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# Revised 2018-2033 Local Development Plan Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA)



2nd Deposit Plan  
February 2023



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## Abbreviations

<b>(r)LDP</b>	(revised) Local Development Plan (referred to as the Plan)
<b>ALC</b>	Agricultural Land Classification
<b>AQMA</b>	Air Quality Management Area
<b>BBNP</b>	Brecon Beacons National Park
<b>CBEEMS</b>	Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site
<b>CCC</b>	Carmarthenshire County Council
<b>EqIA</b>	Equality Impact Assessment
<b>HIA</b>	Health Impact Assessment
<b>HRA</b>	Habitat Regulations Assessment
<b>ISA</b>	Integrated Sustainability Appraisal
<b>LPAs</b>	Local Planning Authorities
<b>NRW</b>	Natural Resources Wales
<b>PPP</b>	Plans, Policies, and Programmes
<b>PPW</b>	Planning Policy Wales
<b>PSB</b>	Public Services Board
<b>RIGS</b>	Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites
<b>SA</b>	Sustainability Appraisal
<b>SAC(s)</b>	Special Area(s) of Conservation
<b>SAM</b>	Site Assessment Methodology
<b>SEA</b>	Strategic Environmental Assessment
<b>SINC(s)</b>	Site(s) of Importance for Nature Conservation
<b>SoNaRR</b>	State of Natural Resources Report
<b>SPA(s)</b>	Special Protection Area(s)
<b>SSSI(s)</b>	Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest
<b>TAN</b>	Technical Advice Note
<b>WLIA</b>	Welsh Language Impact Assessment
<b>WNMP</b>	Welsh National Marine Plan
<b>WwTW</b>	Wastewater Treatment Works



## 1. Introduction

- 1.0.1 This document is the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) of Carmarthenshire County Council's Second Deposit Revised Local Development Plan (rLDP). It consists of the joint Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), alongside consideration to other strategies and assessments as outlined in paragraph 1.4. The SA/SEA is a combined process which meets their respective regulatory requirements.
- 1.0.2 The purpose of this assessment is to identify any likely significant economic, environmental, and social effects of a Local Development Plan (LDP), and to suggest relevant mitigation measures. This process integrates social equity, economic development, environmental protection, and cultural sustainability into all stages of LDP preparation and, ultimately, promotes sustainable development. It fosters an inclusive and transparent process when producing a LDP and helps to ensure that the LDP is integrated with other policies. This combined process is hereafter referred to as ISA.
- 1.0.3 The geographical scope of this assessment covers the whole of the County of Carmarthenshire (~2,370 km<sup>2</sup>), however, it also considers cross-boundary effects with the neighbouring Local Authorities of Ceredigion, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, Powys, and Swansea, in addition to the Brecon Beacons National Park (BBNP) and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. It also considers those targets and policies placed on Local Authorities from both a national and international level to ensure sustainability is adhere to across all spatial scales. The rLDP is not applicable to the area of the BBNP which is located within Carmarthenshire (~230 km<sup>2</sup>), however, this assessment does consider the potential wider impacts upon this area and further afield.
- 1.0.4 Over the course of the preparation of the rLDP, which has undergone several iterations, the accompanying SA/ISA process has assessed all chosen options and reasonable alternatives for their likely effects upon sustainability. The rLDP is a land-use plan which outlines the location and quantity of development within Carmarthenshire for a 15-year period between 2018 and 2033. The same timescale has been reflected throughout this ISA Report. This ISA Report accompanies, and should be read in conjunction with, the Second Deposit rLDP.
- 1.0.5 This ISA report was published for consultation in February 2023 alongside the Second Deposit version of the rLDP, and supersedes a previous version originally published in January 2020. It provides a necessary record of the combined SA/SEA work that was undertaken as part of the Plan's preparation process between 2018 and 2023, and refers to the associated documents produced as part of the iterative process. The documentation previously published and summarised within this report include:
- [SA - SEA Scoping Report \(July 2018\)](#)
  - SA - SEA Initial Report (December 2018)
  - [SA Report \(1<sup>st</sup>\) rLDP \(including appendices\) \(January 2020\)](#)
- 1.0.6 Following the approach taken in the above-mentioned documents, an *integrated* approach (ISA) now explicitly highlights the pre-existing overlap between the incorporated requirements and considerations further discussed in paragraph 1.4. This approach is principally noted after Chapter 5 of this ISA Report.
- 1.0.7 Considering a key purpose of any LDP is to assist future decision-makers when determining the outcome of planning proposals, it is of equal importance that the findings within the present ISA Report are used amongst a range of decision-aids to ensure the provision of sustainable development.

## 1.1 Legislative Requirements

- 1.1.1 The completion of an SA is a statutory requirement for LDPs under Section 62(6) of *The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004*<sup>1</sup>, the *Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005*<sup>2</sup> and associated guidance.
- 1.1.2 The *European SEA Directive 2001/42*<sup>3</sup>, transposed in Wales through *The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004*<sup>4</sup> (the Regulations), sets out a mandatory requirement to carry out SEA on all development plans. The Directive sets out a legal assessment process that must be followed. Welsh Government Guidance on the Preparation of Local Development Plans identifies that a Sustainability Appraisal must integrate the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations.
- 1.1.3 The SA process considers how the four components of sustainable development (economic, social well-being, environmental protection/enhancement, and resource conservation) are integrated into a plan. The SEA process focuses solely on the environmental impacts of a plan, including the built environment and the effect on local populations and health.
- 1.1.4 Planning Policy Wales<sup>5</sup> (PPW) stresses the presumption in favour of sustainable development and that Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) should ensure that the plan and proposals deliver sustainable development. The SA is an integral part of good plan making and is an iterative process, which identifies and reports on significant effects of the Plan and demonstrates that the LDP is sound by ensuring that it reflects sustainable development objectives. It thereby contributes to the reasoned justification of policies.

## 1.2 SA and the LDP Process

- 1.2.1 Guidance on how to carry out an SA for a LDP is contained in the *Welsh Government Development Plans Manual Edition 3 (2020)*<sup>6</sup>, where SA is defined as a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives.
- 1.2.2 This Manual outlines five main stages in undertaking an SA (see Table 1). SA is an iterative process, resulting in comment and feedback at each stage of the LDP and allowing the potential sustainability implications of proposed options/policies to be considered and the process to be transparent. If necessary, the rLDP can be refined throughout its preparation to ensure it is a sustainable document.

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<sup>1</sup> [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#)

<sup>2</sup> [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Development Plan\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2005](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment](#)

<sup>4</sup> [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes \(Wales\) Regulations 2004](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Planning Policy Wales - Edition 11 | February 2021](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Development Plans Manual \(Edition 3\) March 2020](#)



Table 1 – Stages in the SA process and their relationship to LDPs. Adapted from the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3) March 2020.

SA/SEA Stage	LDP Stage
<b>Stage A: Scoping</b>	Evidence Gathering and Objectives
A1 Outline the contents and the main objectives of the plan. Required by SEA Directive 2001/42/EC Annex I (a).	
A2: Identify and review other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives that will inform the plan. Required by SEA Directive 2001/42/EC Annex I (a) and (e).	
A3 Collecting baseline information on the current and likely future social, economic, cultural, well-being and environmental conditions at the relevant spatial scale for the plan. The SEA Directive requires the baseline data to cover ‘the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan’ (Annex I (b)); and ‘characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected’ (Annex I (c)).	
A4 Identifying sustainability issues and problems which are relevant to the plan. Required by SEA Directive 2001/42/EC Annex I (d).	
A5 Develop SA framework against which the plan can be appraised.	
A6 Prepare and consult on the SA Scoping Report. Required by SEA Directive Article 5(4) and 6(3).	
<b>Stage B: Assessment of Alternatives</b>	Strategic Options and Preferred Strategy
B1 Assess and mitigate the effects of the plan objectives using the SA framework.	
B2 Develop reasonable alternatives. Required by SEA Directive Article 5(1) and Annex I (h).	
B3 Assess and mitigate the effects of the alternatives using the SA framework. Required by SEA Directive, Annex I (f) and (g).	
B4 Choose the preferred alternatives and provide an outline of reasons for selecting the preferred alternatives. Required by SEA Directive, Annex I (h).	
<b>Stage C: Assessment of the Deposit Plan and Preparation of the Environmental Report</b>	LDP Preparation and Deposit
C1 Assess and mitigate the effects of the Deposit plan using the SA framework. Required by SEA Directive, Annex I (f) and (g).	
C2 Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the plan. Required by SEA Directive, Article 9(c), Article 10, Annex I (i).	
C3 Consult on the Deposit Plan and Environmental Report. Required by SEA Directive, Article 6.	
<b>Stage D: Consultation, Examination and Adoption of the Plan</b>	Submission Examination and Adoption
D1 Assess the effects of significant changes made to the Deposit plan by the SA framework. Required by SEA Directive, Article 5(2).	

<p>D2(i) After the plan is adopted, the plan making authority must publish a Post Adoption Statement.                  Required by SEA Directive, Article 9(1).</p>	
<p><b>Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects on implementing the LDP</b></p>	
<p>E1 Develop aims and methods for monitoring.                  Required by SEA Directive, Article 9(1) (c), Article 10, Annex I (if).</p>	<p>Monitoring and Review</p>
<p>E2 Responding to adverse effects.                  Required by SEA Directive, Article 10 (1).</p>	

### 1.3 How the Council has complied with the Regulations

#### Stage A

1.3.1 The Council completed Stage A of the SA in July 2018 with the publication of the draft SA Scoping Report for consultation. The SA Scoping Report contained:

- **A1: Outline the contents and the main objectives of the plan**  
 The SA Scoping Report outlined information about the rLDP, its spatial scale, timescale, and its main objectives.
- **A2 Plan/Policy/Programme Review and Sustainability Objectives**  
 Plans, Policies and Programmes that could have an impact upon the rLDP were examined, including those at international, national, regional, and local levels, as well as adjacent authorities Local Development Plans. An updated version of the list is presented in Appendix A.
- **A3 Collation of Baseline Information**  
 The scoping report included an up-to-date collation of the state of the environment, economy, and society in Carmarthenshire. This also forms the baseline for monitoring the outcomes of the rLDP post adoption. An updated version of the baseline is presented in Appendix B.
- **A4 Identifying relevant issues and problems**  
 The report highlights sustainability issues, problems but also opportunities which can be addressed via the rLDP. This is reported within the baseline in Appendix B.
- **A5 Developing the Sustainability Framework**  
 The SA Framework provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed, and compared and was developed in considerations of the issues and opportunities raised. This Framework provides a basis by which the sustainability of the rLDP can be tested, and is presented in Appendix C.
- **A6 Consulting on the Scope of the Sustainability Appraisal**  
 The SA Scoping Report was published for consultation on 18th July 2018 for a six-week period. It was available to view on the Carmarthenshire County Council website and notifications emails and letters were sent out to inform consultation bodies and persons who had registered for updates on the LDP process. Comments were received from several stakeholders, which were reported as an Appendix within the Initial SA. Amendments to the (now) ISA have been made because of these comments, where appropriate, and any comments considered to relate more to the LDP were noted and passed on to the planning officers for their consideration.



## Stage B

1.3.2 The Council completed Stage B of the SA process in December 2018 with the publication of the Initial SA Report of the Preferred Strategy. The Initial SA is summarised in Chapter 5, and contains:

- **B1 Assess and mitigate the effects of the plan objectives using the SA framework**

The Initial SA tested and appraised the objectives of the LDP Preferred Strategy against the Sustainability Framework.

- **B2 Developing reasonable alternatives**

The Initial SA developed several strategic options, for both growth and spatial distribution, from an understanding of the main issues identified in the SA Scoping Report.

- **B3 Assessing and mitigating effects of alternatives**

The Vision, Strategic Growth Options, Spatial Options and Strategic Policies of the LDP Preferred Strategy were assessed against the SA objectives in the SA Framework. Mitigation measures were also identified as well as opportunities.

- **B4 Evaluate the effects of the LDP options**

Reasons for the selection of the preferred alternative and discarding of other alternatives were discussed and justified.

NB: Whilst the wording of the ISA Objectives remains unchanged, an *integrated* approach following this stage now highlights the pre-existing overlap between other strategies and assessments. Decision making influences have been updated.

## Stage C

1.3.3 This ISA Report of the Deposit LDP has been prepared to comply with Stage C of the SA/SEA process (Environmental Report) and is to be published as part of the Second Deposit rLDP public consultation process.

- **C1 Assess and mitigate effects of the Deposit LDP**

This report will evaluate the significant effects, both positive and negative, of the Deposit LDP policies and proposed allocations. Where a policy or site is identified as having a negative effect, mitigation measures will be identified. This is documented in Chapter 6.5 and 6.7 of this report as well as in Appendices 5 and 7.

- **C2 Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the plan.**

This is discussed in Chapter 8 of this report.

- **C3 Consult on the Deposit Plan and ISA Report.**

This ISA report will be consulted alongside the rLDP Deposit Plan for a six-week period.

## 1.4 Links to Other Strategies and Assessments

- 1.4.1 This SA/SEA Environmental Report incorporates requirements under the *Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015*<sup>7</sup> (WBFGA), *Equality Act 2010*<sup>8</sup>, *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*<sup>9</sup>, Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20<sup>10</sup>, and considerations under *Public Health (Wales) Act 2017*<sup>11</sup>, into a single, non-exhaustive ISA which enables a more transparent, holistic, and rounded assessment of the sustainability implications of the growth options, objectives, policies, and proposals contained in the rLDP.
- 1.4.2 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) was undertaken in parallel to the ISA process but is not integrated with this report as it uses a different precautionary testing mechanism. Nevertheless, this ISA report will summarise the HRA findings as part of its assessment of effects on biodiversity.

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

- 1.4.3 As outlined in the *Planning (Wales) Act 2015*<sup>12</sup>, LDPs and LPAs must promote sustainable development in accordance with the WBFGA for the purpose of ensuring that the development and use of land contributes to improving the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. The WBFGA defines sustainable development as 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 well-being goals (Figure 1) were integral to the preparation of the ISA Framework.



Figure 1 – Seven Well-being Goals of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015

<sup>7</sup> [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Equality Act 2010](#)

<sup>9</sup> [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#)

<sup>10</sup> [Technical advice note \(TAN\) 20: planning and the Welsh language](#)

<sup>11</sup> [Public Health \(Wales\) Act 2017](#)

<sup>12</sup> [Planning \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)



- 1.4.4 The sustainable development principle requires Public Bodies to act in a manner which seeks to ensure that needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It sets out five ways of working needed for Public Bodies to achieve the seven well-being goals, which 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.
- 1.4.5 The WBFGA establishes Public Services Boards (PSBs) which are required to assess the state of well-being on a local level, set objectives, and produce a plan designed to improve well-being locally. The PSB for Carmarthenshire published their well-being plan <sup>13</sup> in 2018 and set the four follow objectives:
- Healthy Habits: People have a good quality of life and make healthy choices about their lives and environment;
  - Early Intervention: To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it;
  - Strong Connections: Strongly connected people, places and organisations that can adapt to change; and
  - Prosperous People and Places: To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
- 1.4.6 To support the delivery of the well-being goals, Public Health Wales has published '*creating healthier places and spaces for our present and future generations*'<sup>14</sup>. This resource focuses on six priority areas of the built and natural environment that can positively impact on health and well-being, and these are:
- Walking and cycling infrastructure;
  - Open spaces and green blue infrastructure;
  - Food growing and retail environment;
  - Community, health, and social care services provided from local facilities;
  - Low levels of air pollution; and
  - Sustainable building design.
- 1.4.7 Contribution towards achieving the national well-being goals and objectives, alongside the five-ways of working and the content of Carmarthenshire's Well-being Plan, must be intrinsic throughout the development of the rLDP and accompanying assessments (e.g., ISA, HRA etc) to be compliant with the requirements of the WBFGA. Additionally, the rLDP is also to consider the Council's own well-being objectives <sup>15</sup>.

## Welsh Language

- 1.4.8 It is now a legislative requirement that the SA must include an assessment of the likely effects of the plan on the use of Welsh Language (Section 62(6A) *Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004* <sup>16</sup> as inserted by section 11, PWA 2015). The SA

<sup>13</sup> [Carmarthenshire Well-being Assessment 2017 and Plan 2018-2023](#)

<sup>14</sup> [Creating healthier places and spaces for our present and future generations | 2018 Public Health Wales NHS Trust.](#)

<sup>15</sup> [Well-being objectives | Cyngor Sir Gaerfyrddin Carmarthenshire County Council](#)

<sup>16</sup> [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#)

process is the mechanism for considering how the scale and location of growth, the vision, objectives, policies, and proposals individually and in combination, impact on the Welsh Language. Where evidence indicates a detrimental impact on the use of the Welsh Language, the LPA can assess whether the strategy should be amended, and/or mitigation measures should be identified.

- 1.4.9 To supplement the assessment of Welsh Language in the ISA, a more detailed Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) has also been undertaken to support the evidence base and assess the impact of related strategies and policies. From the assessment of the First Deposit rLDP, specific policy amendments impacting upon the Welsh Language were made upon the findings of the previous WLIA undertaken by laith and Burum<sup>17</sup>. An iterative approach continued between the ISA process and the WLIA for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit rLDP. Again, undertaken by laith and Burum, the conclusions made within this latest assessment will, where relevant, be adopted in the ISA, and the WLIA should be referred to for the supporting evidence and commentary with regards to the impact upon the Welsh Language<sup>18</sup>.

### Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 1.4.10 The *Equality Act 2010* requires Public Bodies to assess the impact of policies on different population groups to ensure discrimination does not take place and, where possible, promote equality of opportunity (referred to as the Equality Duty – Section 149) and deliver better outcomes for those who are socio-economically disadvantaged (Socio-Economic Duty – Sections 1 to 3). The Act requires *due regard* during the decision-making process and, therefore, screening of the nine protected characteristics<sup>19</sup> to identify which characteristics the rLDP may influence. The EqIA undertaken for the rLDP also incorporates the Welsh Language.

- 1.4.11 It is important to note that public authorities subject to the Equality Duty are likely subject to obligations under the *Human Rights Act 1998*<sup>20</sup> and, therefore, consideration has also been made to incorporate the potential impact that decisions could have on human rights as part of the same process.

### Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

- 1.4.12 The *Public Health (Wales) Act 2017* outlines the circumstances in which a Public Body must carry out a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). The Act defines a HIA as “an assessment of the likely effect, both in the short term and in the long term, of a proposed action or decision on the physical and mental health of the people of Wales or of some of the people of Wales”. The *SEA Directive* (Annex I (f)) requires human health to be considered as part of the assessment of environmental effects. Therefore, whilst there is no specific requirement to undertake a dedicated HIA, the health component of the SEA has been broadened to integrate both the physical and mental health objectives of a HIA.

- 1.4.13 As outlined by EU Guidance (2022)<sup>21</sup>, the notion of human health should be considered in the context of the interrelationship between all SEA factors stated in Annex I (f) and thus, indirect issues arisen from the implementation of policies must

<sup>17</sup> [Carmarthenshire Draft Deposit LDP Welsh Language Impact Assessment. December 2019.](#)

<sup>18</sup> Carmarthenshire Draft Deposit rLDP Welsh Language Impact Assessment. 2023.

<sup>19</sup> Age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation ([The Equalities Act 2010](#)).

<sup>20</sup> [Human Rights Act 1998](#)

<sup>21</sup> [Guidance on the implementation of Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment](#)



also consider environmentally related health issues such as exposure to traffic noise, air pollutants, and water contamination.

### The Environment (Wales) Act 2016

- 1.4.13 Section 6 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016* requires Public Authorities which exercise their functions in relation to Wales have a duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems (referred as the Section 6 Duty). To comply with this duty, Welsh Government Guidance<sup>22</sup> states that Public Authorities must embed the consideration of biodiversity and ecosystems into their early thinking and business planning, including any policies, plans, and projects, as well as their day-to-day activities.
- 1.4.14 Under Part 1 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*, Area Statements were produced by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) which cover the Marine area and six land regions of Wales. The South West Wales Area Statement (SWWAS) covers the Local Authorities of Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, and Swansea, which represents 22% of the Country's population and 23% of the landmass.
- 1.4.15 The SWWAS was produced in 2020 against a backdrop of Welsh Government's declaration of a climate and a nature emergency. As such changes have been made to the rLDP, that reflect the priorities identified in the Statement and the interrelated nature of these two emergencies that are in themselves symptoms of the unsustainable management of natural resources and development, at the expense of future generations. Adapting to the climate and nature crises require a whole systems approach, and as such both issues feature across all the SWWAS themes which are Reducing health inequalities; Ensuring sustainable land management; Reversing the decline of, and enhancing, biodiversity; and Cross-cutting theme: Mitigating and adapting to a changing climate.

### Welsh National Marine Plan 2019

- 1.4.16 The *Welsh National Marine Plan 2019*<sup>23</sup> (WNMP) sets out a long-term vision for the sustainable development of Welsh seas. It has been adopted under the *Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA) 2009* in accordance with Section 51 and with Schedule 6 of the Act, and in conformity with the *UK Marine Policy Statement*<sup>24</sup>. The WNMP is used to guide the Local Authority in decision making and, therefore, regard has been made to the Marine Plan in the review of policies.

### The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- 1.4.17 Under the *Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)*<sup>25</sup>, the rLDP must be assessed to whether it would likely have a significant effect on a European site or an offshore European marine site (EMS), either standalone or in combination with other plans and projects, and directly or indirectly. The Directive is transposed into Welsh law via the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2017*<sup>26</sup>. If the LDP is deemed likely to have a significant effect on one or more European sites, it must be subject to an *appropriate assessment* under the Habitats Regulations.

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<sup>22</sup>[Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016 | Guidance for Section 6 | Welsh Government](#)

<sup>23</sup>[Welsh National Marine Plan | Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government](#)

<sup>24</sup>[Statutory guidance | Marine Policy Statement \(MPS\)](#)

<sup>25</sup>[Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora](#)

<sup>26</sup>[The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 \(as amended\)](#)

- 1.4.18 The County contains twelve European protected sites. The potential effects on European sites were considered from the earliest stages of the plan making process and preliminary screenings were undertaken during the initial Preferred Strategy in December 2018. The Deposit Plan has been subject to screening under the Habitats Regulations and the report is published alongside the Deposit Plan. The conclusion of this screening exercise and subsequent appropriate assessment is that the Deposit Plan will have no likely significant effect, either alone or in combination, on any European sites.
- 1.4.19 Informal screening of the HRA has been influential in ability to reach a favourable conclusion to the screening of the Deposit Plan. The iterative approach to HRA has facilitated the identification of potential issues allowing for potential risks to European sites to inform the emerging development of the Deposit Plan.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Approach

2.1.1 The ISA methodology has referenced guidance provided in several documents. These include:

- Welsh Government Development Plans Manual, Edition 3 (2020) <sup>27</sup>
- ODPM Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (2005) <sup>28</sup>
- ODPM A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2005) <sup>29</sup>
- RTPI Improving the Effectiveness and Efficiency of SEA/SA for Land Use Plans (2018) <sup>30</sup>
- EU Guidance on Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity into Strategic Environmental Assessment (2013) <sup>31</sup>
- EU Guidance on the implementation of Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (2022) <sup>32</sup>
- EU Environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes: Directive 2001/42/EC ('SEA' Directive) rulings of the Court of Justice of the European union (2022) <sup>33</sup>

### 2.2 Undertaking the ISA

2.2.1 ISA is an iterative process and the outcomes of the appraisals have helped inform the final version of the Second Deposit rLDP published for consultation. Where elements of the rLDP have not changed from the Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy (published for consultation in December 2018) and First Deposit rLDP (published for consultation in January 2020), the previous respective SA appraisal remains valid and is either signposted to or reproduced in this ISA Report – as further outlined in Chapter 5. Chapter 6 reflects the appraisal of those elements within the Second Deposit rLDP which are novel, have been altered from the result of consultation, and or deemed necessary due to the updated baseline data.

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<sup>27</sup> [Development Plans Manual \(Edition 3\) March 2020 | GOV.WALES](#)

<sup>28</sup> [Sustainability appraisal of regional spatial strategies and local development documents, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister - Publication Index | NBS \(thenbs.com\)](#)

<sup>29</sup> [A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>30</sup> [RTPI | Strategic Environmental Assessment: SEA/SA for Land Use Plans](#)

<sup>31</sup> [Guidance on integrating climate change and biodiversity into strategic environmental assessment - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](#)

<sup>32</sup> [SEA Guidance \(europa.eu\)](#)

<sup>33</sup> [Environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](#)

## 2.3 The Integrated Sustainability Framework

- 2.3.1 The ISA Framework provides a consistent basis for describing, analysing, and comparing the sustainability effects of the objectives, options, specific policies, and proposals of the rLDP. The Framework is objective-led and, therefore, the strategic objectives and options outlined are assessed on its contribution to achieving the ISA objectives.
- 2.3.2 The framework sets out sustainability objectives that are based on sound evidence and reflect the challenges faced within the plan area. The objectives were developed in consideration of the following inputs, all of which are detailed in the SA Scoping Report:
- The Review of Plans, Programmes and Policies
  - Baseline Information
  - Identified sustainability issues and opportunities
  - Responses and feedback from consultation with consultation bodies and public
- 2.3.3 The full SA framework is provided in Appendix C. In summary, the objectives reflect the topics identified within Schedule 2 of the *SEA Directive* in addition to supplementary objectives relating to the integrated components, climate change and socio-economic factors, amongst others. The 15 ISA Objectives that make up the framework are shown in Table 2, as well as the corresponding SEA issue and integrated components those which relate to.
- 2.3.4 To aid in the assessment process each objective is supported by several sub-objectives and accompanying ‘decision making criteria’, which will facilitate the assessment process and assist in the interpretation of the main objective. Whilst remaining holistic in scope and not exclusively refining the consideration of integrated components (and associated potential impacts thereof) to specific sub-objectives, the integration of requirements under the Welsh Language is explicit within sub-objectives 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, 11-1; and for the EqIA (inc. associated duties) through 6-3, 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, 11-1, 13-1, 13-2, 13-3, 14-2, 15-2, 15-3, 15-4; among others. Additionally, considerations outlined in paragraph 1.4 are collectively encompassed in the decision-making criteria of ISA1, through the deliberation on whether the LDP will encourage needs to be met locally. Therefore, in this regard, truly sustainable development cannot be achieved unless the rLDP is likely to have a holistic positive and balanced effect upon the County, as determined through this appraisal and its integral components.



