establish mechanisms by which this can be achieved moving forward, complementing overall aims for economic wellbeing and discharging our socio-economic duty.

3. Role of the Delivery Agreement (DA) and Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

3.1 The Delivery Agreement (DA) and Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) marks the formal start of the SDP preparation process. A core aim of the development plan system in Wales is early, effective, and meaningful community involvement, which is intended to build a broad consensus on the spatial strategy, strategic policies, and proposals in the SDP.

Components of the Delivery Agreement (DA)

3.2 The DA is a public statement that contains the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS), setting out how and when stakeholders and the community can become involved in the

plan-making process. This ensures transparency and inclusivity from the outset. It also includes a comprehensive timetable for preparing the SDP setting out clear timelines and milestones for various stages of the process.

3.3 Functions of the DA:

- **Reinforces the SDP's Role:** Highlights the SDP as a critical regional tool within the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) area.
- **Engages Community and Stakeholders:** Notifies when and how they can be involved in the SDP process.
- **Sets Realistic Expectations:** Clarifies the CJC's capabilities in terms of time, resources, and expectations.
- **Secures Resources:** Ensures budget and staff resources are allocated for the SDP preparation.
- **Facilitates Coordination:** Ensures alignment with other regional strategies and documents such as Regional Transport Plans and Growth/City Deals.

3.4 Table 1 provides a summary of the steps involved in preparing the DA.

Stage	Description	Timing
Stage 1: Initiation	Prepare draft DA & informally involve specific consultation bodies on the scope and content. The draft DA will be revised where appropriate.	June 2024
Stage 2: Consultation	Consultation on draft DA (6 weeks)	October – December 2024
Stage 3: Approval	DA adopted by resolution of the CJC.	March 2025
Stage 4: Agreement	Submission of final DA to Welsh Government for agreement.	March – May 2025
Stage 5: Publicity	Publish the approved DA with copies made available for inspection at the Principal Office(s) of the CJC and on its website.	As soon as practicable after WAG have agreed the DA

3.5 The DA must be approved by resolution of the CJC in accordance with SDP Regulation 11(2) before being submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement. Approval of the DA marks the formal start of the plan preparation process and the CJC is committed to

adhering to the stated timescales and consultation processes. The DA must be publicised, with copies made available for inspection at the Principal Office(s) of the CJC and on its website, in accordance with SDP Regulation 12.

4. Preparation of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP)

4.1 The main stages in the SDP process and when you can get involved is summarised in the table below:

Key stage		Opportunities for involvement
Stage 1	Delivery Agreement Preparation and submission	Informal public consultation
Stage 2	Pre-Deposit Preparation and recruitment	Updates provided on CCR website
Stage 3	Preferred Strategy preparation & public consultation	6 weeks formal public consultation
Stage 4	Deposit Plan preparation & public consultation	6 weeks formal public consultation
Stage 5	Submission to PEDW & Welsh Government for E.I.P	Updates provided on CCR website
Stage 6	Examination	Opportunity to attend and participate in the examination hearing sessions
Stage 7	Inspector's Report	Updates provided on CCR website
Stage 8	Adoption	Updates provided on CCR website

Governance

4.2 Statutory guidance required the establishment of a Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC), with responsibility for preparing the SDP for approval by the CJC. The SDSC will ensure political representation and input into the preparation and implementation of the SDP. The SDSC will provide a platform for involving others and ensuring appropriate expert and sector specific advice is available to support the CJC's decisions.

4.3 The SDSC Sub-Committee is comprised of 13 Members, including the Executive Member with responsibility for Planning from each of the 10 Constituent Councils, a Member

appointed by the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority, and 2 non-voting Members of the CJC, nominated annually, who will act as the Sub-Committee's Chair & Deputy Chair. As approved by the CJC on 3 June 2025, the Sub-Committee was established initially as a Working Group to oversee the development of the DA. The Working Group makes recommendations on key aspects of the DA for approval, and also consider the requirement for resourcing.

Key Outcomes

4.4 In accordance with the SDP 'Manual', the plan will aim to achieve the following key outcomes:

- Support sustainable development and quality places based around the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes, aligned with Future Wales, national policy (set out in PPW) integrated with an SA/SEA/HRA, including Welsh language and the requirements of the WBFGA 2015.
- Be based on and underpinned by early, effective and meaningful community involvement to understand and consider a wide range of views, with the aim of building a broad consensus on the spatial strategy, policies and proposals.
- Be based on a robust understanding of the role and function of the region, as well as connections beyond.
- Consider how cities, towns and settlements function individually and collectively both regionally and as sub-regions (where appropriate) thereby shaping the spatial strategy. This should be underpinned by clear evidence to deliver on the key issues identified in the region.
- Be distinctive by setting out clearly how the CCR will develop and change, giving certainty for communities, developers and business and provide the framework and broad scale and distribution of growth for LDP 'Lites' (LDPL).
- Be resilient to climate change and support the transition to a low carbon society in line with the latest carbon reduction targets and budgets as set out in the Environment (Wales) Act (Part 2) and discharging the requirements of section 6: biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty.
- Help discharge the CCR's socio-economic duty.
- Incorporate the principles of Placemaking, the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy and the Energy Hierarchy as set out in PPW.
- Ensure the sustainable management of natural resources in accordance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and other relevant legislation.

- Deliver what is intended through viable plans, taking into account necessary infrastructure requirements, financial viability and other market factors.
- Be proactive and responsive with plans kept up-to-date and flexible to accommodate change.

Legislation, Policy, and Guidance relevant to preparing the SDP

4.5 The Town and Country Planning (Strategic Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2021 establish the procedures for preparing Strategic Development Plans (SDPs) in Wales. The main objective of these regulations is to ensure that SDPs are consistently and effectively prepared across the country.

4.6 The Welsh Government has also prepared the Strategic Development Plan Manual (SDP Manual) as a comprehensive guide for the preparation of SDPs. It offers practical advice to ensure that these plans are effective, deliverable, and align with the overarching policies and objectives of the National Development Framework (NDF), "Future Wales: The National Plan 2040," as well as the principles of placemaking outlined in the national planning policy, Planning Policy Wales (PPW).

4.7 The draft version of the SDP Manual was distributed to all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in the autumn of 2022. The final version is scheduled for publication in 2025. This timeline allows for adequate feedback and refinement, ensuring that the final document is robust and useful for all CJCs, and LPAs involved in the planning process. The following documents are also relevant to the preparation of SDPs and should be considered alongside the SDP Manual:

- Future Wales: National Development Framework (NDF)
- Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (PCPA 2004) Part 6
- Local Government Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (LGEW Act)
- Town and Country Planning (Strategic Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2021
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFGA 2015)
- Planning Policy Wales (PPW): Latest edition by the Welsh Government
- Development Plans Community Guide (Edition 2) (2022): Produced by the Welsh Government and Planning Aid Wales
- Local Development Plan Examinations: Procedure Guidance (2015): To be updated by Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW)

- LDPs: Preparing for Submission – Guidance for Local Planning Authorities (2015): Also, to be updated by PEDW
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Sustainability Appraisal (SA), and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016: Includes Section 6 (biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty) and Area Statements.
- Environment Act 1995 includes Section 62(2) which places a duty on relevant public bodies and persons to have regard to the purposes for which National Parks are designated. In addition, the SDP will have due regard to National Park Management Plans.
- Strategic Development Plans Community Guide prepared by Planning Aid Wales (due to be published shortly).

Integrated Assessment Approach: Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) and other related assessments

4.8 The SDP must be subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as required by Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004 and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the by 2015 Act). The CJC recognise the value and opportunities for an integrated assessment approach in preparing the SDP. As such, the SA/SEA will be an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) integrating statutory requirements and key elements from the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (WBFGA) 2015, the Equalities Act (2010), Welsh language standards, Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and the Environment Act (section 6) (where relevant) into a single Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) will enable a more transparent, holistic and rounded assessment of the sustainability implications of growth options, objectives, policies and proposals in which economic and social issues are considered alongside environmental elements (socio-economic duty).

4.9 The process of SA/SEA is an iterative one that will be carried out throughout plan preparation and consists of six essential stages:

- Establish policy context, identify and document evidence base, identify sustainability issues and develop ISA/SEA objectives and indicators

- Consult WAG, CADW and NRW on ISA Scoping Report
- Publish ISA Report of Strategic options and Preferred Strategy
- Publish Deposit ISA Report including Environmental Report (with SDP)
- Publish the final ISA report following the Inspectors Report and adoption
- Monitoring and implementation of the ISA

4.10 At the outset of the ISA/SEA process, there will be an opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the ISA Scoping Report that sets out how the ISA/SEA process will be undertaken. The findings of the ISA/SEA work will be evidenced at key stages in the SDP preparation process. Reports will be prepared, and subject to consultation with stakeholders, in parallel with the Preferred Strategy consultation and Deposit SDP consultation. A Final ISA Report will be submitted along with all other SDP documentation when submitted to PEDW and Welsh Government for examination. The statutory Environment Bodies will be consulted at all of plan preparation.

4.11 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) will not be integrated with the ISA as it uses a different precautionary testing mechanism. The ISA will summarise the HRA findings as part of its assessment of effects on biodiversity.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

4.12 The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is a process mandated by the Habitats Directive, (Article 6(3)) to assess whether any land use plan or project is likely to significantly affect a National Networks Site, either individually or cumulatively with other projects (the preparation of this is typically done when sites are known and identified). By following the HRA key stages, the SDP can be developed in accordance with legal requirements while safeguarding the integrity of the National Sites Network and their associated habitats and species.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

4.13 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (PCPA) sets out the definition of sustainable development for the planning system in Wales, mirroring the definition in the WBFGA 2015. “Sustainable development” means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals. The WBFGA 2015 sets seven well-being goals which all public bodies are required to achieve:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
- A globally responsible Wales

4.14 The SDP will show how it contributes to achieving the well-being goals. The approach taken to appraise the plan through the ISA will enable the CJC to understand where the plan can maximise its contribution. The well-being goals should be integral to the preparation of the ISA Scoping Report and used to inform the review of evidence, identify issues and structure the ISA framework which will assess the plan's growth options, objectives, policies and proposals.

4.15 The WBFGA 2015 also identifies five ways of working which public bodies need to demonstrate they have carried out when undertaking their duty to achieve sustainable development. These are:

- Looking to the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring or getting worse.
- Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being. Goals in deciding on their well-being objectives.
- Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them; and
- Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.

4.16 The well-being goals, objectives and the five ways of working will inform the development of the ISA framework. This framework will form the basis to assess the likely significant effects of the SDP. This iterative process will test the strengths, weaknesses and likely environmental effects of proposed components to develop and refine the SDP as it progresses.

Evidence Base

4.17 The SDP will be underpinned by a robust and proportionate evidence base tailored to the specific challenges it addresses. The CJC is tasked with continuously reviewing development-related matters within its area as per section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (PCPA 2004). This review process is ongoing, both before and after the adoption of the SDP.

4.18 In preparing an SDP, the CJC will conduct a comprehensive audit of the evidence used for Local Development Plan (LDP) preparation within the region. This audit will critically analyse and where appropriate rationalise standard methodologies used for formulating and collating evidence, ensuring a sound foundation for future evidence base preparation. Additionally, Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) will play a crucial role in informing the SDP by identifying where and why existing LDP policies have been successful or are not being implemented as intended.

4.19 **Consideration of Base Date Relevance:** the relevance of the base date of existing evidence in relation to current national planning policy must be carefully evaluated. National policies evolve over time, with new policies being introduced and others being rescinded, impacting the evidence base that supports plans. It is essential to assess whether the existing evidence remains 'fit for purpose' or needs updating to align with these policy changes.

4.20 **Integration of Local Development Plans (LDPs):** while the SDP will take into account existing LDPs across the region, it will not merely amalgamate their policies, proposals, and allocations without considering a long-term strategy for the region. The commitments and allocations from current adopted LDPs will contribute to the short to medium-term components of the first-generation SDPs.

4.21 A clear vision for the region, addressing the drivers of change and responding to opportunities, will be important for the long-term direction. The vision will have to make choices on expressing a sustainable spatial strategy, the role of places and locations for strategic land-use activities, as well as strategies for each LPA within the SDP area. Whilst LDPs can provide the building blocks for the short to medium term period of an SDP, the long-term vision should be considered afresh.

4.22 **Anticipated Evidence Base Assessments:** the anticipated evidence base assessments required for the SDP preparation are detailed in **Appendix 1**.

