

**Rhondda Cynon Taf
Revised Local Development Plan
2022 – 2037**

**Pre-deposit
Engagement Report**



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1. Introduction and purpose of the document

1.1 Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council is revising its Local Development Plan and will produce a Revised Local Development Plan (RLDP) which will cover the period 2022-2037.

The processes for preparing an RLDP are set out in legislation and guidance which outline the procedures that must be followed to ensure that a sound plan is produced.

One important element which runs throughout the plan making process is the need for meaningful engagement and consultation with those who have an interest in the plan or those who may be impacted by it. These include the residents of Rhondda Cynon Taf, those who work or own businesses in the area and other members of the public. They also include statutory consultees, external organisations, other Council departments, Local Councillors and any other person or body that is interested or would like to be involved in the RLDP process.

This document therefore sets out the consultation and engagement undertaken throughout the RLDP preparation process. The document is set out in stages which follow the plan preparation process. Each section outlines the stage of the process, who was consulted, how they were consulted, how many responses were received and a brief summary of how the responses shaped the RLDP.

It is worth noting the due to the large number of responses received during some of the stages of engagement and consultation specific evidence base documents have been produced which provide greater detail on the responses received and how these have helped shape the production of the RLDP. Where this has occurred, the document is referenced in section.

Next Steps

1.2 As the RLDP preparation process progresses each subsequent stage of engagement and consultation will be added to the document. The final consultation report will form part of the suite of documents presented to the Inspector at Examination to illustrate how the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) has been adhered to and that meaningful engagement has taken place.

2. The Review Report

2.1 What is a Review Report

It is very important that once adopted an LDP remains relevant, effective, and fit for purpose. A Local Planning Authority (LPA) is required to monitor the LDP each year to see how it is performing against the Objectives of the plan. This is done through the collection and analysis of data and by conducting surveys for example. The LPA is then required to produce an annual monitoring report (AMR) each year which illustrates the plans performance.

Legislation dictates that an LDP should be reviewed every 4 years or sooner if the AMR identifies that the plan is not performing and delivering as it should and to a degree than cannot be rectified. When a review is triggered through the 4-year requirement or through the AMR the Local Authority is required to produce a Review Report.

A Review Report analyses how the LDP has performed since adoption, it is in effect a combination of the AMR's produced. It sets out whether an LDP is performing as it should, which areas if any are not performing, those which are working and will make a recommendation whether or not a revision of the LDP is required.

2.2 Consultation on the Review Report

A Review Report for the current RCT LDP (2006-2021) was prepared by the Council in October 2019. The report found that whilst some aspects of the LDP were performing well, some were not and some of the Plan's Objectives were not being met. The Review Report overall concluded that a full revision of the plan should take place and recommended that the production of a new plan should commence. Subsequent to the production of the report it was subject to the following consultation and engagement.

2.3 Who was consulted?

The Review Report was presented to Cabinet on the 17th of October 2019 where its content and conclusions were approved, and it was agreed to undertake consultation on the document with targeted stakeholders. The minutes of this meeting can be found on the Council's Meetings website.

A press release in relation to the above was posted on the Council's news section in October 2019 to raise awareness of the approval and can be seen in **Appendix 1**.

Following the Cabinet approval for consultation the following key stakeholders were consulted via email on the Review Report for 3 weeks from the 18th of October to the 8th of November 2019:

- Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
- Cadw
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
- Planning Inspectorate Wales
- Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water (DCWW)
- Western Power
- Wales and West Utilities
- Coal Authority
- Health Board
- National Grid

During this period of time ongoing discussions and engagement with Welsh Government also continued.

These consultees received an email and a copy of the Review Report (alongside the initial Delivery Agreement) inviting them to comment. A copy of the email sent to the consultees can be found in **Appendix 2**

2.4 Responses to consultation

In total 5 responses were received in relation to the consultation. Of these 4 consultees made no comments but acknowledged the document.

Responses were received from:

- Natural Resources Wales (NRW),
- Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW)
- The Coal Authority
- Western Power
- National Grid

The suggested amendments were made to the Review Report following an agreed delegated decision process. These related to minor details of site constraints on existing allocations and additions to the required evidence base list as raised by NRW.

2.5 Approval

Following the consultation and the subsequent amendments made to the Review Report it was taken to full Council for approval as set out by the LDP Regulations. The Review Report was fully approved by the Council on the 27th of November 2019. A copy of the Council minutes can be found on the Council's Meetings website.

A press release was also issued with notice of the full approval and can be seen in **Appendix 3** alongside social media posts.

Subsequent to full Council approval the Review Report was sent to Welsh Government for approval on the 28th of August 2020 and was formally approved by Welsh Government on the 14th of September 2020.

2.6 Publicity

Following approval, the Review Report was then placed in the main Council offices and libraries as well as on the Council's Website. During the period shortly after approval of the report, lock down restrictions came into place, during this time the Planning Policy Team maintained contact with the libraries and main Council offices to ensure that access to the document and queries arising were dealt with in a manner that was as efficient as possible within the set guidelines.

3. Delivery Agreement (Timetable and Community Involvement Scheme)

3.1 What is a Delivery Agreement?

A Delivery Agreement (DA) is a project management tool which sets out two important elements of the LDP preparation process. A DA consists of a timetable and a community involvement scheme (CIS). The timetable sets out timescales for the production of the LDP and importantly it sets out the consultation periods during the preparation process. This allows interested parties and stakeholders to know when they can input into the process. It sets out the definitive dates of the early key stages and the indicative dates of the latter stages which are confirmed as the process progresses. The CIS sets out the methods by which interested parties will be consulted.

3.2 Early versions of the Delivery Agreement

A first DA was approved by Council in November 2019 alongside the Review Report. It set out a timetable to begin the RLDP process in June 2020. During the production of this plan the Coronavirus Pandemic occurred, and regrettably the dates set out in this timetable became unachievable. An amended timetable was approved on the 29th of July 2020 by full Council which included a new start date of September 2020. A screenshot of the Website with the amended timetable can be seen in **Appendix 4**.

Although the reference above is to previous Delivery Agreements it is felt important to mention these due to the awareness was raised of the RLDP during this time. Much of the work undertaken during this period was taken forward into the current RLDP process.

3.3 2022-2037 Delivery Agreement Consultation

Regrettably due to a number of circumstances and after much consideration it was deemed most appropriate to stop the preparation of the original RLDP (2020-2030) in March 2022 and to commence a new plan covering a plan period 2022-2037. The decision to cease work on the 2020-2030 plan was approved by Cabinet on the 27th of January 2022 alongside a new draft DA and agreement to undertake public consultation.

The Consultation on the proposed new Delivery Agreement was undertaken from the 2nd of February 2022 to the 23rd of February 2022.

3.4 Who was consulted?

There is no statutory need to consult on a DA for a revision of an LDP however due to the fact that the process was being started again with a new plan period and due to previous communications with consultees, a decision was made to undertake public consultation in order to raise awareness, ensure transparency and to ensure that interested parties and stakeholder were aware of what was going on.

Emails were sent to 740 consultees on the LDP consultation list. This included but is not limited to residents of RCT, statutory consultees, general and other consultees as set out in the LDP regulations, Candidate Site promoters, agents and all others who have expressed an interest in the process. Local Members were also consulted.

In addition to the above 4 letters were sent to those who had previously expressed a preference to receive correspondence via letter. This was also done for subsequent stages.

Emails were also sent to RCT forums such as the RCT Citizens panel, community groups, the Disability forum, OPAG and 50+ Forums.

3.5 Website

The Delivery Agreement consultation was also published on the Council's Revised Local Development Plan consultation page with an invitation to comment. A screenshot of this can be seen in **Appendix 5**.

Along with information about the process the DA itself, instructions on how to respond to the consultation were included. Contact details for the team were also included on the site. This also appeared on the Welsh Language pages alongside the translated document.

3.6 Get Involved page

The consultation was placed on the Councils corporate 'Get Involved' consultation page. Along with information about the process, the DA itself and instructions on how to respond to the consultation were included. Contact details for the team were also

included on the site. This also appeared on the Welsh Language pages alongside the translated document.

3.7 Telephone

The Council discussed and engaged with a number of interested parties via telephone before and during the consultation. These were through awareness being raised due to the direct correspondence and through general queries received.