Table 2 – ISA Objectives and their relation to SEA Directive Issues and elements of the integrated components. \* = including respective Equality and Socio-Economic Duties.

ISA Objective		ISA1 Sustainable Development	ISA2 Biodiversity	ISA3 Air Quality	ISA4 Climatic Factors	ISA5 Water	ISA6 Material Assets	ISA7 Soil	ISA8 Cultural Heritage & Historic	ISA9 Landscape	ISA10 Population	ISA11 The Welsh Language	ISA12 Health & Well being	ISA13 Education and Skills	ISA14 Economy	ISA15 Social Fabric	
Corresponding SEA Issues			Biodiversity, fauna, flora	Air	Climatic factors	Water	Material assets	Soil	Cultural heritage inc. architectural...	Landscape	Population		Human health				
<b>ISA Objective Integrated Components</b>																	
WBFGA Goals	Cohesive	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Culture / Language	X					X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
	Responsible	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X		
	Prosperous	X					X		X	X	X			X		X	
	Resilient	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	
	Healthier	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X			X	
	Equal	X		X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	
	Welsh Language	X								X	X	X					X
	EqlA*	X						X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Mental Health (HIA)	X						X			X		X				X
	Area Statement	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X		X		X	X
Section 6 Duty	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X							

## 2.4 Determining Effect Significance

2.4.1 Prediction of effects involves identifying changes to the environmental baseline which are predicted to arise from the implementation of the plan, including alternatives. Annex II of the *SEA Directive* sets criteria for the determining of likely significant effects. They are a combination of:

- The **magnitude** of the plan's effects, including the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects, the degree to which it influences other plans, and environmental problems relevant to the plan.
- The **sensitivity** of the receiving environment, including the value and vulnerability of the area, exceeded environmental quality standards, and effects on designated areas or landscapes.
- **Effect characteristics**, including probability, duration, frequency, reversibility, cumulative effects, transboundary effects, risks to human health or the environment, and the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects.

2.4.2 Given the broad nature of plan proposals and the difficulty of separating other causes of the effects and, therefore, a qualitative approach can be the most meaningful and encompassing. However, qualitative does not mean 'guessed', and predictions must be supported by evidence. Once the evidence has been considered, a judgement must be formed on whether the predicted effect is considered significant or not. Figure 2 provides a framework by which judgements of significance can be made consistently and ensuring prediction, certainty, evaluation, and mitigation are incorporated into the appraisal.

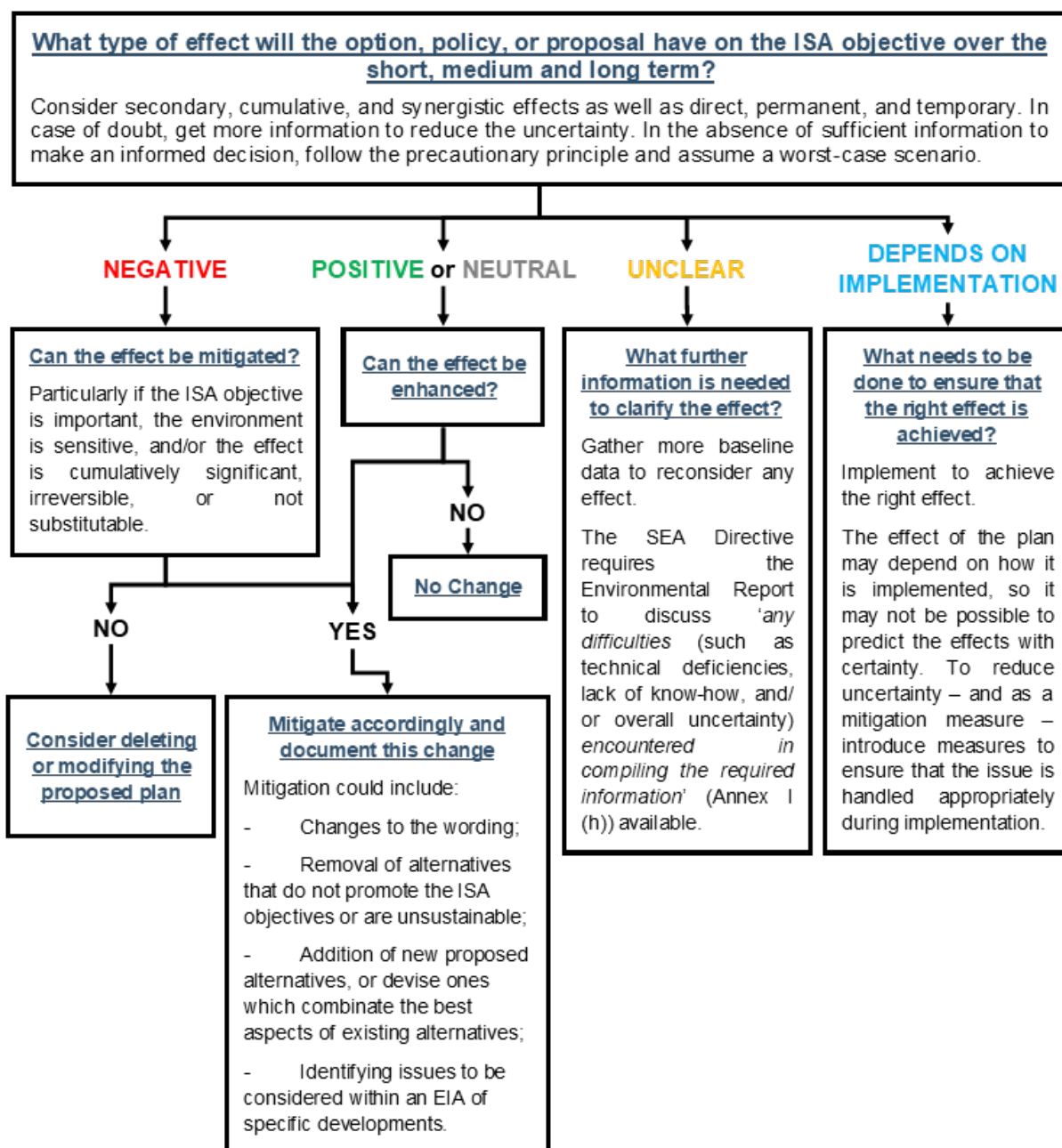


Figure 2 – The ISA Process assessing the effects of the rLDP and its components (adapted from ODPM A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2005).

## 2.5 Timescales

2.5.1 The SEA Directive also requires the analysis of effects to include ‘short, medium, and long-term, permanent, and temporary ... effects’ (Annex I(f)). Effects may vary over different timescales, e.g., adverse short-term effects from disturbance of habitats but beneficial ones in the long term from reductions in air pollution or greenhouse gases. Therefore, the ISA will consider effects over three timescales.

- Short Term: 0 – 5 years;
- Medium Term: 6 – 10 years;
- Long Term: 11 – 20 years.

2.5.2 For ease of comparability, timescales were standardised and are, therefore, consistent throughout this assessment. However, despite the definitive timescales stated above, those effects which may potentially exceed 20 years are included as Long Term (particularly relevant for air pollution and climate change).

## 2.6 Baseline Scenario

2.6.1 To meet SEA requirements (SEA Regulations – Regulation 12 and Schedule 2(2)) it is necessary to identify the likely evolution of the plan area without implementation of a revised plan. Establishing what the situation might be without the rLDP (i.e., the business-as-usual scenario) involves asking how current policies, practices and trends might change in the future in the absence of any active intervention through the LDP. The business-as-usual situation should be used as a benchmark against which to compare the implications and performance of other options. As this is a revision of the current LDP, the baseline against which all options and policies are considered is how the area would change under the current development plan in the absence of new policies being introduced. The current plan would run from 2006 to 2021 and after that, there would be no plan in place unless the revised LDP was adopted and, therefore, this is the baseline scenario.

2.6.2 This appraisal has been carried out with consideration of existing plans, programmes, and policies in place as part of the baseline scenario. It is important to be aware that some of these plans, programmes and policies may already mitigate some of the negative effects that have the potential to occur as the result of the revised LDP and this has been considered as part of the assessment. A full list of relevant plans, programmes and policies is included in Appendix A. Regard is had to existing national planning policy including associated Technical Advice Notes (TANs).

## 2.7 Impact Matrices

2.7.1 To test the compatibility of the strategic options and policies with the ISA Framework, matrices have been used to summarise the appraisal using the criteria outlined in Table 3. The way the objectives, policies and sites contribute to achieving the ISA Framework objectives is indicated by the following symbols:

**Table 3 – ISA assessment criteria for draft policies and reasonable alternatives, as adapted from Welsh Government Development Plans Manual Edition 3 (2020).**

Symbol	Predicted Effect	Suggested action/response
++	Very positive effect – the subject of the appraisal would significantly help in achieving the Sustainability objective.	Consider whether very positive effect can be further enhanced
+	Positive effect - the subject of the appraisal would help in achieving the Sustainability objective.	Consider whether positive effect can be further enhanced
+/-	Positive and negative effects – the subject of the appraisal would help some elements of the Sustainability objective whilst hindering others.	Consider mitigation for negative effects and whether positive effects can be enhanced
-	Negative effect - the subject of the appraisal would conflict with the Sustainability objective.	Consider mitigation such as delete/reconsider/amend the policy or site allocation; reconsider the policy or proposed use.



--	Very negative effect - the subject of the appraisal would be in significant conflict with the Sustainability objective.	Significant mitigation measures to reduce severity or effect; reconsider the policy or proposed use
I	Effect on the Sustainability objective depends on how the policy and allocations are implemented	Suggestions for implementation
0	Neutral effect compared to the current situation	Consider whether intervention could bring positive effects
?	Uncertain effect –more information needed	Consider where this will come from – who has it? What will be done about collecting it? When will it be collected?

2.7.2 A separate assessment was developed to assess site specific criteria, in addition to preferred growth options and the ISA Monitoring Framework. This methodology is outlined in Section 6.8, Section 6.2, and Chapter 8, respectively. For clarity, unless a different matrices is otherwise stated, the presentation of assessment outcomes contained throughout this document used the criteria outlined in Table 3. Where appropriate, appendices contain their respective impact matrices for further convenience.

2.7.3 The SEA Directive also requires the analysis of ‘secondary, cumulative, synergistic, ... permanent and temporary, positive, and negative effects’ (Annex I(f)). Table 4 outlines the definition of secondary (or indirect), cumulative and synergistic effects, as considered in this ISA. Those identified thought this assessment are summarised in Section 6.9, although originated within respective commentaries.

**Table 4 – Definitions of Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic Effects. Adapted from A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, ODPM (2005).**

Type of Effect	Definition
Secondary (or indirect)	Effects that are not a direct result of the plan but occur away from the original effect or because of a complex pathway
Cumulative	Effects arise, for instance, where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect; or where several individual effects of the plan (e.g., noise, dust and visual) have a combined effect.
Synergistic	Effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.

## 2.8 Mitigation and Recommendations

2.8.1 Where deemed appropriate, mitigation measures are recommended in alignment with the mitigation hierarchy (to avoid, minimise, or offset, in sequential order) to counter the likely adverse effects of the proposed options/policies contained within the rLDP. Additionally, potential enhancement opportunities were also identified, and further recommendations were made (as highlighted in Figure 2). These are primarily noted in the respective commentaries of the appraised subject matter. Given the iterative development between the rLDP and the ISA process, mitigation and enhancement measures were reported on a continual ad hoc basis, and collaboration between those responsible for undertaking the rLDP/ISA was undertaken to best resolve identified likely adverse issues.

## 2.9 Technical Limitations and Uncertainties

2.9.1 As stated within the EU Guidance on *Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity into Strategic Environmental Assessment (2013)*<sup>34</sup>, both climate change and biodiversity involve complex systems which are interwoven with range of socioeconomic and other environmental aspects of the built and natural environment. Therefore, this complexity of associated issues and cause-effect relationships is not exclusive to ISA4 and ISA2. Decision making influences within the ISA Framework includes those recommended within this EU Guidance (i.e., is the implementation of the proposed plan/policy likely to have any significant direct positive or negative effects on the expected future state of the environment in the study area?; is the implementation of the proposed plan/policy likely to significantly alter drivers or trends in the key issues?) to assist in the appraisal and help identify potential effects. However, limitations when identified are appropriately documented and discussed.

2.9.2 Some uncertainty may remain in predicting effects and determining significance. Alongside the complex variation in natural systems and how they are influenced by the human environment, considerations are made to the absence of sufficient data specified to the local context and/or current scientific understanding to fundamentally determine the causation of perceived effects. Therefore, it is accepted that the level of risk and uncertainty associated with cumulative effects increases at the strategic level because the scope is wider, and the issues typically larger. Where this has occurred, the uncertainty is identified within the appraisal matrices (as shown in Table 3) and, as a matter of precaution, is accompanied by mitigation measure to remediate potential adverse effects. Nevertheless, uncertainties in predicting effects and determining significance do not impact upon the robustness of this report.

2.9.3 To help overcome unknown factors within the proposed monitoring framework, proxy indicators were used when direct indicators are not presently available (e.g., ground ozone level). Additionally, the allowances made for adaptive management during the monitoring stage (as later discussed in Chapter 8) would enable appropriate remedial action to be taken in response to future changes and unanticipated adverse effects.

2.9.4 Due to the timing in preparing this present ISA report, demography and migration data from the Census 2021 was not included in the baseline at the time of consultation. These updates and any other releases aim be reflected later.

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<sup>34</sup> [Guidance on Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity into Strategic Environmental Assessment \(2013\)](#)

### 3. Relevant Plans, Policies, and Programmes

- 3.0.1 The development of the rLDP takes place within a framework of legislation and guidance and is informed by the objectives and aspirations of other plans, policies, and programmes from international to local level. The Plan's direct influence will be restricted to the use and development of land and buildings, but it also has the potential to be an important tool for the implementation of a wide range of objectives contained in other plans and strategies. Policy integration is essential if LDPs are to build on and add value to other plans and strategies.
- 3.0.2 This Chapter summarises the relationship between the LDP and other plans, policies, and programmes (PPP) at all levels, and indicates how the requirements of other PPP have been considered in the development of the Plan through the ISA process.
- 3.0.3 A review of relevant PPP at international, national, regional, and local level has been undertaken within the SA Scoping Report. This is to identify the relationship between the rLDP and other applicable sustainability objectives that must be considered within this ISA. See Appendix A for a list of the relevant PPP and web links to their source. Where applicable, a description of the documents and their relevance to the Plan has been included, however, this does not include a definitive account of their contents. Whilst comprehensive, Appendix A is non-exhaustive and will be updated through the developmental stages of the ISA and rLDP to best inform the requirements of the Plan.

#### 3.1 International Summary

- 3.1.1 The international level legislative instruments and strategies represent the highest tier of the sustainable development agenda that is then required to be transposed into Member State legislation. International legislation often subsequently informs the content of PPP at the national, sub-regional and local level that effectively directs on-the-ground delivery of the sustainability agenda.
- 3.1.2 Relevant United Nations (UN) conventions, treaties, and agreements (which the UK has ratified) help establish an international framework for promoting sustainable development across international, national, and local scales, and influence decision making across a range of concerns, including:
- Poverty Alleviation;
  - Education & Gender Equality;
  - Access to Clean Water & Food;
  - Climate Change & Access to Renewable Energy;
  - Sustained Economic Growth & Sustainable Development;
  - Resilient Infrastructure & Innovation;
  - Establishing Connected Communities With Reduced Inequalities; and
  - Conservation of Environments, Nature, & Heritage.
- 3.1.3 The European Directives and strategies reviewed concern environmental issues that are of considerable importance at the global scale, yet require localised action to be effective, and include:
- Climate Change, Air Quality, & Renewable Energy;
  - Establishing Sustainable Communities;
  - Delivering Sustainable Transport Systems;
  - Managing Natural Resources Efficiently
  - Establishing Patterns of Sustainable Production & Consumption;
  - Promoting Social Inclusion & Fighting Poverty; and
  - Conserving/Enhancing Biodiversity & Water Environment .

- 3.1.4 Reference is made to the transposition of European legislation into national law because of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union and the implications of the *European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018*<sup>35</sup>. In this respect the implications and outcomes of the repealing on the one hand the European Communities Act, and on the other hand to transposing of the EU secondary legislation – regulations and directives already enforceable in the UK – into domestic laws will be monitored and the SA amended where appropriate to reflect any impacts.

## 3.2 National Summary

- 3.2.1 The sustainability themes covered by the national PPP documents reflect environmental issues important at the international scale, cascaded down to the regional level as well as issues of specific relevance to Wales, particularly with respect to social and economic issues. The social aspects covered by the national level documents include the need to reflect the well-being objectives and deliver safe, inclusive, and healthy communities in which social exclusion is minimised and access to facilities is maximised. A strong theme of some of the national level documents is to strengthen cultural identities and to support cultural distinctiveness and the prominence of the Welsh language.
- 3.2.2 Responding to local community needs through development is also a theme echoed through these documents. Minimising the need to travel, supported by integrated and healthier forms of transportation is also reiterated by the national policy and strategy documents. The environmental issues covered in the national documents are commonly based upon the need to conserve biodiversity and protected sites and habitats. A strong theme underpinning many of the policies/strategies is to provide the capacity for habitats, species, and the natural environment to respond to a changing climate by allowing time and space for adaptation. The need to protect the quality and availability of water resources was also noted during the PPP review. High quality urban design is also cited as a key component of delivering sustainable communities.
- 3.2.3 The economic themes of the national documents typically centre upon the need to encourage a more diversified and high value Welsh economy that maximises the country's extensive natural assets. Tourism is a key theme of several national level documents, as is the need to move towards capturing renewable technologies markets.

## 3.3 Local Summary

- 3.3.1 The sub-Wales and Carmarthenshire level policy documents and strategies also reflect the sustainability themes highlighted within several international and national documents; for example, increasing access to services via integrated transport facilities and meeting community needs at the local level.
- 3.3.2 Local documents such as the Well-being Plan seek to tackle issues pertinent to Carmarthenshire such as exclusion, the need to promote sustainable access to services, delivering safe and healthy communities, promoting education and employment, and regenerating and developing the labour market. The need to develop a high value-added and diverse economy also mirrors the policies and strategies set out in some of the national level documents. The need to minimise energy expenditure, use energy efficiently and invest in less damaging sources of energy is a key theme of Carmarthenshire's Climate Change Strategy. The Council has declared both a Nature and Climate Emergency (in addition to Welsh Government) and is committed to resolving the fundamental issues driving these.

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<sup>35</sup> [European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act 2018](#)



## 4. Environmental Baseline and Predicted Effects without rLDP Implementation

### 4.1 Baseline Summary

- 4.1.1 This section summarises the environmental baseline conditions of the County and provides an update to the Scoping Report and previous SA Report. The baseline information for the ISA comprises of quantitative and qualitative information and data describing the social, economic, and environmental state of the Plan area. The *SEA Regulations* require that the Environmental Report contains a commentary on the likely predicted effect on the environmental baseline, both with and without the implementation of the revised LDP.
- 4.1.2 The baseline information for Carmarthenshire has been collated under a series of headings and can be found in Appendix B. These heading have, in the interests of consistency, been grouped under broadly the same headings as those used within the existing adopted LDP. However, they have been changed to include Welsh language as a separate heading, to reflect the position of the Welsh language within the County and its communities.

### 4.2 Future Trends

- 4.2.1 The SA Scoping Report initially brought together a detailed analysis of the current state of the social, economic, and environmental situation across Carmarthenshire, in addition to those characteristic likely to be affected by the rLDP as well as relevant existing problems. The outcome of this has been updated to reflect more recent considerations which have since occurred, in addition to the increased evidence base/period now covered by the baseline.
- 4.2.2 Table 5 presents the likely evolution of the ISA objectives against the baseline aspects of the social, economic, and environmental situations, without the implementation of the rLDP. These likely future trends are either static, improving, or declining. Future trends were determined via the analysis of the baseline data and how these trends are expected to change over the Plan period. Further commentary on these trends can be found in Appendix B under each respective heading. A condensed summary has been provided below to clarify the determination of each outcome and how the Plan could response to this.

**Table 5 – Likely evolution of the baseline aspects of the social, economic, and environmental situations in the absence of a rLDP.**

ISA Objective	Future Baseline	Baseline Summary
ISA1 – Sustainable Development	Static	Despite several supportive regulations and strategies which are expected to be delivered within (or after) the Plan period, as this objective is, in part, a relation of the preceding objectives influencing 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, it was found that several are likely to be declining in absence of the rLDP. Therefore, the Plan will be crucial in directing and promoting sustainable development, and it must aim to resolve (where feasible) localised issues in the context of Carmarthenshire and the wider impacts that development may create.
ISA2 – Biodiversity	Declining	Multiple source evidence that biodiversity loss is accelerating at unprecedented levels. There have been some improvements in the status of individual species populations, however, SoNaRR shows that biodiversity is declining overall. The impact/implementation of associated plans (e.g., 30by30) are yet to reverse this. The Plan will be vital in limiting the effects of development upon biodiversity within the local area and safeguarding natural resources for future generations.
ISA3 – Air Quality	Improving	Air quality remains a risk to human health although has improved greatly since the 1970s. Whilst development will impact air quality, there are strict regulations particularly within the three AQMZs in Carmarthenshire. Levels of Nitrogen Dioxide currently breach legal levels in localised hotspots, although Air Quality Emission Indicators (StatsWales) show a declining trend for all air pollutants.
ISA4 – Climatic Factors	Declining	The consequences of climate change are predicted to be increasingly felt within Wales and there has been limited efforts to increase our resilience to such impact. Greenhouse gas emissions have reduced since the 1990s, despite some periods of increases. There are several associated plans including Net Zero (both locally and nationally). Development must be sustainable to contribute to mitigating climate related issues. New developments must be climate resilient and energy efficiency. Flood risk is increasing with Wales.
ISA5 – Water	Declining	Increased flooding poses a significant risk to many community within Carmarthenshire. With relation to phosphates, development and subsequent sewage will impact riverine SACs, negatively effecting water quality in addition to biodiversity and soil health. The Plan must mitigate diffuse pollution created by development and impacting upon water resource and quality, and factor in appropriate flooding models.
ISA6 – Material Assets	Improving	Wales is recognised as having the highest household recycling rate in the UK and is ranked third globally. There is limited extraction of Carmarthenshire’s finite resources. Efforts are made to promote the use of sustainable modes of transport. An increased focus towards electrifying the transport network is needed to meet future demand, alongside national policy.

ISA Objective	Future Baseline	Baseline Summary
ISA7 – Soil	Declining	Losses in soil carbon within habitat land have recently been observed, although appears stable elsewhere. Development will reduce finite soil resources and quality. Agriculture, wastewater treatment, and diffuse pollution continue to reduce soil health and biodiversity (factors which are interlinked). Regeneration of contaminated land is needed to conserve soil assets, including high quality agricultural land and high carbon soils (i.e., peatlands), and avoid further losses of soils to non-permeable surfaces and minimise soil erosion.
ISA8 – Cultural Heritage & Historic Environment	Static	Assessment of Welsh monuments found 50% to be stable/improved and 50% worsened in condition. The County has several sites of archaeological importance, numerous listed buildings, scheduled monuments, registered historic parks, gardens, and landscapes. As a requirement under WBFGA and various Acts, these factors must be preserved and conserved in the context of new development.
ISA9 – Landscape	Declining	Landscape is inextricably linked and interconnected with habitat and the countryside which are under huge anthropogenic pressures (including climate change and urbanisation). Any change (including development) within the landscape of Carmarthenshire may negatively affect this irreplaceable resource and associated amenity. Principles of sustainable design, development limits, and landscape protection measures should be strengthened.
ISA10 – Population	Improving	Birth rate in Carmarthenshire is declining (Carmarthenshire County Council, Sep 2018), and changes in demographics (inc. age structure) is apparent with more young people leaving the County (although this has seemed to fluctuate in more recent years. Despite this, population (190,073 in 2020) is projected to increase to ~193,765 by the end of the Plan period. Current LDP affordable housing policy continues to support affordable housing stock, and local policy targets for 2022–2027 include the creation of over 1000 affordable properties (promoting the retention of young people).

ISA Objective	Future Baseline	Baseline Summary
ISA11 – Welsh Language	Improving	<p>Carmarthenshire is linguistically sensitive and has the highest number of Welsh speakers out of any County in Wales. Evidence from the Annual Population Survey suggests that the number of persons aged 3 and over in the county who say they can speak Welsh since the time of the last Census in 2011 has grown significantly. Since March 2011 the number (+9,200) and percentage (+9.56%) of persons age 3 and over who say they can speak Welsh has grown to March 2018 and by a further 3,500 (5.4%) to March 2022 <sup>36</sup>. The national target is for one million Welsh speakers by 2050, and there have been notable increases in recent years. However, it is important to recognise localised changes/declines may occur. Inward migration and other factors (including age structure, and other demographics) may negatively impact the proportion of Welsh speakers by challenging language transition, particularly within rural areas in Carmarthenshire which are known strongholds for the Welsh Language. The ability to read, write and understand spoken Welsh fluctuates annually however, since 2014 rates have risen slightly to 45.2%, 42.5%, and 58%, respectively. Coupled with increases in the provision of Welsh medium schools, language immersion is likely to improve rates over the long-term, potentially mitigating the original adverse effect created by inward migration.</p>
ISA12 – Health and Well-being	Declining	<p>The County has an ageing population with increasing rates of overweightness/obesity (54%) and mental illnesses, amongst other ailments. Inequalities in life expectancy and mortality remain wide, with a growing disparity between females and males. Lack of access to health services and open spaces (GBI) remains to disproportionately effect many communities within Carmarthenshire. The impacts of COVID-19 remain throughout the County and its' health service. Secondary impacts on physical and mental health caused by fuel poverty and the cost-of-living crisis affects many throughout the UK. While Carmarthenshire has a high provision of public open spaces, open space assessment indicates areas of deficiency impacting upon 12-2 and 12-4.</p>
ISA13 – Education and Skills	Improving	<p>Overall, education rates in Wales are improving, and achievement in 2022 within Carmarthenshire were greater than the year prior. There are several recent/planned developments which support higher education (e.g., Canolfan yr Egin, Pentre Awel). Nevertheless, increasing population may place pressure on education services.</p>

<sup>36</sup> The APS estimates of Welsh language ability are historically higher than those produced by the Census.