Independent Examination & Soundness

4.23 The CCR must not submit the SDP unless it considers the plan is ready for examination (Section 64(2) of the 2004 act). The SDP will also be considered against the tests of soundness set out in the SDP Manual. The three tests are:

- Test 1: Does the plan fit? (Is it clear that the SDP is consistent with other plans?)
- Test 2: Is the plan appropriate? (Is the plan appropriate for the region in the light of the evidence?)
- Test 3: Will the plan deliver? (Is it likely to be effective?)
- Test 4: Does it have regard to the relevant Area Statements? Is it consistent with regional plans, strategies, and utility provider programmes? Is it compatible with the plans of neighbouring CJCs?
- Test 5: Does it have regard to the Well-being Plan(s) or the National Park Management Plan(s)?

Legal and Regulatory Compliance in Plan Preparation

4.24 The plan preparation process must comply with a range of legal and regulatory procedural requirements, including:

- The ISA (Integrated Sustainability Appraisal)
- The SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations
- The HRA (Habitats Regulations Assessment) regulations
- The CIS (Community Involvement Scheme)

4.25 Furthermore, the SDP must be in general conformity with Future Wales: The National Plan 2040. The CCR will also take into account the Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) examination guidance, which outlines the process and key considerations for submission and examination.

Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

4.26 The CCR (SEWCJC) will identify key Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) required to implement key strategic sites and proposals within the SDP and address broader matters on a more generic or regional basis. The preparation of regional SPG documents will offer an efficient, coherent, and consistent framework for detailed, topic-based planning

guidance across the CCR. This approach aims to reduce the need for creating similar SPG documents multiple times across the region, thereby promoting consistency and financial efficiencies.

Monitoring, Review and Revision

4.27 Monitoring is a continuous process and does not end once a plan is adopted. It represents an essential feedback loop within the cyclical process of achieving sustainable development. Monitoring and review should be an ongoing function of the plan led system and is a vital aspect of evidence-based policy making. The key legislative requirements in respect of monitoring and review are as follows:

- PCPA 2004 (Section 61) states that a CJC must keep under review the matters which may be expected to affect the development of their area or the planning of its development.
- PCPA 2004 (Section 76) and SDP Regulation 40 states that a CJC must publish and submit to Welsh Government an AMR setting out how the objectives of the plan are being achieved, or not (by 31 October each year).
- PCPA 2004 (Section 69(1)) and SDP Regulation 39(1) collectively state that a CJC must review its SDP no longer than 6 years from the date of adoption.
- SDP Regulation 39(2) states the CJC must approve by resolution a report of a review prepared in accordance with Section 69(1) and before it is submitted to the Welsh Ministers in accordance with Section 69(2). The 'Review Report' (RR) should be submitted to Welsh Government, within six months of triggering the review process.
- Regulation 17 of the SEA Regulations require monitoring of certain plans to identify unforeseen adverse effects and enable appropriate remedial action to be taken.

Collaborative Working

4.28 Collaborative regional working will enhance the quality and efficiency of the SDP by integrating diverse perspectives, expertise, resources, and stakeholders. This collaborative approach will allow the CCR to:

- **Identify Common Goals:** Establish shared objectives that align with regional development priorities.
- **Share Information:** Promote transparency and informed decision-making through the exchange of data and insights.
- **Co-ordinate Actions:** Synchronise initiatives and activities to avoid duplication and optimise resource use.

- **Leverage Synergies:** Maximise the impact of combined efforts, creating more effective and efficient outcomes.

4.29 Moreover, collaborative working will foster:

- **Innovation:** Encouraging creative solutions to complex land-use challenges.
- **Learning and Adaptation:** Facilitating continuous improvement through shared experiences and best practices.
- **Public Trust and Participation:** Building confidence and engagement among community members through inclusive and transparent processes.

4.30 The SDP will extend its focus beyond the CCR. This includes engaging in collaborative efforts with other CJCs in Wales and relevant spatial planning bodies and local authorities in England to address cross-regional issues (including pan-regional partnership for South Western England). Such broad cooperation will ensure comprehensive and coherent planning that transcends regional boundaries, addressing wider geographical challenges and opportunities.

5. Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

5.1 The CIS establishes a comprehensive framework detailing how the CJC will engage with the community and other stakeholders throughout the SDP process.

5.2 The CIS addresses those matters listed in SDP Regulation 8 and outlines the principles and mechanisms the CJC will use to encourage participation. This includes:

- Those general and specific consultation bodies to be involved in the process.
- The timing and methods by which community involvement will be sought and when.
- Explain how responses and representations received are taken into account when developing the content of the SDP.

Key principles for involvement

5.3 The following consultation principles will guide the CCRs approach to involving the local community and other stakeholders in the preparation of the SDP:

- **Commitment:** The CCR will seek to provide opportunities for the whole community (different age groups, local community groups, hard to reach groups and protected characteristic groups) including businesses, to engage at appropriate stages in the process including 'non-technical format' material as part of the process to encourage wider engagement.
- **Inclusiveness:** The CCR will encourage the active participation of everyone who has an interest in, or who may be affected by, the SDP including producing user-friendly documents and using user friendly consultation techniques to encourage wider engagement with the community, including with children and young people.
- **Appropriateness:** The CCR will seek to engage the community through the most appropriate methods as determined through consultation on this document.
- **Transparency and accessibility:** The CCR will make all relevant information available on-line and undertake engagement in a transparent and open way and seek to maximise the use of new technology such as virtual consultation and social media.
- **Accountability:** The CCR will publish on-line the results of community engagement and seek to ensure that all stakeholders are informed of the outcome of their involvement.
- **Productivity:** The CCR will seek to use virtual consultation and community engagement to secure as much consensus as possible on the content of the SDP.

- **Realism:** The CCR will seek to ensure that all parties involved in the process understand and remain realistic about what can be achieved within the context of relevant legislation, Welsh Government guidance, and resources available.

5.4 The CCR places a strong emphasis on building consensus throughout the SDP preparation process and will aim to ensure that all stakeholders actively engage from the very beginning. **Appendix 2** sets the CCR's (SEWCJC) intended approach for community engagement and consultation at each key stage of the plan preparation. This is intended to ensure transparency, inclusiveness, and responsiveness throughout the entire SDP process, encouraging active and continuous participation from all relevant parties.

Welsh Language and Bilingual Engagement

5.5 The CCR is committed to promoting and supporting the Welsh language, ensuring its vitality and growth across Wales. In compliance with legislative requirements, the SDP process must integrate considerations for the Welsh language from the outset. Specifically, under section 62(6A) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (PCPA 2004), the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) must include an assessment of the plan's potential effects on the use of the Welsh language.

5.6 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) outlines policy requirements for the Welsh language, while Technical Advice Note 20 (TAN20): 'Planning and the Welsh Language' offers guidance on its consideration within development plans and the ISA process. The CCR will evaluate the potential impacts of the SDP on the Welsh language during the ISA process. This evaluation will be documented in the deposit plan, detailing how the Welsh language considerations have been addressed. The ISA process will assess the impact of growth scale and location, vision, objectives, policies, and proposals on the Welsh language. If evidence suggests a detrimental impact, the CCR will consider amending the strategy or identifying mitigation measures.

5.7 At every stage of the SDP, Welsh Language Standards will be upheld, with bilingual engagement facilitated through various measures:

- Correspondence will be accepted in both Welsh and English and replies to Welsh correspondence will be in Welsh.
- All consultation materials, including letters, comment forms, public notices, and newsletters, will be bilingual.

- The SDP website will be bilingual.
- Public meetings will be conducted bilingually if requested in advance, with prior notification required for translation services.

Who will the CCR consult?

5.8 The SDP Regulations outline the formal requirements for engaging stakeholders in the SDP process. The CCR will engage a wide array of stakeholders throughout the SDP process, ensuring alignment with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. The stakeholders include:

Member of the Public

5.9 Residents will be engaged through public consultations to ensure their views shape the development plan. The CCR will develop and maintain a consultation database that holds contact information and consultation details of those individuals, agencies, organisations and community groups that want to participate in the SDP process. The database will assist the CCR in the management of the SDP process and enable interested parties to be kept updated and informed of progress**.**

5.10 The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force in May 2018. This placed new restrictions on how organisations can hold and use personal data and defining rights about that data. As a result of the GDPR, any interested parties must give their consent, in writing, if they wish to be added to the new stakeholder database. Anyone who makes representations at any of the stages of SDP process will be deemed to have given their consent and will be added to the stakeholder database. This will enable the CCR to administer their comments and keep them informed. Representors will also be given the opportunity to receive correspondence in Welsh or English.

5.11 If any person, group, organisation or company wishes to be involved in the preparation of the SDP, they can request to be added to the stakeholder database by logging their contact details on the CCR website.

Local Authorities and Elected Members

5.12 Collaboration with neighbouring councils and elected representatives will ensure regional alignment and integration of strategies. Local Authorities will be formally consulted at every key stage of the SDP process through their respective Chief Executives and Leaders.

Communication will be conducted via email. The CCR will also relay information and seek input from:

- South East Wales Planning Officers Society (SEWPOS)
- South East Wales Strategic Planning Officers Group (SEWSPG)
- Relevant officers in other specialisms such as regional transport and economic development.
- The region's Chief Executives and directors will be engaged via the Chief Executives Programme Board (CEFB) and South East Wales Directors Economic and Regeneration Group (SEWDER) respectively.

5.13 To ensure that Local Authority Councillors are properly engaged in the SDP process, they can request to be added to the SDP database. This will allow them to be consulted and kept informed at every key stage of the SDP process. All communication with Councillors will be conducted via email, ensuring timely and direct updates. In addition, Local Authorities will help disseminate this information to their Councillors through established internal networks, helping to maintain clear lines of communication and ensuring that Councillors remain informed throughout the process.

Town and Community Councils

5.14 The role of Town and Community Councils in disseminating information to residents on matters of local importance is crucial. They serve as a vital link to communities across South East Wales, ensuring that residents are informed and engaged in local issues. Town and Community Councils will be formally consulted at every key stage of the SDP process, ensuring that their input and feedback are considered. These councils will be added to the SDP database, and all correspondence will be conducted via email, facilitating efficient and timely communication.

Welsh Government

5.15 CCR will work closely with the Welsh Government to align with national policies, frameworks, and sustainable development goals.

Adjoining Corporate Joint Committees

5.16 The CCR will engage and consult with other CJCs in Wales to:

- **Foster a Shared Purpose:** The pandemic has united public sector organisations like never before. Going forward, it will be vital to sustain this alignment around a common purpose to enhance collaboration and cohesion.
- **Promote Transparency and Openness:** Encouraging open communication, sharing information, and maintaining transparency will build trust and improve decision-making processes.
- **Leverage Expertise:** Drawing on the specialised knowledge from different business functions will be crucial to informing decisions and refining practices, particularly in areas such as strategic planning and transportation.
- **Encourage Cross-Boundary Collaboration:** Embracing collaboration across teams and organisations will help drive innovation and ensure that decisions remain people-focused, keeping communities at the heart of regional planning efforts.

Public Service Boards

5.17 Public Services Boards (PSBs) were established in 2015 to bring together local public service leaders to assess and address the well-being needs of their areas, as part of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Board members typically include leaders from the local authority, health board, fire and rescue authority, Natural Resources Wales, as well as representatives from the voluntary sector, Welsh Government, the police forces, the police and crime commissioner and probation services. During key stages of preparing the SDP, the CCR will consult all Public Services Boards (PSBs) in Wales via email:

- Anglesey & Gwynedd Public Services Board
- Cardiff Public Services Board
- Carmarthenshire Public Services Board
- Ceredigion Public Services Board
- Conwy & Denbighshire Public Services Board
- Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board
- Flintshire & Wrexham Public Services Board
- Gwent Public Services Board
- Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board
- Pembrokeshire Public Services Board

- Powys Public Services Board
- Swansea Public Services Board
- Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board

Businesses

5.18 The local business community, including industry leaders and Chambers of Commerce, will be involved to consider the impact on economic development and infrastructure.

Environmental Organisations

5.19 Engaging with NRW and environmental groups will ensure the SDP aligns with goals around sustainability, biodiversity, and climate action.

Transport and Infrastructure Partners

5.20 Collaboration with Transport for Wales and infrastructure providers to integrate land-use and sustainable transport planning.

Health and Education Sectors

5.21 Collaboration with health boards, schools, and higher education institutions will ensure services are planned in line with future growth and community needs.

Young People and Future Generations

5.22 Youth organisations, schools, and other platforms will ensure the voices of young people are included, focusing on the long-term impact of the plan.