3.8 Responses to consultation

In response to the consultation the Council received 28 responses from:

- 11 responses from landowners, developers, and agents.
- 8 responses from individuals
- GGAT
- The Coal Authority
- People First RCT
- RCT compliance officer
- NRW
- South Wales Fire Service
- Theatres Trust
- Aberdare Bid
- South Wales Police

The summarised responses to the consultation were:

- Various queries on Candidate Sites
- Requests for administrative, factual correctness changes and typographical changes.
- Requests for removal from the consultation list and additions to the consultation list.
- Support for the Delivery Agreement
- Green Infrastructure and SPG and its importance.
- Acknowledgement of the DA and for being consulted.
- Legislative changes
- Statutory and non-statutory assets in RCT
- SPG
- Support for being consulted during future consultations.
- Easy read versions of documents should be available.
- GDPR
- The need to have regard for environmental legislation and continued support offered.

- Support for future engagement and the large number of different groups engaged.
- Support for the longer plan period
- Suggested additions to the consultee list.

During the consultation an Easy Read version of the DA was requested as can be seen above. This was prepared and sent to the requestor who was given extra time to respond to the consultation. It was also agreed to prepare these documents for future consultations and a reference was added to the Delivery Agreement.

3.9 How the responses influenced the way forward

All the responses to the consultation were acknowledged via return email and analysed. All the suggested amendments were made to the DA, alongside changes of factual correctness. Those who wished to be no longer consulted were removed from the consultation list.

A report was taken to Council on the 9th of March 2022 with recommendations to allow for the commencement of a new plan period and to approve the Delivery Agreement including those proposed changes after the consultation. Council approved the Delivery Agreement at this meeting.

A letter was then sent to Welsh Government seeking approval of the DA, subsequent approval was given by Welsh Government on the 13th of April 2022 and the preparation of the 2022-2037 RLDP commenced in April 2022.

3.10 Publicity

Subsequent to formal approval of the DA hard copies of the Delivery Agreement in Welsh and English were placed in all RCT libraires including the mobile library and the main Council offices. The document was also placed on the RLDP website in both languages.

3.11 Amendment to the Delivery Agreement

In 2023 it became apparent that it was not possible to meet the timetable as set out in the agreed DA. In July 2023 a report was taken to full Council setting this out and a suggested amended timetable which was approved by Council on the 12th of July and Welsh Government on the 20th of July. Following the approval over 740 emails were sent to all of the RLDP consultee list which included statutory consultees as set out by the LDP Regulations, site promoters, agents, the general public and anyone who had expressed an interest in the RLDP process. The correspondence informed them of the changes and directed them to the new timetable which was placed on the RLDP website.

Hard copies of the document were placed at deposit location in both Welsh and English and supporting information sent to these locations regarding how to contact the team.

3.12 Launch of Revised LDP

Following the agreement to commence a new plan for the 2022-2037 period an RLDP launch was undertaken to let interested parties know that the RLDP was commencing and to inform them if they did not already know of the new timetable. Information sent via email also informed them of the forthcoming Call for Candidate Sites to raise further awareness prior to the official call. This email was sent to all of the consultation list on 26th May 2022. The correspondence also provided information regarding Candidate Sites which had been previously submitted into the process and how these would be dealt with in the new call. A copy of this email can be seen in **Appendix 6**.

4. Call for Candidate Sites

What is a Call for Sites?

The first formal stage of the RLDP process after the Delivery Agreement is the Call for Sites. This involves inviting any interested party (individual member of the public, developer, or agent for example) to submit potential sites, land, or buildings for any number of uses to be assessed for inclusion in the RLDP. These sites are called Candidate Sites. Two calls for sites have been undertaken during the preparation of the RLDP which have contributed to the Candidate Site Register for the current RLDP 2022-2037. One call was undertaken during the preparation of the 2020-2030 plan and one for the 2022-2037 plan. It is relevant to discuss both here as the sites submitted in the first call were carried forward into the call for this plan period.

4.1 First Call for Sites

The first Call for Sites was held for the 2020-2030 RLDP between 29th October 2020 and 31st March 2021. Emails were sent to every consultee on the consultation list including Local Councillors. Emails were also sent to the Council forums including the Disability forum, Older persons forum, Youth forum and the citizen's panel.

The RLDP website was updated to include a Call for Sites page with all the information included on the page to allow a potential promoter to submit a site to the process. Included on the page was the Candidate Site Methodology which explained how the sites would be assessed, a standard submission form which was based on guidance provided in the LDP manual and constraints plan with updated constraints information. The Council also produced a guidance note which itemised and explained each question on the form and how to fill it in. Within this document links to other sources of information from third parties were also included which could assist in the

submission of a site to the process. Contact details were also included for the team who were available to provide assistance should this be necessary.

4.2 Website banner

A banner was included on the Council homepage which when clicked provided a direct link to the Call for Sites page. This was to ensure that those browsing on the homepage were made aware and also to allow for easy and quick access for those looking for the page. This remained on the home page for the duration of the call.

4.3 Press releases

Two press releases were issued during the call, the first on the 27th of October 2020 and the second on the 2nd of March 2021. These press releases provided an explanation of the process and encouraged people to submit sites. These were published in both Welsh and English.

4.4 Social media

Posts were included on the Council's social media platform raising awareness of the Call for Sites for the duration of the call, this included a link to the Call for Sites website. It was ensured these were at the top of the social media feeds every 2 days to ensure they were being seen through the duration of the Call for Sites.

As a result of the first call for sites over 200 Candidate Sites were received.

4.5 Second Call for Sites 2022-2037

Due to the cessation of the RLDP 2020-2030 and the restart of the plan preparation process it was necessary to undertake a Call for Sites for this plan period. This took place between 29th June and 30th of September 2022. Due to the previous call over 200 sites had already been received. Prior to the second call an email was sent to those on the consultation list including those that had already submitted sites, making them aware of the forthcoming call but also to clarify that if a site had been submitted during the previous Call for Sites then the Council would automatically roll the site forward into the new process unless the promoter wrote to the Council to withdraw it.

The same procedures and methods of consultation were undertaken as for the first call listed above. In summary:

Emails (and letters where this is the preference) were sent to all on the Council's consultation list. These included the Candidate Site promoters from the previous call. Direct correspondence was also sent to Local Councillors and the Council forums as listed above.

The same information was included on the Council's Candidate Site website including the representation form, guidance note, methodology and constraints map which were all further updated as necessary. A banner was also included on the Council's home page to raise further awareness and to provide a direct link to the page. Screenshots of the Candidate Sites page can be found in **Appendix 7**.

A press release was published on the 14th of July 2022 which gave notice of the Call for Sites and social media posts were put on all the Council's social media platforms and placed at the top of the social media feeds every few days during the consultation. These can also be seen in **Appendix 7**.

The Planning Policy Team were available throughout the process to assist with the submission of sites. A number of additional consultees were also added to the consultation list during this process.

As a result of the Call for sites an additional 64 sites were received.

4.6 Post Call for sites

After the Candidate Sites were received and checked for validity, acknowledgements were sent to site promoters to inform them of receipt of the site into the process. Each site received was given a Candidate Site number and allocated to a member of the team who undertook the stage one assessment as set out in the Candidate Sites Methodology.

Once the assessments were complete, including consultation with other Council departments, the Candidate Sites Register was created for consultation at the Preferred Strategy consultation period. The sites received also helped to formulate the Preferred Strategy and provide evidence for its suitability and delivery.

5. Visioning

5.1 What is visioning?

At the early stage of the RLDP preparation process it is necessary to revisit some key elements of the plan. These include the current Vision, Issues and Objectives which form the building blocks of an RLDP. Visioning describes the process of developing these elements of the plan. For the RLDP these elements are reviewed rather than created from new. The Council undertook visioning at the start of the plan preparation process and continued throughout the pre-deposit period up to the publication of the Preferred Strategy.

5.2 Issues

One of the key elements of the visioning process is identification of the Issues. These identify what issues there are in an area which the plan should try and address. The set of Issues that were established for the current LDP (2006-2021)

were revisited to ensure they were still relevant, correct and to add any new Issues that had arisen. This was done in a number of ways which are set out below.

5.3 Issues and ISA Scoping

For the 2020/2030 plan period the Council began the integrated sustainability appraisal (ISA) process. This process incorporates a sustainability assessment (SA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA) of the plan as required. A decision was taken to also integrate an assessment on health, Welsh language, and equality through this report. The SEA looks at environmental effects of plans, the SA is broader and covers the effects of social, economic, and cultural well-being, as well as environmental effects.