ISA Objective	Future Baseline	Baseline Summary
ISA14 – Economy	Static	<p>Forecasts for 2023 indicate a -0.3% decline in UK GDP (Oct 2022). GDP in Wales fell by 2.4% (Jan – March 2020), 1.1% (Oct - Dec 2019), nevertheless, there have been positive increases within this period. There has been a -1.8% annual change in the economic activity rate within Carmarthenshire (working age) (Sep 2018). The County has several communities of deprivation (WIMD). The impacts of COVID-19, political and economic instability (e.g., Brexit, Cost of living crisis) remain high, and challenge most of Carmarthenshire’s communities. The Plan must direct growth to revitalise the local economy, and support employment and affordable housing, and complement Carmarthenshire’s Economic Recovery &amp; Delivery Plan (in addition to other regional/national strategies).</p>
ISA15 – Social Fabric	Improving	<p>Community cohesion is reportedly increasing across Wales, with more people getting along and treating each other with respect (National Survey for Wales). Crime has fallen relative to previous years. Within Carmarthenshire, impacts from COVID-19 on homelessness has decreased, although pressures on housing stocks and affordable housing (and location thereof) remains a significant issue for people in both urban and rural settings (having consequential effects upon sense of place, and health and wellbeing).</p>

## 5. Iterative Assessment: Previous SA Works

### 5.1 Overview

- 5.1.1 Whilst there has been a continual dialogue between the SA (now ISA) process and the multiple iterations of the rLDP at various stages of progression (as demonstrated above), to aid clarity and avoid repetition within the present report, this following Section summarises the results of previously appraised components which were key in informing the Preferred Strategy to the Second Deposit rLDP.
- 5.1.2 The rLDP Preferred Strategy was published for consultation in December 2018, and was subject to SA which was documented and published within the Initial SA Report<sup>37</sup>. Following this, the First Deposit rLDP was published for consultation in January 2020 and was accompanied by an SA Report. Previously published assessments have been signposted within this present Section for additional clarity.
- 5.1.3 Where appropriate, full matrices and accompanying commentary presented in these original reports are now provided in this section. The Vision, LDP Objectives, and Spatial Strategy within the Second Deposit rLDP are the same as those contained within the rLDP Preferred Strategy (2018). Additional Growth Options were presented in the First Deposit rLDP and assessed against the SA Framework within the accompanying SA Report (2020), and are, therefore, also presented within this Section. Nevertheless, further Growth Options were incorporated in the Second Deposit rLDP and these will be assessed in Chapter 6.

### 5.2 Details of the process

- 5.2.1 Preparation of the draft LDP Preferred Strategy began in July 2018 and included the development of the Council's Vision, Objectives, Strategic Options and Policies. This document was published for consultation in December 2018 and was supported by an Initial SA Report which was published as part of the consultation documents. Several responses were received at this stage, and accepted changes were made to both the developing Plan and SA.
- 5.2.2 A call for candidate sites was completed between February and August 2018. Each site was subject to the Site Assessment Methodology (SAM) process, resulting in several sites being rejected and, therefore, not subject to SA. Several sites were discarded during the Stage 1 filtering exercise, which removed all sites failing to comply with the Preferred Strategy (i.e., site is divorced from the settlement and would result in development in the open countryside).
- 5.2.3 Several sites were also rejected because of the conclusions of the Stage 2 candidate site assessment. This stage assessed each site to establish suitability for inclusion in the Deposit LDP against considerations including environmental impact and sustainability, local context and character, accessibility, and deliverability constraints (flood risk, viability etc). All remaining sites were subject to both SA and HRA.
- 5.2.4 Following this, the First Deposit rLDP was published for consultation in January 2020 and was accompanied by the SA Report as part of the consultation documents. As a result of this, three responses were made regarding the SA and approximately 200 focus changes were suggested to be made for to the Plan.
- 5.2.5 Due to unforeseen circumstances, the First Deposit rLDP was then reacted from continuing to examination, chiefly in response to the findings of Nature Resources Wales' Compliance Assessment of Welsh River Special Areas of Conservation Against

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<sup>37</sup> [Preferred Strategy | Initial SA Report December 2018](#)

Phosphorus Targets <sup>38</sup>, initiated through a recommendation made by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee to adopt tighter targets of associated nutrient pollution.

- 5.2.6 Council on the 9th of March 2022 agreed to the Revised Delivery Agreement timetable and allow the preparation of a Second Deposit rLDP. This provided time to evaluate the implications and for essential evidence to be gathered and mitigation options to be developed to address the phosphate issue. To the fullest extent of the rLDP’s remit, it also allowed for the reflection and response to Covid-19 recovery, net zero carbon and decarbonisation agenda, nature emergency, TAN15 and Revised DAMS Maps, and Future Wales: The National Plan 2040. The second revised Delivery Agreement was agreed by Welsh Government.
- 5.2.7 Where Focussed Changes remained relevant, the Second Deposit rLDP incorporated the previously agreed amendments and were subsequently reviewed and, where necessary, re-examined through the ISA (and HRA) to mitigate any potential implications.

### 5.3 Previous SA of the rLDP Vision

- 5.3.1 The draft rLDP Vision was initially presented in the Preferred Strategy. The Initial SA concluded that the draft Vision successfully addressed most aspects of the SA framework. Later, the SA recommended that minor changes were made to the wording, to make direct reference to the importance of Welsh Language within Carmarthenshire. Following feedback from the Initial SA Report and representations received during Preferred Strategy consultation (December 2018 to January 2019), the Vision was revised for its inclusion in the First Deposit rLDP. The revised Vision was then re-assessed against the SA Framework (Table 6).

**Table 6 – Outcome from testing the draft Preferred Strategy (December 2018) and Deposit LDP (January 2020) Vision against the ISA Framework.**

	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	
Draft Vision (2018)	+	+	?	?	?	+	?	?	?	+	0	+	+	+	+	
Deposit Vision (2019)	+	+	?	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	+	Positive alignment between Vision & Sustainability Objective														
	?	Unknown alignment between Vision & Sustainability Objective														
	0	No direct link between Vision & Sustainability Objective														
	-	Potential conflict between Vision & Sustainability Objective														

<sup>38</sup> [Compliance Assessment of Welsh River SACs Against Phosphorus Targets I NRW](#)

## 5.4 Previous SA of the Strategy Objectives

- 5.4.1 Whilst the Strategic Objectives within the current Adopted LDP were utilised as a starting point for the identification of strategic objectives for the rLDP, the emergence of contextual and policy drivers including the Well Being of Future Generations Act 2015 and the signing of the Swansea Bay City Deal in 2017, created need for them to be reviewed. From the outset, Carmarthenshire Well Being Plan’s wellbeing objective themes were utilised to group the Plan’s Strategic Objectives to ensure that a local interpretation of wellbeing is interwoven into the strategic objectives and the Plan’s strategy.
- 5.4.2 The fourteen draft Strategic Objectives were presented in Section 8 of the LDP Preferred Strategy and were subject to testing against the SA framework within the Initial SA Report (Section 3.2). The results of this assessment are set out here (Figure 3) and are also presented, with accompanying commentary, in Table 4 and Figure 3 of the Initial SA Report.
- 5.4.3 Following feedback from the initial SA process and representations received during Preferred Strategy consultation (December 2018 to January 2019), minor changes were made to two of the Strategic Objectives. Wording was added to SO7 to include reference to renewable energy and SO10 was changed to include reference to ensuring an appropriate number and mix of housing was considered. These minor changes were reassessed against the SA framework; however, no changes were made to the impacts and opportunities identified outlined within the SA Report for the First Deposit rLDP.

Figure 3 – Appraisal of Draft Strategic Objectives (Source: Figure 3 of Initial SA of LDP Preferred Strategy 2018)

	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15
SO1	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	?	0	0	0
SO2	+	?	0	0	?	+	0	0	?	+	0	+	0	0	+
SO3	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+
SO4	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+
SO5	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0
SO6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+
SO7	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
SO8	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	?	+	0	+	0	0	+
SO9	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+
SO10	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+
SO11	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	+
SO12	+	-	-	?	-	?	0	0	-	+	?	+	+	+	+
SO13	+	-	-	0	-	0		-	?	+	?	+	+	+	0
SO14	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	-	+	0	+	+	+	+

+	Positive alignment between Revised LDP Strategic Objective and Sustainability Objective
?	Unknown alignment between Revised LDP Strategic Objective and Sustainability Objective
0	No direct link between Revised LDP Strategic Objectives and Sustainability Objective
-	Potential conflict between Revised LDP Strategic Objectives and Sustainability Objective



## 5.5 Previous SA on the Growth Options

5.5.1 The rLDP must consider population, housing, and economic growth within the County over the fifteen-year plan period. As a consequence of the Revised Delivery Agreement, there has been multiple appraisals of potential Growth Options due to the consideration of new/updated projections by the developing rLDP as they have been released/devised. For clarity, there has essentially been three 'groups' of Growth Options and the first two groups (as presented initially within the Preferred Strategy Report 2018, and then in the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP) are deliberated in sequential order within this following Section. Please refer to the respective published reports for further information.

NB: The growth option presented below were not later considered in the final Plan. Those presented in Section 8 of the Second Deposit rLDP are later assessed in Section 6.3 of this report.

5.5.2 To inform the number of dwellings that will need to be provided for by the LDP, Edge Analytics were first commissioned to provide a range of different demographic projection scenarios termed 'Strategic Growth Options'. The Edge Analytics Report <sup>39</sup> considered the latest demographic evidence published by Welsh Government, the Office of National Statistics, and the Office for Budget Responsibility, as well as drawing on existing economic strategies including the Swansea Bay City Deal <sup>40</sup>, Carmarthenshire's Strategic Regeneration Plan <sup>41</sup> and Employment Sectoral Study <sup>42</sup>, linking economic growth, population change and housing.

5.5.3 The report by Edge Analytics considered eight growth projections:

- WG 2014 based principal projection
- WG 2014 (10-year average migration)
- Long Term (16 years of migration data)
- Medium Term (10 years of migration data)
- Short Term (Last 6 years of migration data)
- Pre-Recession (pre-2008) migration data

5.5.4 They also considered two employment-led scenarios:

- Fixed Commuter Rate
- Reducing Commuter Rate

5.5.5 These different demographic projection scenarios were tested in line with PPW and the Welsh Government Development Plans Manual. The Growth options selected were therefore considered to be realistic and reasonable. Full details of reasons for selecting each of the growth options is set out in Section 9 of the Revised LDP Preferred Strategy Report. It was not considered realistic to include an alternative relating to business as usual (i.e., the current LDP position) as the LDP is required by WG guidance to use the WG Growth Projections as a starting point. The resulting dwelling requirements were set out in the Initial SA Report (see Table 5) and are summarised in Table 7 below:

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<sup>39</sup>[Carmarthenshire Population & Household Forecasts October 2018](#)

<sup>40</sup>[Home | Swansea Bay City Deal](#)

<sup>41</sup>[A strategic regeneration plan for Carmarthenshire 2015-2030 – Transformations](#)

<sup>42</sup>[EMPLOYMENT SECTORAL STUDY I REPORT NO 70031978-001](#)

**Table 7 – Carmarthenshire Demographic Scenario Projections 2018-2033 (Source: Population & Household Projections Topic Paper, December 2018). \* = over plan period**

Growth Option	Total dwelling growth*
Option 1: WG 2014 based principal projection	3,367
Option 2: WG 2014 (10-year average migration)	6,542
Option 3: Short Term (6 years of migration data)	7,044
Option 4: Medium Term (10 years of migration data)	7,236
Option 5: Long Term (Last 16 years of migration data)	9,887
Option 6: Pre-Recession (pre-2008) migration data	14,090
Option 7: Reducing Commuting Rate	17,396
Option 8: Fixed Commuting Rate	19,690

- 5.5.6 The social, environmental, and economic effects and overall sustainability of each growth option was tested against the ISA framework. The results of this assessment are set out below (Figure 4) and are also presented in Figure 4 of the Initial SA Report. Option 1, as the starting point of the WG projections, was the baseline against which all other Options were assessed.
- 5.5.7 Full commentary of the SA of each growth option was presented in Table 6 of the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy. In summary, the growth options presented in the Preferred Strategy concluded that **Growth Options 1 and 2** perform better to preserving the County’s natural environmental resources. However, neither option sufficiently address existing socio-economic issues within the County, including the need for affordable housing, accessibility to community and health facilities and the retention of young people. Both options also provide for significantly lower employment growth than that projected in the Councils, Employment Sectoral study, and would not provide sufficient employment opportunities. The level of growth under **Options 4 and 5** are more likely to deliver these social and economic benefits. Additionally, **Options 7 and 8** have the most potential for negative environmental impacts, compared to other options. These impacts could be mitigated by sustainable site selection and sensitive implementation, with consideration for Carmarthenshire’s largely rural landscape and habitats of high biological value.
- 5.5.13 From the Initial SA Report, it emerged that Option 5 (Long Term equating to 659 dwellings per year) would likely achieve the most sustainable effects of all the options across the sustainability framework, with the greatest balance between economic, environmental, and social considerations.
- 5.5.14 Following on from this, it was anticipated that Welsh Government would publish the 2017 sub-national Population and Household projections in time to be considered for the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP. However, the release of these projections has been delayed and so considering this, the Council recommissioned Edge Analytics to update various housing requirement scenarios in the light of a range of new evidence, including Carmarthenshire’s 2018 mid-year population estimate and the draft National Development Framework. This updated report<sup>43</sup> presented three alternative demographic scenarios, which consider alternative migration histories from which to derive trend assumptions. The resulting dwelling requirements for each of the scenarios are outlined in Table 8.

<sup>43</sup> Edge Analytics – Carmarthenshire Population and Household Forecasts Addendum, Sept 2019

**Table 8 – Carmarthenshire Population Growth Scenario Projections 2018 – 2033. Edge Analytics Addendum 2019**

<b>PG Long Term (2019 Addendum Report)</b>			
Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the full seventeen-year historical period (2001/02-2017/18).			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (%)	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 9.6%	+ 12.0%	671	10,065

<b>PG 10 year (2019 Addendum Report)</b>			
Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on a ten-year historical period, ignoring the anomalous years around the immediate aftermath of the financial crash.			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (%)	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 8.1%	+ 10.6%	589	8,835

<b>PG Short Term (2019 Addendum Report)</b>			
Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the four-year historical period (2014/15-2017/18) which corresponds with the four-year period of recovery in housing growth.			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (%)	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 7.6%	+ 10.5%	585	8,769

5.5.15 With the 2017-based household projections not published at the time, household and dwelling growth under the demographic scenarios was estimated using assumptions from the WG 2014-based household projection model. In contrast to the population growth scenarios provided in the rLDP Preferred Strategy, the revised population projections provided in the 2019 Addendum exclude the small proportion of Carmarthenshire’s population that sits within the Brecon Beacons National Park. Excluding this geography from the Carmarthenshire scenarios results in a marginally smaller population total and growth outcomes.

5.5.16 The effects of each of the revised growth options were assessed against the SA Framework (Figure 4), and a full commentary is provided in Appendix 6 of the SA Report (2020).

Figure 4 – SA of Growth Options (Merged: Figure 4 Initial SA of Preferred Strategy Report 2018 and Table 14 SA Report of 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP 2020)

Growth Option (dwellings per annum)	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15
<b>Preferred Strategy Report 2018 (as contained within the Initial SA Report 2018)</b>															
Option 1 (224 dwellings)	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	0	+			--	-	--	?	--	--
Option 2 (436 dwellings)	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	0	+/-			-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 3 (470 dwellings)	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	0	+/-			-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 4 (482 dwellings)	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	0	+/-			-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 5 (659 dwellings)	+	+/-	+/--	+/-	+	0	+/-			+	+	?	?	+	+
Option 6 (939 dwellings)	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-			+	+	?	?	+	+
Option 7 (1,160 dwellings)	-	-	-	-	-	0	-			+	+/-	+	?	++	+
Option 8 (1,313 dwellings)	-	-	-	-	--	0	-			+	+/-	+	?	++	+
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP Preferred (as contained within the SA Report 2020)</b>															
PG Long Term (671 dwellings)	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	0	+/-			+	-	?	+/-	+	+
PG 10 Year (589 dwellings)	+	+/-	+/--	+/-	+	0	+/-			+	-	?	+/-	+	+
PG Short Term (585 dwellings)	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	0	+/-			+	-	?	+/-	+	+

- 5.5.17 It was determined that all options have the potential to impact negatively on the County's air quality due to increased transport and economic activity. Again, these impacts can be mitigated by sustainable site location with sufficient access to public transport. It is also important that Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) is considered and, where possible, ensure the provision of public goods (including air purification) through the protection of natural assets and ecosystem services.
- 5.5.18 All options support growth in the population and are therefore likely to contribute to increases in consumption, waste, and other activities such as transport. This could be addressed through sustainable design, integrating sustainable waste management and transport solutions into new development. Protecting GBI is also important to mitigate the effects of growth across the County, providing important carbon sink functions as well as providing land drainage and cooling effects.
- 5.5.19 All of the options have the potential to impact negatively on historic and cultural assets and landscape, depending on the selection of sites and implementation of development. These impacts could be mitigated by ensuring that design of new developments is sympathetic to local character and distinctiveness, and that the cultural and historic assets are protected.

## 5.6 Previous SA of the Spatial Options

- 5.6.1 The process of developing the Spatial Options for consideration was set out in Section 9, para 9.44 – 9.53 of the *Preferred Strategy Report (2018)*. Each Spatial Option reflects the need to have regard to legislation, national planning policy, local and regional strategies whilst recognising the specific characteristics, assets and issues which are prevalent in Carmarthenshire and form a strategic approach which delivers on the vision, and which promotes and guides development for the County.
- 5.6.2 The development of these options was informed by the available baseline evidence, as well as stakeholder views and the integrated objectives. These options are based on an understanding of the development potential of the County and the need to accommodate future growth requirements. In developing the options regard has also been had to the *Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015* and the wellbeing objectives developed by Carmarthenshire County Council and the Public Service Board.
- 5.6.3 Each Option considered different levels of scale and distribution of growth and explored the extent to which it could deliver sustainable development. The Options did not define precise site boundaries but provided a broad outline of how growth could be distributed across the County.
- 5.6.4 The SA process helped to inform the selection of the spatial strategy contained in the Preferred Strategy and provided a mechanism through which reasonable alternatives were considered.
- 5.6.5 The *LDP Preferred Strategy (2018)* initially detailed six spatial options for consideration (Table 9). The *Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy (2018)* assessed these six options against the SA Framework, and predicted the likely short, medium, and long term, positive and negative effects of each on the environmental baseline as outlined in the *SA Scoping Report (2018)*. A 'business as usual' Option was included (Option 1) which looked at continuing the spatial strategy of the current LDP. The results of this assessment are set out below in Table 10, and are also presented in Figure 5 of the Initial SA Report.



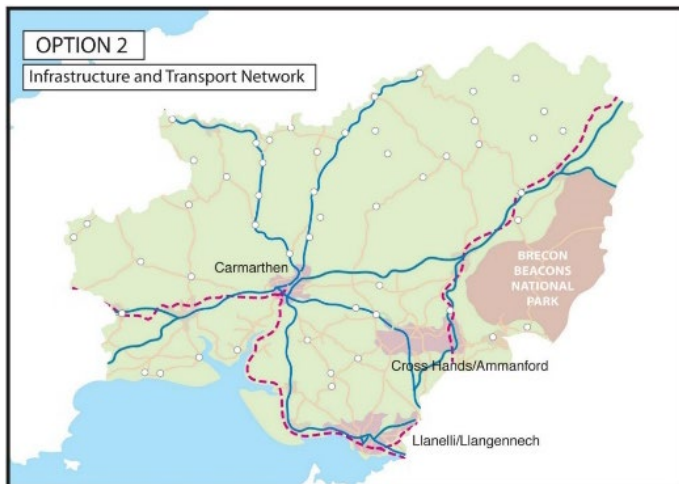
Table 9 – Summary of Spatial Options (as reported in the Draft Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy December 2018)



### Option 1 – Sustainable Distribution

Option 1 focusses growth proportionally across a hierarchy underpinned by the principles of sustainability. In doing so, this option:

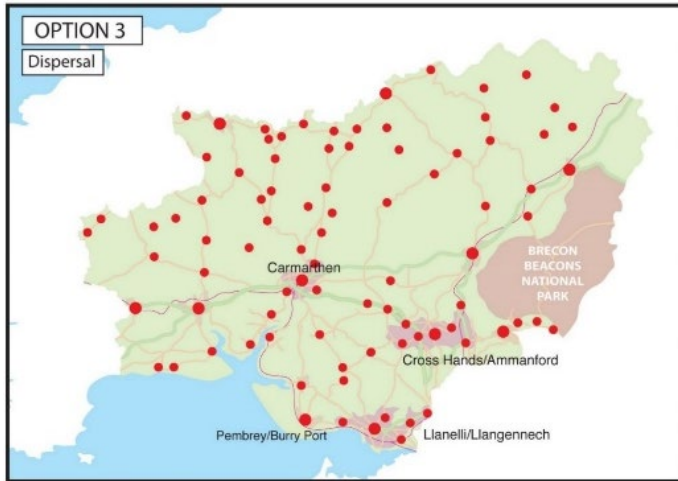
- Encourages the dispersal of employment, housing, and other types of development to identified settlements and village groups or clusters in a manner reflective of their existing scale, population and availability of facilities and services.
- Reflects the diversity of the County and growth is apportioned appropriately to urban and rural use areas.
- Focusses most of the employment growth in larger towns and villages.



### Option 2 – Infrastructure and Transport Network

Option 2 looks at the existing provision of utility infrastructure and the highway network across the County and aims to focus most growth in areas with the capacity for growth. This option seeks to encourage growth in areas which it can most feasibly be accommodated by:

- Encouraging growth along the key transport routes and junctions of the M4, A40, A48, A484, A474 and A485, as well as in locations accessible to other modes of transport including the rail network, cycle network and pedestrian linkages.
- Encouraging growth in areas where there is either current or planned capacity for the supply and treatment of water and waste water.
- Encouraging growth in areas where there are sufficient services and facilities to support communities.

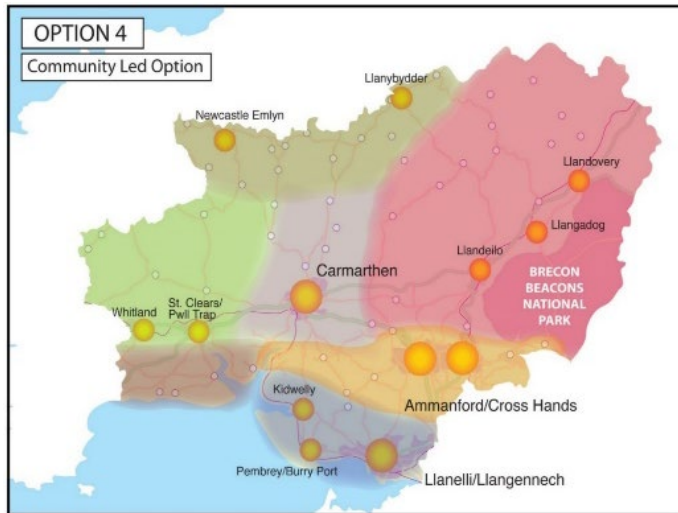


### Option 3 – Dispersal

Option 3 distributes housing, employment, and other forms of development on a broad basis between settlements within the County, both urban and rural.

It allows settlements to grow incrementally without necessarily taking account of the availability of services or facilities nor the impact which growth could have upon the existing communities and their capacity to accommodate and absorb growth.

This option would see a higher proportion of the County’s growth being directed to the rural areas and a lower proportion to the existing urban areas.



### Option 4 – Community Led

Option 4 focusses on the role of settlements within their wider locality and community, acknowledging the relationships and interdependency between settlements and considers how the local communities work and live.

It encourages growth in areas which play a significant role in the wider community; through the provision of facilities and services seeking to reflect the needs of communities, including their demand for housing.

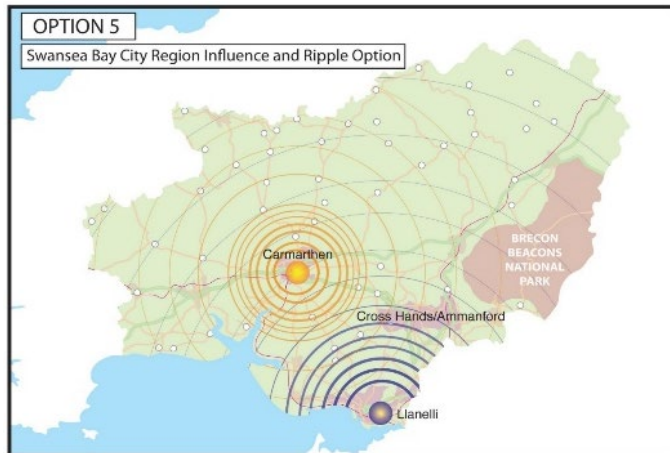
It should reflect an understanding of local communities and focus growth in areas where it is needed to support communities and their aspirations for future growth and ongoing sustainability of facilities and services. This is likely to result in the allocation of smaller sites and a higher proportion of growth being directed to smaller settlements.

### Option 5 – Swansea Bay City Region Influence and Ripple

Option 5 is focussed on the projects and investment planned as part of the Swansea Bay City Deal and channels growth to align with these geographical areas. The projects proposed for Carmarthenshire are:

- The Life Science and Well-being Village, Llanelli. This facility is a village providing facilities and services which promote and improve well-being. It is proposed to be a multi-faceted facility integrating business development, education, healthcare, leisure, tourism, wellness support and research into life sciences in one location.
- Yr Egin, Carmarthen. This facility would be a new creative, digital and media hub to be based at the University of Wales, Trinity St David.

This option is likely to see most growth focussed within Carmarthen and Llanelli and the surrounding areas. This will see some growth focussed in the areas between these two areas, however, settlements further away from Carmarthen and Llanelli will see very little growth but could nevertheless benefit from the inward investment.



### Option 6 – Market Led

Option 6 will aim to meet the aspirations and requirements of the development industry by identifying sites and areas which are the most economically attractive to develop. This option looks at the market success of settlements within the county since 2008 and apportions growth in accordance with past delivery rates.