Housing and Development Sector

5.23 Engagement with housing associations, developers, and landowners will be critical to discussing future housing needs and land allocation. Meeting the aims and objectives of the SDP will require both land and investment. Landowners, agents, and developers interested in participating in this process can request to be added to the SDP consultation database. The Strategic Candidate Sites and Locations process will provide the opportunity for those who have an interest in land to submit sites and locations to be considered for development. A Call for Strategic Candidate Sites and Locations will be undertaken, and all proposals will need to be submitted via a standardised form. The form will contain the criteria required to assist in the assessment of the suitability of sites and locations for inclusion as potential allocations in the SDP. A threshold for accepting

Strategic Candidate Sites and Locations will be set to ensure the plan remains strategically focused. This threshold will be specified up front to provide clarity of the process and avoid unnecessary work being undertaken for sites that will be immediately rejected. Defining appropriate thresholds, setting broad locational/constraints parameters in addition to making sure there is a wide range of information published to inform this process will give an important steer to site promoters on the size, quantum and type of site that will be allocated/proposed or safeguarded in the SDP. All stakeholders are strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with the SDP Manual to fully understand their roles and responsibilities in the process. This will ensure effective participation and adherence to the established guidelines.

Specific Consultation Bodies

5.24 Specific Consultation Bodies, as defined by SDP Regulation 6, encompass statutory entities such as:

- Welsh Government
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
- Welsh Water
- Utility companies (Wales & England)
- Network Rail
- Transport for Wales
- Adjoining Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs)
- Local Health Boards within or adjoining CJC area
- All Town and Community Councils within or adjoining the CJC area
- Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) within and adjacent to the CJC area (The Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) will utilise their existing communication networks to ensure that individual councillors are properly notified).
- UK Government Departments if the SDP is likely to impact their interests. These bodies will be formally involved during the process.

5.25 General Consultation Bodies, as defined by SDP Regulation 5 include:

- voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the CJC's area,
- bodies which represent the interests of different racial, minority ethnic or national groups in any part of the CJC's area,

- bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in any part of the CJC's area,
- bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons, within the meaning of section 6 of the Equality Act 2010(1), in any part of the CJC's area,
- bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in any part of the CJC's area, and
- bodies which represent the interests of Welsh culture in any part of the CJC's area.

5.26 The use of umbrella groups as outlined above is critical to reaching as wide a cross-section of the community as possible. Greater use of networks could help reach harder-to-reach groups, including those of different racial or minority ethnic origin.

5.27 **Appendix 3** contains a proposed list of additional general consultation bodies.

5.28 This collaborative and inclusive approach will ensure that the SDP is reflective of the needs and aspirations of all stakeholders, supporting the well-being of current and future generations.

Those who have not traditionally engaged in development plan consultations

5.29 Those who have not traditionally engaged in development plan consultations are segments of society that have historically been under-represented in the plan preparation process. Engaging these groups requires additional effort to ensure their involvement in the SDP process. A flexible approach to engagement is necessary, but this must occur within the specified participation and consultation periods.

5.30 To effectively engage those who have not traditionally participated in the planning process, the CJC will leverage existing agencies and groups, such as the PSBs, whenever possible. In addition, trusted intermediaries may be employed to gather the views of those who lack the confidence to engage directly in the SDP process. The following groups have been identified as not having been sufficiently engaged in previous plan preparations and will be actively encouraged to participate:

- Young people and children
- People with disabilities
- Older people
- People with learning difficulties

- Homeless people
- Minority ethnic groups
- Gypsies and Travellers

How will the CCR involve you

5.31 Information on the SDP process will be regularly updated on the CCR's website. Copies of the relevant documents associated with the SDP process will also be made available at the CCR's Principal Office and at each Local Government Principal Office and library in South East Wales as listed in **Appendix 4**.

5.32 **Digital Technology for Engagement and Information Dissemination:** The Covid-19 pandemic has emphasised the critical role of digital technology in maintaining effective communication and engagement with partners. During this period, organisations have increasingly relied on innovative digital solutions. Consequently, the default approach of the CCR throughout the SDP process will be to prioritise electronic communication and virtual engagement, blended with in-person events for the preferred strategy and deposit plan consultation stages.

5.33 **Addressing Digital Exclusion:** Recognising that not everyone has access to the internet, the CCR is committed to ensuring inclusivity in its engagement process. For individuals without internet access:

- Hard copies of documents will be made available at specified locations.
- Paper comment forms will be provided upon request and in agreement with the CCR.

Ensuring Clear and Accessible Consultation

5.34 The CCR is dedicated to making every stage of the consultation process as clear and accessible as possible. To facilitate this:

- Officers will be available (via pre-arranged appointments) to handle SDP related queries on weekdays during regular office hours.
- Queries can be directed to the CCR via their web address or to the Principal Office.

5.35 By leveraging digital technologies and providing alternative access methods, the CCR aims to foster comprehensive and inclusive engagement throughout the SDP process.

Publicising the SDP Process

5.36 The CCR is committed to ensuring widespread awareness and active engagement throughout the SDP process. The steps to achieve this are:

- **Direct Contact:** The CCR will communicate directly with interested parties, primarily through email or letters, in either Welsh or English as required.
- **Social media:** Utilisation of CCR and LA social media platforms, when appropriate, to share updates and information.
- **Engagement with Elected Members:** Conducting focused workshops, briefings, and drop-in sessions and reporting to relevant CJC meetings.
- **Press Releases:** Issuing press releases to local media as appropriate to reach a broader audience.
- **Informative Documents:** Creating easy-read versions or summary documents to facilitate understanding of key stages.
- **Public Information Exhibitions:** Organising public exhibitions, drop-in sessions, or virtual exhibitions.
- **Virtual Engagement and Consultation:** Using web-based technology such as webinars to engage and consult with stakeholders.

Providing Opportunities for Involvement

5.37 The CJC aims to offer numerous opportunities for stakeholders and interested parties to access information and participate in the SDP process. However, due to resource limitations, the extent of engagement must be balanced. Key considerations include:

- **Fair and Equal Treatment:** Ensuring that all consultees are treated fairly and equally.
- **Resource Constraints:** Recognising the limits of available resources for engagement activities.
- **Officer Availability:** Officers will not attend meetings organised by individual groups but will be available during normal office hours throughout the SDP process to provide information or assistance as needed.

SDP Consultee Database

5.38 An 'SDP Consultee Database' will be created to include members of the public, interested individuals, and any organisations who have requested to stay informed during each stage of the SDP process. The main goal of this database is to ensure those not on the Welsh Government's official list of consultees for SDP Plans are still involved and updated throughout the process. As of 25th May 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation

(GDPR) mandates new restrictions on how organisations can store and use personal data, also defining individuals' rights regarding their data. The GDPR will apply to the SDP Consultee Database, and therefore, members of the public must provide written consent to be added to the SDP database (privacy notices will be issued to all who register).

5.39 **Adding Details to the SDP Database:** Anyone wishing to be added to the SDP database can do so by contacting the SDP Team either by email or in writing.

5.40 **Assigning Representor Numbers:** Each person (representor) added to the database will be assigned a unique representor number, which will remain the same throughout all stages of SDP preparation for consistency. This number will be used to reference any representations made during consultation stages.

5.41 **Updating Contact Details:** It is the responsibility of each representor to inform CCR if their contact details change during the SDP process. This is essential to keep all representors fully informed about the progress. Similarly, for Strategic Candidate Sites and Locations, any changes in land ownership must be communicated to the CCR to prevent any delays in the process.

Building Consensus

5.42 The CCR is committed to building consensus through various engagement and consultation methods as outlined in the CIS. Achieving consensus requires keeping the community and other interested parties fully informed and effectively engaged, particularly during the early stages of the SDP preparation. The CCR acknowledges that there will be times when consensus cannot be reached, leading to differences of opinion.

5.43 To ensure transparency in the decision-making process, the CCR will maintain a clear audit trail of all decisions. This will provide assurances to those who disagree, demonstrating that decisions are based on robust evidence. Furthermore, the CCR will carefully consider all supporting evidence provided by representors and stakeholders, alongside the SDP's evidence base, to support various viewpoints.

5.44 In summary, the CCRs approach to consensus building involves:

- Keeping all stakeholders fully informed and engaged from the outset.
- Using a variety of engagement and consultation methods as per the CIS.
- Maintaining transparency through a clear audit trail of decisions.

- Considering all evidence and viewpoints thoroughly.

5.45 This approach ensures that even in the absence of unanimous agreement, the process remains fair, transparent, and evidence based.

Managing Representations

5.46 Representations received within the specified timescales will be handled as follows:

- Acknowledgement by e-mail (or letter where required) providing contact details and detailing how the CCR will deal with the representation.
- Details of the next steps in the SDP preparation process.
- Local Authority's responses to representations recorded and published in accordance with the SDP Regulations.

5.47 The CCRs website will be used to provide up-to-date information and news on the progress of the SDP. At all key stages, consultation responses will be reported to the CJC.

5.48 Petitions received during consultation periods on the SDP will be acknowledged and registered as a valid representation. Every petition must nominate a single presenter. An acknowledgment by email or letter will be sent to the presenter of the petition who will be the point of contact and will have a right to be heard at any future Examination, subject to agreement by the Inspector (PEDW). This does not limit the right of individuals signing the petition to submit separate formal representations on the SDP.

5.49 **Late Representations:** The SDP preparation process is subject to statutory and non-statutory consultation periods which have defined periods in which representations should be made. To ensure fairness and equality for all, any comments/representations received after the close of the prescribed consultation period will be deemed 'not duly made' and will not be considered further (it is the date of receipt that determines duly made reps and only where there have been unforeseen delays in delivery (or circumstances that could not have been anticipated) will consideration be given to allowing a late submission). The timescale to produce the SDP has been agreed by the Welsh Government and the acceptance of late representations could result in delays which would not be acceptable. Written representations must be submitted so that the CCR receives them within the consultation periods.

5.50 Only where the CCR is satisfied that a genuine attempt to submit a representation within the given timescales has been made, will a late representation be registered as duly made. Evidence of delivery, posting etc. will be required to support such claims. Such circumstances are expected to be exceptional, and all representors are advised to submit comments (representations) within the advertised consultation periods.

Availability of Documents

5.51 The SDP documents and representation forms will be made available electronically at the relevant stages of the preparation process on the CCR website.

5.52 Reference hard copies will also be available at the following locations:

- CJC Principal Office: Sbarc|Spark, Maindy Road, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ
- Local Government Principal Offices (Appendix 4)
- Principal Libraries Deposit Locations (Appendix 4)

5.53 The Principal Libraries Deposit Locations will serve as the central points within each local government area for accessing hard copies of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) consultation documents. These locations are listed in appendix 4 and represent the main libraries designated in each area. Residents are encouraged to visit these libraries if they wish to review the physical documents. Additionally, for those who prefer digital access or cannot travel to a principal library, the consultation materials will also be accessible online at local hubs or libraries, ensuring broad accessibility throughout the region.

5.54 Where required, hard copies of documents will be sent to Specific Consultation bodies. However, paper copies of documents will not generally be sent out during the SDP process as they will be made publicly available in the locations listed above, as well as being made available electronically on the CCRs website. In exceptional circumstances paper copies may be offered. However, this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis depending on the specific needs of the relevant individual or stakeholder.

5.55 A summary of stakeholder involvement in the SDP key stages is attached as Appendix 2.

6. The Timetable

6.1 The timetable sets out a comprehensive schedule for the preparation of the SDP, providing clear timelines and milestones for key stages of the process. The timetable is structured into two main parts:

Definitive Stages:

- Covers all stages up to and including the statutory Deposit stage.
- The progress of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) during these stages is under the direct control of the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC).
- The target dates for these stages are considered realistic and every effort will be made to adhere to them.

Indicative Stages:

- Covers the stages of plan preparation beyond the statutory Deposit stage.
- Progress in these stages depends on various external factors (e.g. number of representations received, number of examination hearing sessions, time taken to receive the Inspector's Report) over which the CJC has limited control.
- The dates for these stages are subject to reconsideration after reaching the Deposit stage. At that point, definitive timings for the remaining stages will be prepared and submitted to the Welsh Government for agreement and publication.

6.2 Appendix 5 contains a detailed programme timetable that outlines the specific timeframe for each stage of plan preparation. It provides a breakdown of the tasks to be completed, from initial data collection to the final adoption of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP). Each milestone in the timetable is accompanied by clear deadlines and an estimated duration, ensuring transparency and accountability in the process. The appendix serves as a reference for stakeholders to track progress and align their involvement at key points.

6.3 Table 2: Summary of the SDP Timetable: The following table provides a summary of the key stages and milestones from the detailed timetable outlined in **Appendix 5**.