The ISA should be fully integrated into the plan making process and therefore the identification of Issues through this work was incorporated into the Issues and ultimately the Objectives for the RLDP. An examination of the current LDP Issues was undertaken by the Council's consultants to see if they were still relevant and correct and if therefore, they should be taken forward into the revised plan. In parallel with this baseline data was collected to see what Issues had been addressed through the current LDP and what still needed to be as well as new issues that had arisen.

Once the above work was complete a meeting was held with the ISA working group on the 26th of January 2021. The ISA working group consists of a number of internal Council departments with expertise in a wide range of fields in order to gain their views on the Issues that still needed to be addressed and whether there were any new that should/could be added.

Prior to this meeting the scoping report which contained the Issues and a commentary on them was circulated to the group in advance with an email inviting them to the event. The attendance list for the meeting can be found in **Appendix 8**.

During the meeting minutes were taken as a record of discussion and the group were given additional weeks after the meeting for any further responses to be submitted in writing. The responses were used for the purposes of the ISA work and were also used to inform the Issues for the RLDP.

Responses were received from:

- Welsh Language services
- Parks and Countryside
- Tree officer
- Highways
- Environmental Health
- The Play team
- Housing Strategy
- Public Health and Protection

- Equalities and Diversity
- Education and inclusion services
- Tourism
- Flood risk management

The responses received from the ISA working group can be found in the Vision, Issues and Objectives paper, and also the ISA scoping report.

As well as the ISA working group the following statutory external consultees were consulted on the Scoping Report including the Issues. The consultation ran from the 27th of November 2020 to the 15th of January 2021. An email was sent on the 27th of November 2020 to the following consultees:

- Public Health Wales
- NHS
- Natural Resources Wales
- CADW
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT)
- Welsh Language Commissioner
- Future Generations Commissioner for Wales
- Equality and Human Rights commission

Responses to the consultation were received from:

- Natural Resources Wales
- GGAT

Although the above formed part of the engagement process for the 2020-2030 plan that ceased, it is still considered important and correct to include these issues identified during these processes due to the small amount of time that had passed between the two preparation processes.

5.4 ISA 2022-2037

In addition to the above during the preparation of the current RLDP both the ISA working group and the external statutory consultees were consulted again from the 25th of July 2022- 14th of September 2022 on the Issues in the scoping report.

Both groups were contacted by email on the 25th of July 2022 highlighting the fact that they had already contributed invaluable information to the process and that this would be carried forward given the very small amount of time that had passed. They were then invited to consider the information again and respond with any amendments or new issues that needed to be added. The responses were used to inform both the ISA and RLDP processes to ensure full integration. Further responses were received from the following consultees:

Internal

- Parks and Countryside

- Energy and Carbon Reduction
- Equalities and Diversity
- Highways
- Housing

External

- CADW
- GGAT
- NRW
- Welsh Language Commissioner

All the responses for the scoping consultation can be found in the ISA scoping report alongside the recommended changes required as a result of the comments. These have also been incorporated into the Visioning work and can be found in the Vision, Issues and Objectives paper.

5.5 Let's Talk 2021 and 2022

As part of the visioning work, it was considered extremely important that the public were engaged in the process including those who live and work in RCT. Therefore, the Council undertook a public engagement process. This utilised the Council's Let's Talk consultation portal. During the engagement period people were asked to identify the issues that they felt needed to be addressed in the area.

The Let's Talk page included an extended questionnaire, an ideas section, a poll to vote on the most important Issues to them and a map on which issues could be pinned to specific locations. Alongside this the extended questionnaire was also included on the Council's 'Get Involved' page.

This process was undertaken twice, once for the ceased (2020-2030) plan period June- August 2021 and again for the current RLDP February- March 2023. The results from both were collated and used in the formulation of the Preferred Strategy.

In order to raise further awareness of the engagement process, emails with a link to the Let's Talk page were sent to everyone on the consultation list and a global email to all Council staff.

A number of requests were received during this period asking for a word format questionnaire by a number of organisations, these were also sent out. Screen shots of the Let's Talk page can be found in **Appendix 9**.

5.6 Social media

Posts were included on the Council's social media pages along with a link to the Let's Talk page. These were regularly pushed to the top of the feed. These can be seen in **Appendix 9**.

5.7 Let's Talk 2021 results:

Date: 29th June- 16th August 2021

In total the Let's Talk pages (English and Welsh) were visited over 1650 times during the consultation.

Questionnaire- A questionnaire was set up asking what the pertinent issues were on various topic areas. In total 68 people responded to the questionnaire making approximately 900 comments in total.

Ideas – The ideas pages were visited 223 times with 96 contributors making 69 comments.

Places- The places pages were visited 79 times with 6 contributors and 55 comments.

Quick polls- The quick poll section had 19 visitors, 150 contributors and 149 responses.

5.8 Let's Talk 2022 results:

Date: 14th February- 22nd March 2023

In total the Let's Talk pages (English and Welsh) were visited over 1460 times during the consultation.

Ideas – The ideas pages were visited 409 times with 60 contributors making 339 comments, comments on others posts and votes.

Quick polls- The quick poll section had 31 visitors, 129 contributors and comments.

The engagement undertaken on the Let's Talk page generated a vast number of comments and ideas which were used to formulate the Vision, Issues, Objectives and Spatial Options. It generated a large number of telephone calls and emails from the public and other organisations who wanted to raise further points. These were also incorporated into the process. This engagement also generated a number of requests to be added to the consultation list.

Due to the high number of responses received it is not possible to provide a summary in this paper, however these can be seen in greater detail in the Vision, Issues and Objectives paper. Some of the Issues raised were locational in nature and thus were used to help formulate the Spatial Options. A summary of these Issues can be found in the Spatial Options paper.

5.9 Further Visioning Engagement

RCT Councillors

Visioning emails and a questionnaire were also sent during this time to all RCT Local Councillors. A total of 4 responses were received.

Community Council's

Visioning emails and a questionnaire were also sent to Community Councils seeking their views in June 2021. A total of 3 responses were received.

As a result of the consultation a request to attend a meeting of Tonyrefail Community Council was received to discuss the Visioning work. This was attended by the team and a response to the engagement was received and incorporated into the results.

5.10 Hard to reach groups and other Council Forums

A link to the Let's Talk Revised Local Development Plan consultation page was emailed out to the Council's forums, including the Youth Forum, Older Persons Forum, Disability Forum and the Citizens Panel.

5.11 Visioning Workshops

The Council held a number of virtual Visioning Workshops. The purpose of these workshops was to identify the main issues that the RLDP would need to address, as well as discussion on aims, objectives and solutions to overcome them.

These events intended to build on the issues identified in the adopted LDP (2006-2021) and identify any new and emerging issues.

Prior to the workshops emails were sent to all groups alongside a questionnaire.

5.12 Members Steering Group

Several meetings have been held with the Members steering group seeking their views on Issues, Vision and Objectives and the Spatial Options. Meetings were held on the following dates:

26th November 2020

21st May 2021

9th June 2021

27th January 2022

8th December 2022

24th January 2023

14th March 2023

19th December 2023

The full minutes of all meeting the meetings can be viewed on the Council Meetings page. Although some of these meetings were held during the preparation of the 2020-2030 plan the responses received have been incorporated into the RLDP. The steering group have continuously been consulted on the Vision, Issues and Objectives since the creation of the group.

Due to the amount of information to discuss several meetings were held on the Issues. These include on 21st of May 2021 and the 9th of June 2021 and again on the 14th of March 2023.

During the visioning meetings with the Members Steering group a presentation was given and the following topics were discussed:

- Housing (including market and affordable)
- Transport Infrastructure (highways, public transport, and active travel)
- Economy and Employment
- Health and Well-being (pollution, health of residents)
- Natural Environment (including ecology and greenspaces)
- Climate Change (including flooding, the carbon agenda and renewable energy)
- Waste
- Minerals (quarries and safeguarding)
- Culture, heritage, and Welsh Language
- Community Infrastructure (education, health, and community facilities)
- Tourism and leisure
- Town centres and retail
- Coal mining legacy (contaminated land, brownfield sites, underground works, and tip stability)

An example of the presentation given to the Members Steering group and the other forums can be found in **Appendix 10**.

The responses from all of the meeting have directly contributed to the formulation of the Preferred Strategy for the RLDP 2022-2037. These are available to view in more detail in the Vision, Issues and Objectives paper.