The past delivery rates indicate that most growth took place in the Llanelli and Hendy areas with a significant amount of development also being directed to the Carmarthen and the Ammanford/Cross Hands growth areas.

This approach could be construed as '*planning based on numbers*'. It would seek to direct growth in accordance with the highest delivery rates of the past and where developers would build.

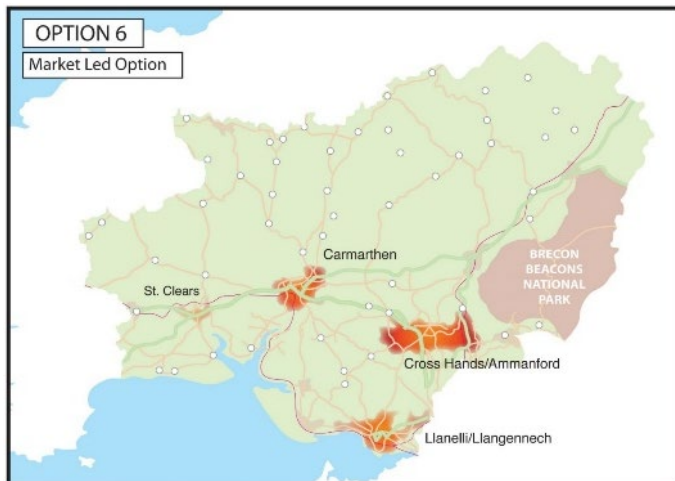


Table 10 – Summary of the SA of Spatial Options (Source: Figure 5 Initial SA Report of Preferred Strategy December 2018)

ISA Objective	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6
ISA1 Sustainable Development	+	-	-	+	?	?
ISA2 Biodiversity		+			+	
ISA3 Air Quality	-	-	-	-	-	-
ISA4 Climatic Factors	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-
ISA5 Water	+/-	+	-	+	-	-
ISA6 Material Assets	+	-	-	+	-	-
ISA7 Soil		+	-		+	+
ISA8 Cultural Heritage						
ISA9 Landscape			-			
ISA10 Population	++	-	-	++	+/-	+/-
ISA11 Welsh Language	+	-	-	+	+/-	-
ISA12 Health and Wellbeing	+	-	-	++	+/-	+/-
ISA13 Education and Skills	+	-	-	+	++	?
ISA14 Economy	+	-	-	+	++	?
ISA15 Social Fabric	+	-	-	++	-	-

5.6.6 Full commentary of the SA of each spatial option was presented in Section 4.3 of the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy. In summary, the Spatial Options presented in the Preferred Strategy concluded the following:

- **Options 1 and 4** both perform well overall against the sustainability framework, particularly in terms of economy, improving social fabric and addressing the needs of both rural and urban areas. This contrasts with **Options 2 and 3** which do not specifically address rural economy or need, and do not perform favourably against improving social equality across the county. **Option 5** is predicted to have positive effects on education, skills, and economy due to the ‘ripple’ effect of inward investment and knowledge and skills to the county. It is also likely to have highly positive effects on population structure, by aligning residential development with significant, skilled employment opportunities, creating attractive areas for young people.
- Although **Options 2, 5 and 6** would reduce private car use in the short term by directing growth to areas that currently have sufficient services and facilities, the medium to long term is likely to see an increase in traffic, congestion and associated emissions in areas which already breach UK Air Quality Objectives. In contrast, **Options 1, 4 and 3** direct higher growth to rural areas which in the short term may not have sufficient access to services and so would increase public car use. However, in the long term, it is likely that

services centres would be established and retained around rural settlements and public transport links improved, leading to a reduction in car use and associated air quality issues.

- **Options 1, 3 and 4** all have both negative and positive impacts with respect to Climatic Factors. Directing growth to rural areas will reduce pressure on urban areas in the short term, some of which are partially or wholly in C1/C2 flooding zones. However, growth outside of urban centres is likely to result in an increase in public car use and associated emissions in the short term. In the longer term, growth in rural areas is likely to increase development of greenfield land which may reduce upland flood storage areas. However, services and public transport links are likely to become more established and retained in rural areas following growth and so the need for private cars will likely be reduced. **Option 2** would result in an increase in access to alternative modes of transport and growth in areas where there are sufficient services and facilities, reducing the need for private car use. However, some major transport routes (e.g., A40) follow river corridors and focussed development in such areas is likely to fall somewhat within C1 and C2 flood zones. Growth directed to urban areas such as Llanelli, Pembrey, and Burry Port, which are partially or wholly within C1 and C2 areas could result in new development being at risk of climate related flooding in the long term. It is for this reason, coupled with rural needs not being addressed that **Options 5 and 6** are predicted to have negative impacts on this objective.
- Performance against sustainability objectives such as cultural heritage, biodiversity, and landscape is largely dependent on-site selection and implementation due to the localised nature of these features and so appraisal of impact at this strategic level is difficult. However, **Options 2 and 5** are likely to have broadly positive effects on biodiversity due to them directing growth to areas which have historically seen development, as opposed to areas more likely to result in the development of green belt land.
- **Options 2 and 6** that direct growth to areas that have historically seen high levels of growth and as a result, changes in demographics, are less likely to be able to absorb further changes in character and would therefore likely see negative impacts on Welsh Language. **Options 1 and 4** look to distribute growth more proportionally between urban and rural areas, and will also support vibrant communities and economy, all of which are likely to have positive effects on the Welsh Language, particularly through the retention of young people. **Option 3** would see an unsustainable amount of growth provision in rural areas, that has the potential to dilute the Welsh speaking communities in these areas. **Option 5** has both the negative effects of Options 2 and 6 but may also have positive effects because of the job creation and skills associated with the Swansea Bay City Region (i.e., Yr Egin, which houses S4C's offices) that will help to retain young people in the County.

5.6.7 Following the SA assessment and subsequent responses to the Preferred Strategy consultation, none of the options were considered preferable as each demonstrated some negative outcomes to varying degrees and would not maximise the balanced sustainable development required. Therefore, Carmarthenshire County Council sought to identify the most positive elements of each to contribute towards developing a preferred option.



## Hybrid Option – Balanced Community and Sustainable Growth

5.6.8 As a result of the Initial SA and subsequent stakeholder engagement, it was recommended that a hybrid option be considered as the preferred spatial option, which reflects several characteristics with positive impacts from all of six options above.

5.6.9 The initial SA suggested that the hybrid option seek to build on the positive impacts of Option 4 – Community Led, seeking to provide opportunities for rural areas and ensuring the diversity of the County and communities is recognised, but removing the prescriptive approach of assigning character areas within the County. This option aims to retain an approach which reflects the role and function of settlements and will seek to be responsive in how it assigns growth, to urban and rural areas of the County.

5.6.10 The hybrid option also incorporates positive elements of Option 5, recognising and reflecting investment and economic benefits to the County and its communities through the Swansea Bay City Deal, and other economic opportunities. As is the primary focus in Option 2, the hybrid option also acknowledges that sustainable growth needs to be supported by the availability of a range of appropriate infrastructure. In line with Option 6, it will recognise that growth should also be deliverable and orientated to a community’s needs and market demand. Please refer to the SA Report for further commentary.

5.6.11 The hybrid option was then assessed against the SA Framework and a detailed commentary is presented in Section 4.3 of the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy. The results of this assessment are set out below in Table 11, and are also presented in Figure 6 of the Initial SA Report. This remained the preferred option for both the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit and 2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit rLDP.

**Table 11 – Summary of the SA of Spatial Options, including Hybrid Option (Source: Figure 6 Initial SA Report of Preferred Strategy December 2018)**

SA Objective	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Hybrid
SA1 Sustainable Development	+	-	-	+	?	?	+
SA2 Biodiversity		+			+		
SA3 Air Quality	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
SA4 Climatic Factors	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-
SA5 Water	-	+	-	+	-	-	+
SA6 Material Assets	+	-	-	+	-	-	+
SA7 Soil		+	-		+	+	
SA8 Cultural Heritage							
SA9 Landscape			-				
SA10 Population	++	-	-	++	+/-	+/-	++
SA11 Welsh Language	+	-	-	+	+/-	-	+
SA12 Health and Wellbeing	+	-	-	++	+/-	+/-	++
SA13 Education and Skills	+	-	-	+	++	?	++
SA14 Economy	+	-	-	+	++	?	++
SA15 Social Fabric	+	-	-	++	-	-	++

## 5.7 Previous SA of Strategic & Specific Policies

- 5.7.1 The LDP Strategic Policies are high level policies intended to deliver the LDP Vision and Objectives. They are strategic in nature and are supplemented by more detailed policies and proposals in the Deposit Plan stage of the rLDP.
- 5.7.2 The nineteen draft Strategic Policies were presented in Section 11 of the LDP Preferred Strategy and were subject to testing against the SA Framework within the Initial SA Report (Chapter 5). The results of this assessment are set out in Figure 7 and Section 5 of the Initial SA Report.
- 5.7.3 Following the assessment, the Initial SA also made several recommendations and to changes to policy wording to reduce impacts and enhance opportunities. These suggested changes and the LDP Policy team responses are listed in Appendix 4 of the SA Report.
- 5.7.4 Since the Preferred Strategy, many of the Strategic Policies were rewritten for the both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit Plan and as such, many of the recommendations were considered but suggested wording changes no longer relevant. Additionally, since the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP, significant restructuring (alongside changes in wording) now makes any respective comparison between how they are presented within the current rLDP and throughout its development history difficult. Therefore, to avoid misinterpretation within this ISA report, please refer to Chapter 5 of the Initial SA (2018) and Section 6.4 of the SA Report (2020) for their respective appraisals and signposts for commentary.
- 5.7.5 The assessment (and associated commentary) of the specific policies initially presented within the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP can be found within Section 6.6 of the SA Report (2020). Whilst many of the specific, some have been significantly altered and an addition two specific policies have been added entirely.

## 5.8 Technical Limitations and Uncertainties Previously Identified

- 5.8.1 The main limitations of the SA process at the LDP Preferred Strategy stage was the fact that there is uncertainty over the exact location of development and the number of houses on each site due to the broad nature of the Strategy at this stage of the plan making process. For this reason, only broad conclusions could be reached by the SA about the different likely effects of alternative growth scenarios and spatial distributions. Nevertheless, the SA report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP similarly emphasised the importance of mitigation adequately addressing several identified issues, particularly in the case of:
- Biodiversity and habitat loss
  - Capacity of water and sewerage infrastructure to facilitate growth
  - Increased traffic and resulting air quality impacts
  - Development in C1/C2 flood zones
- 5.8.2 Whilst the development of the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP took on-board the above considerations, the unforeseen postponement created by the issue of phosphate levels in protected riverine SACs within the County (as previously mentioned) provided an opportunity to incorporate, collaborate upon, and consider additional topical issues which had been raised in the meantime. For example, this includes the Council's declaration of both a Climate and Nature Emergency, and the introduction of a new policies which incorporates NRW's guidance for developments within phosphorus sensitive SACs.
- 5.8.3 Within the appraisal of the Preferred Strategy and 1st Deposit rLDP, the identified uncertainty relating to the capacity of water and sewerage infrastructure to facilitate

growth and its impact upon biodiversity has since been addressed in light of the associated collaboration between the LDP Policy team, NRW and DCWW, in addition to works specifically commissioned by the Council and undertaken by Arcadis<sup>44</sup> and Ricardo<sup>45 46</sup> to increase our collective understanding potential related issues, risks, and mitigation options uniquely applicable to the context of the County.

## 5.9 Summary of Previous Initial SA and SA Report

- 5.9.1 The Initial SA concluded that overall, the Preferred Strategy would have significant benefits in terms of providing the housing and employment land required to support sustainable growth in Carmarthenshire. It performed well against the socio-economic objectives of the SA framework, with strategic options that look to improve access to good quality jobs, services, and infrastructure across the County, with a view to addressing some of the disparity between rural and urban areas. The Preferred Strategy also aimed to improve health and well-being across the County, with better housing, access to open space and active travel facilities.
- 5.9.2 However, as is the case with any development, some potential negative impacts remained, with regards to biodiversity, air quality and climatic factors. Nevertheless, with suitable mitigation in place, this negative impact can be reduced. Some mitigation measures had already been considered within the Preferred Strategy because of the ongoing dialogue between the SA appraisal and policy writing, such as the selection of a Hybrid spatial option that looked to combine the best aspects of the existing alternatives. The SA also suggested some changes to the wording to strengthen the sustainability of the Strategic Policies (see Appendix 4 of the SA Report).
- 5.9.3 Some broader recommendations were also made in the Initial SA to consider in the authoring of the LDP Deposit Plan, which are outlined in Table 7 of the Initial SA.
- 5.9.4 A summary of the performance of the Preferred Strategy against the SA Framework was presented in Figure 8 of the Initial SA Report and is also shown in Table 11 below.
- 5.9.5 The SA Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP further highlighted the potential negative effects of development, with regards to biodiversity, air quality and climatic factors. Nevertheless, it found that the ‘protective’ and prescriptive nature of many of the assessed specific policies provided mitigation for potential negative effects in the implementation of other policies. Additionally, the appraisal initially outlined in Appendices 6 and 7 (of the SA Report) recommendations that will provide and/or strengthen mitigation which can decrease the risk of these predicted – several of these have been expanded upon and strengthened (where needed) within this ISA report.

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<sup>44</sup> Carmarthenshire Phosphate Catchment Reduction Strategy & Statement of Common Ground accompanying the rLDP (2022)

<sup>45</sup> [Nutrient Budget Calculator Guidance I A guide on how to calculate a phosphorus budget for a development](#)

<sup>46</sup> [NUTRIENT MITIGATION OPTIONS TECHNICAL REVIEW Guidance On Phosphorus Mitigation Options For Use In Carmarthenshire](#)

## 6. Integrated Sustainability Appraisal 2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit rLDP

- 6.0.1 Section 5 of this report has outlined the process by which the ISA process has influenced the Vision, Growth Options, Spatial Option and Strategic Policies contained in the Preferred Strategy and 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit, which has ultimately formed the basis of the Second Deposit rLDP. Section 5 also refers to details of previous appraisals presented within the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy Report and the SA report of the first Deposit rLDP.
- 6.0.2 The rLDP Vision, Objectives and Strategies are implemented through a range of policies that set out the approach that will be taken when planning applications are determined. Section 6 sets out the process by which the ISA has informed the content of the Second Deposit Plan and presents the outcomes of appraisal of the Strategic Policies (Section 6.4), Specific Policies (Section 6.6), and Site Allocations (Section 6.8).

### 6.1 ISA of Deposit Plan Vision and Strategic Objectives

- 6.1.1 The role of the Vision is to establish the core purpose of the rLDP and to provide a framework for developing policies and measuring the extent to which the implementation of the plan is successful. The rLDP Vision provides a spatial perspective which gives the plan purpose and direction and to ensure delivery through the land use planning system. The Vision, as presented below, draws on strategic planning priorities identified in national policy and local strategies, as well as the identified Key Issues for the County.

#### **LDP Vision: One Carmarthenshire**

**Carmarthenshire 2033 will be a place to start, live and age well within a healthy, safe, and prosperous environment, where its rich cultural and environmental qualities (including the Welsh language) are valued and respected for residents and visitors alike**

**It will have prosperous, cohesive, and sustainable communities providing increased opportunities, interventions, and connections for people, places, and organisations in both rural and urban parts of our County.**

**It will have a strong economy that reflects its position as a confident and ambitious driver for the Swansea Bay City Region.**

6.1.2 While no alteration in the wording of the Vision have been made since the First Deposit rLDP, it has been reassessed (Table 12) in line with a more holistic definition of ‘environmental qualities’ which was perceived to include all corresponding SEA environmental issues (as previously outlined in Table 2).

**Table 6 – Outcome from testing the draft, deposit, and revised deposit LDP Vision against the ISA Framework. \* as contained within the previous SA Report.**

	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
Deposit Vision (2019) *	+	+	?	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Second Deposit Vision (2022)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

+	Positive alignment between Vision & Sustainability Objective
?	Unknown alignment between Vision & Sustainability Objective
0	No direct link between Vision & Sustainability Objective
-	Potential conflict between Vision & Sustainability Objective

6.1.3 The rLDP Strategic Objectives should provide clear statements of intent and focus on how the LDP Vision is to be delivered. They provide a framework by which the strategic policies are formed and will later inform the formulation of detailed policies for the Deposit Plan. The Strategic Objectives also set the context for the development of the Strategic Growth and Spatial Options. Fourteen draft Strategic Objectives were developed having regard to key issues identified from the emerging evidence base.

6.1.4 Several contextual issues emerged after the publication of the First Deposit rLDP and include matters which whilst beyond the Plan’s sole control have impacted upon its preparation and content. As stated in paragraph 5.7 of the Plan, these are UCI 1 Response to the publication of the NRW Guidance on Phosphate Levels in protected Riverine SACs; UCI 2 Recognise and reflect the impacts arising from Covid-19; UCI 3 Declaration by the Council of a Climate Emergency; UCI 4 Declaration by the Council of a Nature Emergency; UCI 5 Ten Towns Initiative.

6.1.4 Given these topical issues which the Strategic Objectives outline are now addressed, a reappraisal was undertaken to incorporate these minor contextual changes and assess the Strategic Objectives against the ISA Framework (Table 13). Commentary on this process can be found in Appendix D. Overall, the 14 Strategic Objectives show positive alignment with the principles of Sustainable Development and perform well against the ISA Framework, with very few potential conflicts highlighted. This demonstrates that aspects of sustainability have been fully considered throughout the development of the Strategic Objectives.

6.1.5 For many of the Sustainability Objectives, their impacts are unknown as the outcome depends on the implementation of development, type of activity, or location. The appraisal also highlights some potential conflicts with regards to Biodiversity, Air Quality, Water, Cultural Heritage, and Landscape (factors which are inextricably interlinked and, therefore, difficult to separate potential effects). These uncertain and potentially negative impacts should, where possible, be resolved through the detailed rLDP policies and appropriate mitigation. Nevertheless, the enhancement those potentially positive impacts outlined will also be dependent on the Plan’s policies.



Table 13 – Appraisal of Strategic Objectives presented within Section 7 of the Second Deposit rLDP (2022) (see Appendix D for commentary)

	ISA1 Sustainable Development	ISA2 Biodiversity	ISA3 Air Quality	ISA4 Climatic Factors	ISA5 Water	ISA6 Material Assets	ISA7 Soil	ISA8 Cultural Heritage	ISA9 Landscape	ISA10 Population	ISA11 Welsh Language	ISA12 Health and Wellbeing	ISA13 Education and Skills	ISA14 Economy	ISA15 Social Fabric
SO1	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	?	+	0	0	?	0	?	?
SO2	+	?	0	0	?	+	0	?	?	+	0	+	?	0	+
SO3	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+
SO4	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+
SO5	+	?	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	?	?	?
SO6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+
SO7	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	0	+	?	0	+	+	+	+
SO8	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	?	+	0	+	0	0	+
SO9	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+
SO10	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+
SO11	+	?	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+
SO12	+	-	-	?	-	?	?	?	-	+	?	+	+	+	+
SO13	+	-	-	?	-	0	0	-	?	+	?	+	+	+	0
SO14	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	-	+	0	+	+	+	+

+	Positive alignment between Revised LDP Strategic Objective and Sustainability Objective
?	Unknown alignment between Revised LDP Strategic Objective and Sustainability Objective
0	No direct link between Revised LDP Strategic Objectives and Sustainability Objective
-	Potential conflict between Revised LDP Strategic Objectives and Sustainability Objective

## 6.2 ISA of the Preferred Growth Strategy

- 6.2.1 As examined in Section 5.5, the projections of growth proposed for the rLDP has been through several iterations since the first options appraised. Growth options can utilise several factors such as population projections, demographics (e.g., age structure and household change), previous housing completions, and current/predicted housing needs and stocks. To best inform the rLDP, and as part of plan making process, several reports were commissioned to provide an option which most suited the local context. Whilst the ISA process did not solely determine the most appropriate growth option, the findings contained within this following section helped to inform the decision-making process and ensure that the likely adverse implications upon aspects of sustainability are minimised.
- 6.2.2 This process is first noted when the Council published its Preferred Strategy, which set out the long-term vision for Carmarthenshire. As part of the evidence base, the Council commissioned Edge Analytics to provide a range of demographic and economic scenarios to inform a likely future growth projections for the county during the plan period 2018–2033. Based upon the range of demographic and economic evidence presented in the report, the Council's Preferred Strategy set out a housing requirement figure of 9,887 dwellings (2018–2033), aligning directly to the PG Long Term scenario presented in the Edge Analytics analysis.
- 6.2.3 Following this, Edge Analytics were commissioned for an addendum upon their previous work which provided three additional option growth as considered within the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP. Growth Option PG 10 year (2019) comprised of 8,835 dwellings (2018–2033) became the Preferred Growth Strategy resulting in a reduction of 1052 dwellings compared with the previously chosen option. As shown in Figure 4 above and alluded to in Section 5.5 of the SA Report, this was determined to have little impact upon the SA scoring.
- 6.2.4 Given the period lapsed between this previous growth options and the likely changes to the factors outlined above in paragraph 6.2.1, Turley were commissioned and produced two reports to provide updated growth options to best inform the 2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit rLDP. These options are outlined (Table 14) and then assessed against the ISA Framework below:

Table 14 – Summary of Housing and Economic Growth Scenarios 2018 – 2033 (as contained within the Turley Addendum 2022), merged with approximate household figures calculated from 81,505 in 2018 \* 47.

<b>Principal 2018-Based WG Projection (2018)</b>			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (~%) *	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 3.3 %	+ 5.2 %	291	4,359

<b>WG 2018-based “High Population” Variant (2018)</b>			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (~%) *	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 5.0 %	+ 6.7 %	378	5,670

<b>Ten-Year Trend-Based Projection (2022)</b>			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (~%) *	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 7.7 %	+ 10.4 %	588	8,822

<b>Fifteen-Year Trend-Based Projection (2022)</b>			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (~%) *	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 8.5%	+ 11.0 %	618	9,272

<b>Baseline Employment-Led Scenario (2022)</b>			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (~%) *	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 8.7%	+ 11.7 %	662	9,933

<b>Rebased Principal Projection (2022)</b>			
Change over plan period (2018 – 2033)		Dwellings required	
Population (%)	Households (~%) *	Annually	Total over plan period
+ 9.4%	+ 12.3 %	697	10,461

47 [Households by Local Authority and Year \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/households-by-local-authority-and-year)

6.2.4 The effects of each of the revised growth options were assessed against the ISA Framework, scored using Table 15, and a full commentary is provided in Appendix E. A summary is provided in Table 16. It was not considered realistic to include an alternative relating to business as usual (i.e., the current LDP position) as the rLDP is required by WG guidance to use the WG growth projections (WG 2018-based (2018)) as a starting point. Nevertheless, the previous Preferred Growth Option (PG 10 Year (2019)) outlined in the 1st Deposit LDP has been included for additional context.

**Table 15 – Specific assessment criteria for Growth Options, as adapted from Welsh Government Development Plans Manual Edition 3 (2020). Whilst comparable to the scoring matrix outlined in Table 3, the ‘I’ criterion (the effect depends on how the policy/allocations are implemented) was removed to reduce ambiguity of potential implementation. \* = Suggestion for the formation of policy to enhance/mitigate the effect of the Preferred Growth Option.**

Symbol	Predicted Effect (Compared to the current situation)	Initial Mitigation Suggestions *
++	Very positive effect – likely to result in substantial progress towards the ISA objective.	Consider whether very positive effect can be further enhanced through policies
+	Positive effect - likely to result in some progress towards the ISA objective.	Consider whether positive effect can be further enhanced through policies
+/-	Positive and negative effects – the subject of the appraisal would help some elements of the ISA objective whilst hindering others.	Policies should look to mitigate negative effects and enhance those positive effects
-	Negative effect – likely to be somewhat detrimental to achieving the ISA objective.	Mitigation measures will be needed to reduce severity or effect of growth option.
--	Very negative effect – likely to be substantially detrimental to achieving the ISA objective.	Significant mitigation measures will be needed to reduce severity or effect of growth option.
0	Neutral effect compared to the current baseline situation	Consider whether policy interventions could bring positive effects
?	Uncertain effect (more information needed)	Consider where this will come from – who has it? What will be done about collecting it? When will it be collected?

Table 16 – Summary of the ISA of the rLDP revised Growth Options (see Appendix E for commentary). \* in line with WG 2018-based (2018) projection.