Key Stage			Timescales
Definitive			
Stage 1	Delivery Agreement Preparation and submission	SDP Regulations 7 to 12	Delivery Agreement to be submitted to Welsh Government for approval by December 2024. Formal commencement of the SDP will start once the DA is agreed by Welsh Government.
Stage 2	Pre-Deposit Preparation and involvement	SDP Regulation 16 (1) – (a-d)	January 2026 – December 2028
Stage 3	Preferred Strategy public consultation (10 weeks)	SDP Regulation 17 - 19	March – May 2028
Stage 4	Deposit Plan preparation & public consultation (10 weeks)	SDP Regulations 20 - 22	February – April 2030
Stage 5	Submission to PEDW & Welsh Government for E.I.P	SDP Regulation 23	December 2030
Indicative			
Stage 6	Examination	SDP Regulation 24	January 2031 – June 2031 (EIP Hearing Sessions May 2031 – June 2031)
Stage 7	Inspector's Report	SDP Regulation 25	November 2031 – December 2031
Stage 8	Adoption	SDP Regulation 35	December 2031– January 2032

Risk Assessment

6.4 In line with the requirements of the SDP Manual, SDPs are to be completed within five years from the formal agreement of the DA. There is a provision for a single additional slippage period of three months, providing limited flexibility if necessary. Any deviation beyond this timeframe necessitates a formal revision to the DA, which should be considered only under exceptional circumstances. The CJC has identified specific risk areas that could lead to deviations from the timetable. These risks, along with proposed responses for managing them, are detailed in **Appendix 6**.

7. Programme Budget and Resourcing Strategy

7.1 To ensure the effective implementation of the SDP timetable, the CCR will allocate an appropriate level of budget and staff resources. This allocation will be reflected by incorporating the requirement to prepare an SDP into the revised Corporate Plan and the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

SDP Programme Budget

7.2 This cost estimation outlines the anticipated expenditure for preparing the SDP over a six-year period. The key cost components include:

- **Evidence Base Preparation:** Estimated at approximately **£700,000 - £1,000,000**, this cost covers the technical assessments required to support the SDP.
- **Examination in Public:** Estimated at **£70,000 - £100,000**, covering venue hire, inspector fees, legal support, and administration costs for the public examination process.
- **Consultation Database/Portal:** Estimated at **£100,000** (plus additional maintenance), this cost will be covered under the broader Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) budget and is not included in the total SDP calculation.
- **Translation and Printing:** Estimated between **£80,000 - £100,000**, ensuring compliance with Welsh language requirements and accessibility needs.
- **Staff Resources (Core Team):** Depending on the size of the core team, the projected cost of the core team over a six-year period is estimated to be between **£2,303,664 and £2,716,392**.
- **GIS and Administrative Support:** These costs are expected to be covered under the broader CCR budget and are therefore excluded from this calculation.
- Total anticipated cost projection for SDP preparation over a 6-Year Period is between **£3,253,664 - £3,566,392.**

7.3 This cost estimation underscores the financial commitment necessary for delivering the SDP, with key expenditures primarily allocated to evidence base preparation and staffing. Effective management of the funding strategy and budgetary constraints will be crucial to ensuring successful plan delivery. While an exact cost cannot be determined at this stage, the budget range provided offers a reliable forecast. The final budget will ultimately depend on variable factors such as team size and the extent to which the evidence base is developed in-house versus commissioned from external consultants.

Resourcing Strategy

7.4 To ensure the effective preparation and delivery of the SDP, it is essential to establish an independent regional team with the necessary skills and expertise. The CCR will focus on recruiting the right people into the right roles at the right time, ensuring sufficient staff resources are in place to meet project demands. The proposed core structure includes:

- Head of Strategic Development
- Strategic Development Managers (x2)
- Principal Planners (x2)
- Principal Planner or Senior Planner (x2)

7.5 The core SDP team has been designed to provide a strong yet flexible foundation that can be scaled up as needed. This structure allows for the integration of additional resources whether through staff appointments, external expertise, or collaboration with local authority teams ensuring the team can respond effectively to evolving project demands. By maintaining this adaptable framework, the team can manage fluctuating workloads and increasing complexities without compromising efficiency or project delivery. This approach will support the SDP's long-term success by enabling a proactive and responsive planning function across the region.

7.6 Funding for the development of the SDP will be identified in the CCR Medium Term Financial Plan. The budget for the SDP will not be allocated until the start of the new financial year in April 2025. Consequently, the recruitment process for the SDP team will not be able to commence until April 2025, with an anticipated completion timeframe of September 2025. This delay results in nearly a year from submitting the Delivery Agreement (DA) to officially starting work on the technical aspects of the SDP in January 2026. To bridge this gap, the CCR Regional Planning Liaison Officer will undertake some essential tasks outlined in Stage 2 (Pre-Deposit Preparation and Involvement) from April 2025 to December 2026.

7.7 These tasks include:

- Reviewing the content and evidence of existing Local Development Plans (LDPs) and emerging LDPs in the region.
- Establishing baselines.

- Setting the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) framework.
- Conducting targeted consultations on the draft SA Scoping Report.
- Initiating the recruitment process for the SDP team.

Secondments

7.8 Throughout the SDP process, secondments may be used as a cost-effective means of acquiring specialised knowledge and skills while adding resilience to the core team. However, it is important to note that local authorities in the CCR may find it challenging to proceed with their own Local Development Plans (LDPs) if secondees are recruited from within their existing teams. To mitigate this potential issue, all secondments will be carefully planned to ensure minimal disruption to the ongoing LDP processes (**secondments will only be considered where existing workload demands permit this arrangement**).

Shared Resources and Graduate Training Programme

7.9 In addition to the existing provisions, there is an opportunity to enhance collaboration and resource efficiency by sharing administrative and Geographic Information System (GIS) resources between the RTP and SDP teams.

7.10 Furthermore, the CCR propose the introduction of a structured graduate training programme. This initiative will serve multiple purposes:

- **Practical Experience:** Recent graduates will have the chance to gain hands-on experience in the fields of regional transport and land-use planning.
- **Skill Development:** The programme will offer mentoring and training opportunities, allowing graduates to expand their skill sets.
- **Succession Planning:** By investing in the professional growth of graduates, we will cultivate the next generation of regional transport and land-use planners, ensuring a sustainable and knowledgeable workforce for the future.

7.11 This integrated approach to resource sharing and workforce development aligns with our commitment to sustainable planning and the efficient use of resources.

Appendix 1: Key Documents & Evidence Base Assessments

Supporting Document	Purpose	Delivery Mechanism
Key Documents		
SDP Delivery Agreement (DA) incorporating the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	The DA sets out how and when stakeholders and the community can become involved in the plan-making process. It also includes a comprehensive timetable for its preparation setting out clear timelines and milestones for key stages of the process.	Prepared by CJC officers.
Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) Scoping Report	To outline the proposed approach to the ISA, incorporating the SEA. 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 SDP.	External consultants
ISA/SA/SEA Scoping Report Initial Report	To identify, from an assessment of reasonable alternatives, whether the SDP will have any significant impacts on the environment and determine whether the Plan will deliver sustainable development. The Initial Report includes a proportionate assessment of candidate sites. The ISA and Habitats Regulations Assessment Reports will be consulted on in tandem with the SDP.	External consultants
Identification & assess-ment of vision, issues and objectives. Growth and Strategy Op-tions.	This work will provide early consideration of the growth and spatial strategy potential strategy that the region wants to deliver, i.e. where/what is the most sustainable spatial strategy for the region and how does this sit with an overall vision.	Prepared by CJC officers.
SDP Preferred Strategy	To identify the type and scale of spatial change required to achieve the proposed SDP Vision and Objectives.	Prepared by CJC officers.
The Full ISA of the Preferred Strategy	To identify any likely significant economic, environmental and social effects of the SDP, and to suggest relevant mitigation measures.	External consultants
Preferred Strategy Initial Consultation Report	To outline how the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) has undertaken public participation and consultation on the Preferred Strategy in accordance with SDP Regulation 16a. The Report will identify the steps taken to publicise plan preparation, in accordance with the CIS,	Prepared by CJC officers.

	before outlining the specific bodies engaged, summarising the main issues raised and identifying how the responses have been or will be addressed. The Report provides significant detail on how this key period of consultation influenced development of the Deposit SDP.	
Deposit Plan	The Deposit Plan is the plan that the CJC considers 'sound' and intends to submit for examination following consultation and is able to be adopted. The Deposit Plan must be consulted on for a minimum of 6 weeks.	Prepared by CJC officers.
The Full ISA of the Deposit Plan and Non-technical Summary	To identify any likely significant economic, environmental and social effects of the SDP, and to suggest relevant mitigation measures. This process integrates sustainability considerations into all stages of SDP preparation and promotes sustainable development.	External consultants
Deposit Consultation Report	To comprehensively document how the CJC has considered all representations made on the Deposit Plan. It will summarise the key issues raised throughout the process, including the representations made and recommendations as to how the CJC considers each representation should be addressed. It represents a key pre-requisite to submission of the SDP in accordance with the DA.	Prepared by CJC officers.
Tests of Soundness (2022)	To assess how and why the CJC considers the Plan to have satisfied the Tests of Soundness, specified by Welsh Government.	Prepared by CJC in-house.
Habitat Regulations Assessment	Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 requires that a HRA must be undertaken to demonstrate compliance with statutory duties set out in the Habitats Directive and the Habitats Regulations where a plan or project is considered likely to have significant effects on European Sites and is not directly connected with or necessary for the management of the site. The purpose of this report is to document the first formal stage of this HRA process, namely, to ascertain whether there would be any LSE on relevant European Sites from the SDP.	External consultants
Evidence Base Assessments		
Strategic Search Area & Candidate Site Register	A record of sites submitted by landowners, developers and the public, which will be used as	Prepared by CJC officers.

	a reference point to assess each site against the Preferred Strategy for possible inclusion within the SDP. [The CJC will identify a size / capacity threshold / criteria for specific identification in the SDP].	
Strategic Search Area & Candidate Sites Assessment Report (SSCSA)	The SDP will be supported by a Strategic Search Area & Candidate Site Assessment, which identifies the potential sites that are suitable for allocation within the SDP.	Prepared by CJC officers.
CCR Economic Evidence Base Assessment (EEBA)	To provide evidence-based recommendations on the scale and distribution of employment need and the land best suited to meet that need, whilst also making policy / land allocation recommendations to inform emerging policies and site allocations.	External consultants
CCR Retail Needs Assessment (RRA)	To set out evidence-based recommendations on retail need, the distribution of need and the to inform emerging policies and strategic site allocations (at a regional scale).	External consultants
CCR Sustainable Settlement Assessment (RSA)	To establish a sustainable settlement hierarchy that can inform the SDP. This will identify the most appropriate locations to accommodate future development to achieve a sustainable pattern of growth, minimise unsustainable patterns of movement, promote transit orientated development and support local services and facilities.	Prepared by CJC officers.
CCR Demographic Analysis and Forecasts Assessment (DAFA)	To provide a summary of demographic evidence, including a suite of population, housing and economic growth outcomes to inform the Strategic Growth Options paper for consideration in the preparation of the SDP.	External consultants
CCR Green Infrastructure Assessment (GIA)	To provide a holistic spatial analysis of green infrastructure across the region and establish regional Resilient Ecological Networks.	Prepared by CJC officers.
CCR Build Rate Analysis	To provide an analysis of build rates across the region to help inform growth options i.e., what can be realistically achieved in total and in different parts of the region. This work will link to the SHMA and LHMAs and inform the indicative housing tra-jectory.	Prepared by CJC officers.
CCR Housing Market Assessment (HMA)	To provide detailed insights into the mechanics of the residential property markets across the region. The Assessment will include a quantitative assessment of housing need that will	Prepared by CJC officers.