5.13 Officer Working Group

An Officer working group was set up which included representation from internal Council departments from a wide range of areas. This was done to allow them to be consulted throughout the plan preparation process including at the Visioning stage.

Two meetings were held on the 5th and 7th May 2021 with the group seeking views on what the Issues were that should be addressed in RCT. This was followed up by a questionnaire that was sent via email.

An additional email was sent for the current RLDP period in July 2022 to confirm if there were any additional points to be made since the previous correspondence and to inform them that responses from the previous engagement period would be included. Responses from both periods were included in the visioning work.

The responses have directly contributed to the Issues for the RLDP to seek to address. The responses from the Officer working group can be found in the Vision, Issues and Objectives paper.

5.14 Climate Change Steering Group

The fifth visioning event took place on the 8th of July 2021, as part of a wider Climate Change Steering Group meeting. The visioning event formed part of the agenda for the meeting.

The Climate Change Steering Group is formed of various Council departments and seeks to address the Council's ambitions in terms of climate change. The group served as an appropriate platform to engage officers on the issue of climate change and visioning for the RLDP.

Representation from across the Council included the following departments:

- Corporate Estates
- Corporate Policy and Consultation
- Countryside
- Data Systems
- Education
- Environmental Protection
- Energy Project Management
- Frontline Services
- Highways
- Land Reclamation
- Legal Services

- Planning Policy
- Performance Management

The workshop involved a presentation and open discussion on the following climate change topics:

- Climate change strategy
- Green Infrastructure
- Coal mines and renewable energy

A summary of the issues raised and discussed in this event are provided below:

- Land management
- Green Infrastructure benefits and maintenance
- Benefits of exploring hydro renewables

Nature's Assets Working Group

Alongside the Climate Change working group, the Council's Nature's Assets working group was also consulted.

Further details of the responses and how these influence the Preferred Strategy can be found in the Vision, Issues and Objectives paper.

5.15 Revised Local Development Plan Forum (RLDP)

The RLDP Forum was set up for the preparation of the Revised Local Development Plan. The group consists of external stakeholder from a range of organisations including those statutory to the RLDP process. The RLDP Forum membership can be found in **Appendix 11**.

The following meetings were held with the RLDP Forum:

13th of July 2021: Visioning meeting discussing the Issues that should be addressed by the RLDP. The issues identified here were incorporated into the preparation process for the 2022-2037 plan.

Representatives from the following organisations attended this event:

- Dwr Cymru Welsh Water
- Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board
- Home Builders Federation
- Public Health Wales

- South Wales Police

The workshop involved a presentation and open discussion on the Issues for the RLDP.

A summary of the issues raised and discussed is provided below:

- Crime
- HMOs
- Viable and deliverable housing sites
- Impact of Covid-19 on housing and employment patterns
- Impact of takeaways on health and anti-social behaviour
- Designing out crime in developments
- Access to green space
- Varied town centre use

The responses and outcomes of the above meeting were carried forward into the current RLDP preparation period and in addition a second meeting was also held.

A second LDP Forum took place on the 13th of January 2023. During this meeting the Issues that were previously identified in the first meeting were discussed again and any amendments or additions were welcomed. The forum were also invited to submit further Issues in writing after the meeting.

In attendance at this meeting were:

- Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
- Natural Resources Wales
- Home Builders Federation
- South Wales Police
- South Wales Police, Design out Crime
- Visit Wales, Welsh Government
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Dwr Cymru Welsh Water
- Regen (not for profit energy advisory service)
- Cwm Taf Public Services Board

There were no further issues raised in the meeting however further representations in writing were received after the meeting from South Wales Police and GGAT.

Further detail of the responses can be found in the Vision, Issues and Objectives paper.

5.16 Spatial Options

As well as discussion on the Issues specific engagement events were also held on the Spatial Options. Including with the RLDP forum as mentioned above.

Some potential options were shared with the group for discussion and helped to formulate the Preferred growth and spatial options. The responses to the Spatial Options can be found in more detail in the Spatial Options paper.

A meeting was held with the RLDP forum which included statutory consultees on the 13th of January 2023. In attendance at the meeting were the following organisations:

- Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
- Natural Resources Wales
- Home Builders Federation
- South Wales Police
- South Wales Police, Design out Crime
- Visit Wales, Welsh Government
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Dwr Cymru Welsh Water
- Regen (not for profit energy advisory service)
- Cwm Taf Public Services Board

At the meeting a presentation was given to the forum outlining some early spatial options for consideration and comment. Comments were provided by the group and minutes of the meeting were taken. The responses from this event were then used in the continued formulation of the options. Further information on the responses can be found in the Spatial Options paper.

5.17 Members Steering Group

A hybrid meeting with the Members Steering group was also held to discuss the growth and spatial options. The meeting was held on the 24th of January 2023. A presentation was given at the meeting outlining potential options followed by an open discussion on each and other alternatives.

The minutes from the meeting can be found on the Council Meetings webpage.

The responses from this meeting have been used to in the continued formulation of the Spatial Options. Further information on this can be found in the Spatial Options

paper. Growth and Spatial options were also discussed again during the meeting held on the 14th of March 2023.

5.18 Locational Issues

Alongside this a number of location specific issues were submitted as part of the public engagement exercise and through the other visioning engagement events. These were also collated, analysed, and used to help formulate the spatial options. These can also be found in the Spatial Options Paper.

6. Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA)

6.1 Scoping 2020-2030

As part of the 2020-2030 plan preparation a consultation was held on the ISA scoping report from 27th of November 2020- 15th of January 2021. The document was sent to the following consultees:

- Public Health Wales
- NHS
- Natural Resources Wales
- CADW
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
- Welsh Language Commissioner
- Future Generations Commissioner for Wales
- Equality and Human Rights commission

The results from this consultation can be found in the ISA of the Preferred Strategy report alongside how they influenced changes to the document.

6.2 Scoping 2022-2037

A consultation on the scoping report was undertaken for the current RLDP 2022-2037. This report had been updated to reflect the comments received during the previous scoping consultation. This report was consulted on from 25th July 2022- 14th September 2022.

The same consultees were consulted as listed above. The responses to the consultation can be found in the ISA of the Preferred Strategy and how they have influenced the formulation of the plan going forward.

6.3 ISA Working Group

A meeting was also held with the ISA working group to discuss the scoping report in January 2021. A follow up questionnaire was also sent to the group and the results from both the meeting and the questionnaires can be seen in the ISA of the Preferred Strategy.

An additional email with the scoping report attached was also sent to the working group in July 2022 for the current RLDP plan period. The group were informed that the comments that had been previously made were incorporated into the report and were asked to comment further. The responses to this consultation and how it informed the ISA process can be found in the ISA of the Preferred Strategy.

6.4 Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)

Scoping 2020

During the ISA scoping consultation above the HRA was also attached for consultation to both the Statutory Consultees and the ISA working group. Responses to the HRA consultation were received from:

- NRW
- Countryside and Parks

These were incorporated into the HRA, the responses to the consultation and how they influenced the HRA can be found in the HRA Screening report.

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Appendix 1 - Press Release Review Report

Home > Newsroom > Press Releases > 2019 > October

Cabinet agrees to a full review of the Local Development Plan

Cabinet has agreed with the recommendation of Officers for the Council to undertake a full review of the Local Development Plan (2020 to 2030). The next step in this process will be engaging with key stakeholders.

The current Local Development Plan (LDP), covering the period 2006-2021, was adopted in March 2011 and is monitored regularly. The LDP sets out the aims, visions and objectives for the County Borough, by implementing a development strategy and land use framework – therefore forming the basis for decisions on all new planning developments in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

At their meeting on **Thursday, October 17**, Cabinet Members discussed two reports about the LDP – a Review Report and a Draft Delivery Agreement.

The Review Report analysed the evidence gathered by monitoring the LDP, and highlighted key matters contained in the latest Annual Monitoring Report.

For example, the report stated that projections and trends on which housing requirement figures were based have not materialised – so there is a need to revisit these population and household projections to identify a more suitable requirement for new housing. Housing needs have also evolved over the plan period, and therefore housing policies also need to be re-evaluated.