Growth Options	ISA1 Sustainable Development	ISA2 Biodiversity	ISA3 Air Quality	ISA4 Climatic Factors	ISA5 Water	ISA6 Material Assets	ISA7 Soil	ISA8 Cultural Heritage	ISA9 Landscape	ISA10 Population	ISA11 Welsh Language	ISA12 Health and Wellbeing	ISA13 Education and Skills	ISA14 Economy	ISA15 Social Fabric
<b>1st Deposit rLDP Preferred Growth Option (re-assessed*)</b>															
PG 10 Year (2019) 8,835 dwellings	+	+/-	-	+/-	+	0	+	+/-	+/-	++	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+
<b>2nd Deposit rLDP Preferred Growth Options</b>															
WG 2018-based (2018) 4,359 dwellings	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	0	+	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-
“High Population” (2018) 5,670 dwellings	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	0	+	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-
Ten-year trend (2022) 8,822 dwellings	+	+/-	-	+/-	+	0	+	+/-	+/-	++	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+
Fifteen-year trend (2022) 9,272 dwellings	+/-	-	-	-	+/-	0	+/-	-	-	++	-	+/-	+/-	+	+
Employment-led (2022) 9,933 dwellings	+/-	--	--	-	+/-	-	+/-	-	--	++	--	+/-	+/-	++	+
Rebased principal (2022) 10,461 dwellings	+/-	--	--	-	+/-	-	+/-	-	--	++	--	+/-	+/-	++	+

- 6.2.5 In summary, the revised growth options present the following issues and opportunities:
- 6.2.6 The revised growth options all offer similar issues and opportunities when assessed against the ISA Framework. All options support growth in the population and are, therefore, likely to have positive effects on population, economy, and social fabric. This is due to the predicted in-migration of people of working age and younger who will go some way to readdressing the aging population in Carmarthenshire.
- 6.2.7 Growth at any level that results in development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing and potential for negative effects on biodiversity. However, the four revised growth options provide a balance between environmental and socio-economic factors when compared with higher growth projections which are likely to be substantially detrimental to achieving ISA2, ISA3, and ISA9.
- 6.2.8 Likewise, both housing and economic development can result in increased transport activity which could have negative impacts on the County's air quality and carbon footprint. However, four options provide a balance of socio economic and environmental factors when compared to higher growth options Employment-led and Rebased principal (2022). This two options scored very similarly to those projections contained in the Preferred Strategy given the higher number of dwellings.
- 6.2.9 All growth options have the potential to have negative effects on historic and cultural assets and landscape and will be dependent on where growth is allocated. However, the three lowest projection may also provide some benefits in this regard.
- 6.2.10 Previous evidence on the predicted effects of the growth options on ISA11 Welsh Language <sup>48</sup> identified both positive and negative effects, although these negative effects outweigh any benefits at level projections of growth options. For in-depth analysis and commentary on growth options on ISA11, please refer to the WLIA.
- 6.2.11 In summary, these growth options all contribute positively to supporting a sustainable economy and a healthy, balanced society, whilst also reducing the risks of negative effects on ISA Objectives.
- 6.2.12 It was concluded that the preferred growth option would be Ten-Year Trend-Based Projection (2022) as this option provided a balance of socio-economic benefits in the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Region Deal, the Council's Corporate Strategy, regeneration and job creation objectives and progressing the Council's ambitions in delivering affordable homes across the County, whilst also looking to reduce tensions between development and the potential for impacts on ISA Objectives such as Biodiversity, Air Quality, Water, Soil, Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Welsh Language.
- 6.2.13 As is the case with any development, some potential negative impacts remained, with regards to biodiversity, air quality, climatic factors, and the Welsh language. However, with suitable mitigation in place, these negative impacts can be reduced.
- 6.2.14 As this ISA did not evaluate the evidence for which the Ten-Year Trend-Based Projection is based upon, the rLDP team and Council decision makers will need to ensure that this figure is not too high to cause significant environmental issues, but also not too low to prevent further strain the housing market and not fulfil the economic potential of the County. Nevertheless, in term of promoting sustainable development (ISA1) and meeting the need for future generations, the chosen option is more likely to deliver more affordable housing than the two lower projections.

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<sup>48</sup> Carmarthenshire Draft Deposit LDP Welsh Language Impact Assessment. December 2019.



### 6.3 ISA of the Preferred Spatial Option

- 6.3.1 The preferred spatial option for the second Deposit rLDP has not been changed since the Preferred Strategy and, therefore, there is no need to reassess the option at this stage. The initial assessment of the preferred Spatial Option can be found in Section 4.3 of the Initial SA of the Preferred Strategy. The preferred Hybrid Option continues to look to provide opportunities for rural areas and to ensure the diversity of the County and communities is recognised, as well as aiming to reflect the role and function of settlements in how it assigns growth to urban and rural areas of the County.
- 6.3.2 The hybrid option also reflects the investment and economic benefits to the County and its communities through the Swansea Bay City Deal, and other economic opportunities. It also acknowledges that sustainable growth needs to be supported by the availability of a range of appropriate infrastructure and that growth should also be deliverable and orientated to a community's needs and market demand.
- 6.3.3 Alongside the Preferred Growth Option, it is difficult to determine what effects are attributed to economic, social, and environmental uncertainties, alongside factors such as changes to national level policy, on the appraisal at this strategic, high-level stage. Further commentary relating to the secondary, cumulative, and synergistic effects can be found within the SA Report.

### 6.4 ISA of the Strategic Policies

- 6.4.1 Following the public consultation of the Preferred Strategy and the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP, several policies were amended to reflect feedback and comments, including those recommendations made in the Initial SA and SA report. All policies in addition to those which have been revised were then re-screened against the ISA Framework to consider whether they would result in likely significant effects. The amended policies and the ISA commentary of the reassessment are listed in Appendix F. The results of the re-assessment against the ISA Framework are presented in Table 17.

Table 17 – Summary of the ISA of the rLDP Strategic Policies (please see Appendix F for commentary).

	SP1	SP2	SP3	SP4	SP5	SP6	SP7	SP8	SP9	SP10	SP11	SP12	SP13	SP14	SP15	SP16	SP17	SP18	SP19
ISA1		+	+/-			+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+/-	+	+	++	++		
ISA2	-		-	-	-		-	0	+/-			+	-	++	0	+	+	-	-
ISA3	-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-	+/-	0	+	0	+/-	++	+	+	0	+	++	-	
ISA4	-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-	+	0	+	-	+/-	++	+	+	0	++	+	-	
ISA5						0	?	0	+			+	-	+	0	+	0	-	0
ISA6	+	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	++	0	+
ISA7								0	-	-		+	-	+	0	0	0	-	-
ISA8								+	+/-	0		+		+	++	0	0		
ISA9		+		+/-				0	-			+	-	+	+	0	0	-	
ISA10	++	+	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	0	0
ISA11	+/-	+/-	?	+/-	+	++	+	++		?	?	+	+/-	0	+	0	0	0	0
ISA12	+	0	+	+	+	++	0	0	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	0
ISA13	+	0	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	?	+	0	0
ISA14	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	+	?	0	+	+
ISA15	+	+	++	+	++	++	+	++	++	+	+	+	++	+	+	?	+	0	0

## 6.5 Mitigation & Recommendations – Strategic Policies

6.5.1 Table 18 summarises the assessment of the potential impacts of the Strategic Policies.

6.5.2 In implementing the rLDP, all policies should be read collectively and no one policy should be considered in isolation. For this reason, due to the ‘protective’ and prescriptive nature of some rLDP policies, they can provide mitigation for potential negative effects in the implementation of other policies. Appendix F has identified the rLDP’s policies which mitigate any negative impacts and uncertainty of the Strategic Policies.

6.5.3 Table 18 proposes further measures to avoid or reduce residual impacts of the Strategic Policies. It also makes suggestions for how to improve the benefits of the Strategic Policies as well as addressing some uncertainty that may remain.

**Table 18 – Summary of proposed mitigation/enhancement measures for rLDP Strategic Policies. For those policies not listed below, the proposed mitigation measures outlined in full commentary within Appendix F were considered to resolve residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainties.**

Strategic Policy	Proposed Mitigation/Enhancement
<p><b>SP 2: Retail and Town Centres</b></p>	<p>Mitigation for any air quality impacts could be further strengthened by making a specific reference to the protection and enhancement of GBI within and adjacent to AQMA’s in policy PSD12 Light and Air Quality.</p> <p>Any residual negative impacts and remaining uncertainty can be sufficiently mitigated by rLDP Specific Policies.</p>
<p><b>SP 3: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Hierarchy</b></p>	<p>Thoughts should be made to paragraph 4.2.24 (PPW) relating to the potential cumulative effects of development occurring throughout the plan period within the open countryside (and tier 4 settlements). Multiple developments permitted under local needs housing could have a permanent adverse effect upon the landscape, and limit accessibility to services, sustainable travel, and community facilities. Local needs should have a locational and/or resource requirement aspects, and also help to ensure the viability of the local community - providing benefits for support socio-economic ISA objectives.</p>
<p><b>SP 5: Affordable Homes</b></p>	<p>Suggested that due to likely need for affordable housing in rural as well as urban areas of Carmarthenshire, policy ISP4 make specific reference be made in the supporting text to the protection of the natural environment when locating affordable housing.</p> <p>Suggested that policy make specific reference in the supporting text to locating affordable housing in locations with good access to public transport networks as well as active travel routes. Also reference how access to facilities should be enhanced through PSD6: Community Facilities.</p>
<p><b>SP 6: Strategic Sites</b></p>	<p>Within the supporting text, consider referencing the fact that likely negative impacts on the water quality of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site is further mitigated by the Burry Inlet SPG and accompanying Memorandum of Understanding, which requires developers to undertake compensatory water removal in catchments which drain into CBEEMS (with some relation to CCH4).</p>

<p><b>SP 7: Employment and the Economy</b></p>	<p>Suggested that supporting text make specific reference to the fact that employment developments may also including GBI such as landscaping and buffer zones.</p>
<p><b>SP 8: Welsh Language and Culture</b></p>	<p>To strengthen this policy further, specific reference should be made to the motion that was passed by council in July 2019 that called for the whole county to be considered as linguistically sensitive and to be a material planning consideration in all developments of five or more houses in rural areas and ten or more in urban areas in every community, irrespective of the percentage of Welsh speakers.</p>
<p><b>SP 10: Gypsy and Traveller Provision</b></p>	<p>The boundary of the proposed Pen-y-fan site has some scrub habitat which has biodiversity value as well as providing some screening of noise/air pollution from the adjacent railway line. The ISA recommends that this is retained as a buffer to the adjoining railway line.</p> <p>Existing GBI corridors should also be maintained as buffer zones to mitigate any negative impacts on landscape.</p> <p>It is recommended that the Council give due consideration as to whether SP9 complies with the policy requirements contained in Policy CCH5 – Flood Risk Management and Avoidance in relation to flood risk. Such consideration should be further informed by any detailed / project level Flood Consequences Assessments (FCA). An FCA could assist in clarifying the likelihood and severity of flood risk on the 3 locations listed under SP10 to the Council.</p>
<p><b>SP 12: Placemaking and Sustainable Places</b></p>	<p>Suggest specific reference is made to net benefits for biodiversity, ecological resilience, energy efficient design as well as resource efficiency.</p> <p>Suggest reference to use of sustainable materials as well as techniques.</p> <p>Suggest reference to recycling of waste under criteria (j).</p>
<p><b>SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment</b></p>	<p>Suggested changes to the policy wording to strengthen the requirement to protect and enhance the natural environment; Remove reference to PPW and TAN5 to include ‘all National Policy and legislative requirements’; use different terminology to align with current focus (i.e., net benefits for biodiversity). While the net-benefits for biodiversity approach by Welsh Government does not currently utilise a metric, supporting text should have reference to paragraphs 6.4.5 and 6.4.21 within PPW.</p> <p>Specific reference should be made in the supporting text to the Council’s Duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.</p> <p>Specific reference should be made to the motion on nature conservation that was passed by Council in 2020 that resulted in a nature emergency being declared by Carmarthenshire County Council. The rLDP should be explicit in how it seeks to address this.</p>
<p><b>SP 15: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment.</b></p>	<p>Although this policy does not directly impact on ISA3 – Air Quality, the policy itself can be affected by air quality. Poor air quality can have impacts the built and historic environment such as increasing the corrosive gases in the atmosphere as well as deposition of particles which can cause discolouration of surfaces. This should be mentioned</p>

	<p>in the supporting text of this policy to ensure its due consideration in any planning application.</p> <p>In line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the policy should refer to the fact that the historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource, and is a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if historic assets are protected and restored.</p>
<p><b>SP 16: Climate Change</b></p>	<p>A stronger statement needs to be made to a commitment to reduce carbon emissions in policy.</p> <p>Specific reference should be made to the motion on climate change that was passed by Council in Feb 2019 that resulted in a climate emergency being declared by Carmarthenshire County Council. The rLDP should be explicit in how it seeks to address this.</p> <p>The policy does not mention the benefits of GBI to mitigating and increasing resilience to the effects of climate change, in particular as carbon sinks. Reference to GBI would result in a change from no effect to positive effects on ISA7 – Soil. The ISA recommends that specific reference should be made to the multifunctional benefits of GBI for climate change resilience and mitigation in this policy.</p>
<p><b>SP 17: Transport and Accessibility</b></p>	<p>Suggest reference be made in the supporting text to development in rural locations being preferably sited within and adjoining settlements that benefit from key services and facilities, rather than at sporadic countryside locations.</p>
<p><b>SP 18: Mineral Resources</b></p>	<p>To provide further mitigation of this policy against ISA4 Climatic Factors, reference should be made in the policy to ensuring that where possible, mineral extraction utilise transport links such as rail/or water transport as opposed to road haulage.</p> <p>Suggest adding a clear statement clarifying that the Council will not support the development of land-based coal or unconventional oil or gas operations, including the exploration, appraisal and extraction of oil and gas by unconventional methods (including the making of exploratory boreholes), unless the applicant can demonstrate the proposal conforms with national planning policy.</p> <p>Clarify that petroleum refers to any mineral oil or relative hydrocarbon and natural gas existing in its natural strata as defined in the Petroleum Act 1998. This therefore includes shale oil and gas and coal bed methane. The definition of coal is taken from the Coal Industry Act 1994. This covers coal and underground coal gasification.</p> <p>To mitigate for residual impacts on ISA7 – Soil, wording should be added to supporting text that makes clear that any soil removed as a result of the extraction process must be retained and replaced <i>in situ</i>.</p> <p>Although <i>MR1 Mineral Proposals</i> goes some way to mitigating any residual negative impacts on ISA9 – Landscape, it is suggested that additional wording on the protection of Landscape character and visual amenity in this policy to reinforce its importance. Additionally, consider the need for outlined potential hydrological impacts (SPZ) affecting ISA5.</p>

<b>SP 19: Waste Management</b>	<p>Policy should include a criterion stating that no significant impacts in the environment should occur because of waste management proposals.</p> <p>Suggest more in the supporting text regarding sustainable location of waste management facilities especially when situated outside of development limits.</p> <p>To further strengthen mitigation against potential negative effects on ISA9 – Landscape, reference should be made to design of buildings being in keeping with surrounding landscape.</p> <p>Include reference to the proximity principle to minimise distance between where waste is generated and managed.</p> <p>Suggest including some wording around the importance of GBI for visual, noise and air pollution screening.</p>
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## 6.6 ISA Specific Policies

6.6.1 The Deposit rLDP contains 78 Specific Policies as listed in Table 19. These are divided over 18 strategy policies. Note that SP6 does not contain any specific policies and is, therefore, not included below.

Table 19 – rLDP Strategic and Specific Policies

Strategic Policies	Specific Policies
SP1: Strategic Growth	SG1: Regeneration and Mixed-Use Sites
	SG2: Reserve Sites
	SG3: Pembrey Peninsula
SP2: Retail and Town Centres	RTC1: Protection of Local Shops and Facilities
	RTC2: Retail in Rural Areas
SP3: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework	SD1: Development Limits
SP4: A Sustainable Approach to Providing New Homes	HOM1: Housing Allocations
	HOM2: Housing within Development Limits
	HOM3: Homes in Rural Villages
	HOM4: Homes in Non-Defined Rural Settlements
	HOM5: Conversion or Subdivision of Existing Dwellings
	HOM6: Specialist Housing
	HOM7: Renovation of Derelict or Abandoned Dwellings
	HOM8: Residential Caravans
	HOM9: Ancillary Residential Development
SP5: Affordable Homes Strategy	AHOM1: Provision of Affordable Homes
	AHOM2: Affordable Homes – Exceptions Sites
SP7: Employment and the Economy	EME1: Employment – Safeguarding of Employment Sites



Strategic Policies	Specific Policies
	EME2: Employment – Extensions and Intensification
	EME3: Employment Proposals on Allocated Sites
	EME4: Employment Proposals on Non-Allocated Sites
	EME5: Home Based Businesses
SP8: Welsh Language and Culture	WL1: Welsh Language and New Developments
SP9: Infrastructure	INF1: Planning Obligations
	INF2: Healthy Communities
	INF3: Broadband and Telecommunications
	INF4: Llanelli Wastewater Treatment Works Catchment Surface Water Removal
	INF5: Rural Allocations outside Public Sewerage System Catchments
SP10: Gypsy and Traveller Provision	GTP1: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation
SP11: The Visitor Economy	VE1: Visitor Attractions and Facilities
	VE2: Holiday Accommodation
	VE3: Touring Caravan, Camping and Non-Permanent Alternative Camping Accommodation
	VE4: Static Caravan and Chalet Sites and Permanent Alternative Camping Accommodation
SP12: Placemaking and Sustainable Places	PSD1: Effective Design Solutions: Sustainability and Placemaking
	PSD2: Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods
	PSD3: Green and Blue Infrastructure Network
	PSD4: Green and Blue Infrastructure – Trees, Woodlands, and Hedgerows
	PSD5: Development and the Circular Economy
	PSD6: Community Facilities
	PSD7: Protection of Open Space
	PSD8: Provision of New Open Space
	PSD9: Advertisements
	PSD10: Extensions
	PSD11: Noise Pollution
	PSD12: Light and Air Pollution
	PSD13 Contaminated Land
SP13: Rural Development	RD1: Replacement Dwelling in the Open Countryside
	RD2: Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Residential Use
	RD3: Farm Diversification

Strategic Policies	Specific Policies
	RD4: Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Non-Residential Use
	RD5: Equestrian Facilities
SP14: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment	NE1: Regional and Local Designations NE2: Biodiversity NE3: Corridors, Networks and Features of Distinctiveness NE4: Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area NE5: Coastal Management NE6: Coastal Development NE7: Coastal Change Management Area
SP15: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment	BHE1: Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas BEH2: Landscape Character
SP16: Climate Change	CCH1: Renewable Energy within Pre-Assessed Areas and Local Search Areas CCH2: Renewable Energy Outside Pre-Assessed Areas and Local Search Areas CCH3: Electric Vehicle Charging Points CCH4: Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources CCH5: Flood Risk Management and Avoidance CCH6: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy in New Developments CCH7: Climate Change – Forest, Woodland and Tree Planting
SP17: Transport and Accessibility	TRA1: Transport and Highways Infrastructural Improvements TRA2: Active Travel TRA3: Gwili Railway TRA4: Redundant Rail Corridors TRA5: Highways and Access Standards in Development
SP 18: Mineral Resources	MR1: Mineral Proposals MR2: Mineral Buffer Zones MR3: Mineral Safeguarding Areas
SP 19: Sustainable Waste Management	WM1: Sustainable Waste Management and New Development WM2: Landfill Proposals WM3: Agricultural Land – Disposal of Inert Waste

- 6.6.2 Each Policy has been assessed against the ISA Framework and the findings are discussed in detail in Appendix G, although summarised below.
- 6.6.3 Overall, the appraisal found that the specific policies would have largely positive effects, particularly on those ISA Objectives that relate to socio-economic sustainability. Many of the Plan policies facilitate sustainable development, including those related to the protection and enhancement of the environment, in addition to those policies relating to design which promotes sustainability and placemaking. The effect on ISA1 for residential, affordable homes, retail, employment, tourism, and infrastructure is generally depends on how the policy and allocations are implemented due to the potential to exceed environmental limits (1-4), although mitigating measures suggested address this. Nevertheless, the rLDP policies seek to ensure that affordable housing provision in the County is increased, and that facilities and services are fully accessible to all (working in synergy supporting 1-2 and 1-4). The plan also seeks to rebalance the aging population in Carmarthenshire by making the County an attractive place to live and work for young people, with a range of good quality employment and housing. Additionally, it recognises that affordable housing is an important factor in promoting long-term economic and social health among individuals experiencing inequalities, and seeks the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups into society (as demonstrated by *GTP1: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation*).
- 6.6.4 The rLDP plan policies also seek to maximise the health and wellbeing of Carmarthenshire's population. *PSD7: Protection of Open Space* looks to protect and enhance accessible open spaces, as well as more informal, ambient green space which can have both physical and mental health benefits. In addition, *TRA2 Active Travel* seeks to connect development and spaces with safe and attractive active travel routes, to encourage healthier travel choices. The requirement created for certain developers to conduct a HIA (*INF2: Healthy Communities*) addresses the potential influence distribution can place upon associated services. Additionally, *PSD8: Provision of New Open Space* is aligned with FIT standards and promotes long-term benefits associated with recreation and outdoor amenities.
- 6.6.5 Development of any form has the potential for negative effects on biodiversity and soil resources against the baseline scenario of no plan, and in the absence of any mitigation. Several the rLDP policies are protective in nature and are in place to mitigate for some of the potential for negative effects from development focussed Specific Policies. Strategic Policy *SP14: Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural Environment* ensures that development will be expected to protect and enhance the County's natural environment as well as conserve and enhance soil resources. Soil assets are further conserved through promoting the regeneration of previously developed land, and the thought given to peatlands and allocation placement help to protect soil carbon.
- 6.6.6 Carmarthenshire is both a rural and urban County, and the Specific Policies of the rLDP direct and facilitate development of both housing and employment in both areas to ensure widespread community permeance and the retention of services, over the long-term. Nevertheless, this is predicted to have differing implications on ISA3 Air Quality and ISA4 Climatic Factors. Development in urban areas ensures that developments are sustainably located in that they have access to facilities and services as well as regular public transport networks and Active Travel routes. This should reduce the need for private car use and as a result can reduce carbon emissions and associated air pollution. However, since the publication of the adopted LDP, three AQMA's have been designated in Carmarthenshire due to poor air quality (Llanelli, Carmarthen, and Llandeilo). Further development in these more urban areas may exacerbate this problem unless suitable mitigation for any negative effects in air quality

are put in place. Through *PSD12: Light and Air Pollution*, which ensures that based on scale and location, an Air Quality Assessment will be required to show how any risks to amenity, biodiversity and health are mitigated. *PSD3 GBI Network* can also help to mitigate for these impacts as increasing GBI in urban areas can have many benefits including filtering of pollutants and carbon sequestration.

- 6.6.7 Conversely, providing development in rural areas is essential to retain and enhance vital facilities and services in these areas. However, in the short term, such development may not be fully serviced by regular public transport and active travel routes and, if facilities and services have already been lost in these areas, then private car use may be required. The hope, in providing controlled development in these areas, is that facilities and services will be retained and hopefully returned to rural areas so that they are increasingly sustainable in the medium to long term. *CCH3: Electric Vehicle Charging* can also go some way to mitigating for any negative effects, as new development will be required to install EV Charging Units to encourage electric car use in line with the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy for Planning <sup>49</sup>.
- 6.6.8 The rLDP will determine the location and scale of development over the next 15-year period, and so should fully consider the spatial implications of climate change. Development in areas currently at risk of flooding should be avoided and the likelihood of future extreme weather events and sea level rises because of climate change should also be fully considered. *CCH5: Flood Risk Management and Avoidance* goes some way to mitigating this risk, however its wording could be strengthened to be more dynamic through the consideration of the potential risk under climate change conditions such as increasing flood events and sea level rise over the Plan period. The protection and enhancement of GBI Networks through *PSD3* is also important to reduce and mitigate for the effects of climate change, and can have benefits such as include carbon sequestration and storage, heat amelioration and reduction of flood risk as well as mitigating climate change induced reductions in air and water quality. Several rLDP policies also seek to encourage the development of large renewable energy projects, as well as incorporating renewable and low carbon energy into new development which will increase Carmarthenshire's contribution to a low carbon Wales and achieving net zero.
- 6.6.9 A summary of the ISA of the Specific Policies is provided in Table 20.

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<sup>49</sup> Planning Policy Wales Version 11, Figure 9.

Table 20 – Summary of ISA of rLDP Specific Policies (please see Appendix G for commentary)

rLDP Specific Policy	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
SG1: Regeneration and Mixed-Use Sites		-	-	-	-	+	+/-			++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SG2: Reserve Sites		-	-							+	+/-			++	
SG3: Pembrey Peninsula		-	-	-	-	+	+/-			++	+/-	+	+	++	+
RTC1: Protection of Local Shops and Facilities	+	0	+/-	+/-	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+
RTC2: Retail in Rural Areas		-	+	+		+	-	0		+	+	+	+	+	+
SD1: Development Limits		+/-	+/-	+		+	+/-			+	?	+	+	++	++
HOM1: Housing Allocations		+/-	-						+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
HOM2: Housing within Development Limits		+/-				+				+	+	+	+	+	+
HOM3: Homes in Rural Villages		-	+			+				+	+	+	+	+	+
HOM4: Homes in Non-Defined Rural Settlements		-	+			+				+	+	+	+	+	+
HOM5: Conversion or Subdivision of Existing Dwellings			-			-	0		+/-	+	?	0	0	0	+
HOM6: Specialist Housing			0	0		+	0			+	+	+	0	+	+
HOM7: Renovation of Derelict or Abandoned Dwellings		-	-			+/-	+	+	+	+	?	0	0	0	+
HOM8: Residential Caravans			0	0				0		+	?	0	0	+	0
HOM9: Ancillary Residential Development			0			-	0	0		+	?	+	0	0	+

rLDP Specific Policy	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
AHOM1: Provision of Affordable Homes		-				0				++	+			+	++
AHOM2: Affordable Homes – Exceptions Sites		-				0	-			++	+			+	++
EME1: Employment – Safeguarding of Employment Sites	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	+
EME2: Employment – Extensions and Intensification			-	-		+				+	+	+	+	++	+
EME3: Employment Proposals on Allocated Sites		-	-	-		+		0		+/-	+	+	+	++	+
EME4: Employment Proposals on Non-Allocated Sites		-	-	-		+			0	+	+	+	+	++	+
EME5: Home Based Businesses			0	0		-	0	0		?	?	?	+	++	+
WL1: Welsh Language and New Developments	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	++	++	+	+	+	++
INF1: Planning Obligations	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
INF2: Healthy Communities	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	+
INF3: Broadband and Telecommunications		-	+	+	0	+	?	0		+	+	+	+	++	+
INF4: Llanelli Wastewater Treatment Works Catchment Surface Water Removal	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0
INF5: Rural Allocations outside Public Sewerage System Catchments		+/-	0	0	+	+	+/-	0	+/-	+	?	+	0	+	+
GTP1: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation			0	-		+	-	0		+	?	+	+	+	++



rLDP Specific Policy	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
VE1: Visitor Attractions and Facilities	+/-	-						?		?	?	+	+	++	+
VE2: Holiday Accommodation	+/-	-						?		?	?	+	+	++	+
VE3: Touring Caravan, Camping and Non-Permanent Alternative Camping Accommodation	+/-	-	-	-		-		?		?	?	+	0	++	+
VE4: Static Caravan and Chalet Sites and Permanent Alternative Camping Accommodation	+/-	-	-	-		-		?		?	?	+	0	++	+
PSD1: Effective Design Solutions: Sustainability and Placemaking	++		0	0	+	0		+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+
PSD2: Masterplanning Principles – Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods	++		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
PSD3: Green and Blue Infrastructure Network	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+
PSD4: Green and Blue Infrastructure – Trees, Woodlands, and Hedgerows	+	++	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+
PSD5: Development and the Circular Economy	++	0	+	+	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+
PSD6: Community Facilities	++		+	+		+		+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+
PSD7: Protection of Open Space	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	++
PSD8: Provision of New Open Space	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	++
PSD9: Advertisements	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+		+	++	0	+	+	+
PSD10: Extensions	+		0	0	0	0		0		+	0	0	0	0	0
PSD11: Noise Pollution	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+

rLDP Specific Policy	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
PSD12: Light and Air Pollution	+	+	++	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+
PSD13 Contaminated Land	+	I	0	0	+	+	+	I	+	0	0	+	0	0	0
RD1: Replacement Dwelling in the Open Countryside	I	-	-	-/+	0	-	?	I	I	+	+/-	+/-	0	+	I
RD2: Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Residential Use	I	-	-	-	0	-	?	I	I	+	+/-	+/-	0	+	I
RD3: Farm Diversification	I	I	+	+	0	0	0	I	I	0	+/-	I	+	+	I
RD4: Conversion and Re-Use of Rural Buildings for Non-Residential Use	I	-	+/-	+/-	0	+	0	I	I	0	+	I	I	+	I
RD5: Equestrian Facilities	I	I	-	-	0	-	0	0	I	0	?	0	I	+	0
NE1: Regional and Local Designations	+	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+
NE2: Biodiversity	+	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+
NE3: Corridors, Networks and Features of Distinctiveness	+	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+
NE4: Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+
NE5: Coastal Management	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
NE6: Coastal Development	I	+	0	+/-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0
NE7: Coastal Change Management Area	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+
BHE1: Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	0	+	0	0	+	+
BEH2: Landscape Character	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	++	+	0	+	0	+	+

rLDP Specific Policy	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
CCH1: Renewable Energy within Pre-Assessed Areas and Local Search Areas	+	+/-	+	++	+	+	0	I	+/-	0	0	0	+	+	0
CCH2: Renewable Energy Outside Pre-Assessed Areas and Local Search Areas	+	+/-	+	++	+	+	0	I	+/-	0	0	0	+	+	0
CCH3: Electric Vehicle Charging Points	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+
CCH4: Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources	+	+	0	+	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0
CCH5: Flood Risk Management and Avoidance	+	+	0	++	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+
CCH6: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy in New Developments	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	?	+	+
CCH7: Climate Change – Forest, Woodland and Tree Planting	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	?	+	+/-
TRA1: Transport and Highways Infrastructural Improvements	I	-	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	-	I	I	0	0	+/-	+	++	+
TRA2: Active Travel	+	I	++	++	+	++	-	I	I	+	0	++	+	+	+
TRA3: Gwili Railway	I	-	+	I	I	+	-	+	I	+	0	+	0	+	+
TRA4: Redundant Rail Corridors	+	I	+	+/-	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+
TRA5: Highways and Access Standards in Development	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
MR1: Mineral Proposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	I	I	0	0	-	0	+	0
MR2: Mineral Buffer Zones	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+
MR3: Mineral Safeguarding Areas	0	-	-	0	0	0	-	I	-	0	0	0	0	+	0

rLDP Specific Policy	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
WM1: Sustainable Waste Management and New Development	+	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+
WM2: Landfill Proposals	-	-	-	-	I	-	I	I	-	0	0	I	0	+	0
WM3: Agricultural Land – Disposal of Inert Waste	+/-	-	0	0	?	+/-	+	I	I	0	0	0	0	+	0

## 6.7 Mitigation and Recommendations – Specific Policies

- 6.7.1 Table 18 summarises the assessment of the potential impacts of the Strategic Policies, however, it must be considered that this assessment does not consider any of the proposed mitigation measures.
- 6.7.2 In implementing the rLDP, all policies should be read collectively and no one policy should be considered in isolation. For this reason, due to the ‘protective’ and prescriptive nature of some LDP policies, they can provide mitigation for potential negative effects in the implementation of other policies. Appendix F has identified the plan policies which mitigate any negative impacts and uncertainty of the Strategic Policies. The full commentary including mitigation measure for Specific Policies are detailed in Appendix G.