	be used to inform the housing policies of the SDP in terms of affordable housing provision, tenures and types of accommodation required across the region.	
CCR Special Landscape Designations Assessment (SLDA)	To carry out a review of the Special Landscape Areas designation within the region to identify areas considered worthy of being retained as a Special Landscape Area designations in the SDP.	External consultants
CCR Landscape Character Assessment (LCH)	This document will provide a sound evidence base to consider the character and sensitivity of the different landscapes of the region when considering new developments. It will also promote an understanding of how the landscapes of the region are changing (as a result of a combination of natural, economic and human factors), and how they can be strengthened in response.	External consultants
CCR Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA)	To assess the future accommodation needs of the Gypsy Traveller and Travelling Show People Communities and determine whether there is a requirement for additional site provision within the region. This will inform any related site allocations and criteria-based policies in the SDP.	External consultants
CCR Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Transit Site Assessment	To assess the future transit site needs of the Gypsy Traveller and Travelling Show People.	External consultants
CCR Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment (SFCA)	The updated SFCA will create a strategic framework for the consideration of flood risk when making planning decisions. It has been developed in accordance with Technical Advice Note 15 – Development & Flood Risk (TAN15), as well as additional guidance provided by Natural Resources Wales (NRW). The Study has been updated in light of the new draft TAN 15 and new Flood Map for Planning.	External consultants
CCR Plan-Wide Viability Assessment (PWVA)	To understand how different market areas can affect the viability of delivering private and affordable housing as well as associated infrastructure to inform policy formulation, spatial expression and application.	External consultants
General Environment Constraints and Opportunities Assessment.	To map and identify general environment constraints/opportunities and how this may influence locations for growth at a strategic scale.	External consultants

CCR Green Wedge & Strategic Green Gaps Assessment (GWSGG) & Green Belt Assessment	To review the existing green wedge designations, Strategic Green Gaps and Green Belt in the region critical to the delivery of the spatial strategy.	External consultants
CCR Strategic Transport Assessment (STA)	To analyse the strategic road network, assess the impact of potential strategic search areas and allocations and consider the mitigation requirements.	External consultants
SDP Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)	To identify the SDP infrastructure requirements over the plan period.	Prepared by CJC officers.
Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land Assessment	This work will review and utilise the assessments prepared by the regions LPAs in preparing their respective Replacement Local Development Plans.	Prepared by CJC officers.
Strategic Sites Urban Capacity Study	To provide analysis of the potential urban capacity of the regions settlements to accommodate strategic housing growth.	Prepared by CJC officers.
High level renewable energy assessment / modelling the impact of proposals on GHG reduction trajectories	To establish a framework for enabling the modelling the impact of proposals on GHG reduction trajectories.	External consultants
Evidence base for Minerals	To enable the SDP to set out an annual and total plan period apportionment for sand and gravel and hard rock for the region and each LPA.	Regional Technical Statements (prepared by Welsh Government and the South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party)
	Identify minerals safeguarding areas including key ports/wharfs for landing minerals	Prepared by CJC officers.
	Identify an appropriate minerals land bank to align with national policy, including allocations/preferred areas of search where appropriate	Prepared by CJC officers.

Appendix 2: Summary of stakeholder involvement in the SDP

The following provides a summary of the proposed engagement methods for the key stages in the SDP preparation process.

Stage 1: Delivery Agreement (Timetable & Community Involvement Scheme)

Stage in the SDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Reporting, Dissemination and Notification
Seek authorisation from CJC to prepare the DA.	To seek approval from the CJC to prepare and publish the draft DA for consultation.	June 2024	• CJC Members	• CJC AGM	• **Formal Political Reporting:** formal report to the CJC AGM to seek approval to prepare and publish the draft DA for consultation.
Prepare draft DA & informally consult with / involve specific consultation bodies on the scope and content. **(Regulations 7,9 & 10)**	The DA is a public statement that contains the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) setting out how and when stakeholders and the community can become involved in the plan making process and a Timetable for preparing the SDP. To informally seek the views of specific consultation bodies on the content of the draft DA.	July 2024	• CJC Members • General and Specific Consultation Bodies	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Revise DA (if considered necessary)	Update the draft DA to reflect the views of General and Specific Consultation Bodies and other stakeholders (where relevant).	July – August 2024	• CJC Members • General and Specific Consultation Bodies • Other interested stakeholders including members of the public	• Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies and other interested stakeholders.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Consultation on draft DA and CIS (6 weeks) **Regulation 11(2).**	To seek the views of consultation bodies on the content of the draft DA.	October 2024– January 2025	• CJC Members • Specific Consultation Bodies	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.

				• Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies. • Draft DA published on CJC website.	
DA adopted by resolution of the CJC in accordance with SDP Regulation 11(2)	DA adopted by resolution of the CJC in accordance with SDP Regulation 11(2).	March 2025	• CJC Members	• Formal report to CJC.	• **Formal Political Reporting:** formal report to the CJC seeking adoption of the DA**.**
Submission of final DA to Welsh Government for agreement.	To seek Welsh Government's formal agreement that the DA is robust, realistic and covers the main plan preparation requirements.	March – May 2025	• CJC Members • Welsh Government	• Formal submission to Welsh Government.	• Update provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Publish the approved DA with copies made available for inspection at the Principal Office(s) of the CJC and on its website in accordance with SDP Regulation 12.	To comply with regulation 12 and inform stakeholders of the adopted DA timetable and CIS.	As soon as practical following agreement from WAG.	• CJC	• Copies made available for inspection at the Principal Office(s) of the CJC and on its website in accordance with SDP Regulation 12. • Copies will also be made available at all LG principal offices and libraries as defined in appendix 4. • Interested stakeholders notified by email or letter.	• Update provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.

Stage 2: Pre-Deposit Preparation and Involvement

Stage in the SDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Reporting, Dissemination and Notification
Existing LDP/RLDP evidence base review	To consider the content and evidence base of adopted/emerging LDPs within the region. The CJC will need to take account of current LDPs and then consider in parallel, the long-term direction for the SDP until the end of the plan period (20-25 years).	January 2025 - 2026	• CJC • LPAs • General & Specific Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary)	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Prepare the evidence base (continuous process)	To prepare a sound and proportionate evidence base to support the preparation of the SDP.	January 2026 (continuous process)	• CJC • General & Specific Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary) • Other key stakeholders	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Prepare the ISA Scoping Report: establish the baseline and set the ISA framework, scope and objectives.	To set the context, establish the baseline and decide on the ISA scope and objectives. This includes a review of relevant plans, programmes and policies.	January 2026	• CJC • LPAs • General & Specific Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary)	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Targeted consultation on draft ISA Scoping Report (5 weeks consultation)	To gain views on the evidence base, sustainability issues identified and SA objectives to ensure the likely significant effects of the plan are identified.	February - March 2026	• CJC • General & Specific Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary)	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.

			• Other key stakeholders		
Call for Candidate Strategic Locations and Sites Consultation (8 weeks)	This stage enables all parties to submit potential sites and wider strategic locations (areas of search) for inclusion in the plan. It will assist the CJC to identify potential development sites and inform the SDP Spatial Strategy in consultation with the Specific Consultation Bodies.	Between April – May 2026	• CJC • Specific Consultation Bodies • Other key stakeholders • Development industry • Landowners	• Notification by email • Website	NA
Prepare & Publish Candidate Strategic Locations and Sites Register	To provide transparency on sites and strategic locations submitted by developers and landowners for consideration in the SDP; and to allow stakeholders, including local planning authorities (LPAs), infrastructure providers, and communities, to review and provide input.	June – August 2026	• CJC	• Notification by email • Updates provided on website	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Identification of key issues, drivers of change and a vison for the region.	To identify the key issues and drivers of change that will enable a comprehensive and shared vision for the region to be developed, that looks ahead to the longer-term and concludes what the region should look like in response to the issues it is seeking to address,	January – June 2026	• CJC • Specific Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary) • Other key stakeholders	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Identification & assessment of options (growth levels and spatial distribution) with SA/SEA input	Identify and test growth and spatial strategy options.	January – June 2026	• CJC • Specific Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary)	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.

			• Other key stakeholders		
Undertake initial filter of Strategic Locations and Sites	To determine which sites fit with the spatial strategy.	June – August 2026	• CJC	• NA	NA
Undertake detailed assessment of Strategic Locations and Sites	To determine which sites fit with the spatial strategy.	September 2026 – December 2028	• CJC	• NA	NA

Stage 3: Preferred Strategy Preparation and Public Consultation

Stage in the SDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Reporting, Dissemination and Notification
Preparation of Preferred Strategy, SA/SEA/HRA and wider evidence base	The Preferred Strategy is the first statutory consultation stage in the SDP preparation process and will be subject to a public consultation for a minimum of 6 weeks. It sets out the broad approach to the scale and location of growth and ensures development is planned for in a sustainable manner.	Jan 2026 – March 2028	• CJC • Specific & General Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary) • Other key stakeholders	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Consultation on Preferred Strategy & Initial ISA Report (10 weeks consultation) (SDP Regulations 17, 18 & 19)	To seek the views of all stakeholders on the content of the Pre-Deposit Proposals & ISA.	March – May 2028	• CJC • Specific & General Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary) • Other key stakeholders • General public	• Preferred Strategy and ISA Report published on website • Virtual consultation events • In-person engagement sessions • Focused stakeholder meetings	**Formal Political Reporting:** formal report to the CJC seeking approval to publish the Prepare Pre-Deposit Proposals & ISA (Preferred Strategy).

				• Hard copies of SDP consultation documents made available at LG principal offices and at main libraries. • Notification via email or letter to Specific & General Consultation Bodies and stakeholders registered on the SDP consultation database.	
Analyse representations and prepare Initial Consultation Report (SDP Regulation 20(a)	To summarise the representations made at Preferred Strategy and how the CJC has taken them into account.	June - December 2028	• CJC	• Publish the Pre-Deposit Proposals & SA (Preferred Strategy) Consultation Report on the CJC webpage. • Notify Specific & General Consultation Bodies and other key stakeholders via email or letter.	Update Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) on the publication of the Pre-Deposit Proposals & SA (Preferred Strategy) Consultation Report.

Stage 4: Deposit Plan and Public Consultation

Stage in the SDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Reporting, Dissemination and Notification
Prepare Deposit Plan and Statement of Deposit Matters, update SA/SEA/HRA and finalise the supporting evidence base	To prepare the Deposit Plan that the CJC considers 'sound' and intends to submit for examination following consultation and can be adopted.	December 2028 – January 2029	• CJC • Specific & General Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary) • Other key stakeholders • Development industry	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies. • Focused dialogue with the development industry	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Consultation on Deposit Plan, ISA Report and HRA (10 weeks consultation) SDP Regulations 20, 21 and 22	To seek the views of all stakeholders on the content of the Deposit Documents & ISA.	February – April 2030	• CJC • Specific & General Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary) • Other key stakeholders • General public	• Deposit Plan and ISA Report published on website • Virtual consultation events • In-person engagement sessions • Focused stakeholder meetings • Hard copies of SDP consultation documents made available at LG principal offices and at main libraries. • Notification via email or letter to Specific &	**Formal Political Reporting:** Formal committee report to CJC seeking approval to publish the Deposit Documents and ISA for consultation.

				General Consultation Bodies and stakeholders registered on the SDP consultation database.	
Consider representations and prepare Consultation Report	To summarise the representations made at Deposit Plan Consultation and how the CJC has taken them into account.	February – June 2030	• CJC • Specific & General Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary) • Other key stakeholders • General public	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies. • Focused dialogue with the development industry	• **Formal Political Reporting:** Formal committee report to CJC presenting the findings of the Deposit Plan Consultation Report. • Hard copy of representations placed in CJC Offices and copies available on website.
Finalise Deposit Plan Documents and Statements of Common Grounds on key issues	Update and finalise the evidence base, including Statements of Common Ground on key issues and sites. This will ensure there are not any gaps in the plan and its evidence base. This also provides an opportunity to ensure conformity and consistency with Future Wales and PPW.	April – November 2030	• CJC • Specific Consultation Bodies • Consultants (where necessary)	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • Focused dialogue with General & Specific Consultation Bodies.	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.

Stage 5: Submission

Stage in the SDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Reporting, Dissemination and Notification
Submission of SDP and associated Documents to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decisions Wales for Examination in Public (EIP) (Regulation 23)	Seek CJC approval to submit the Deposit Documents for Examination in Public (EIP).	December 2030	• CJC	• Formal report to CJC	**Formal Political Reporting:** formal committee report to the CJC seeking approval to submit the Deposit Plan Documents for Examination in Public.

Indicative

Stage 6: Examination

Stage in the SDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Reporting, Dissemination and Notification
Pre-Hearing Meeting (if required)	Inspector determines whether a Pre-Hearing Meeting (PHM) is necessary (e.g. if there are substantial numbers of representors and / or parties are unfamiliar with the process). If a PHM is necessary, a date is set and the CJC advertises it, giving at least 4 weeks' notice To advise on examination procedures and format.	Unknown	• CJC • PEDW • Any stakeholder registered on the consultation database • General public	• Notification by email to all stakeholders registered on the database. • Notification on Website	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.
Independent Examination (Regulation 24)	The appointed Inspector will carry out an independent assessment of the overall soundness of the plan and to ensure that it satisfies the statutory requirements for its preparation. The Inspector's role is not to improve the Plan but to make recommendations to ensure it is sound. This means dealing with the matters and issues which go to the heart of the Plan and not getting involved with the details of individual policies and allocations unless this is necessary to conclude on the Plan's soundness. Provided they do not fall foul of the soundness tests, Inspectors will not concern themselves with minor drafting or typographical errors.	March -June 2031	For those who made Deposit Representations arrangements for public participation in the examination process will be advertised nearer the time (at least 6 weeks before the opening of the examination).	• Hearing Sessions • Written submission	All information will be made available on the examination website and library.