The report also said national legislation and policy changes have been made since the LDP was adopted, with



MORE NEWS

- > It's time for RCT to Be Mighty and Recycle.
- > Local Improvement and Closure Notices Lifted for Compliant Businesses
- > Engaging with 1,100 businesses in Rhondda Cynon Taf town centres
- > Three primary schools proposed for 21st Century Schools investment
- > Latest Premises Closure Notice served in Aberdare
- > Work to assess the damage to Feeder Pipe footbridge in Abercynon
- > Culvert system upgrades to get underway in Fernhill
- > Further interventions announced to stop the spread of Coronavirus in RCT
- > Local restrictions imposed to control Rhondda Cynon Taf outbreak
- > New culvert inlet to reduce the risk of flooding at Pentre Road

Appendix 2 - A copy of the Review Report consultation email

Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf wedi adolygu'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol (CDLI) 2006-2021 presennol ac wedi cyhoeddi'r canfyddiadau mewn Adroddiad Adolygu. Daw yr Adroddiad Adolygu i'r casgliad bod angen adolygiad llawn o'r CDLI ac mae'n nodi'r rhesymau dros ddod i'r casgliad hwn. O ganlyniad mae'r Cyngor hefyd wedi paratoi Cytundeb Cyflawni drafft sy'n nodi'r amserlenni arfaethedig ar gyfer paratoi cynllun diwygiedig a sut y bydd y Cyngor yn ymgysylltu â'i randdeiliaid.

Byddai'r Cyngor yn croesawu eich barn ar y ddwy ddogfen hyn ond yn gofyn i chi roi sylw arbennig i'r amserlen ar gyfer paratoi'r cynllun diwygiedig, i sicrhau bod gan eich sefydliad y gallu i roi sylwadau yn ystod cyfnodau ymgynghori ac y gallwch gysoni eich blaengynllunio â'r CDLI sy'n datblygu. Mae'n bosibl y bydd yr amserlen hon yn amrywio, hynny yw, gellir ymestyn ymlaen fesul mis neu ddwy o'i ddyddiad cychwyn arfaethedig ac amser or cyflwyniad i'r mabwysiadu yn ymestyn i 11 mis.

Mae'r dogfennau hyn wedi cael eu cytuno gan ein Cabinet dros yr ymgynghoriad hwn, a bydd unrhyw newidiadau angenrheidiol yn cael eu gwneud iddynt cyn gofyn am gymeradwyaeth y Cyngor llawn yn diweddarach yn y flwyddyn.

Byddwn yn ddiolchgar iawn pe gallech anfon unrhyw sylwadau gan yr 8fed o Dachwedd i LDP@rctcbc.gov.uk

Edrychwn ymlaen at weithio gyda chi drwy baratoi'r CDLI diwygiedig.

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council has reviewed the current Local Development Plan (LDP) 2006-2021 and has published the findings in a Review Report. The Review Report concludes that a Full Revision of the LDP is required and sets out the reasons for reaching this conclusion. As a result the Council has also prepared a Draft Delivery Agreement which sets out the proposed timescales for preparing a revised plan and how the Council will engage with its stakeholders.

The Council would welcome your views on both of these documents but ask that you give particular attention to the timetable for the preparation of the revised plan to ensure that your organisation has the capacity to comment during consultation periods and that you can align your forward planning with the emerging LDP. There is consideration of variation of this timetable, in that it may be extended forward by a month or two from its proposed start date and the submission to adoption timeframe extended to 11 months.

These documents have been agreed by our Cabinet for this consultation, and any necessary amendments will be made to them prior to requesting full Council approval later in the year.

I would be very grateful if you could send any comments by the 8th November to LDP@rctcbc.gov.uk

We look forward to working with you through the preparation of the revised LDP.

Appendix 3 - Press release and social media following full approval of the Review Report

 **RCT Council** 
@RCTCouncil

Cabinet has agreed with the recommendation of Officers for the Council to undertake a full review of the Local Development Plan (2020 to 2030). The next step in this process will be engaging with key stakeholders. Read more here: socsi.in/local_developm...



Tweet your reply

  Search this site... 

Home > Resident > Planning and Building Control > Revised Local Development Plan 2020 - 2030

Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan 2006 – 2021 Review Report

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council are required by law to prepare and maintain a Local Development Plan (LDP). The current LDP (2006 – 2021) was adopted in 2011. A formal Review of the LDP (2006 – 2021) was considered necessary in early 2019 and was undertaken from June, following RCT Cabinet approval. On the 17th October 2019, Cabinet approved the subsequent comprehensive Draft Review Report. There followed a period of targeted consultation with statutory stakeholders on this document; prior to Council then agreeing the final [LDP \(2006 – 2021\) Review Report](#) on the 27th November 2019. Its primary conclusion was to prepare a Revised LDP. It was then subsequently approved by Welsh Government on 14th September 2020.

The broader findings of the Review Report were as follows:

Since the production of the current LDP, there have been multiple contextual changes in many social, economic and environmental aspects of society, and therefore in association with the LDP and its delivery. Aligned with this are the major changes that have taken place in national legislation and national planning policy since the preparation of the current LDP. The outcome of all this is that the current evidence base for the LDP needs to be thoroughly updated and expanded as appropriate. Ultimately, this and further evidence would need to be gathered to revise the Plan's Strategy, along with all the associated policies and allocations, as necessary.

The findings of the 8 published LDP Annual Monitoring Reports to date have also shown that considerable development has taken place in all the LDP topic areas over the plan period. However, this is not on the scale identified in the Plan, nor on all the site allocations. Furthermore, the planning department have received numerous planning applications outside LDP settlement boundaries, which are more difficult to determine in a consistent manner. The current Plan has an end date of 2021.

Appendix 4 – Revised DA for the 2020-2030



Search this site...

Home > Resident > Planning and Building Control > Revised Local Development Plan 2020 - 2030

Revised LDP Delivery Agreement

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council are required by law to prepare and maintain a Local Development Plan (LDP). The current LDP (2006 – 2021) was adopted in 2011 and was subject to a full Review in 2019. The findings of the associated Review Report concluded that the Council should commence a full Revision of the LDP.

The first key stage of the Revised LDP is to write a Delivery Agreement for its preparation. The Delivery Agreement is split into two key parts:

- The **Timetable** for the project management of the Revised LDP, setting out the statutory stages of the plan making process and when we have committed for them to take place. This also determines and evidences the availability of the necessary budgetary and staff resources that are required to prepare the Plan.
- The **Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)** then sets out the principles, strategy and mechanisms for early, continuous and broad stakeholder involvement in the preparation of the Revised LDP. The CIS shows how, who, and when the Local Planning Authority will seek the involvement and engagement of these stakeholders. This will include, but certainly not be restricted to, the general public, community groups, commercial developers and public bodies and service providers alike.

A Draft Delivery Agreement (DA) was approved by Council in November 2019, which set out a timetable to begin the process of LDP Revision in June 2020. This was not achievable due to the Coronavirus pandemic. On 29th July 2020, Council approved an amended [Revised LDP 2020 - 2030 Delivery Agreement](#), with a postponed start date of September 2020. It was then subsequently approved by Welsh Government on 14th September 2020, to allow preparation to formally commence. The DA sets out a 3.5 year process to adoption in March 2024, with a plan end date of December 31st 2030, as follows;

Key Stage	Timescale
Definitive	
Delivery Agreement	Submission to Welsh Government - August 2020
Commence Pre-deposit Preparation	September 2020
Preferred Strategy (Pre-Deposit) Consultation	November/December 2021
Deposit LDP Consultation	October/November 2022

Appendix 5 - Delivery Agreement consultation on the Council website



The header features the Rhondda Cynon Taf Council logo on the left, a search bar on the right, and a yellow banner with a coronavirus warning icon and text: "Coronavirus (COVID-19) - latest news and advice | Welsh Government COVID-19 Alert Level restrictions".

Home > Resident > Planning and Building Control > Revised Local Development Plan 2020 - 2030

Rhondda Cynon Taf Revised Local Development Plan Consultation

Revised Local Development Plan 2020 - 2030

Rhondda Cynon Taf Council began preparing a Revised Local Development Plan (RLDP) in September 2020. Considerable work has been undertaken on the preparation of the RLDP since then, and this throughout the Covid pandemic. However, the pandemic and the associated restrictions had a detrimental effect on the preparation of these initial stages of the revision. There were also ongoing changes with regards to social and economic conditions that gave uncertainty to the necessary evidence being gathered. Further to this, key national policy changes have come forward and local issues arisen.

As a result of the above, regrettably we have been unable to meet the deadline of publishing our Preferred Strategy of the RLDP in November 2021, as is set out in the formal Delivery Agreement.