## 6.8 ISA of Proposed Allocations

- 6.8.1 This section discusses how the candidate sites proposed for Carmarthenshire were identified and appraised. In determining where housing and employment growth could be directed spatially, the LDP Policy team considered the existing land bank of housing and employment land, scheduled completions, windfall sites and information received from landowners and developers on potential candidate sites. This resulted in an excess of 900 possible development sites.

### Appraisal Methodology

- 6.8.2 A modified approach was taken to the appraisal of individual candidate development sites. Building upon the process first developed within the SA Report, where there was only partial or incomplete coverage of the ISA objectives, SAM questions were modified, or new questions added. This approach ensures that questions are cross referenced as to their compatibility with ISA Objectives at each consideration. In addition to these questions, the inherent nature of the site was also reflected in the ISA scoring as determined against the ISA Framework.
- 6.8.3 It was decided that the ISA (incorporating the requirement under SEA/SA) would be integrated into the Site Assessment Methodology (SAM), utilising the site-specific information gathered in Stages 1 and 2 to determine the sustainability of sites against the ISA Framework. The decision-making questions in the SAM provide a measurable and more informed assessment of sustainability than the ISA Objectives alone. The questions in Stages 1 and 2 were reviewed as to their compatibility with each of the ISA objectives.
- 6.8.4 Answers to the decision-making questions within the SAM resulted in a sustainability ‘score’ against each of the ISA Objectives, in line with the key shown in Table 21. Where mixed or negative effects are predicted, mitigation measures were identified. This process (and the accompanying proforma) has been heavily amended since the previous assessment of candidate sites within the SA Report (and, therefore, these are not comparable).

**Table 21 – ISA assessment criteria for assessment of candidate sites, as adapted from Welsh Government Development Plans Manual Edition 3 (2020).**

Symbol	Predicted Effect and Suggested Action
++	Very positive effect – the proposed site significantly complies with ISA Objective.
+	Positive effect – the proposed site complies with ISA Objective.

	Consider whether positive effect can be further enhanced through relevant policies.
<b>+/-</b>	Positive and negative effects – the proposed site complies with some elements of the ISA Objective whilst hindering others. Consider mitigation for negative effects.
<b>-</b>	Negative effect - the proposed site conflicts with ISA Objective. Site may be inappropriate for development. Consider mitigation.
<b>--</b>	Very negative effect – the proposed site significantly conflicts with ISA Objective. Site may be inappropriate for development. Consider significant mitigation.
<b>0</b>	Neutral effect compared to the current situation. Consider whether policy intervention could produce positive effects.

6.8.5 The Integrated SA/SEA components of this assessment are responsible for the evaluation and consideration of several ‘reasonable options’ against the ISA Framework. This includes the evaluation of sites which are considered as ‘reasonable’ alternatives, in that they are deliverable and have no fundamental constraints.

6.8.6 As stated, each candidate site that progressed to Stage 3 was subject to an assessment against rLDP and ISA objectives. It is not the role of the ISA to decide on the alternative to be chosen for the rLDP, but to provide information to make the decision-making process more reliable and transparent. As set out in the SAM, sites which failed to meet the Preferred Spatial Strategy or were deemed unviable and undeliverable (subject to information known to the Council at that time), were not considered to be realistic alternatives for inclusion within the Plan and, therefore, not taken forward for consideration at stage 3 of the site assessment. Therefore, the selection of the range of sites considered for assessment at stage 3 deliberated the filtering process of stages 1 and 2, which resulted in the identification of sites which had a realistic prospect of being found sound – given that the process had demonstrated that there was an absence of overriding constraints and that the sites were capable of delivering housing growth in accordance with the rLDP Preferred Strategy.

6.8.7 To ensure full integration between plan-making and ISA processes, one joint pro forma was agreed by the ISA and planning teams and was consequently filled in by the officer responsible for each cluster of candidate development sites. The Site Allocation Proformas document contains the full site assessment and is summarised in Table 22.

**Table 22 – Appraisal criteria used within the site assessment proformas.**

ISA Objective	Question(s) in site assessment pro forma
ISA1 – Sustainable Development	Is the site compatible against the location of future growth presented in the Preferred Strategy?
ISA2 – Biodiversity	Is the site located within or immediately adjacent to any sites designated for importance to nature conservation? Does the site contain high carbon soil (i.e., peat)? Is the site within or adjacent to a phosphate sensitive SAC catchment?
ISA3 – Air Quality	Does the site have suitable access to public transport and/or active travel route? Is the site within or immediately adjacent to an AQMA?



ISA Objective	Question(s) in site assessment pro forma
ISA4 – Climatic Factors	<p>Is the site located within a flood risk zone as identified in the TAN 15 Development Advice Maps?</p> <p>Does the site have suitable access to public transport and/or active travel route?</p> <p>Are there any significant concerns set out in the SFCA - Stage 1 which could impact on the delivery of the site?</p>
ISA5 – Water	<p>Is the site located within a flood risk zone as identified in the TAN 15 Development Advice Maps?</p> <p>Are there any significant concerns set out in the SFCA - Stage 1 which could impact on the delivery of the site?</p> <p>Is the site within or adjacent to a phosphate sensitive SAC catchment?</p>
ISA6 – Material Assets	<p>Does the site have suitable access to public transport and/or active travel route?; Is the site within reasonable distance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Employment Provision</li> <li>b) Retail Provision</li> <li>c) Other Services/Facilities</li> </ul> <p>Is the site located within or adjacent to a mineral buffer zone?</p>
ISA7 - Soil	<p>Will the proposal involve the re-use of suitable previously developed land and/or buildings?</p> <p>Does the site contain high carbon soil e.g., peatlands?</p> <p>Does the site contain high quality agricultural land (grade 1, 2, 3a)?</p> <p>Is the site within or adjacent to a phosphate sensitive SAC catchment?</p>
ISA8 – Cultural Heritage	<p>Is the site located within or immediately adjacent to any Scheduled Monuments?</p> <p>Would the development of the site have a detrimental impact on the character and setting of the settlement or its features?</p>
ISA9 – Landscape	<p>Would the development of the site have a detrimental impact on the character and setting of the settlement or its features?</p> <p>Will the proposal involve the re-use of suitable previously developed land and/or buildings?</p> <p>Is the site located within or immediately adjacent to any Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)?</p>
ISA10 – Population	<p>Is the site within reasonable distance to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Employment Provision</li> <li>b) Retail Provision</li> <li>c) Other Services/Facilities</li> </ul>
ISA11 – The Welsh Language	<p>Does the location and/or scale of the site have the potential to have a detrimental impact on Welsh Language?</p>
ISA12 – Health and Wellbeing	<p>Does the site have suitable access to public transport and/or active travel route?</p> <p>Does the site have access to green space, leisure, and recreational facilities that are within a reasonable distance?</p>
ISA13 – Education and Skills	<p>Does the site have suitable access to public transport and/or active travel route?; Is the site within a reasonable distance to education facilities?</p>
ISA14 – Economy	<p>Is the site within reasonable distance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Employment Provision</li> </ul>

ISA Objective	Question(s) in site assessment pro forma
	b) Retail Provision c) Other Services/Facilities
ISA15 Social Fabric	Does the site have suitable access to public transport and/or active travel route? Does the site have access to green space, leisure, and recreational facilities that are within a reasonable distance? Is the site within reasonable distance to: a) Employment Provision b) Retail Provision c) Other Services/Facilities

- 6.8.8 Each site that has progressed to Stage 3 of the Site Assessment Methodology has been subject to an assessment against the rLDP Site Assessment Methodology (of which the ISA is an integral informant). Whilst the SAM would not have been the sole indicator for a site’s appropriateness for allocation in the deposit Plan (or indeed its identification as a reasonable alternative), this approach has played an integral and iterative role. The integral and informing role of these assessments in site selection includes providing information so as make facilitate a reliable and transparent approach to Plan making.
- 6.8.9 In recognition of the above, a separate document titled ‘*Site Assessment Reasonable Alternatives Sites*’ contains the detailed assessment of reasonable alternative sites against the ISA Framework. These include sites which would have performed suitably in terms of the rLDP Site Assessment Methodology (of which the ISA is an important component) although were not included within the rLDP. Reference should be made to the rLDP Site Assessment Table, which has been prepared in support of the Deposit rLDP, to attain the reasons as to why the sites have not been allocated. Please refer to the individual proformas contained within the *Site Assessment Reasonable Alternatives Sites* for site specific ISA commentary.
- 6.8.10 *Policy HOM1 Housing Allocations* identifies 192 allocations for the provision of new homes across the County, with 116 of these allocations being provided for under ‘commitments’ (those with Extant/Full Planning Permission including Completions) as foretold by the trajectory. Additionally, *Policy SG1 Regeneration and Mixed-Use Sites* contains the provision for 10 mixed use allocations, and *Policy EME3 Employment Proposals* outlines 41 sites (amounting to 71.21 Ha) where employment development for B1, B2 and B8 use classes will be permitted. Therefore, the total number of units on proposed allocations that can be delivered through the Plan amounts to approximately 243 units. The allocated sites were deemed as those that met the Preferred Strategy regarding sustainable location, creating sustainable communities, and facilitating sufficient growth which meets the projected demand for housing and employment. As assessed via the ISA, these allocations were predicted to have the most likely significant positive effects when balancing a range of socioeconomic and environmental issues, and were deemed the most viable and deliverable over the plan period.
- 6.8.11 Those sites which have already received planning permission and have been constructed or are under construction following the start of the rLDP plan period, only stages 1 and 2 (not 2b) have been completed. Those sites which have had planning permission granted but are not yet under construction have been assessed at all stages. Table 23 provides a summary of the ISA of sites allocated within the Deposit rLDP.

Table 23 – ISA Summary of rLDP Allocations per cluster including Strategic, Mixed Use, Housing, and Gypsies & Travellers sites, and Employment (separately).

Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Cluster 1</b>																
SuV11/h1	Tir yn Ysgol Alltwalis / Land at Alltwalis School	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV4/h1	Tir wrth Fferm Troed y Rhiw Land at Troed y Rhiw Farm	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV16/h1	Heol Llwynddewi / Llwynddewi Road	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC1/h10	Brynhyfryd	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC1/h11	Estyniad Rhiw Babel / Rhiw Babel Extension	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC1/h12	Heol Castell Pigyn / Castell Pigyn Road, Abergwili	+	-	+/-	--	--	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC1/h14	Heol Bronwydd (De) / Bronwydd Road (South)	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC1/h15	Cyfagos i Tyle Teg / Adjacent Tyle Teg	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC1/h16	Rhiw Babel	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC1/h17	4-5 Heol y Cei / 4-5 Quay Street	+	-	--	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC1/h18	Castell Howell	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+/-	+	++	++
PrC1/h19	Tir gerllaw Ty Gwynfa / Land adjacent Ty Gwynfa	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC1/h2	Heol Maesyffynnon / Springfield Road	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC1/h20	8 Heol Spilman / 8 Spilman Street	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC1/h21	Clos Tawelan	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC1/h3	113 Heol y Prior / 113 Priory Street	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC1/h4	Tir oddi ar Barc y Delyn / Land off Parc y Delyn	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC1/h5	I'r dwyrain o Lôn Devereaux / East of Devereaux Drive	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC1/h7	Fferm Penybont, Heol Llysonnen / Penybont Farm, Llysonnen Road	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC1/h8	Heol Llansteffan / Llansteffan Road	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	++	++
PrC1/h9	Mounthill	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
SuV5/h1	Maesglasnant	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
SuV1/h1	Ger Fron Heulog / Adjacent Fron Heulog	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV1/h2	Ger Lleine / Land adj Lleine	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC2/h1	Cwrt Caradog / Caradog Court	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++

Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Cluster 1</b>																
SeC2/h2	Tir i gefn Parc y Ffynnon / Land to the rear of Parc y Ffynnon	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV15/h1	Ysgol Llanarthne / Llanarthne School	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	+/-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV19/h1	Tir gyferbyn Neuadd y pentref Land opposite Village Hall	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV19/h2	Tir nesaf a tu ol i Haulfan Land adjacent and rear of Haulfan	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV8/h1	Tir l'r dde o Dol y Dderwen / Land to the south of Dol y Dderwen	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV12/h1	Ger Gwyn Villa / Adj. Gwyn Villa	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV12/h2	Llandre	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV3/h1	Tir tu ol i Maesgriffith / Land to the rear of Maesgriffith	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV17/h1	Cefn yr Hen Waith Saer, Heol yr Orsaf / Rear of former joinery, Station Road	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV10/h1	I'r de o Bentre / South of Pentre	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV10/h2	Aberdeuddwr / Pantyfedwen	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV18/h1	Tir cyfagos i'r Cresselly Arms / Land adj. Cresselly Arms	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC1/h1	Lime Grove	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC1/h3	Tir yn Capel Tabernacl / Land at Tabernacle Chapel	+	-	--	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC1/h4	Cae Canfas	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC1/h5	Tir yn 8 Heol Llanelli / Land at 8 Heol Llanelli	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC1/h6	Land off Heol Llanelli	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-		+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC1/h7	Tir oddi ar Heol Glyndwr/ Land off Heol Glyndwr	+	-	--	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV20/h1	Tir nesaf i Fferm Llwynhenry Land adjacent to Llwynhenry Farm	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV14/h1	Fferm Cefn / Cefn Farm	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC1/MU1	Gorllewin Caerfyrddin / West Carmarthen	+	-	+/-	-	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	++	++
PrC1/MU2	Pibwrlwyd	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	++	++

Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Cluster 2</b>																
SeC4/h1	Fferm Gwdig / Gwdig Farm	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
SeC4/h2	Harbwr Porth Tywyn / Burry Port Harbourside	+	--	+/-	-	--	+/-	++	+/-	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC4/h3	Teras Glanmor / Glanmor Terrace	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
SeC6/h1	Ger Clos Tŷ Gwyn / Adjacent Clos Ty Gwyn	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
SeC6/h2	Tir rhwng Heol Clayton a Dwyrain Heol Bronallt / Land between Clayton Road and East of Bronallt Road	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC6/h3	Coed y Bronallt	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC6/h4	Ger Clos Benallt Fawr, Fforest / Adjacent to Clos Benallt Fawr, Fforest	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
SeC3/h2	Tir ger Stryd Priory / Land off Priory Street	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC3/h3	Llys Felin	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC3/h4	Tir ar hen iard Dinas / Land at Former Dinas Yard	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/h1	Beech Grove Y Pwll / Beech Grove, PWll	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/h10	Tir ger The Dell, Ffwrnw / Land adjacent The Dell	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	++	0	+	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC2/h12	Llys yr Hen Felin, Canol y Dref / Llys yr Hen Felin Town Centre	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC2/h13	Tir oddi ar Rodfa Frondeg / Land off Frondeg Terrace	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC2/h14	Cefn 22c, 22d a 22e Heol Llwynhendy / Rear of 22c,22d and 22e Llwynhendy Road	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC2/h15	Maesarddafen Road /Erw Las,Llwynhendy	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/h16	Ynys Las, Llwynhendy	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	++	+	+	++
PrC2/h18	Dylan, Trallwm	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC2/h19	Genwen, y Bryn / Genwen, Bryn	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC2/h2	Hen Labordy Lôn Pen y Fai / Former Laboratory	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/h20	Harddfafn, Y Bryn / Harddfafn, Bryn	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC2/h21	Maes y Bryn	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC2/h22	Cwm y Nant, Dafen	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC2/h23	Porth Dwyrain Dafen / Dafen East Gateway	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC2/h24	Clos Ffordd Fach	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++

Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Cluster 2</b>																
PrC2/h25	Tir Ger Clos y Berllan / Land off Clos y Berllan	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC2/h26	Cyfagos i rhif 19 Heol Llwynhendy	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/h27	42 Heol Stepney	+	-	+/-	--	--	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/h28	Heol y Graig, Llwynhendy	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC2/h3	Parc y Strade, Gorllewin Llanelli	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC2/h4	Doc y Gogledd (gan gynnwys Pontrilas gynt)	+	--	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC2/h6	107 Heol yr Orsaf / 107 Station Road	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC2/h7	13 Heol yr Orsaf / 13-15 Station Road	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC2/h9	3-5 Heol Goring / 3-5 Goring Road	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC2/MU3	Hen adeilad / Former YMCA, Heol Stepney	+	-	+/-	--	--	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/SS1	Pentre Awel	+	--	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC7/h1	Fferm Box Farm	+	--	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC7/h3	Golwg Yr Afon	+	--	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC7/h4	Gyferbyn â Pharc Morlais / Opposite Parc Morlais	+	--	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC7/h5	Maesydderwen	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
Sec5/h1	Garreglwyd	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
Sec5/h2	Fferm Cwrt / Cwrt Farm	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC8/h1	Ffos Las	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
SeC8/h2	Cae Linda	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC8/h3	Golwg Gwendraeth	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV22/h1	Gerddi Gwenllian / Gwenllian Gardens	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
SuV22/h2	Tir ger Ty Newydd, Heol Meinciau	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV23/h1	Clos y Parc	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
SuV23/h2	Ger Little Croft / Adjacent Little Croft	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/GT1	Tir yn Penyfan / Land at Penyfan	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC2/GT2	Penybryn (estyniad / extension)	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++



Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Cluster 3</b>																
-	Cross Hands Health and Wellbeing Centre	+	-	+/-	-	--	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	++	+	+	++
PrC3/h1	Tir tu ôl rhif 16-20 & 24-30 Heol Betws	+	-	+/-	-	--	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h11	Tir i Dwyrain Heol Caerfyrddin	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC3/h12	Tir ger yr A48 a Heol y Parc	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h13	Tir yn Heol Cae Pownd	+	-	+/-	-	--	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h14	Nantydderwen	+	-	+/-	-	--	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h15	Land off Heol Caegwyn	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC3/h16	Uwch Gwendraeth	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC3/h18	Tir yn ffinio Brynlluan / Land adjoining Brynlluan	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h19	Tir oddi ar Llys y Nant / Land off Llys y Nant	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC3/h2	Cyn-orsaf betrol, Heol y Gwynt (Former Petrol Station)	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h20	Tir i gogledd Maespiode / Land north of Maespiode	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h21	Maespiode	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h22	Tir ger Pant y Blodau / Adj. Pant y Blodau	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h23	Tir ar Heol Waterloo / Land at Waterloo Road	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC3/h24	Tir rhwng 123 a 137 Heol Waterloo	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h25	Tir oddi ar Heol y Gât / Land off Gate Road	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
PrC3/h26	Tir oddi ar Parc-y-Mynydd / Land off Parc-y-Mynydd	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h27	Tir oddi ar Nant-y-Ci / Land off Nant-y-Ci	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h28	Tir a safle'r ffatri rhwng rhiff 22 a 28 Heol Bethesda	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h29	Central Garage	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h3	Tir ger Gwynfryn Fawr / Land at Gwynfryn Fawr	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h31	Tir yn Fforestfach /Land at Fforestfach (Llys Tirnant)	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h32	Tir i de Heol Tycroes / Land south of Tycroes Road	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h33	Llys Dolgader / Rhydaman / Ammanford	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h34	Clos y Gât, Castell y Rhingyll	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h35	Clos Penpont, Penygroes	Not applicable as the site has been completed														

Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Cluster 3</b>																
PrC3/h36	Hen Lofa'r Betws / Former Betws Colliery	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	++	++
PrC3/h37	Clos Felingoes, Llandybie	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h4	Fferm Tirychen Farm, Heol Y Dyffryn	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h5	Yr Hen Felin, Heol Pontamman Road	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/h6	Tir ger Maes Ifan / Land adjoining Maes Ifan	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-		+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h8	Tir oddi ar Heol y Parc / Land off Heol y Parc	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
PrC3/h9	Tir ger Maesyrfhaf / Land adjacent to Maesyrfhaf	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
PrC3/MU1	Safle Gwaith Brics Emlyn Brickworks	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC10/h1	Ysgol Gynradd Sirol Garnant, Heol yr Ysgol Newydd	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC10/h2	Tir cyfagos i 13 Bishop Road	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC11/h1	Tir oddi ar Heol Llannon / Land off Heol Llannon	+	-	+/-	-	--	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC11/h2	Tir ger Ffynnon Fach (Bro Mebyd)	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
SeC9/h2	Heol Gelynen	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV25/h1	Tir i'r gogledd o Clos Rebecca	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV26/h1	Y tu ôl i 16 Y Garreg Lwyd / Rear of 16 Y Garreg Lwyd	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV27/h1	Tir ger Tŷ Newydd / Land adjacent to Tŷ Newydd	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV28/h1	Ger Coed y Cadno / Adjacent to Coed y Cadno	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
SuV30/h1	Tir ger Pant y Brwyn / Land off Pant y Brwyn	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++

Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Cluster 4</b>																
SuV38/h1	Maes y Bryn	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV37/h2	Tir i'r de o Gae Coedmor / Land south of Gae Coedmor	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV37/h3	Tir ger Lleinau / Land adjacent to Lleinau	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV33/h1	Tir gyferbyn â Brogeler / Land opposite Brogeler	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV36/h1	Cae Pensarn Helen	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV36/h2	Tir ym Mryndulais / Land at Bryndulais	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC13/h1	Ger Y Neuadd / Adj. Y Neuadd	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC13/h4	Bro Einon	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC12/h1	Trem y Ddol	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC12/h2	Heol Dewi	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC12/h3	Tir y tu ôl i Ddolcoed / Land r/o Dolcoed	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC14/h1	Garej Blossom / Blossom Garage	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	+/-	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC14/h2	Tir ger Maescader / Land adj Maescader	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV41/h2	Cilgwyn Bach	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV34/h1	Tir ger Arwynfa / Land adj Arwynfa	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV32/h1	Gyferbyn â Springfield / Opposite Springfield	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV39/h1	Ger Yr Hendre / Adj Yr Hendre	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV43/h1	Blossom Inn	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
<b>Cluster 5</b>																
SuV51/h1	Gyferbyn â Neuadd y Pentref, Cwmifor	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC16/h1	Chwarter Gogledd Llandeilo	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC15/h1	Tir i'r gogledd o Dan y Crug	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV15/h2	Tir ger Bryndeilog, Rhodfa Tywi	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV49/h1	Awel Y Mynydd, Llanfynydd	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	--	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC17/h1	Tir gyferbyn ag Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Llangadog	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC17/h2	Land off Heol Pendref	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC17/h3	Ger Yr Ysgol	Not applicable as the site has been completed														

Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Cluster 6</b>																
SuV56/h1	Tir i gefn o Talar Wen / Land to the rear of Talar Wen	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV59/h2	Gogledd i Faes y Llewod / North of Maes y Llewod	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
Suv59/h1	Maes y Llewod	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
SuV55/h1	Tir i gefn Maesglas / Land to the rear of Maes Glas	+	-	+/-	+	--	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV55/h2	Tir i'r gogledd o Tafarn Cross Inn / Land to the north of Cross Inn	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC20/h1	Pludds Meadow	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC20/h2	Tir cyfagos i Ysgol Lacharn / Land adj. Laugharne School	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	++	++
SeC20/h3	Tir ger Stryd Clifton / Land off Clifton Street	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV60/h1	College Bach, Llangynog	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	++	++
SuV63/h1	Tir yn Woodend / Land at Woodend	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SuV58/h1	Tir cyfagos i Lon Dewi / Land adj to Lon Dewi	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV58/h2	Tir ger Heol Drefach / Land off Drefach Road	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SuV61/h1	Tir yn Fferm Nieuport / Land at Nieuport Farm	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC18/h1	Cyfagos i Brittonia Terrace / Adjacent to Brittonia Terrace	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC18/h2	Hen Ffatri Menyn / Former Butter Factory	+	-	+/-	-	--	+/-	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC18/h3	Tir cyfagos i Gefn Maes / Land adjacent to Cefn Maes	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC18/h4	Tir yn Heol Llaindelyn / Land at Heol Llaindelyn	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC18/h5	Tir cyfagos i Gwynfa, Heol yr Orsaf / Land adjacent Gwynfa, Station Road	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC18/h6	Tir i gefn Heol yr Orsaf / Land to the rear of Station Road	+	-	+/-	-	--	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC18/h7	Tir gyfagos i Gardde Fields / Land adjacent to Gardde Fields	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	++	++
SeC18/h8	Tir yn Cae Glas / Land at Cae Glas	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC18/h9	Land to the west of High Street	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	++	++
SeC19/h1	Tir yn Park View / Land at Park View, Trevaughan	+	-	+/-	--	--	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	+/-	+	+	++
SeC19/h2	Aildefnyddio y tir a ddatblygwyd yn flaenorol / Previously Developed Land	+	-	+/-	-	--	+	++	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
SeC19/h3	Gerddi Lingfield	Not applicable as the site is under construction														
SeC19/h4	Parc y Dressig	Not applicable as the site has been completed														

Site Ref	Name	ISA1	ISA2	ISA3	ISA4	ISA5	ISA6	ISA7	ISA8	ISA9	ISA10	ISA11	ISA12	ISA13	ISA14	ISA15
<b>Employment Allocations</b>																
PrC1/E1	Ystad Ddiwydiannol Cilefwr / Cillefwr Industrial Estate	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	--	--	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
PrC1/MU1	Gorllewin Caerfyrddin / West Carmarthen	+	-	+/-	-	--	--	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	++	+
PrC1/MU2	Pibwrlwyd	+	-	+/-	-	--	--	--	0	+/-	++	+	+	+	++	+
PrC1/MU3	Safle Adfywio a Defnydd Cymysg Nant-Y-Caws / Nant-Y-Caws Regeneration and Mixed-Use Site	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	+/-	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	+
PrC1/SS1	Yr Egin	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	--	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
PrC2/E2	Ystad Ddiwydiannol Cilefwr / Cillefwr Industrial Estate	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	--	--	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
PrC3/E1	Dwyrain Cross Hands / Cross Hands East	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
PrC3/E2	Parc Bwyd Gorllewin Cross Hands	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
PrC3/E3	Parc Busnes Cross Hands	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
PrC3/E6	Ystad Ddiwydiannol Capel Hendre / Industrial Estate	Not applicable as the site has been completed														
PrC3/E7	Ystad Ddiwydiannol Capel Hendre / Industrial Estate	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
PrC3/E8	Ystad Ddiwydiannol Cilyrychen / Industrial Estate	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	--	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
SeC13/E1	Hen Ffowndri Llanybydder / Old Foundry Llanybydder	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	+/-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
SeC16/E1	Ystad Diwydiannol Beechwood / Industrial Estate	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	--	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
SeC16/E2	Hen Neuadd y Farchnad / Former Market Hall	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	+/-	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	+
SeC16/MU1	Beechwood	+	-	+/-	+	--	+	--	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
SeC18/E1	Parc Busnes San Cler / St Clears Business Park	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
SeC19/E1	Parc Diwydiannol Hendy Gwyn ar Daf / Whitland Industrial Park	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	+	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
SeC19/E2	Tir i'r dde o hen Hufenfa Hendy Gwyn ar Daf / Land south of Whitland Creamery	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	--	--	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+
SeC4/E1	Dyfaty / Dyfatty	+	-	+/-	+	+/-	--	-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	+

## 6.9 Summary of Site Allocations

- 6.9.1 Specific ISA commentary for each allocation can be found in the respective Site Allocation Assessments Proformas supplied within the rLDP, grouped per cluster. The purpose of this section to provide an overall evaluation of the commonly noted likely effects per purpose type of allocation presented above. Whilst no recommendations are explicitly made here, it is predicted that the implementation of the proposed policies (as assessed in Sections 6.4 and 6.6) will mitigate the identified adverse impacts. For clarity, while many of the sites were initially assessed within the SA Report (2020), changes made to the SAM/ISA process has led to their re-assessment, alongside new sites which have been added.
- 6.9.2 The appraisal of housing site allocations identified a range of likely effects, attributable to the differences in the local spatial context. All were found to have a likely negative effect on biodiversity (ISA2) and most had other negatives effects upon environment-based objectives due to the construction and habitation of new housing developments which is likely to increase in the consumption of natural resources, habitat/species disturbance, and add to existing levels of air, water, and sound pollution – consistent with the assessment outcome upon related policies (i.e., SP1, SP4, SP5). The impact upon biodiversity, soil, landscape, and cultural heritage is primarily driven by the fact that many sites are greenfield developments and, therefore, collectively poses a cumulative risk to these factors. Allocations using previous developed land would likely reduce the predicted risk imposed by greenfield developments such as reduced ecological connectivity, soil function/health, landscape character and nearby heritage assets. Nevertheless, most allocations were found to positively promote access to community facilities, education, and employment, alongside amenity resources such as open space. Collectively, the scale of site allocations would help to meet the varied housing needs of growing and aging population over the Plan period.
- 6.9.3 Mixed-use and strategic sites were found to have similarly effects to those stated above, although predicted to have an additional positive effect upon the economy (alongside site specific effects such as Pentre Awel and Yr Egin promoting education and health and wellbeing). Despite the significant social-economic benefits these sites are likely to foster, their large footprint is likely to represent substantial losses of greenfield and associated natural resources, including higher tier agriculturally important soils. Additionally, Gypsy and Traveller sites will help promote inclusion and ensure local needs are met.
- 6.9.4 Employment sites were predicted to have a major positive impact upon the economy and, as all were found to be in area of sufficient accessibility/transport, will collectively help to ensure that a variety of career opportunities are delivered over the Plan period. On an individual level, these sites will benefit their respective communities and local economy, and may facilitate learning new skills. Although partly dependent on the businesses ultimately operating on these premises, likely negatively effects will be created upon biodiversity, air quality, and material assets through an increase in resource consumption. Collectively, the scale of employment/retail allocations (as supported by housing provision) would help to meet the economic potential and increase prosperity of the County over the Plan period.
- 6.9.5 As discussed within individual commentary, a limited number of allocations were found within or immediately adjacent to phosphate sensitive SAC catchments, in addition to Registered Historic Landscapes, AQMAs, and peatlands. Where appropriate, proposed mitigative policies were suggested.
- 6.9.6 Several allocations were in areas determined at present or future risk of flooding, potentially hindering efforts to promote climate resilience. Mitigation measures must ensure that this risk (alongside the appropriateness of allocation siting) is sufficiently



remediated. It is important to highlight that the secondary and cumulative effects from these allocations may increase flooding risk of existing properties, particularly if located within the same catchment.

## **6.10 Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic Effects**

- 6.10.1 In accordance with the *SEA Directive* (paragraph 2.7.3), the purpose of this section is to predict and evaluate the likely cumulative and synergistic effects of all policies and site allocations presented within the rLDP. Table 24 is a summary of those effects noted within commentary within the assessment of the Strategic Policies (Appendix F), Specific Policies (Appendix G), and within individual site appraisals.

Table 24 – Summary of Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic effects of all policies and site allocations in the rLDP.

ISA Objective	Overall Score	Description
ISA1 – Sustainable Development	+	The rLDP encourages development to incorporate principles of sustainability by promoting a greater consideration of the socioenvironmental system. Therefore, the cumulative effect placed upon ISA1 arisen from the allocation is predicted to be positive. Where feasible, mitigating policies work in synergy to promote living within environmental limits (SP12, SP15, SP16), nevertheless this remains dependent on how the policy and allocations are implemented.
ISA2 – Biodiversity	+/-	Many mitigating policies work in synergy to maintain, enhance, and promote biodiversity resources, habitats, and the resilience of ecosystems, throughout the County (likely upholding the Section 6 Duty). As foreseen by the likely effect of ISA from rLDP allocation biodiversity gross loss will occur (especially for greenfield and rural sites). In accordance with the mitigation hierarchy outlined within the relevant specific policies in SP15, it is promoted that in new development would first avoid negative effects. Additionally, the cumulative impact of requiring developments to create net benefits for biodiversity is likely to be significantly positive, and the consideration made for the management of invasive species (contained within PSD1) compliments this. Whilst this requirement is substantial and goes beyond offsetting the impacts associated with creating new developments, the cumulative secondary effects from disturbance, increased air/soil/noise pollution, and (potentially) landscape alteration is likely to lead to detrimental impacts for biodiversity within the County but also transient species, and wherever the effects of environmental pollution are felt.
ISA3 – Air Quality	+/-	Several policies are likely to synergistically reduce the need to travel by encouraging walking and cycling, and the siting of new development has thought to the provision of public transport infrastructure. Nevertheless, the scale of the development proposed in the rLDP (e.g., growth in housing and employment) and the secondary impact of those factors (i.e., increasing traffic, resource consumption) is likely to lead to a cumulatively increase in air pollutants. This may be partially offset by the additional provision of electric chargers within new developments, aligning with national policy. Over the long-term, it is difficult to determine at this stage the effect upon ground level ozone, however widespread siting of new development is predicted to reduce pressure on AQMAs. The cumulative effect of development is predicted to increase air pollution although is likely to not pose a concentrated risk.

ISA Objective	Overall Score	Description
ISA4 – Climatic Factors	+/-	The increased flooding risk associated with the long-term impact of Climate Change may exacerbate present issues and pose a future (long term) risk to new developments within certain flood zones (although due consideration of TAN15 DAMs and SFCA has been given, there are extensive flood risk areas throughout the County and not all allocations are free from risk). It is difficult to determine at this stage whether proposed GBI, SuDS, (including certain mitigation measures under CCH4) would synergistically counteract the effects of flooding on a strategic level, however, the cumulative impacts from the widespread distribution of allocations according to SP3 are predicted to be both positive and negative (4-2 and 4-3). The scale of the development proposed with the rLDP (e.g., growth in housing and employment) and the secondary impact of those factors (i.e., increasing traffic, resource consumption) is likely to lead to a cumulatively gross increase in greenhouse gas emissions. It is dependent on the implementation of national and local policy whether this would be a net increase, although baseline data suggests it is unlikely for this to occur during the plan period.
ISA5 – Water	+	With reference to the reason why revisions of the rLDP had to be undertaken, the cumulative effects from implementing the proposed mitigation outlined in specific policy CCH4: Water Quality and Protection of Water Resources, will minimise diffuse pollution and safeguard water quality of water resources within the affected areas, in addition to cumulatively increase water quality through the County. This has secondary effects on the protection of biodiversity, soil health, and landscape integrity, ensuring their enjoyment for future generations. New development coupled with the promotion of SuDS, PSD3/12, SP14, CCH4 are likely to synergistically increase water efficiency, safeguard coastal areas (and avoid impacts of erosion), and/or mitigate pollution.
ISA6 – Material Assets	+/-	The setting of allocations and the integration of different modes of transport through the promoting sustainable modes of transport and thoughtful access as a design consideration, work in synergy to ensure access needs are met locally and across the County. This as a secondary impact, is likely to reduce air emissions associated with travel and provide residents access to community facilities (especially within sustainable villages). Specific policy WM1 is dedicated to the promotion of the sustainable management of waste in all new development as a method of encourage higher rates of recycling and reduce the production of waste. Whilst cumulatively the impact across all allocations is likely to be significant, it is unlikely to offset an overall increase in the consumption of finite resources and waste generation by the creation of additional developments.
ISA7 – Soil	+/-	Whilst promoting the regeneration of contaminated land, the cumulative losses of finite quality soil resources from development occurring on greenfield sites (and those rates highly through the ALC in addition to a few instances of peatlands) will be widespread. Nevertheless, the distribution settlement framework ensures negative impacts are not concentrated within a given area, and is more likely to lead to the utilisation of dispersed brownfield fields throughout the County

ISA Objective	Overall Score	Description
ISA8 – Cultural Heritage & Historic Environment	+/-	SP15 and multiple specific policies within the rLDP work in synergy to promote sustainable design which reflects local character and distinctiveness, in addition preserve assets of cultural and historic significance by either avoiding or mitigating negative impacts arisen from new development, as feasibly possible. In principle, this achieved by necessitating development is respectful to local context through appropriate setting, and design which enhances the cultural and historic qualities of the area. However, cumulative impacts attributed to the loss of greenfield and open spaces may irreplaceably alter landscape integrity and vista to/from associated Conservation Areas and Scheduled Monuments. The provisions made to Listed Buildings within BHE1 ensure their conservation provides social, cultural, economic, and environmental benefits are retained for future generations, and provide a sense of place which influences wellbeing and social fabric.
ISA9 – Landscape	+/-	The influence on landscape from development remains site specific however, the sustainable distribution settlement framework (SP3) generally ensures that no one place would undergo significant landscape/townscape changes throughout the plan period and ensures that the scale of further development is in keeping with that of the existing. Encouragements are made to the future use of derelict land (contaminated). BHE2: Landscape Character and PSD1 (alongside requirements made for specific types of development e.g., CCH1/2/7) is likely to synergistically ensure new development reflects local context through consideration of layout and landscape design, and that it is appropriate to the characteristics of the specific site and local area. However, synergistic negative effects on ISA9 are attributed to the loss of Carmarthenshire’s unique greenfield sites and open spaces through several anthropogenic pressures (e.g., directly from development, or indirectly through air/water pollution and climate change). Additionally, whilst mitigation will cumulatively help avoid/mitigate negative impacts (as aforementioned), the effects of development in Tier 4 (rural villages with no development limits) cannot be ruled out completely.
ISA10 – Population	++	The spread, variety, and scale of allocations, in addition to the provision for sustainable, climate-resilient, and affordable housing, cumulatively ensures housing need is met for both urban and rural communities, leading to the retention of younger people, the inclusion of disadvantaged and/or minority groups, and facilitating growth of the Welsh Language, for present and future generations. Housing in rural areas will likely ensure the long-term viability of local community facilities, contributing to social inclusion, access to education and employment, and leading to air quality benefits within this areas. Employment-related developments and supportive policies relating to existing businesses will likely have secondary demographical impacts.

ISA Objective	Overall Score	Description
ISA11 – Welsh Language	+	<p>In keeping with Welsh Language requirements and Carmarthenshire’s linguistic sensitivity, a key consideration of the rLDP is to encourage growth of the Welsh language and culture. This is upheld through dedicated policies SP8 and WL1: Welsh Language and New Developments and is implied through others including PSD1 by requiring development to reflect local context (e.g., cultural characteristics) and PSD9 (advertisements and bilingualism). With considerations made to the number and setting of new development allocations, and additional synergistic influence from requiring proposals to submit a Welsh Language Impact Assessment or Language Action Plan (scale dependent), further development is predicted to cumulatively uphold ISA11 by helping to provide homes for the next generation of Welsh Speakers (encouraging the retention of young people) and provide non-Welsh speaking families (including those from inward migration) access to Welsh-language learning opportunities the long-term, coupled with increases in Welsh-medium schools (and strategic sites). With these requirements in place in conjunction with the sustainable distribution settlement framework (SP3), it is unlikely that the scale of development in both rural and urban communities would discernibly dilute rates of Welsh speaking.</p>
ISA12 – Health and Well-being	+	<p>Sustainable design related policies and the requirement made under the provisions of open space (5+ dwellings) for recreation will work synergistically alongside the protection afforded to the natural and historic environment to promote (and ensure the permeance of) access to Wales’ natural and cultural heritage, creating active, healthy lifestyles, and mental health and wellbeing benefits. Alternative means of transportation through walking or cycling will add to this, in addition to the secondary effects of promoting electric vehicles which will likely reduce noise and air pollution.</p>
ISA13 – Education and Skills	+	<p>The distribution of allocations through the sustainable settlement framework (SP3) likely ensures that no cumulative negative pressure is placed upon local educational capacity, placements and facilitates. This assess will have the secondary effect of contributing increasing literacy and numeracy levels. The promotion of Welsh Language through WL1 is also likely to increase levels of literacy. The provision of strategic sites and employment/retail land and the protection afforded to the natural and historic environment will work synergistically to improve a range of opportunities for life-long learning.</p>
ISA14 – Economy	++	<p>The cumulative impact of allocating employment/mixed-use sites and supporting employment-rated development for existing businesses (e.g., farm diversification, home based businesses) is predicted to be a major positive benefit to local employment rates and provide quality employment opportunities for all sections of the population (including green jobs through an improved focus on renewable energy). Strategic sites facilitating technological innovation will not only directly support the economy and local communities, but potentially attracts further investment. Improved health and wellbeing, social fabric, educational opportunities, and levels of attainment, in addition to promoting the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups into society (e.g., Gypsy and Traveller sites) and the retention of young people, will would further improve the employability of Carmarthenshire’s workforce, and synergistical improve the local economy and interrelated socioeconomic factors.</p>

ISA Objective	Overall Score	Description
ISA15– Social Fabric	++	SP12 and the theme of multiple specific policies promotes the design of settlements to improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions. The likely effects arisen from these policies will interact with those obtained from the promotion of affordable housing and the sustainable distribution settlement framework (SP3), to improve accessibility to services and create high-quality urban fabric, in addition to the likely continuation of services in rural areas for future generations.

## 7. ISA Summary

- 7.0.1 Overall, the rLDP would have significant benefits in terms of providing the housing and employment land required to support sustainable growth in Carmarthenshire. It performs well against the socio-economic objectives of the sustainability framework, with strategic options that look to improve access to good quality jobs, services, and infrastructure across the County, with a view to addressing some of the disparity between rural and urban areas. The rLDP also aims to improve health and well-being across the County, with more affordable housing and increased access to open space, active travel, and community facilities.
- 7.0.2 As is the case with most development, some potential negative effects are predicted, with regards to biodiversity, air quality, water quality and climatic factors. However, these negative impacts can be reduced and/or avoid entirely with the proposed mitigation measures. This ISA (incorporating the SA/SEA Environmental Report) of the rLDP Deposit Plan makes several recommendations that will provide or strengthen mitigation which can decrease the magnitude of adverse effects and risks. These are outlined in Appendices F and G. Most suggestive enhancements made by this appraisal have already been implemented within the rLDP, due to the iterative nature of both documents. Typically, these consisted of minor alterations to wording to strengthen policies that would further safeguard their influence upon the ISA objectives. Collectively, this has ensured that the promotion of sustainable development is upheld, and has been fully considered at all parts of the plan making process.
- 7.0.3 With relation to assessing the effects upon biodiversity, the conclusions of the HRA found that the rLDP will have no likely significant effect, either alone or in combination, on any European sites, except for several identified potential effect mechanisms. These include general disturbance effects on SPA Assemblages of Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site (CBEEMS), in addition to specific noise and light pollution effects as a result of SG3 (development located on the Pembrey Peninsula); habitat fragmentation by growth proposed in Principal Centre 3 Ammanford/Cross Hands potentially impacting Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC; Surface water contamination with potential effects on River Tywi SAC, River Teifi SAC, CBEEMS and Cardigan Bay SAC; and the disturbance of otter features as a result of particular allocations identified. As mitigation measures were considered as part of the HRA assessment, it was concluded that these contributing aspects of the rLDP will have no adverse effect on the integrity of any European sites (assuming the recommendations are effectively implemented). Additionally, a targeted action plan has been developed to resolve likely adverse impacts upon water resources (i.e., compliance issues and the integrity of riverine SACs) for those allocations located within a phosphate sensitive catchment – mitigating those adverse effect upon ISA5 highlighted in Table 24. In conclusion, these factors work in synergy with the cumulative impact of requiring certain developments to create net benefits for biodiversity, likely creating positive effects for ISA2 and aid the response to the Nature and Carbon Emergency.
- 7.0.4 As discussed below, the integrated components of this assessment have ensured all statutory requirements place upon the Local Authority, in addition to those undertaken to ensure a more holistic approach, have been considered with relation to the scope and function of the rLDP.
- 7.0.5 The EqIA was undertaken at several developmental stages throughout the preparation of the rLDP and noted the potential for high impacts in the following characteristics; Age, Disability, Race, and the Welsh language; alongside the need to uphold the



Social-Economic Duty. Mitigation measures are explicitly highlighted within these assessment (Appendix I), although commentary has been further reflected where relevant (particularly within the assessment of the strategic/specific policies), and suggested monitoring has been outlined to ensure no disproportionate effect is placed upon all protected characters. Overall, the policies appraised in this present report were predicted to have no likely disproportionate adverse effect upon protected characteristics. In addition to the ISA Report, a follow up EqIA will be conducted following consultation to ensure all amendments adhere to principles of equality and inclusivity. It will be important during the implementation of the rLDP to continue to have regard to equality and the Social-Economic Duty.

- 7.0.6 Analogous with the commentary provided/signposted within this present ISA report, the WLIA findings that the Preferred Spatial Strategy for rLDP is a minor positive, compared to business as usual – although please refer to paragraph 2.5.3 in the WLIA stating the caveats surrounding any assumptions and the likelihoods which help signify the magnitude of potential change. However, given the demographical variation in each cluster, particular differences are likely to be seen within Cluster 3. The chosen Preferred Growth Option was found to have a realistic possibility of encouraging and realising an overall growth in the number of Welsh speakers – particularly amongst younger age groups. While some uncertainty remains due to the lack of robust evidence, the WLIA concludes that it is difficult to determine the secondary, cumulative, and synergistic effects upon the Welsh Language.
- 7.0.7 While no likely negative effects were predicted to be directly place upon physical and mental health (HIA), environmentally related health issues attributed from exposure to traffic noise, air pollutants, and water contamination were found to be secondary effects. The rLDP has promoted principles of placemaking, good design, and specific mitigation measures in response these effects. Additionally, the provision of new open spaces, active travel, and promoting access to assets of natural and cultural heritage, were identified to have a positive and cumulative influence upon the collective health of local communities. Nevertheless, the following proposed monitoring framework has taken a particular focus to include multiple indicators associated with these attributing factors to ensure these issues are sufficiently addressed.
- 7.0.8 Consideration to the WBFGA well-being goals, accompanied by those from Carmarthenshire's PSB and Council, were integral to the preparation of the Plan. The findings of this assessment indicate that the rLDP has the potential to support improvements in the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of the County (compared with the current baseline), given the relation to the ISA Framework. However, while remaining dependent upon a myriad of forces outside the scope of the rLDP, it is important that the Plan's policies and associated mitigate measures are effectively implemented to achieve this, and, as such, over 23 Supplementary Planning Guidance are planned to aid contextual understanding of the of interpretation policies, ultimately supporting the provision of sustainable development.

## 8. Monitoring Framework

- 8.0.1 The *Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004 (Article 17)*<sup>50</sup> require that the significant environmental effects of the Plan be monitored so that any *unforeseen adverse effects* can be appropriately remediated. The *SEA Directive* further recognised that it may be difficult to identify and implement monitoring mechanisms for unexpected effects, or, where such monitoring takes place, to attribute adverse effects to implementation of the Plan. In accordance with the associated European Commission guidance (paragraph 8.12)<sup>51</sup>, unforeseen adverse effects are understood as ‘...*shortcomings of the prognostic statements in the Environmental Report (e.g., regarding the predicted intensity of an environmental effect) or unforeseen effects resulting from changes of circumstances, which have led to certain assumptions in the environmental assessment being partly or wholly invalidated*’.
- 8.0.2 Monitoring helps understand the impacts of the implementation of the Plan (as a whole) and ensures evidence is kept up to date, which will ultimately assist in future reviews of the rLDP. Monitoring needs to consider both the likely positive and negative effects of the rLDP. It must also examine cumulative, secondary, and synergistic effects over and above the effects of the individual measures, and throughout the lifespan of the Plan. In keeping with the integrated nature of the present assessment, the requirements under Article 17 have been met in addition to all ISA objectives and, therefore, by extension so have those considerations and requirements stated in paragraph 1.6.
- 8.0.3 Targets are identified for each indicator, together with an indication of the point or level at which any deviation from the identified target will trigger the need for action to be taken. These actions will typically include the analysis of the reasons for missing the target with feedback provided to those responsible for Plan and their subsequent review of the Policy in question.
- 8.0.4 Supplementary to the monitoring of environmental effects, all ISA themes and all but one objectives have been screened into the ISA Monitoring Framework, which is outlined in Table 26 alongside reference to the intended sources of information. ISA objectives without a corresponding monitoring indicator are due to the current absence of suitable indicator (on a local level), and whilst national indicators (including WBAFG) would work in some instances, these are deemed unsuitable as they are beyond the sole influence of the Plan itself. Whilst much of the data will come from within the Authority, reliable external sources are also featured (which were initially identified within the baseline information, Table 11 of Appendix B).
- 8.0.5 The proposed assessment criteria is outlined in Table 25. Within the AMR, outcome of this assessment criteria will be accompanied with a detailed commentary of how this outcome was determined (an analysis of all relevant data associated with that indicator and an overall conclusion). Potential remedial actions that could be taken if a significant negative effect is identified (e.g., review aspects of the Plan that are causing the effects and make amendments where appropriate, develop mitigation measures), and thresholds for remedial action are also provided.
- 8.0.6 To avoid duplication between the monitoring carried out for the ISA (incorporating the SEA requirement) and the rLDP, some indicators have been combined for the two processes to aid clarity (as indicated in Table 26 by an asterisks). The full rLDP

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<sup>50</sup> [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes \(Wales\) Regulations 2004](#)

<sup>51</sup> [Implementation of directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment](#)

Monitoring Framework is set out in Chapter 12 of the Deposit Plan. Monitoring activities and reporting will be incorporated within the rLDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). Monitoring will commence once the rLDP has been adopted. There may be certain circumstances (e.g., changes in legislation, developments in data collection/indicators allowing for the observation of an unforeseen adverse impact) which may require the ISA Monitoring Framework to be amended (i.e., adaptive management). If this were to occur, this will be explicitly highlighted and reasoned within the corresponding AMR.