Stage 7: Inspector's Report

Stage in the SDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Reporting, Dissemination and Notification
Publication of final Inspector's Report (Regulation 25)	The Inspector will publish a report outlining the examination's findings, together with any changes to the Deposit Plan and reasons for those recommendations. The Inspector's decisions will be binding upon the Council.	October - November 2031	• PEDW • CJC • WAG	• Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group. • CJC • SDP consultation database	• Updates provided to the Strategic Development Sub-Committee (SDSC) working group.

Stage 8: Adoption

Stage in the SDP preparation process	Purpose	Timescale	Who will be involved	Methods of involvement	Reporting, Dissemination and Notification
Adoption of the SDP within 8 weeks of the receipt of the Inspector's Report by CJC resolution. (Regulation 35) Publish the SDP, ISA Report and post adoption statement	The Council is required to adopt the final Replacement LDP incorporating the Inspector's recommendations within 8 weeks of receiving it unless the Welsh Government intervenes.	December 2031	• CJC	• Formal report to CJC	**Formal Political Reporting:** formal committee report to the CJC seeking adoption of the SDP.

Appendix 3: List of General Consultation Bodies

Registered Social Landlords

- Adra
- Aelwyd Housing Association Limited
- ATEB Group Limited
- Barcud Cyfyngedig
- Beacon Cymru (merged with RHA & Coastal)
- Bro Myrddin Housing Association Limited
- Bron Afon Community Housing Limited
- Cadarn Housing Group Limited
- Cardiff Community Housing Association Limited
- Cardiff YMCA Housing Association Limited
- Caredig Limited
- Cartrefi Conwy Cyfyngedig
- ClwydAlyn Housing Limited
- Cynon Taf Community Housing (2007) Limited
- First Choice Housing Association Limited
- Grŵp Cynefin
- Hafod
- Hendre Limited
- Linc Cymru
- Melin Homes Limited
- Merthyr Tydfil Housing Association Limited
- Merthyr Valleys Homes Limited
- Monmouthshire Housing Association Limited
- Newport City Homes Housing Association Limited
- North Wales Housing Association Cymdeithas Tai Gogledd Cymru Limited
- Pobl Group Ltd
- Stori
- Taff Housing Association Limited
- Tai Calon Community Housing Limited
- Tai Tarian Limited
- TAFF
- Trivallis Limited
- United Welsh Housing Association Limited
- Valleys to Coast Housing Limited
- Wales & West Housing Association Limited

Emergency Service

- Police and Crime Commissioner
- South Wales Ambulance
- South Wales Fire Service
- South Wales Police

Voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the CJC's area

- GAVO
- Friends of the Earth Cymru
- Abergavenny and District Civic Society
- Action for Children
- Advocacy Matters (Wales)
- Age Concern Cymru
- Age Concern Gwent
- Age Connects
- Age Connects Morgannwg
- Alzheimers Association (2nd email sent for address)
- Asthma UK Cymru
- Barry Dock Lifeboat
- Brecknock Wildlife Trust
- Bridgend and District YMCA
- Bridgend Women's Aid
- British Geological Survey
- British Horse Society
- British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)
- British Trust for Ornithology
- British Waterways
- Business in the Community Wales
- Butterfly Conservation (South Wales Branch)
- Caerleon Civic Society
- Caerphilly Parent Network
- Campaign for National Parks
- Campaign for Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW)
- Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA)
- Canal and Rivers Trust
- Canolfan Maerdy
- Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Area Scout Council
- Cardiff & Vale Parents Federation
- Cardiff and Vale Action for Mental Health
- Cardiff Civic Society
- Cardiff Cycling Campaign
- Cardiff Friends of the Earth
- Cardiff Justice and Peace Group
- Cardiff Naturalists' Society
- Cardiff YMCA

- Citizen’s Advice Rhondda Cynon Taff
- Citizens Advice (Cardiff and Vale)
- Citizens Advice Bureau Newport City Council
- Civic Trust Cymru
- Climate Action Torfaen
- Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust
- Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Club
- Coed Cadw / The Woodland Trust
- Coed Cymru
- Coity Walia Commoners Association
- Community Matters
- Council for National Parks
- Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services – Fernhill Youth Project
- Cowbridge History Society
- CPRW - Brecon and Radnor Branch
- Crickhowell & District Civic Society
- Cymdeithas y Cerddor/The Ramblers' Association
- Cymru Torfaen Voluntary Alliance
- Design Commission for Wales
- Duffryn Community Link
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- Dyfed Archaeological Trust
- Echo Stow Hill
- Farmers' Union of Wales/Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru
- Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group Cymru
- Fields In Trust Cymru
- Friends of Nantfawr Community Woodland
- Friends of the Earth Cymru
- Garden History Society
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
- Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS)
- Green Lane Association
- Groundwork
- Gwent Association Of Voluntary Organisation
- Gwent Ornithological Society
- Gwent Wildlife Trust
- Home Start Rhondda Cynon Taff
- Interlink RCT
- International Bee Research Association (IBRA)
- Lisvane Community Association
- Lisvane Graig Protection Society
- Living Streets Cardiff
- Llamau
- Llancarfan and District Community Association
- Llandaff Conservation Group

- Llantwit Major Local History Society
- Llantwit Major Probus
- Lower Penarth Community Association
- National Allotment Society (NSALG)
- National Trust
- Newport Civic Society
- One Voice Wales
- Open Spaces Society
- Pantmawr Residents Association
- Penarth & District Ramblers
- Penarth Civic Society
- Pentrepoeth Action Group
- Penywaun Building Communities Trust
- Planning Aid Wales
- Public Health Wales
- Radyr and Morganstown Community Association
- Radyr and Morganstown Partnership and Community Trust (PACT)
- Radyr Sidings Residents Association
- Ramblers Cymru
- Renewable UK
- Rhiwbina Civic Society
- Rhiwbina Garden Village Residents Association
- Rotary Club of Llantwit Major
- Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historical Monuments of Wales
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
- Royal Voluntary Service (RVS)
- RSPB
- Rural Housing Enabler
- Scope Cymru
- Showman's Guild of Great Britain
- Sight Cymru
- Sports Council for Wales
- Sustrans Cymru
- The 20th Century Society
- The Amelia Trust Farm
- The Canal & River Trust (Glandwr Cymru in Wales)
- The Georgian Group
- The Theatres Trust
- The Trussell Trust
- Theatre's Trust
- Time to Change Wales
- Trail Riders Fellowship
- TraVol Community Transport
- Urdd Gobaith Cymru – Cardiff and Vale
- Vale 50+ Forum

- Vale of Glamorgan Group, Ramblers Association
- Vale of Glamorgan Neighbourhood Watch Association
- Vale of Glamorgan Tourist Centre (Wales)
- Vale Ways
- Valeplus
- Valleys Kids/Plant y Cymoedd
- Victorian Society
- Wales Assembly of Women
- Wales Council for Voluntary Action
- Wales Environment Link
- Wales Federation of YFC
- Wales Women's Aid
- Welsh Bee Keepers Association
- Welsh Historic Gardens Trust
- Welsh Trail Riders
- Wildlife Trust for South & West Wales
- Women Connect Firs
- Women's Aid RCT
- Youth Cymru
- Youth Hostel Association

Bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in any part of the CJC's area

- The Equality and Human Rights Commission
- Gwent Education Minority Ethnic Service
- Black Environment Network
- Bridgend Equality Forum
- Bridges- (gypsy / traveller community in Merthyr Tydfil)
- Cardiff Gypsy & Traveller Project
- Citizen's Advice Cymru
- Cymru Ethnic Minority Foundation
- Equality & Human Rights Commission
- Ethnic Minority Foundation
- Friends, Families and Travellers
- Gypsies and Travellers Wales
- National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups
- Race Alliance Wales
- Race Council Cymru
- Race Equality First
- Show Racism the Red Card Wales
- Showmen's Guild of Great Britain (Wales and Northern Ireland)
- South East Wales Racial Equality Council
- Stonewall Cymru
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission
- The Gypsy Council

- FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND TRAVELLERS
- The National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups (Wales)
- The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain
- The Valleys Regional Equality Council
- Traveller Law Reform Project
- Travelling Ahead
- Travelling Ahead TGP Cymru
- UK Association of Gypsy Women (UKAGW)
- Valleys Race Equality Council
- Maesteg Chamber of Trade

Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in any part of the CJC's area

- All Nations Church
- Big Ideas / Ignite
- Cardiff Buddhist Centre
- Catholic Church in England and Wales
- Catholic Church in Wales
- Christians Against Poverty
- Church in Wales
- Churches Together in Wales
- Cowbridge United Free Church
- Evangelical Movement of Wales
- Glamorgan Muslim Community Association
- Kingdom Hall Jehovah's Witnesses
- Mountain Ash Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
- Muslim Council for Wales
- Muslim Welfare Association of Vale of Glamorgan
- Orthodox Christian Contact Wales
- Pontypridd Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
- Presbyterian Church of Wales
- Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
- Representative Body of the Church in Wales
- Rhondda Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cardiff
- Siloh Christian Centre
- South Wales Baptist Association
- St. Fagans Church
- St. Elvans Church
- The Almond Tree Christian Fellowship
- The Apostolic Church, UK
- The Islamic Centre, Aberdare
- The presbyterian Church of Wales
- The Salvation Army
- Trealaw Quakers

- U.K. Islamic Mission
- Undeb Bedyddwyr Cymru (Union of Welsh Baptists)
- United Reform Church
- United Reformed Church National Synod of Wales
- Wales Synod – The Methodist Church in Wales

Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons, within the meaning of section 6 of the Equality Act 2010(1), in any part of the CJC's area

- Accessible Wales
- Alzheimer's Society (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf)
- Barry & District Mencap
- Blaenau Gwent Access Forum
- Bridgend Coalition of Disabled People
- British Deaf Association (Wales)
- Caerphilly County Borough Access Group
- Caerphilly People First
- Cancer Aid Merthyr Tydfil
- Cardiff and Vale Mental Health Development Project
- Changing Faces
- Council for the Disabled
- Cwm Taf Mental Health Forum
- Deafblind Cymru
- Disability Advice Project
- Disability Arts Cymru
- Disability Can Do
- Disability Law Service
- Disability Resource Centre
- Disability Rights Commission
- Disability Sport Wales
- Disability Wales
- Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee
- Diverse Cymru
- Downs Syndrome Association
- Guide Dogs for the Blind Organisation
- Gwent Association for the Blind Wales
- Gwent Hearing Impairment Service
- Hard of Hearing & Tinnitus Support Group
- Learning Disability Wales
- Mencap Cymru
- Merthyr & The Valleys MIND
- Merthyr Eyelights
- Merthyr Tydfil Institute for the Blind (MTIB)
- Merthyr Tydfil Talking Newspaper for the Visually Impaired
- Mind Cymru
- MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan

- Mirus
- MS Society Cymru
- National Autistic Society Cymru (Merthyr Tydfil Branch)
- National Federation of the Blind
- Newport Access Group
- Partially Sighted Society
- Penarth Blind Club
- Rhondda Cynon Taf People First
- Rhondda Cynon Taff Access Group
- Royal National Institute for Deaf People
- Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB Cymru)
- Sense Cymru
- Sight Cymru
- Sight Cymru (formerly known as Gwent Association for the Blind and Sight Support)
- Sight Life
- Social Care Wales
- The Stroke Association
- Torfaen Access Forum
- Visually Impaired Merthyr (VIM)
- Wales Council for Deaf People
- Wales Council for the Blind
- Wales Council for the Disabled
- Whizz-Kidz

Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in any part of the CJC's area

- Blaenau Gwent Business Forum
- Aberdare Chamber of Trade
- Abergavenny Community Enterprise Partnership
- Associated British Port
- Bridgend Business Forum
- British Aggregates Association
- British Wind Energy Association
- Business Eye
- Business Improvement District, Aberdare (Our Aberdare)
- Business Improvement District, Pontypridd (Your Pontypridd)
- Business Improvement District, Treorchy (Love Treorchy)
- Business in Focus
- Business in the Community Cymru
- Business Wales
- Caerphilly Business Club
- Cardiff Chamber of Commerce, Trade and Industry
- Cardiff International Airport Ltd
- Cardiff Women's Business Club
- Careers Wales