Solutions have been considered. If an appropriate and necessary extension to the current RLDP preparation Timetable was sought; the lifespan of the plan through to 2030 would be reduced. Less could be incorporated into the RLDP, little of the Strategy and Policy objectives could be achieved, and fewer allocations delivered. Such an option would be unsound.

Proposed RCT Revised Local Development Plan 2022 - 2037

Accordingly, the most appropriate solution has been proposed, (but not yet fully agreed by RCT), to stop the preparation of the current RLDP and to begin preparation of a new Revised LDP. This would have a 15 year plan period from 2022 to 2037.

It should be noted here that significant elements of the work undertaken to date can be carried forward into the new RLDP preparation process, or otherwise revisited. Information submitted alongside Candidate Sites to date will still be relevant to the new RLDP. We will contact those who have already submitted Candidate Sites early in the formal preparation period (i.e. April onwards) to determine any further necessary formalities.

In order to do this, we need to prepare a new Delivery Agreement. A Delivery Agreement sets out a Timetable for the plans production including when we will consult stakeholders at various stages and a Community Involvement Scheme which tells you how we will consult you. We have prepared a Draft Delivery Agreement for the proposed RLDP 2022 - 2037.

The main elements of the Timetable are shown below:

Key Stage	Date
Preparation of the Pre-Deposit Stage of the Revised LDP including the Preferred Strategy	From April 2022
Consultation on the Preferred Strategy	June/July 2023
Preparation of the Deposit Revised LDP	From August 2023
Consultation on the Deposit Revised LDP	July/August 2024
Submit Revised LDP to Welsh Government	November 2024
Independent Examination	April/May 2025
Adoption	October 2025

Consultation details

We are seeking your views on this Draft Delivery Agreement which is available to view on the link below;

- [Revised Local Development Plan 2022-2037](#)

We would welcome comments on any part of the Delivery Agreement over the next three weeks, and request that

Appendix 6 - Launch of RLDP email

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf; Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig 2022 – 2037

Rydym yn ysgrifennu atoch mewn perthynas â'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf. Ym mis Medi 2020, dechreuwyd paratoi'n ffurfiol ar gyfer diwygiad cychwynnol o'r CDLI, ar gyfer Cyfnod y Cynllun 2020 – 2030. Oherwydd nifer o resymau, ni symudodd y gwaith paratoi ymlaen yn unol ag amserlenni y cytunwyd arnynt yn ffurfiol.

Ystyriwyd gwahanol opsiynau i fynd i'r afael â'r mater, yn gynharach eleni. Yr opsiwn mwyaf priodol oedd **rhoi'r gorau i'r holl waith ar y RLDP 2020 – 2030**. Ni fydd gan y RLDP hwnnw statws mwyach.

Rhan arall yr opsiwn oedd dechrau **CDLI Diwygiedig newydd ar gyfer Cyfnod y Cynllun 2022 – 2037**. Cytunodd y Cyngor ar hyn ac yna gan Lywodraeth Cymru ym mis Ebrill 2022.

Mae'r CDLI Diwygiedig newydd hwn wedi nodi amserlen ar gyfer paratoi fel a ganlyn:

Key Stage	Timescale
Paratoi Cam Cyn Adneuo'r CDLI Diwygiedig gan gynnwys y Strategaeth a Ffeirir	O fis Ebrill 2022
Ymgynghoriad ar y Strategaeth a Ffeirir	Mehafin/Gorffennaf 2023
Paratoi'r CDLI Diwygiedig Adnau	O fis Awst 2023
Ymgynghoriad ar y CDLI Diwygiedig Adnau	Gorffennaf/Awst 2024
Cyflwyno CDLI Diwygiedig i Lywodraeth Cymru	Tachwedd 2024
Arholiad Annibynnol	Ebrill/Mai 2025
Mabwysiad	Hydref 2025

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council; Revised Local Development Plan 2022 – 2037

We are writing to you in relation to the Revised Local Development Plan (RLDP) for Rhondda Cynon Taf. In September 2020, formal preparation began of an initial revision of the LDP for the Plan Period 2020 – 2030. Due to numerous reasons, its preparation did not progress in line with formally agreed timescales.

Various options were considered to address the matter earlier this year. The most appropriate option was **to cease all work on the RLDP 2020 – 2030**. That RLDP will no longer have a status.

The other part of the option was to begin **a new Revised LDP for the Plan Period 2022 – 2037**. This was agreed by Council and then Welsh Government in April 2022.

This new Revised LDP has set out a timescale of preparation as follows:

Key Stage	Timescale
Preparation of the Pre-Deposit Stage of the Revised LDP including the Preferred Strategy	From April 2022
Consultation on the Preferred Strategy	June/July 2023
Preparation of the Deposit Revised LDP	From August 2023
Consultation on the Deposit Revised LDP	July/August 2024

Mae rhagor o fanylion am y RLDP, a'i Cytundeb Cyflawni i'w weld ar ein gwefan, yn y lleoliad canlynol:

Safleoedd Ymgeisiol

Un o is-gamau cyntaf RLDP 2022 - 2037 yw cyhoeddi 'Galwad am Safleoedd Ymgeisiol' Dyma lle byddwn yn ceisio asesu cyflwyniadau o safleoedd ar gyfer gwahanol ddefnyddiau tir yn y RLDP. Disgwylir i hyn ddechrau ym mis Mehefin (2022), hyd at ddiwedd mis Medi. Y bwriad yw y bydd dechrau ffurfiol i'r 'Alwad' tua chanol y mis.

Dylid nodi hefyd bod llawer o safleoedd wedi'u cyflwyno drwy'r Cais am Safleoedd Ymgeisiol ar gyfer y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol sydd bellach wedi dod i ben (2020 – 2030). Gallaf gadarnhau y gellir trosglwyddo'r safleoedd a'r wybodaeth a gyflwynwyd bryd hynny i'r RLDP 2022 - 2037 newydd.

Mae'n bosibl bod safleoedd a thystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd yn flaenrol yn sensitif i amser, h.y. yn ymwneud yn benodol â Chyfnod y Cynllun blaenrol rhwng 2020 a 2030. Byddai'r cyfrifoldeb ar hyrwyddwr y safle i benderfynu a oedd hyn yn wir, a dylid cyflwyno unrhyw dystiolaeth ychwanegol neu wedi'i diweddarau yn ystod yr Alwad am Safleoedd os felly.

Pan fydd yr Alwad am Safleoedd Ymgeisiol yn dechrau, byddem yn croesawu unrhyw safleoedd newydd ac unrhyw wybodaeth newydd sy'n ymwneud â safleoedd sydd eisoes wedi'u cyflwyno.

Byddwn yn anfon e-bost arall ymhen ychydig wythnosau pan fydd yr 'Alwad' yn dechrau, gyda manylion pellach am sut i gyflwyno safleoedd yn unol â Methodoleg ein Safleoedd Ymgeisiol. Byddwn hefyd ar y pryd yn cadarnhau unrhyw ffurfioldebau angenrheidiol pellach mewn perthynas â safleoedd a gyflwynwyd yn flaenrol.

Ymatebwch i'r e-bost hwn os oes gennych unrhyw ymholiadau cysylltiedig. Os nad

Submit Revised LDP to Welsh Government	November 2024
Independent Examination	April/May 2025
Adoption	October 2025

Further details on the RLDP and its formal Delivery Agreement can be seen on our website, at the following location:

Candidate Sites

One of the first sub-stages of the RLDP 2022 - 2037 is to issue a 'Call for Candidate Sites'. This is where we will seek submissions of sites to be assessed for different land uses in the RLDP. This is timetabled to begin in June (2022), through until the end of September. It is intended that a formal start to the 'Call' will be towards the middle of the month.

It should also be noted that many sites were submitted through the Call for Candidate Sites for the now ceased RLDP (2020 – 2030). I can confirm that the sites and information that was submitted then, can be carried forward to the new RLDP 2022 – 2037.

It may be the case that sites and evidence previously submitted was time sensitive, i.e. relating specifically to the previous Plan Period of 2020 – 2030. The onus would be on the site promoter to determine if this was the case; and any additional or updated evidence should be submitted during the Call for Sites if so.

When the Call for Candidate Sites begins, we would welcome any new sites and any new information relating to sites already submitted.

ydych am i ni gysylltu â chi mwyach mewn perthynas â'r CDLI Diwygiedig ar gyfer RhCT, rhowch wybod i ni.