**Table 25 – Proposed ISA Monitoring Framework assessment criteria applicable to the individual assessment of monitoring indicators in addition to the overall summary of the ISA objective.**

Symbol	Description	Remedial Action (including trigger point, where appropriate)
+	Target(s) achieved.	No action required.
+/-	Targets have been achieved whilst others have not (only applicable to the overall summary of those ISA objectives with multiple monitoring indicators).	Refer to the specific outcome of the individual monitoring indicators.
-	Target(s) not achieved and there are concerns over implementation of the Plan and/or specific policy(s).	Appropriate remedial action needed (action triggered by trigger point indicated outlined within the rLDP, or target missed for four consecutive AMR periods, or whenever deemed necessary by those responsible for undertaking the ISA monitoring to respond to significant adverse impacts, uncertainties, and future changes beyond the Plan's immediate control).
0	Target(s) has not been achieved but there no concerns over implementation the Plan and/or specific policy(s) (potentially impacted by external factors beyond influence of the Plan itself).	No action required. If uncertain, seek additional information/data sources and re-evaluate, where possible.
?	No conclusion can be drawn at this stage.	Seek additional information/data sources and re-evaluate, where possible.
N/A	Not applicable	Consider relevance of monitoring indicator assessing the ISA objective and review ISA Framework, if necessary.

Table 26 – Proposed ISA Monitoring Framework. Those indicators concerning the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the Plan, as necessitated by Article 17 (SEA), are highlighted in grey. \* = Indicator relates to rLDP Monitoring Indicator (MI) as found in Chapter 12 (rLDP).

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
<b>ISA1 Sustainable Development</b>			
1-1 To live within environmental limits	Monitored via ISA2, ISA3, ISA4, ISA5, ISA6, ISA7		
1-2 To ensure a strong, healthy, and just society	Monitored via ISA10, ISA11, ISA12, ISA13, ISA14, ISA15.		
1-3 To achieve a sustainable economy	Monitored via ISA6, ISA10, ISA14.		
1-4 To remove barriers and promoting opportunities for behavioural change	* MI. 36 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Placemaking and Sustainable Places.  Post Adoption: All development applications granted in accordance with SP12 and SPG, where appropriate.	Adopt SPG by October/November 2024  Post Adoption: All development applications are granted in accordance with SP12.	Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Department)
	Percentage of people who feel able to influence decisions affecting their local areas by local authority and year	Annual increase	National Survey Indicators (StatsWales) <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Local-Area-and-Environment/percentagewhofeelabletoinfluencedecisionsaffectingtheirlocalareas-by-localauthority-year">https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Local-Area-and-Environment/percentagewhofeelabletoinfluencedecisionsaffectingtheirlocalareas-by-localauthority-year</a>
	% of adults (16+) living in households in material deprivation within Carmarthenshire	Annual reduction	National Survey Indicators (StatsWales) <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MRi5/Percentage%20of%20people%20living%20in%20households%20in%20material%20deprivation%20by%20local%20authority%20(gov.wales)">https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MRi5/Percentage of people living in households in material deprivation by local authority (gov.wales)</a>
	% of households in Carmarthenshire which live in poverty (household income is less than 60% of the GB median income)	Annual reduction	Carmarthenshire County Council (e.g., Annual Report For Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire)
<b>ISA2 Biodiversity</b>			
2-1 To promote resilience of ecosystems by avoiding the damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats, and	Number of planning applications granted which have an adverse effect on the: a) SACs, SPAs, Ramsar Sites	No applications granted which have had an adverse effect on a), b) c), and/or d)	Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Department)

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
protected species and to encourage connectivity.	b) integrity of designated site for nature conservation c) favourable conservation status/objectives of European protected species d) priority species and habitats		
	All development applications granted in accordance with SP 14 (including the containing specific policies), where appropriate.	No applications granted against the specialist advice of the Rural Conservation.	Carmarthenshire County Council (Rural Conservation)
2-2 To protect, enhance and create appropriate wildlife habitats and wider biodiversity in urban and rural areas	% of permitted developments that incorporate biodiversity enhancement (including net benefits for biodiversity), and/or mitigation strategies.	All applications granted have due consideration to their impact upon biodiversity and incorporate mitigation in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy whenever necessary.	Carmarthenshire County Council
	* MI. 38 – Local Indicator: The provision of Green and Blue Infrastructure in the County (ha).	Annual increase	
	* MI. 40 – Local Indicator: The amount of identified open space lost to development.  Also provide the area (ha) of greenspaces and/or protective environmental designations in Carmarthenshire for additional context.	No identified open space should be lost to development except where in accordance with Policy PSD7	
	* MI. 43 – Local Indicator: Continue to work towards securing a minimum of 100 ha of suitable habitat for the Marsh Fritillary Butterfly within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG project.	Increase in every AMR period in the area of managed habitat in suitable condition; or increase in the favourable condition of habitat within the project area.	Caeau Mynydd Mawr Project Steering Group Carmarthenshire County Council – Performance Improvement Management System (PIMS)
<b>ISA3 Air Quality</b>			
3-1 To maintain and improve the levels of the UK National Air Quality pollutants	Air Quality Indicators (by Local Authority). Modelled, population weighted average concentrations.	Annual reduction	Future Generations Indicator 4 <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Air-">https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Air-</a>

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
			<a href="#">Quality/airqualityindicators-by-localauthority</a> Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) monitored by Carmarthenshire County Council Public Health. Air Quality Wales
	Number of breaches of EU/UK NO2 Air Quality objectives in AQMAs within Carmarthenshire. a) Llanelli b) Llandelio c) Carmarthen	No breaches of NO2 within a), b), and c).	Air Quality Wales
	All development applications granted in accordance with CCH3, where appropriate.	All applications granted meet the requirement set out in CCH3 where applicable.	Carmarthenshire County Council
3-2 To reduce levels of ground level ozone	As of 2023, ground ozone is not routinely monitored within Carmarthenshire. Unless monitoring was to begin during the plan period, a reduction in motor vehicle traffic inferring an increased use of public transport, or walking/cycling infrastructure, has been used in proxy (unless another suitable indicator becomes apparent).  See below.	(same as below)	(same as below)
3-3 To reduce the need to travel through appropriate siting of new developments and provision of public transport infrastructure	A reduction in motor vehicle traffic (Total volume of traffic calculated as vehicle miles).	Annual decrease in total volume (vehicle miles) of traffic.	Total volume (vehicle miles) of traffic – Department for Transport (DfT) <a href="https://roadtraffic.dft.gov.uk/local-authorities">https://roadtraffic.dft.gov.uk/local-authorities</a> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/road-traffic-statistics-local-authorities-across-great-britain">Road traffic statistics - Local authorities across Great Britain (dft.gov.uk)</a>
<b>ISA4 Climatic Factors</b>			
4-1 To reduce the emission of greenhouse gases	Annual local authority carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions dataset (revised)	Annual decrease in total volume of CO2 emitted.	<a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1008815/2005-">The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy</a> <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1008815/2005-">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1008815/2005-</a>

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
	NB: Other greenhouse gases not currently measured sufficiently on a local authority level (include if becomes available within the Plan period)		<a href="#">19 Local Authority CO2 emissions.csv/preview</a>
4-2 To minimise the vulnerability of Carmarthenshire to the effects of climate change through making space for water, coastal retreat and shifting habitat distribution patterns	MI. 51 – Key Indicator: Amount of highly vulnerable development (by TAN15 paragraph 5.1 development category) permitted in C2 flood risk zones not meeting all TAN15 tests (paragraph 6.2 i-v).	No applications permitted for highly vulnerable development in C1 and C2 flood risk zone contrary to NRW advice.	
	All development applications granted in accordance with NE 7 (including the containing specific policies), where appropriate.	No applications granted which do not adhere to NE 7	
4-3 To encourage all new developments to be climate resilient	All development applications granted in accordance with SP 12 and SP 16 (including the containing specific policies), where appropriate.	No applications granted which do not adhere to SP 12	Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Department)
4-4 To encourage energy conservation and higher energy efficiency	All development applications are encouraged to maximise energy efficiency (paragraph 11.496) in accordance with SP 16 (including the containing specific policies), where appropriate.	Number of applications granted which demonstrate high energy efficiency (satisfactory to national building standards, requirements, and targets).	Carmarthenshire County Council  Reference is made to <a href="https://gov.wales/energy-efficiency-strategy">https://gov.wales/energy-efficiency-strategy</a>
4-5 To minimise energy consumption and promote renewable energy sources	The amount of energy produced in the County from renewable sources through the:  a) Number of, and b) Installed capacity permitted renewable energy and low carbon technology developments.  Relates to * MI. 53	Annual increase in a) and b)	Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Department)
<b>ISA5 Water</b>			
5-1 To ensure water quality of rivers, lakes, groundwater, and coastal areas is improved and ensure that the hydromorphological quality of the water bodies is maximised	Annual Bathing Water Quality classification for a) Pembrey b) Pendine bathing sites in Carmarthenshire	Maintain excellent water quality classification	NRW Abstraction management plans <a href="https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/water-management-and-quality/water-available-in-our-catchments/?lang=en">https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/water-management-and-quality/water-available-in-our-catchments/?lang=en</a>



ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
	Number of water bodies at 'good' classification status or above for a) Ecological status b) Chemical status (presented as a % off all monitored waterbodies)	a) Increase b) Increase	Natural Resources Wales Water Watch <a href="https://waterwatchwales.naturalresources.wales.gov.uk/en/">https://waterwatchwales.naturalresources.wales.gov.uk/en/</a>
5-2 To protect and maintain water resources in the public supply chain and ensure enough water is available for the environment at all times of the year	Carmarthen Bay Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Water resource availability	Static / No reduction	Reference: <a href="https://gov.wales/topics/planning/buildingregs/approved-documents/part-g-sanitation/?lang=en">https://gov.wales/topics/planning/buildingregs/approved-documents/part-g-sanitation/?lang=en</a> CCC Building Control
	All development applications granted do not adversely impact upon Source Protection Zones (SPZs) and undertake a Hydrogeological Risk Assessment, whenever necessary.	All applications granted have due consideration to their hydrogeological impact and incorporate mitigation whenever necessary.	Carmarthenshire County Council
5-3 To minimise diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas	% of permitted sites that incorporate SuDS or other sustainable water management.	Increasing	
	MI. 54 Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Water Quality – Protected Riverine SACs  Post Adoption: All development applications granted in accordance with SP16 and CCH4 (including corresponding SPG), where appropriate.	Adopt SPG by October/November 2024  Post Adoption: All development applications are granted in accordance with CCH4.	
5-4 To increase water efficiency in new and refurbished developments	Number of houses built meeting the water efficiency threshold set by the government in Part G of Schedule 1 and regulation 36 to the Building Regulations 2010.  * MI. 1 – Indicator Required by Legislation: Number of net additional open market dwellings and affordable homes built in the Plan area (proxy – assuming all development meet building regulations).	All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements.	Specific reference is made to <a href="https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-05/building-regulations-guidance-part-g-sanitation-hot-water-safety-and-water-efficiency.pdf">https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-05/building-regulations-guidance-part-g-sanitation-hot-water-safety-and-water-efficiency.pdf</a>
	Reference to monitoring indicators within 4-2.		

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
5-5 To make space for water, and minimise and reduce flood risk	Number of properties (homes and businesses) at medium or high risk of flooding from rivers and the sea	Static/Reduce	Future Generations National Indicator 32 <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Flooding/environment-and-countryside-state-of-the-environment-our-local-environment-properties-at-risk-of-flooding">https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Flooding/environment-and-countryside-state-of-the-environment-our-local-environment-properties-at-risk-of-flooding</a>
<b>ISA6 Material Assets</b>			
6-1 Minimise the use of finite resources and promote higher resource efficiency and the use of secondary and recycled materials	* MI. 59 – Local Indicator: The amount of hard rock landbank	Maintain a minimum aggregate landbank of 10 years for hard rock	Carmarthenshire County Council
	* MI. 60 – Local Indicator: The amount of sand and gravel landbank	Maintain a minimum landbank for sand and gravel of 7 years.	
6-2 Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse, and recycle	Percentage of Waste reuse/recycling/composting (by Local Authority)	Increase annually	StatsWales <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Waste-Management/Local-Authority-Municipal-Waste/annualreuserecyclingcompostingrates-by-localauthority-year">https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Waste-Management/Local-Authority-Municipal-Waste/annualreuserecyclingcompostingrates-by-localauthority-year</a>
6-3 Encourage needs to be met locally	* MI. 63 – Local Indicator: Monitor planning permissions for waste management facilities	Maintain sufficient capacity to meet local need (in accordance with Council strategies and policies)	Carmarthenshire County Council
	* = MI.27 – The delivery of key infrastructure that underpins the Plan's strategy	Monitor the development of new infrastructure, such as road and rail improvements, utility, and biodiversity enhancements.	Carmarthenshire County Council
	* MI. 29 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Planning Obligations.	Adopt SPG by October/November 2024	

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
	Post Adoption: Ensure Planning Obligations are sort in in accordance with INF1 and SPG (and relating to NE4, NE3, NE1, PSD8, PSD6, SP9, AHOM2).	Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements as forehold by the % of developments which Planning Obligations were made.	
	Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/access facilities and services they need	Increase in the percentage of adults (16+) that agree with this statement.	National Survey Indicators 25 <a href="https://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Local-Area-and-Environment/percentageofpeoplesatisfiedwithaccesstofacilitiesandservices">https://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Local-Area-and-Environment/percentageofpeoplesatisfiedwithaccesstofacilitiesandservices</a>
6-4 Promote the use of more sustainable resources	Total final energy consumption at local authority level (ktoe)  (until electric cars are more frequently monitored at local authority level)	Increase in bioenergy; Decrease in all other non-renewable fuel sources.	The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/total-final-energy-consumption-at-regional-and-local-authority-level-2005-to-2020">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/total-final-energy-consumption-at-regional-and-local-authority-level-2005-to-2020</a>
	* MI. 55 Local Indicator: Produce SPG on Electric and Ultra Low Emission Vehicles in Developments  Post Adoption: Ensure Electric Vehicle Charging Points are sort in in accordance with CCH3 and SPG	Adopt SPG by Summer 2025  Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements	
6-5 Improve the integration of different modes of transport	* MI. 56 – Local Indicator: Progress toward the implementation of identified road scheme	Implementation in accordance with the delivery timetables	Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Department)
	* MI. 58 – Local Indicator: Implementation of Welsh Government Road Schemes – including Llandeilo Bypass	n/a - contextual information	
6-6 Promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport (e.g., cycling and walking)	* MI. 57 – Local Indicator: Amount of walking and cycling infrastructure granted planning permission	Increase in the number of schemes permitted	

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
<b>ISA7 Soil</b>			
7-1 To promote the regeneration of contaminated land.  (previously developed land)	Amount of new development (ha) permitted on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions) expressed as a % of all development permitted.	Increase and maintain	Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Department)
7-2 To avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces and minimised soil erosion	Monitored by 5-3.		
7-3 To reduce SO2 and NOx emissions, and nitrate pollution from agriculture	No indicator currently available.		
<b>ISA8 Cultural Heritage</b>			
8-1 To protect historic and cultural assets and local distinctiveness from negative effects of development/regeneration and support their enhancement	Number of developments permitted adversely impacting upon buildings and areas of built or historical interest and their setting against the advice of built heritage.	No development permitted against the advice of built heritage and, where appropriate, mitigation is followed.	Carmarthenshire County Council
	* MI. 50 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on the Built and Historic Environment.  Post Adoption: Ensure all development proposals are in accordance with SP15 and SPG, where appropriate.	Adopt SPG by December 2025  Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements	
	* MI. 49 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Archaeology  Post Adoption: Ensure all development proposals are in accordance with SP15 and SPG, where appropriate.	Adopt SPG by October/November 2024  Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements	
8-2 To promote high quality design reflecting local character and distinctiveness	Number of applications refused on design grounds.	No developments permitted which are contrary to rLDP policies.	Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Department)

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
<b>ISA9 Landscape</b>			
9-1 To protect and enhance landscape/townscape from negative effects of land use change	MI. 48 Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Landscape Character.  Post Adoption: Ensure all development proposals are in accordance with SP14 and SPG, where appropriate.	Adopt SPG by Summer 2025.  Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements	Carmarthenshire County Council
9-2 To take sensitive locations into account when siting development and promote high quality design	Number of developments permitted which have an adverse impact upon landscape.	No developments permitted which are contrary to rLDP policy.	
9-3 To encourage appropriate future use of derelict land  (assumed previously developed land)	Monitored by 7-1		
<b>ISA10 Population</b>			
10-1 Ensure suitable, affordable housing stock with access to education and employment facilities	* MI. 13 – Key Indicator: The level of affordable housing completions monitored against the plan’s overarching target.	To deliver 1700 affordable homes in total by 2033. To deliver 113 affordable homes annually.	Carmarthenshire County Council
	* MI. 14 – Key Indicator: Tenure of affordable housing completions.	Tenure split (social rented and intermediate) in line with need identified in the Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA).	
	* MI. 15 – Key Indicator: Trends in key determinants of market conditions and viability such as, house prices, land values, build costs.	Policy requirements are reflective of the current economic circumstances and financial viability.	Council Valuers

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
	* MI. 16 – Key Indicator: Delivery of the affordable housing policy - thresholds and percentage targets for each housing allocation site with a permission.	The proportion of affordable dwellings permitted on residential allocations should be in accordance with Policy AHOM1.	Carmarthenshire County Council
10-2 Promote the retention of younger people	Reduced outward migration of people aged a) 0 – 14 b) 15 – 29 c) 30 – 44 who reside in Carmarthenshire	Decrease annually	Internal migration flows from Welsh local authorities to the rest of the UK – StatWales <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MRid">https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MRid</a> <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MRid">Migration between Wales and the rest of the UK by local authority, flow, sex and age (gov.wales)</a>
10-3 Promote inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups in society	% of people agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different background get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect.	Increase	Well-being of Wales: indicators (Local Authority) <a href="#">Table   Well-being of Wales: indicators   Well-being   People, communities and equalities   Data   Home - InfoBaseCymru</a>
	* MI. 31 – Key Indicator: Gypsy and Traveller sites / pitches built on allocated sites.	To provide the required pitches identified within the GTAA.	Carmarthenshire County Council
<b>ISA11 The Welsh Language</b>			
11-1 Encourage growth of the Welsh language and culture	* MI. 26 – Local Indicator: % of people who can speak Welsh	Increase the proportion of Welsh speakers in the County	Future Generations National Indicator 24 Wales National Survey Carmarthenshire County Council
	* MI. 25 – Local Indicator: Planning applications supported by Welsh Language Action Plans or Welsh Language Impact Assessments	All planning applications supported in accordance with Policy WL1.	Carmarthenshire County Council

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
	* MI. 24 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Welsh Language and New Developments.  Post Adoption: Ensure all development proposals are in accordance with SP8, WL1, and SPG, where appropriate.	Adopt SPG by October/November 2024.  Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements	
	* MI. 37 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on advertisements (guidance on bilingual requirements)	Adopt SPG by Summer 2025  Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements	
<b>ISA12 Health and Well-Being</b>			
12-1 Create opportunities for people to live active, healthy lifestyles through planning activities	* MI. 30 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Health Impact Assessments.  Post Adoption: Ensure all development proposals are in accordance with SP7, INF2 and SPG, where appropriate.	Adopt SPG by Summer 2025.  Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements	Carmarthenshire County Council  <a href="#">Health (local authority)   Reports   Home - InfoBaseCymru</a>
	% of adults who reported being overweight or obese	Decreasing	
12-2 Provide access to health and recreation facilities and services	Percentage of people satisfied/very satisfied with their ability to get to/access the facilities and services they need (by Local Authority)	Increasing	Active travel reports <a href="https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/travel-roads-parking/active-travel/#.W5EARumQzIU">https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/travel-roads-parking/active-travel/#.W5EARumQzIU</a>
	Reference to 6-3: Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/access facilities and services they need	See relevant indicator within 6-3	
12-3 Encourage walking or cycling as an alternative means of transportation	Monitored by ISA6 (6-6) * = MI.49		



ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
12-4 Promote access to Wales' natural and cultural heritage	Monitored by ISA2 (2-2) * MI. 40, MI. 43		
	Percentage of people attending or participating in arts, culture, or heritage activities at least three times a year (by Local Authority).	An annual increase in the percentage of adults (16+) attending.	Stats Wales <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Sport-and-Recreation/percentageofpeoplewhoattendorticipateinartcultureheritageactivities3ormoretimesayear-by-localauthority-year">https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Sport-and-Recreation/percentageofpeoplewhoattendorticipateinartcultureheritageactivities3ormoretimesayear-by-localauthority-year</a>
<b>ISA13 Education and Skills</b>			
13-1 Provide accessible educational and training facilities which meet the future need of the area	Pentre Awel – Delivery of zone one element of the site.	Granting of permission for the site during the Plan period.	Carmarthenshire County Council
13-2 Increase levels of literacy (in both Welsh and English) and numeracy			
13-3 Promote lifelong learning	Level of highest qualification held by adults of working age in Wales (by Local Authority).	Annual increase in the % of 18-64 year olds reported having a level 3 + qualification.	Wellbeing of Wales: National Indicator 8 <a href="https://gov.wales/wellbeing-wales-national-indicators">https://gov.wales/wellbeing-wales-national-indicators</a>
<b>ISA14 Economy</b>			
14-1 To promote sustainable economic growth	Gross Value Added (GVA) per head (South West Wales value)	Increasing	
14-2 To provide good quality employment opportunities for all sections of the population	MI. 20 – Key Indicator: Employment land take-up against employment allocations.	No permissions on employment land permitted (ha) on allocated employment sites	Carmarthenshire County Council
	Status of employed persons within the Local Authority	Increases in the number of: a) Total in Employment b) Employees c) Self-employed d) Full-time e) Part-time	StatsWales <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MU8T">https://statswales.gov.wales/v/MU8T</a>

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
	* MI. 22 – Local Indicator: Employment land lost to other land uses (includes identified existing and/or proposed employment sites)	No loss to other uses unless it can be justified through LDP policy.	Carmarthenshire County Council
	* MI. 23 – Local Indicator: Planning permissions for employment uses outside of identified existing or proposed employment sites where they are contrary to the provisions of Policy EME4	Ensure that employment uses outside of proposed and/or identified existing employment sites are in accordance with Policy EME4	
14-3 To promote sustainable businesses in Wales	* MI. 4 – Local Indicator: Vacant Retail Units of commercial properties	Reduce vacancy rates of commercial properties within defined town centre boundary.	Retail and Town Centre Audit
	* MI. 34 – Local Indicator: Total economic impact of tourism in Carmarthenshire	n/a - contextual information	STEAM Report prepared by GTS UK (Carmarthenshire CC Marketing and Media Annual Report)
	* MI. 35 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Alternative Luxury Camping  Post Adoption: Ensure all development proposals are in accordance with SP11, VE1, VE2, and SPG, where appropriate.	Adopt SPG by October/November 2024  Post adoption: All applications granted have due consideration to these requirements	Carmarthenshire County Council
<b>ISA15 Social Fabric</b>			
15-1 Improve safety and security for people and property	Average annual crime level (Carmarthenshire)	Annual decrease	Police UK <a href="https://www.police.uk/pu/performance/">https://www.police.uk/pu/performance/</a>
15-2 Promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions	Percentage of people who agree that there is good community cohesion in their local area by local authority and year	Increase Annually	Stats Wales <a href="https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Local-Area-and-Environment/percentageofpeoplewhoagreethatthereisgoodcommunitycohesionintheirlocalarea-by-localauthority-year">https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Local-Area-and-Environment/percentageofpeoplewhoagreethatthereisgoodcommunitycohesionintheirlocalarea-by-localauthority-year</a>

ISA Objective	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Data Source
	(1-4) * MI. 36 – Local Indicator: Production of SPG on Placemaking and Sustainable Places. Post Adoption: All development applications granted in accordance with SP12 and SPG, where appropriate.	(see 1-4)	Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Department)
15-3 Promote the deliverability of affordable housing	Monitored by 10-1		
15-4 Improve accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantaged sections of society	Reference to 6-3: Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/access facilities and services they need	See relevant indicator within 6-3	

## 9. Consultation and Next Steps

- 9.0.1 This ISA Report will be available for public consultation alongside the Deposit rLDP for an 8-week period during the week commencing the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2023. A non-technical summary is also available, in addition to the full version of this document. Copies of these documents are available from the Forward Planning Section of Carmarthenshire County Council or can be viewed online. It can also be inspected at the Council's Customer Service Centres and public libraries during advertised opening hours.
- 9.0.2 Please note that this ISA report is for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Deposit version of the Revised LDP and supersedes the previous SA Report originally published in January 2020. Whilst previous representations relating to the SA report have been considered, they will not be formally submitted to the Inspector for examination. Furthermore, any representations submitted in relation to the 1<sup>st</sup> Deposit rLDP will not be considered or rolled over as part of this consultation and, therefore, any representations previously submitted should be resubmitted if you wish for them to be considered as part of this consultation.
- 9.0.3 Your views on the ISA Report can be made online via the Council's Consultation Page. Alternatively, response forms can be downloaded from the website or are available upon request.

If you wish to send your views in writing, please post your response form to:

Forward Planning Section  
Place and Infrastructure Department  
3 Spilman Street  
Carmarthen  
SA31 1LE

Or send via email: [forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

Please include 'ISA' within the subject line.

- 9.0.4 Representations must be received by the relevant date and time stated upon the Council's Consultation Page. Comments submitted after this date will not be considered.
- 9.0.5 To ensure that the requirements of the SEA Directive are met, it will be necessary to consider all further changes to the rLDP following the formal consultation and examination process. Therefore, an additional ISA Report for the adopted version of the rLDP will be published at this time.

Revised 2018-2033  
Local Development Plan

# Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA)

2nd Deposit Plan  
February 2023

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[carmarthenshire.gov.wales](http://carmarthenshire.gov.wales)