- Coleg Gwent
- Community Housing Cymru
- Confederation of British Industry (Cymru)
- Country Land and Business Association Cymru
- Cowbridge Chamber of Trade
- Farmers Union Wales
- Federation of Master Builders
- Ferndale Business Forum
- Home Builders Federation
- Homemakers Community Recycling
- Llantrisant Old Town Business Representative
- Merthyr Tydfil Town Centre Partnership
- Mineral Products Association
- Mobile UK
- Mountain Ash Business Representative
- National Farmers Union Cymru
- Newport and Gwent Enterprise Agency
- Porth Chamber of Trade
- Retail consortium
- South And Mid Wales Chambers of Commerce
- South East Wales Energy Agency
- South Wales Chamber of Commerce
- St. Tydfil's Shopping Centre
- The Business Centre
- Tonypandy Chamber of Trade
- Tonyrefail Chamber of Trade
- Torfaen Economic Forum
- Treforest Growth
- Treharris Town Centre Partnership
- University of South Wales
- Viridor Waste Management
- Welsh Ice
- Welsh ICE
- Brecon Chamber of Trade
- Hay and District Chamber of Commerce
- University of Cardiff

Bodies which represent the interests of Welsh culture in any part of the CJC's area

- Bridgend Civic Trust
- Ancient Monument Society
- Arts Connect
- Arts Council of Wales
- Arts Factory
- Bridgend District Local History and Museum Society
- Caerphilly Family Information Service

- Canolfan Cymraeg
- Capital Region Tourism Royal
- Celf Caerleon Arts
- Coliseum Theatre, Aberdare
- Colstars
- Cymdeithas yr iaith Gymraeg
- Friends of Newport Ship
- Green Caerleon
- Institute of Welsh Affairs
- LMT Academy of Performing Arts
- Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg
- Menter Iaith Caerffili
- Model House, Llantrisant
- Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin
- Muni Arts Centre
- National Centre for Learning Welsh
- National Museum of Wales
- National Roman Legion Museum
- National Trust
- Newport Museum
- Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway Company
- Porthcawl Civic Trust Society
- RhAG: Rhieni dros Addysg Gymraeg
- Royal Commission for Ancient Monuments
- Showcase Sioegerdd
- Spectacle Theatre Ltd
- Stagecoach Performing Arts, Pontypridd
- Stardreams Musical Theatre Company
- Stow Park Conservation Society
- Theatres Trust
- Urdd Gobaith Cymru
- Welsh Language Society
- Welsh Place-Name Society
- Welsh Tenants Federation
- Yr Urdd

Bodies which represent the interests of Transport in any part of the CJC's area

- Associated British Ports
- Bus Users Cymru
- C.T.C Right to Ride
- Cardiff & Vale University Health Board (Transport)
- Cardiff Airport
- Cardiff Bus
- Cardiff City Transport Services
- Cardiff Harbour Authority

- CILT (UK) Cymru
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Community Transport Association
- Confederation of Passenger transport
- Easyway Minibus Hire Ltd
- First Cymru Buses Ltd
- Great Western Railway
- Gwent Joint Passenger Transport Unit
- Harris Coaches
- New Adventure Travel Ltd
- Newport Harbour Commissioners
- Rail Freight Group
- Rail Future (RDS) Wales
- Road Haulage Association Ltd
- South Wales Trunk Road Agency
- Sustrans Cymru
- Transport Focus
- Transport for Wales Station Integration

Other bodies which represent a general interests in any part of the CJC's area

- 3Gs Development Trust Merthyr Limited / First Responders
- Aber Arts Wales
- Aberfan and Merthyr Vale Community Co-op
- Aberfan and Merthyr Vale Darby and Joan Club
- Aberfan and Merthyr Vale Youth and Community Project
- Aberfan Canoe Club
- Aberfan/Merthyr Vale Old Age Welfare
- Adult Community Learning Merthyr Tydfil
- Age Connects Morgannwg
- Association of Inland Navigation Authorities
- Barnardos Merthyr
- Bedlinog & Trelewis Going for Green
- Bedlinog & Trelewis Partnership Board
- Bedlinog Senior Citizens Welfare Committee
- Benefice of Eglwysilan and Caerphilly
- Black Environment Network
- Black Mountains College
- Blaenau Gwent & Caerphilly Youth Offending Service
- Brecon High School
- Bridgend College
- Bridgend County Allotment Association
- Bridgend Designer Outlet
- Bridgend Friends of the Earth
- Bridgend Youth Council Forum
- Brinsons

- British Astronomical Association
- British Gas Wales
- British Geological Survey
- Bron Afon
- Brynaman Primary School
- C3SC Cardiff Third Sector Council
- Cadw
- Caerphilly Mountain Bikers
- Caldicot & Wentlooge Levels Drainage Board
- Campaign for Real Ale
- Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales
- Canolfan a Menter Gymraeg
- CAPO Digital Accounting Ltd
- Carbon Trust
- Cardiff & Vale Parents Federation
- Cardiff and the Vale College
- Care and Repair Cymru
- Carers Strategy Network
- Castle Park Residents Association
- Catch 22
- CBI
- Cefn Coed Community Centre
- Celtic Energy
- Charted Management Institute (Cymru)
- Chartered Institute of Housing (Cymru)
- Chartered Institute of Waste Management Wales
- Children & Young People's Voluntary Organisations Forum
- Children's Commissioner for Wales
- Christ College
- Citizens Advice Bureau Merthyr Tydfil
- Coal Authority
- Coed Cadw (the Woodland Trust)
- Coed Cymru
- Coleg Gwent Society for the Protection of Ancient
- Comisiynydd y Gymraeg / Welsh
- Communities First – Mid, North and South Clusters
- Community Energy Wales
- Community Land Advice Service
- Compute (Bridgend) Ltd
- Confederation Of British Industry
- Confederation of Passenger Transport
- Country Land and Business Association
- Craigyhendre Tenants & Residents Association
- Crickhowell High School
- Crickhowell Primary School

- Crisis
- Cwm Calon Community Association
- Cymdeithas Gymraeg Beddlwynog
- Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg
- Davies Bros
- Dic Penderyn Society
- District Valuer Services
- Dowlais Community Day Group
- Dowlais Community Development Forum
- Dowlais OAP Association
- Dowlais Residents Group
- Drainage Authority
- Drug Intervention Programme
- Environment Link
- Fir Tree Community Association
- Ford Motor Company
- Friends of Llanfrechfa Action Group
- Friends of Taff Bargoed Park
- Friends of Ty Cwm Care Association
- Fussells Ltd
- Galon Pen Community Association
- Gardens Trust
- Gellideg Foundation Group
- Georgetown Tenants Association
- Gilwern Primary School
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd
- Green Lane Association
- Greendoorstep Environmental Group
- Groundwork Bridgend
- Gwernyfed High School
- Hafal Merthyr
- Hanson Aggregates
- Health and Safety Executive
- I.C.I. Rifle Field Sports Association
- Johnsey Estate
- Keep Wales Tidy United
- Kevin Ryan Court Tenants & Residents Group
- LCP Properties
- Lectogic Limited
- Llamau
- Llanfaes Primary School
- Llanfihangel Crugorney
- Llangattock
- Llangynidr Primary School
- Llynfi Valley Forum

- Lower Sirhowy Valley Residents Association
- Maesteg Chamber of Trade
- Melin Homes Wales
- Mentrau Iaith Cymru
- Mentrau Iaith Cymru -Welsh Council for Voluntary Action
- Merthyr Cynon Foodbank
- Merthyr Initiative Group
- Merthyr Mawr Estate Office
- Merthyr Museum & Heritage Group
- Merthyr OAP Welfare (Town Ward)
- Merthyr Tudful (Canolfan Soar)
- Merthyr Tydfil & District Naturalists Society
- Merthyr Tydfil Angling Association
- Merthyr Tydfil Association Football League
- Merthyr Tydfil Carers
- Merthyr Tydfil Children's Contact Centre
- Merthyr Tydfil Fairtrade Steering Group
- Merthyr Tydfil Federation of Leisure Gardeners
- Merthyr Tydfil Heritage Trust
- Merthyr Tydfil Historical Society
- Merthyr Valley Ramblers
- Merthyr Youth Inclusion Project
- Minerals Recovery & Recycling Ltd
- Monmouth, Brecon and Abergavenny Canals Trust Limited
- National Probation Service
- New Gurnos Resident's Board
- Newport's Citizen Panel
- NPTC Brecon
- Oakdale and Penmaen Community Partnership
- Oakfield Street Surgery
- Office of Rail Regulation
- Ogmore Angling Association
- Ogwr DASH
- One Voice Wales
- Open Spaces Society
- Pantygasseg Residents Association
- Penderyn Primary School
- Play Wales
- Pontypool Park Estate Office
- Prince's Trust
- Public Health Wales
- Quakers Yard Community Association
- Quarry Products Association
- Ramblers Cymru
- Rhigos Primary School

- Road Safety Wales
- Rocky Park Residents Association
- Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments
- Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
- Royal Oak Angling Club
- Royal Town Planning Institute Cymru
- Ruperra Castle Preservation Trust (RCPT)
- Safer Merthyr Tydfil
- Sennybridge Primary School
- Shelter Cymru
- Socelex Animal Sanctuary
- Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings
- South East Wales Energy Agency
- South East Wales Rivers Trust
- South Gwent Ramblers Association
- South Wales and Severn Waterways Canal & River Trust
- SPD Property Ltd
- Sports Wales
- Stagecoach
- Stay Young at Heart
- Sustrans
- Taff Bargoed Development Trust Ltd.
- Tarmac
- Tetra Tech
- Teulu Re-enactment Group
- The Bevan Foundation
- The Conservation Volunteers
- The Energy Savings Trust
- The Merthyr Tydfil Compact
- The National Library of Wales
- The National Trust
- The Risca Riders
- The Theatres Trust
- The Woodland Trust
- Torfaen Friends of the Earth
- Torfaen Leisure Trust
- Torfaen Peoples Panel
- Torfaen Play Service
- Torfaen Young People’s Forum
- Trefechan Community Association
- Treharris Community Trust (TACT)
- Treharris Regeneration Association
- Treharris Together Club
- Trelewis O.A.P Welfare Committee
- Troedyrhiw Community Partnership

- Ty Pontrhun Residents Association
- Tydfil Training Consortium
- Vaynor Community Forum
- Viridor Waste Management
- Visit Wales (Welsh Tourist Board)
- Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT)
- Wales Council for Voluntary Action
- Welsh Association of Motor Clubs
- Welsh Consumer Council
- Welsh Environmental Services Association
- Welsh Health Estates
- Welsh Language Commission
- Welsh Local Government Association
- Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales
- WWF Cymru
- X-Press Legal Services
- Ynysowen Community Regeneration Partnership Board
- Young Carers Forum
- Young Wales – Merthyr Tydfil Youth Forum
- Ysgol Penmaes
- Ysgol y Bannau