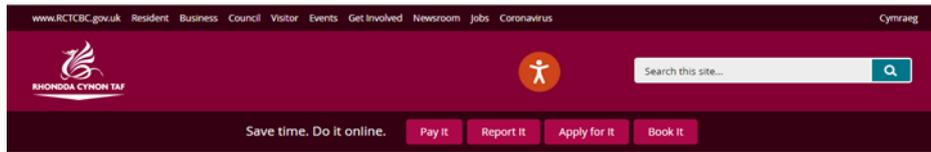
Yn gywir,

We will send another email in a few weeks at the time the 'Call' begins, with further details of how to submit sites in line with our Candidate Site Methodology. We will also at that time confirm any further necessary formalities regarding sites previously submitted.

Please respond to this email if you have any related queries. If you no longer wish to be contacted in relation to the Revised LDP for RCT, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,

Appendix 7 - Call for Sites 2022-2037



Home > Resident > Planning and Building Control > Revised Local Development Plan 2020 - 2030

Candidate Sites

The Call for Candidate Sites is now open



The Candidate Site Process

Read the Candidate Site Methodology, outlining all aspects of the Candidate Site Process for the RLDP



The Call for Candidate Sites and their Submission

How to submit a Candidate Site and access Submission Form and Guidance



Home > Resident > Planning and Building Control > Revised Local Development Plan 2020 - 2030 > Candidate Sites

The Candidate Site Process

What is the Candidate Sites Process?

The Candidate Sites Process is a fundamental part of the Revised Local Development Plan (RLDP). The process identifies land for a variety of uses including housing, commercial, tourism etc. to be allocated in the RLDP. Allocating a site in the Plan means that in principle, the site is acceptable for the development of that use.

The process involves an initial Call for Candidates Sites and their Submission and then a comprehensive multi stage assessment of them. The process also includes public consultation on the sites.

The sites that the Council consider appropriate for allocation and development will be included in the Deposit RLDP, which will then be determined by an independent Planning Inspector.

What is a Candidate Site?

A Candidate Site is an area of land or buildings which are submitted to the Council to be assessed for inclusion in the RLDP. Candidate Sites can be submitted by anyone including landowners, developers and the Council itself.

Candidate Sites can be submitted for a range of uses, or change of uses, some of which are set out below:

- Housing
- Employment
- Retail
- Gypsy and Traveller Sites
- Community Facilities
- Leisure
- Tourism
- Renewable Energy
- Green Infrastructure
- Biodiversity
- Waste
- Minerals

RELATED PAGES

[The Call for Candidate Sites and their Submission](#)

- Minerals
- Health/Education/Social Care
- Transport Infrastructure

Why do we need Candidate Sites?

Candidate Sites and ultimately allocations, are essential to the success of an RLDP, as the Council has a duty, through this statutory Plan, to provide land for a range of uses including those listed above. Candidate Sites allow the Council to find the best land for these uses.

Candidate Site Methodology

The Council have produced a Methodology to set out how it will undertake the Candidate Site Process and its integration into the RLDP preparation process. The [Candidate Site Methodology](#) sets out further detail on the LDP Candidate Site Process in general, how and when Candidate Sites can be submitted into the process; and then the detail of how, when and by whom the sites will be assessed through 4 specific stages. As part of the Methodology, a detailed Candidate Site Submission Form has been prepared, with an associated Guidance Note. The methods and criteria by which the Candidate Sites will be assessed at the Initial Assessment stage is also included for public consideration. Prior to submitting a Candidate Site it is encouraged and recommended to read this Candidate Site Methodology.

What is the Call for Candidate Sites and their Submission?

The Call for Candidate Sites is one of the first formal stages in the RLDP process. This is when the Council invites land to be submitted to the process. The Call for Sites is open from end June 2022 to 30th September 2022. During this period the Council welcomes sites to be submitted for consideration. For detailed guidance on submitting a site, please see the [Call for Candidate Sites and their Submission](#) page.

Planning Policy Team

Floor 2
Sardis House
Sardis Road
Pontypridd
Rhondda Cynon Taf
CF37 1DU,
Email: LDP@rctcbc.gov.uk
Tel: 01443 281129

[Rhondda Cynon Taf Candidate Site Methodology 2022 - 2037](#) 1.37 Mb



constraints e.g. Proposed Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, Green Wedges and Special landscape areas. Where information is more clearly displayed elsewhere or is produced by external bodies the guidance note provides information on where to access this information.

Additional Information

Although significant information will be submitted through the [Submission Form](#), as is set out in the Candidate Site Methodology, further supporting evidence will be needed to accompany the site submissions as is appropriate and necessary. This will be needed to allow sites to be assessed to a necessary degree for the Council to determine their suitability for allocation.

Where do I send my Candidate Site submission?

It is recommended that Candidate site submissions should be sent to us via email, to ldp@rctcbc.gov.uk including both completed submission forms and additional information reports etc. If, however, you are unable to submit via email we will be accepting submission via post also, although there may be some delay in receiving and acknowledging such submissions. Please send postal submission to Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Planning Policy Team, Floor 2 Sardis House, Sardis Road Pontypridd CF371DU.

Further Advice and Help

The Team can be contacted via email at ldp@rctcbc.gov.uk or via telephone on 01443 281129. The team would be more than happy to answer any queries you may have.

It should be noted that the submission of Candidate Sites, nor its acceptance as being duly made, must not in any way be construed as a commitment to its suitability for inclusion within the plan.

Planning Policy Team

Floor 2
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CF37 1DU.

Email: LDP@rctcbc.gov.uk

Tel: 01443 281129

-  [Rhondda Cynon Taf Candidate Site Submission Form 2022 - 2037](#) 1.10 Mb
-  [Rhondda Cynon Taf Candidate Site - Guidance Notes 2022-2037](#) 1.11 Mb
-  [Rhondda Cynon Taf Candidate Site Methodology 2022 - 2037](#) 1.37 Mb

Social Media



Rhondda Cynon Taf Council
14 July at 12:03

The Council is working towards revising the current Local Development Plan to cover the period 2022 to 2037 – and is now inviting the public to put forward land or buildings for inclusion within the revised Plan. Full details here: <https://orlo.uk/nCvtG>



RHONDDA CYNON TAF
Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig
Revised Local Development Plan
2022-2037

1

Like Comment Share



RCT Council @RCTCouncil · Jul 14

The Council is working towards revising the current Local Development Plan to cover the period 2022 to 2037 – and is now inviting the public to put forward land or buildings for inclusion within the revised Plan. Full details here: orlo.uk/iR69J



RHONDDA CYNON TAF
Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig
Revised Local Development Plan
2022-2037

ALT

Call for Candidate sites stage of Revised Local Development Plan

The Council is working towards revising the current Local Development Plan (LDP) to cover the period 2022 to 2037 – and is now inviting the public to put forward land or buildings for inclusion within the revised Plan.

The LDP is a statutory land use planning document which sets out a future vision for the County Borough, allocating land for development uses such as housing, employment, retail and tourism – and the revised Plan would cover the 15-year period to 2037.



[More information on the process to revise the LDP can be found here](#)

Included within the LDP are important policies that intend to protect the environment, increase public green space and reduce carbon emissions – while also encouraging appropriate renewable energy production. It plays a leading role in determining decisions on planning applications to the Council.

The current stage of the process is the **Call for Candidate Sites**, where the Council invites land or buildings to be submitted for inclusion in the revised Plan. The sites that are submitted will be considered, and if appropriate they will be allocated in the Plan as acceptable in principle for development or use.

Any resident, including private landowners and developers, can submit a site for inclusion – and for a wide range of uses. The Council has prepared in-depth guidance to assist in this process, [which is available to view online](#).

The Call for Candidate Sites stage was recently opened by the Council at the end of June 2022, and will remain open until Friday, September 30.

Councillor Mark Norris, Rhondda Cynon Taf Council's Cabinet Member for Development and Prosperity, said: "The Council is currently progressing the formal process of revising the Local Development Plan, which will be extended to cover the 15-year period up to 2037. The Call for Candidate sites asks for land or buildings to be put forward to be considered for their inclusion in the revised Plan. This includes from private land and building owners, along with the Council itself and Town and Community Councils where appropriate. Those considered suitable will be collated into a Candidate Sites Register and presented to the public in a future consultation.

"The LDP is a very important document which allocates land for development use, and the revised Plan that the Council is now progressing will ultimately be used to determine all planning applications made over the next 15 years. These will range from matters relating to housing, employment and retail within local communities. The Plan rightly includes important considerations such as areas of ecological importance and the effects of climate change.

