

**SUBJECT: MONMOUTHSHIRE REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
ISSUES, VISION AND OBJECTIVES PAPER**

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 3 July 2019

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet's endorsement of the amendments made to the Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper following Council's declaration of a climate emergency on 16th May 2019, as discussed at the Cabinet meeting on 5th June 2019. In addition, an executive summary has been provided and table 4.1 has been amended to set out the links between the draft LDP objectives and the Monmouthshire PSB Well-being Plan objectives.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To endorse the amendments to the Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper, which consolidates the changes agreed at the 5th June 2019 Cabinet meeting, noting that the objectives and vision will continue to be refined as the LDP Preferred Strategy is drafted and consulted on.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) is in the process of preparing a Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) for the County (excluding the area within the Brecon Beacons National Park). The Replacement LDP will cover the period 2018-2033 and will be the statutory land use plan to support delivery of the Council's vision for the future of the County and its communities. The LDP will set out land use development proposals for the County and will identify where and how much new development will take place over the replacement Plan period. It will also identify areas to be protected from development and provide policies against which future planning applications will be assessed. The Replacement LDP is being prepared in accordance with the Delivery Agreement which sets out the timetable for plan preparation and the approach to community consultation.

Draft Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper

- 3.2 One of the first key stages of the Replacement LDP process involves the preparation of the Issues, Vision and Objectives. The Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper identifies the key issues, challenges and drivers facing the County and sets out the draft vision and objectives for the Replacement LDP and will inform the next key stages of the plan process, namely the Growth Options and Preferred Strategy. The Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper was subject to targeted engagement in January-February 2019. The feedback from this

engagement was considered and amendments made to the paper, where appropriate. The amended paper was reported to the 5th June 2019 Cabinet meeting to seek Cabinet's endorsement of the Issues, Vision and Objectives (as amended), noting that they are subject to further refinement as the Preferred Strategy is progressed.

3.3 Subsequent to this, the Council declared a climate emergency on 16th May 2019. It is, therefore, considered necessary to make further amendments to the Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper to reflect this decision and to consolidate the changes agreed at the 5th June 2019 Cabinet meeting. The following amendments have been made to the Paper:

	Previous Wording	Revised Wording
Issue 38	The LDP will support carbon reduction across the County. Limited public transport, high levels of car ownership and the subsequent reliance on the private car, combined with high energy consumption and poor waste management can all contribute to carbon emissions.	Monmouthshire's rurality, limited public transport, high levels of car ownership and the subsequent reliance on the private car, combined with high energy consumption and waste management can all contribute to carbon emissions. MCC recognises that we are in a climate emergency and has committed to strive to limit the increase in global temperatures to 1.5°C.
M(iii)	n/a (additional influence)	The Replacement LDP will consider ways to support carbon reduction through a variety of measures including the use of renewable energy, the design and location of new development, encouraging balanced job and population growth to reduce out-commuting, the provision of broadband connectivity to reduce the need to travel, the provision of ultra-low emission vehicle charging infrastructure to reduce emissions and improve air quality, and the provision of quality Green Infrastructure. Proposals will be considered against our commitment to strive to limit the increase in global temperatures to 1.5°C.
Objective 17	To ensure that new development can adapt to the impacts of a changing climate, promote opportunities for carbon reduction and decrease impact on air quality in order to reduce the contribution made by residents, businesses and industry in Monmouthshire to climate change.	To strive to limit the increase in global temperatures to 1.5°C, supporting carbon reduction through a variety of measures including the use of renewable energy, the design and location of new development, encouraging balanced job and population growth to reduce out-commuting, the provision of broadband connectivity to reduce the need to travel, the provision of ultra-low emission vehicle charging infrastructure to reduce emissions and improve air quality, and the provision of quality Green Infrastructure.

3.4 Table 4.1 (Replacement LDP Draft Objectives) of the Draft Paper has also been amended to set out the links between the draft LDP objectives and the Monmouthshire PSB Well-being Plan objectives.

- 3.5 These amendments consolidate the changes agreed at the 5th June 2019 Cabinet meeting. The amended Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper is attached at **Appendix 1**. The feedback from and the Council's response/recommendations to the targeted engagement has also been updated to reflect the additional amendments made to the paper (**Appendix 2**). An executive summary is provided at **Appendix 3**.