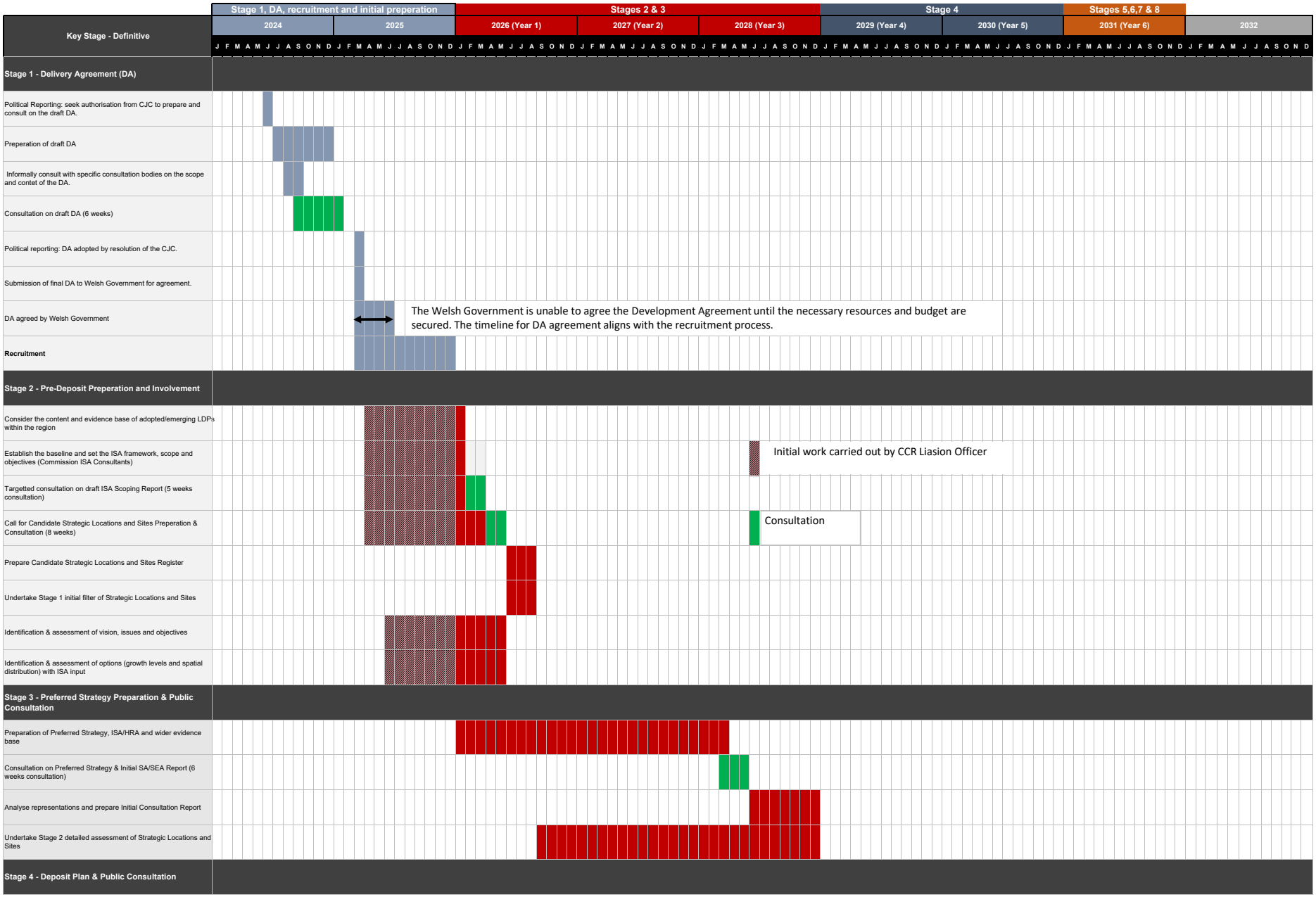
Appendix 4: Local Government Principal Offices & Principal Libraries Deposit Locations

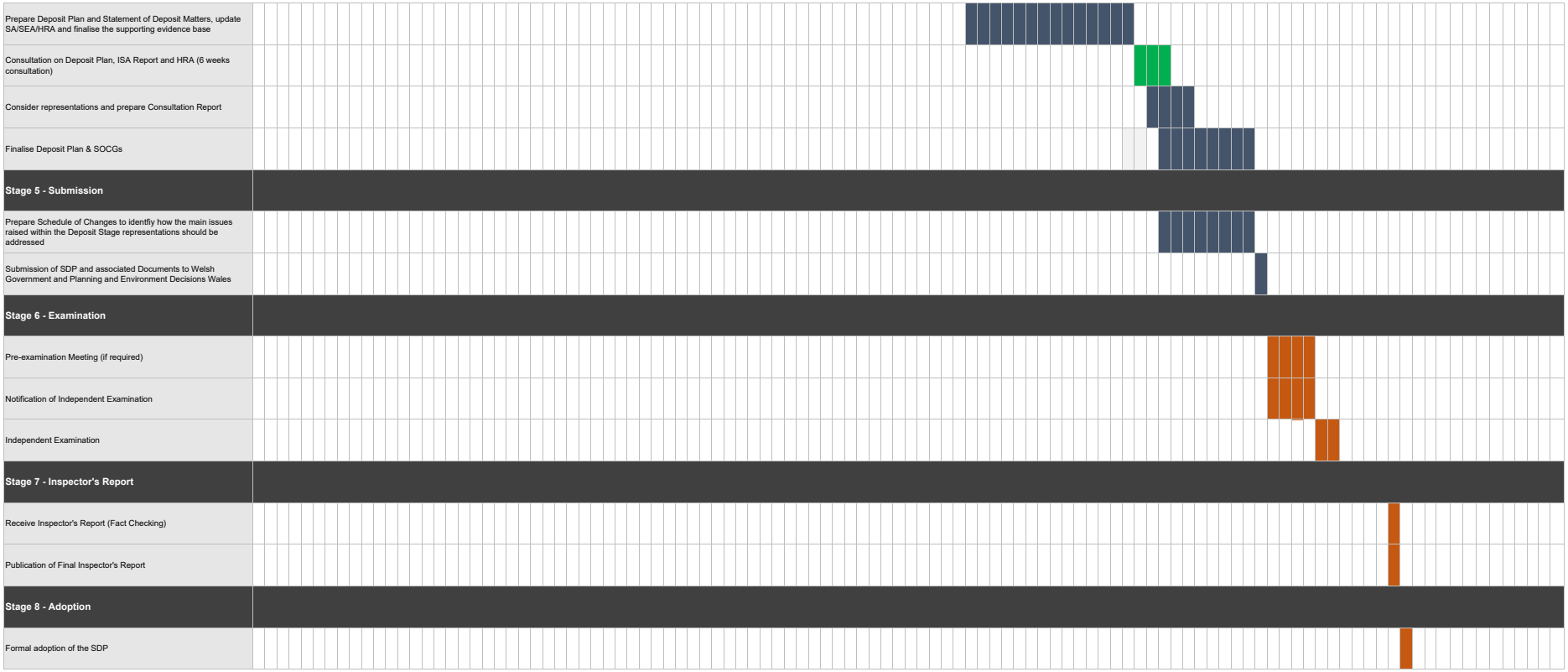
Local Authority	Principal Office
Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority	Plas y Ffynnon Cambrian Way Brecon LD3 7HP
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	The General Offices Steelworks Road Ebbw Vale NP23 6DN
Bridgend County Borough Council	Civic Offices Angel Street Bridgend CF32 4WB
Caerphilly County Borough Council	Tredomen Park Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7PG
Cardiff Council	Cardiff Council County Hall Atlantic Wharf Cardiff CF10 4UW
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	Civic Centre Castle Street Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8AN
Monmouthshire County Council	County Hall The Rhadyr USK NP15 1GA
Newport City Council	Civic Centre Newport South Wales NP20 4UR
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council	2 Llys Cadwyn, Stryd y Taf, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH
Torfaen County Borough Council	Civic Centre Pontypool NP4 6YB
Vale of Glamorgan Council	Civic Offices Holton Road Barry CF63 4RU

The **Principal Libraries Deposit Locations** will serve as the central points within each local government area for accessing hard copies of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) consultation documents. These locations are listed below and represent the main libraries designated in each area.

Residents are encouraged to visit these libraries if they wish to review the physical documents. In addition, for those who prefer digital access or cannot travel to a principal library, the consultation materials will also be accessible online at local hubs or libraries, ensuring broad accessibility throughout the region.

Local Authority	Principal Libraries (Deposit Locations)
Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority	Brecon Library, (y Gaer) y Gaer, Glamorgan St, Brecon LD3 7DW
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	Ebbw Vale Library, 21 Bethcar St, Ebbw Vale NP23 6HH
Bridgend County Borough Council	Bridgend Library, Bridgend Life Centre, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4AH
Caerphilly County Borough Council	Llyfrgell Caerphilly Library,The Twyn, Caerphilly CF83 1JL
Cardiff Council	Cardiff Central Library, The Hayes Cardiff CF10 1FL Wales
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	Merthyr Tydfil Central Library, High St, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8AF
Monmouthshire County Council	Monmouthshire does not have a single principal library; instead, documents will be deposited at the hub libraries in Abergavenny, Gilwern, Monmouth, Usk, Caldicot, and Chepstow.
Newport City Council	John Frost Square, Newport, NP20 1PA
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council	Pontypridd Library,1 Llys Cadwyn, Taf Street, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH
Torfaen County Borough Council	Cwmbran Library, Gwent House, Gwent Square, Cwmbran NP44 1XQ
Vale of Glamorgan Council	Barry Library, The County Library, King Square, Barry, CF63 4RW


Stage 1, DA, recruitment and initial preperation
Stages 2 & 3
Stage 4
Stages 5,6,7 & 8
Key Stage - Definitive
2024
2025
2026 (Year 1)
2027 (Year 2)
2028 (Year 3)
2029 (Year 4)
2030 (Year 5)
2031 (Year 6)
2032
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
Stage 1 - Delivery Agreement (DA)
Political Reporting: seek authorisation from CJC to prepare and consult on the draft DA.
Preperation of draft DA
Informally consult with specific consultation bodies on the scope and contet of the DA.
Consultation on draft DA (6 weeks)
Political reporting: DA adopted by resolution of the CJC.
Submission of final DA to Welsh Government for agreement.
DA agreed by Welsh Government
The Welsh Government is unable to agree the Development Agreement until the necessary resources and budget are secured. The timeline for DA agreement aligns with the recruitment process.
Recruitment
Stage 2 - Pre-Deposit Preperation and Involvement
Consider the content and evidence base of adopted/emerging LDPs within the region
Establish the baseline and set the ISA framework, scope and objectives (Commission ISA Consultants)
Initial work carried out by CCR Liasion Officer
Targetted consultation on draft ISA Scoping Report (5 weeks consultation)
Call for Candidate Strategic Locations and Sites Preperation & Consultation (8 weeks)
Consultation
Prepare Candidate Strategic Locations and Sites Register
Undertake Stage 1 initial filter of Strategic Locations and Sites
Identification & assessment of vision, issues and objectives
Identification & assessment of options (growth levels and spatial distribution) with ISA input
Stage 3 - Preferred Strategy Preparation & Public Consultation
Preparation of Preferred Strategy, ISA/HRA and wider evidence base
Consultation on Preferred Strategy & Initial SA/SEA Report (6 weeks consultation)
Analyse representations and prepare Initial Consultation Report
Undertake Stage 2 detailed assessment of Strategic Locations and Sites
Stage 4 - Deposit Plan & Public Consultation


Prepare Deposit Plan and Statement of Deposit Matters, update SA/SEA/HRA and finalise the supporting evidence base
Consultation on Deposit Plan, ISA Report and HRA (6 weeks consultation)
Consider representations and prepare Consultation Report
Finalise Deposit Plan & SOCGs
Stage 5 - Submission
Prepare Schedule of Changes to identfiy how the main issues raised within the Deposit Stage representations should be addressed
Submission of SDP and associated Documents to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decisions Wales
Stage 6 - Examination
Pre-examination Meeting (if required)
Notification of Independent Examination
Independent Examination
Stage 7 - Inspector's Report
Receive Inspector's Report (Fact Checking)
Publication of Final Inspector's Report
Stage 8 - Adoption
Formal adoption of the SDP

Appendix 6: Risk Assessment

Risk	Potential Impact	Probability	Mitigation Measures
Additional requirements arising from new legislation, national guidance or new evidence	Additional work required, causing programme slippage.	Medium	Monitor emerging legislation / guidance and respond early to changes where possible.
Change in staff resources available to undertake SDP preparation.	Programme slippage	Medium	Consider additional resources (including support from other sections within the CCR) and ensure robust structure. Ensure that the SDP remains a top corporate priority.
Timetable proves too ambitious due to greater than anticipated workload	Programme slippage	Medium	Consider additional resources.
Corporate reorganisation of structures.	Programme slippage	Medium	Ensure SDP remains a top corporate priority.
Delays caused by Welsh translation and/or the printing process.	Programme slippage	Medium	Consider additional resources
Significant levels of objections from statutory consultation bodies.	SDP cannot be submitted for examination without significant additional work.	Low / Medium	Ensure close liaison with, and early involvement of statutory bodies as stakeholders in the process.
Large volume and /or highly significant levels of objection to proposals e.g. site allocations.	SDP cannot be submitted for examination without significant additional work.	Medium	Ensure close liaison and early/continued involvement of the community, statutory bodies & stakeholders throughout the plan preparation process.
Lack of political consensus throughout the preparation of the SDP.	Programme slippage	Medium	Ensure close liaison with, and early involvement of key Members and Officers.
PEDW fail to meet their timescales per the Service Level Agreement	Pregame slippage	Low	Maintain close liaison with PEDW.
SDP fails ‘test of soundness’	SDP cannot be submitted for examination without significant additional work.	Low	Ensure SDP evidence base is robust and sound.
Legal challenge.	Adopted SDP may be quashed in whole or in part by the Courts.	Medium	Ensure legal, regulatory and procedural compliance.