"Engaging with members of the public throughout the process of revising the LDP is an important statutory element. The Council wants to engage with as many people as possible including residents,

MORE NEWS

- > Give Blood And Help Save Lives In RCT
- > We'd love to hear from you -have your say in our survey
- > Extreme Heat Weather Warning
- > Reservoirs Are Out Of Bounds This Summer
- > Freedom of County Borough For Our Key Workers
- > Call for Candidate sites stage of Revised Local Development Plan
- > Aberdare Park Road Races
- > Empty Homes Grants Success in RCT
- > Appointment of new Chief Executive Officer agreed by the Council
- > Council update on Catherine Street Car Park in Pontypridd

Appendix 8 - Attendance at the ISA working group meeting

Planning Policy Team
Land Use Consultants
21st Century Schools
Housing Strategy
Green Space
Cultural Services
Transport
Welsh Language
Environmental Health and Protection
Waste
Tourism
Performance Management
Children's Services
Corporate Estates
Tourism
Flood risk
Countryside
Marketing and Strategic Events Manager
Waste Strategy Manager

Appendix 9 - Let's Talk

RHONDDA CYNON TAF
Revised Local Development Plan
 2022-2037

Let's Talk Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan 2022 - 2037

What are our priorities for you?

- Planning Policy Team
- Planning
- Waste
- Water
- Local Development

Submit

Quick Polls

What do you think is the most important issue that the LDP should try and address?

- Housing
- Transport
- Economy and Employment
- Health and Wellbeing
- Climate Change and the Natural Environment
- Waste
- Culture, Heritage and Education
- Tourism and Leisure
- Town centres and Retail
- Minerals and the Coal Mining Legacy

[View Results](#)

SUBMIT

RCT Council @RCTCouncil · 18h

Let's Talk: Local Development Plan 2020-2030! As a new version of the LDP is prepared, we want to raise awareness of its impact on life in RCT, through its key role in determining planning applications. Find out more and have your say on local issues here: orlo.uk/UTLw7

RHONDDA CYNON TAF
Revised Local Development Plan
 2020-2030

1

1

Extended questionnaire



The Local Development Plan

Rhondda Cynon Taf is preparing a new version of its Local Development Plan (LDP) which will be in place until 2030.

Not everyone is aware of the LDP but it has an impact on many aspects of life in RCT. Its key role is to determine planning applications and is therefore important for everyone in the area.

The LDP designates land for development, including housing, employment, retail and town centres, transportation and highways, minerals (quarries), renewable energy, waste, tourism, leisure, education and wider community and health facilities (amongst others). It also protects our wonderful natural resources, historical heritage, wildlife habitats, open space and our beautiful landscapes.

These are just some of the questions that the new LDP needs to answer;

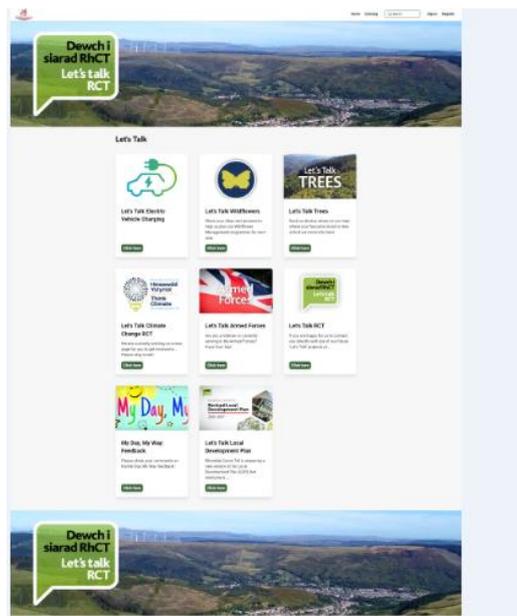
- Where is new housing needed and where should it be, or not be built?
- Where will the people of RCT be working?
- How should our Town Centres look in the future?
- What facilities does RCT need? And
- How best should we protect our unique natural environment?

We now need your help! It's now time to hear what you think are the issues the LDP needs to help resolve in RCT!

These issues can include anything that you think are important in relation to all the above mentioned areas e.g. new housing, jobs, town centres and also improvements to public transport, more community facilities or thoughts on renewable energy or tourism etc.



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Home > Let's Talk Local Development Plan

Let's Talk Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan 2020 - 2030

Rhondda Cynon Taf is preparing a new version of its Local Development Plan (LDP). Not everyone is aware of the LDP but it has an impact on many aspects of life in RCT. Its key role is to determine planning applications and is therefore important for everyone in the area.

The LDP designates land for development, including housing, employment, retail and town centres, transportation and highways, minerals (quarries), renewable energy, waste, tourism, leisure, education and wider community and health facilities (amongst others). It also protects our wonderful natural resources, historical heritage, wildlife habitats, open space and our beautiful landscapes.

These are just some of the questions that the new LDP needs to answer:

- Where is new housing needed and where should it be, or not be built?
- Where will the people of RCT be working?
- How should our Town Centres look in the future?



Quick Polls



What do you think is the most important issue that the LDP should try and address?

- Housing
- Transport
- Economy and Employment
- Health and Wellbeing
- Climate Change and the Natural Environment

Appendix 10 - Example of presentation slides for Visioning events



Rhondda Cynon Taf Revised Local Development Plan 2020-2030

LDP Forum - Visioning Event July 2021



Rhondda Cynon Taf
Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiolig 2020-2030
Revised Local Development Plan 2020-2030

1

Welcome and Introduction

- ▶ Good Morning and Welcome to the Visioning event for the Revised LDP Forum.
- ▶ Today we will identify and discuss the key issues for Rhondda Cynon Taf in relation to the Revised LDP, and its aims and objectives to address them.

Firstly, we will:

- ▶ Update you on Revised LDP preparation,
- ▶ Inform you of key changes that have occurred in recent times,
- ▶ Outline the main focus of today's meeting.




2

Update on Revised LDP Preparation

- ▶ Candidate Sites
 - ▶ Over 200 sites for multiple uses including: Housing, Employment, Tourism, Minerals, Retail, open space etc.
- ▶ Ongoing Updating of Evidence Base for all Topics
- ▶ Urban Capacity Study
 - ▶ Proactively seeking suitable urban centre sites ourselves.
- ▶ Settlement Hierarchy Strategy
 - ▶ Assessment of all Towns in RCT, LDP growth and capacity for growth.
- ▶ Integrated Sustainability Assessment
 - ▶ Statutory part of the LDP preparation
 - ▶ Identified issues through facts and figures




3

Key Changes in Planning

- ▶ Since the adoption of the current LDP in 2011, many changes have taken place to policy, legislation and political agendas.
 - ▶ Well Being of Future Generations Act 2015
 - ▶ Future Wales the National Development Framework 2021
 - ▶ Environment (Wales) Act 2016
 - ▶ Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (numerous iterations)
- ▶ All of these changes and more need to be taken into account by the RLDP




4

The Focus of Today's Visioning Event

- ▶ Identification of the Key Strategic Issues across RCT in relation to the scope of the LDP
 - ▶ Including 13 Topic Areas of: Housing, Transport, Employment, Health, Natural Environment, Climate Change, Waste, Minerals, Culture, Community Infrastructure, Tourism and Leisure, Town Centres and Coal Mining Legacy.
- ▶ Strategic level issues for the Revised LDP Strategy considerations:
 - ▶ What are the issues and Where are they?
- ▶ Consideration of appropriate strategic Aims and Objectives to address these issues
 - ▶ What are the Strategic and Spatial solutions - what should happen and where should it happen
- ▶ There are many topics that cross over each other; and lots to get through! However all views are welcomed!



5

Housing (Including private market and affordable housing)

- ▶ What do you think are the strategic issues in relation to Housing that the Revised LDP should seek to address?
- ▶ What do you consider to be the aims, objectives and strategic solutions, for the Revised LDP to address these Housing issues?




6

Appendix 11- Invitees to the RLDP Forum

BT

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

Public Health Wales

CADW

Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board

Dwr Cymru

National Grid

GGAT

NRW

Network Rail

Mobile Operators Association (Mono Consultants)

Open Reach

Western Power

The Coal Authority

Federation of Small Businesses

Regen

South Wales Fire and Rescue

Home Builders Federation

South Wales Police

Transport for Wales

University of South Wales

Federation of Master Builders

The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales (Glamorgan)

Capital Region Tourism

Wales and West Utilities

Visit Wales