Next Steps

- 3.6 The Replacement LDP vision and objectives will continue to be refined prior to inclusion in the Preferred Strategy (Autumn 2019) to reflect the outcomes of further stakeholder engagement/consultation in relation to the growth options and a revised evidence base. The spatial element of the vision will also need to be determined following consultation on the LDP growth options and will be set out in the Preferred Strategy. The growth options and Preferred Strategy will be the subject of further engagement and political reporting, including an Economy & Development Select Committee workshop.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

Sustainable Development and Equalities

- 4.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) sets out the requirement for all LDPs to be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal (SA). All stages of the Replacement LDP will be subject to an Integrated Sustainability Assessment (including Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Well-being of Future Generations (WBFG), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA), and Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA)), whose findings will be used to inform the development of the Replacement LDP strategy, policies and site allocations in order to ensure that the Plan will be promoting sustainable development.
- 4.2 A Future Generations Evaluation (including equalities and sustainability impact assessment) is attached to this report at **Appendix 4**.

Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting

- 4.3 There are no safeguarding or corporate parenting implications arising directly from this report.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 5.1 The LDP Manual (Edition 2, August 2015) states that strategic issues, vision and objectives should be included within the Preferred Strategy. The Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper will therefore play a key role in informing the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy which will be made available for consultation later in 2019. The options in relation to the Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper are limited to:

1. Amend the issues, vision and objectives set out in the Draft Paper, as outlined above, to reflect Council's declaration of a climate emergency. Continue to refine the vision and objectives prior to inclusion in the Preferred Strategy (Autumn 2019) to reflect the outcomes of further stakeholder engagement/consultation associated with the growth options and as the evidence base develops.
2. Make no amendments to the Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper and revert to the original version.

5.2 Option 1: Amend the issues, vision and objectives, as outlined above, to reflect Council's declaration of a climate emergency and continue to refine the vision and objectives prior to inclusion in the Preferred Strategy. **This is the preferred option.** The importance of climate change is recognised as a key issue that the LDP should seek to address. It is considered that appropriate amendments have been made to the Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper to take account of the climate emergency. The vision and objectives can be further refined to as the Preferred Strategy is progressed.

5.4 Option 2: Make no amendments to the Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper and revert to the original version. Climate change is recognised as a key issue that the LDP should seek to address and it is important that the LDP issues, vision and objectives reflect the Council's declaration of a climate emergency. It would not be appropriate to disregard this declaration. This option should therefore be discounted.

Recommendation:

5.5 Based on the reasons above, Option 1 (amend the issues, vision and objectives, as outlined above, to reflect Council's declaration of a climate emergency and continue to refine the vision and objectives prior to inclusion in the Preferred Strategy) is the preferred option.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

6.1 The success or otherwise of the replacement LDP in tackling the identified issues and achieving the objectives and vision will be evaluated via the statutory annual monitoring process. It is proposed that the Annual Monitoring Report would be reported to the Economy and Development Select Committee for scrutiny, as is current practice.

7. REASONS:

7.1 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004), Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and associated regulations, Local Planning Authorities are required to ensure that their LDPs are kept up-to-date. The Council has commenced preparation of a Replacement LDP for the County (excluding the area within the Brecon Beacons National Park) which will cover the period 2018-2033. The preparation of the Issues, Vision and Objectives is one of the first key stages in Replacement Plan preparation process. As part of the LDP pre-deposit proposals, a Preferred Strategy must be prepared, which in accordance with the LDP Manual (Edition 2, August 2015) should include the strategic issues, a vision and objectives. This Paper will play a key role in informing the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy which will be made available for consultation later in 2019.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 Officer time and costs associated with the preparation of the Replacement LDP Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper. These were within the existing Planning Policy budget and carried out by existing staff.

9. CONSULTEES:

- SLT
- Cabinet

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

- PSB Well-Being Plan (February 2018)
- Monmouthshire Corporate Business Plan 2017-2022 (February 2018)
- Monmouthshire Local Development Plan Review Report (March 2018)
- Monmouthshire Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Reports, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18
- Monmouthshire Replacement LDP Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (December 2018)
- Local Housing Market Assessment (September 2018)

11. AUTHOR:

Mark Hand (Head of Planning, Housing and Place-Shaping)

Rachel Lewis (Planning Policy Manager)

12. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644803

Email: markhand@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01633 644827

Email: rachellewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk

APPENDICES:

APPENDIX 1: Issues Vision and Objectives Paper June 2019

Appendix 1: Well-being of Future Generation Act 7 ways of working

Appendix 2: Key issues, challenges and drivers

APPENDIX 2: Report of Consultation

APPENDIX 3: Issues Vision and Objectives Paper: executive summary

APPENDIX 4: Well-being of Future Generations Act assessment