



**Name of the Officer** completing the evaluation

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**Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal**

The Council has now reached the **Preferred Strategy** stage of the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) process. The Preferred Strategy is the first formal publication and statutory consultation stage in the RLDP preparation process. It provides the strategic direction for the development and use of land in Monmouthshire (excluding the area within the Brecon Beacons National Park) over the Plan period 2018 to 2033 and identifies how much growth is needed and where this growth will broadly be located. It provides the strategic context for the preparation of more detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations which will be included in the Deposit RLDP. It is proposed that the Preferred Strategy will be made available for statutory engagement/consultation with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders in July/August 2021. The consultation responses received will help shape the Deposit RLDP.

We originally commenced consultation on the Preferred Strategy in March 2020, however progress on the RLDP was paused in March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic which meant we could not continue with the public engagement events. Following advice issues in a letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government (7<sup>th</sup> July 2020), the decision was made to cease the RLDP Preferred Strategy consultation and Second Call for Candidate Sites.

A review of the RLDP Issues, Vision and Objectives was undertaken in June 2020 and incorporated into the RLDP Review of Issues, Vision and Objectives (IVO) and Evidence Base (September 2020). This review demonstrated that the Plan's Issues, Vision and Objectives remain relevant to Monmouthshire. The review concluded that in light of Covid-

	<p>19 a number of issues and objectives are now considered to have increased emphasis and importance, consistent with the priorities identified in the Welsh Government Building Better Places document published in July 2020.</p> <p>In August 2020, Welsh Government (WG) published corrected 2018-based population and household projections. These constitute a first update since the 2014-based population and household projections. National policy requires that updates to nationally published data, such as household and population projections should be taken into account in the plan preparation process. The latest WG population and household projections form the starting point for the Plan's evidence base on growth levels, onto which policy choices can be added to ensure that the issues are addressed, objectives met and vision achieved. The updated projections comprise important new evidence that requires consideration to ensure that the evidence base for the RLDP is robust and based on the most up to date information.</p> <p>As a result of the unavoidable delays detailed above with regard to the Covid-19 pandemic, the review of the Issues, Vision, Objectives and Evidence Base, and the publication of updated key evidence the decision was made to revisit the Growth and Spatial Options and Preferred Strategy stages of the RLDP. This has necessitated a further revision to the RLDP Delivery Agreement which was agreed by WG in October 2020.</p>
<p><b>Name of Service area</b></p> <p>Planning (Planning Policy)</p>	<p><b>Date</b> 01/06/2021</p>

**1. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	The Preferred Strategy considers the demographic profile of Monmouthshire and aims to have a positive impact on people of all ages, particularly through increasing opportunities for the younger population to both live and work with Monmouthshire to assist in ensuring a balanced demography whilst also supporting the needs of the older population. The Preferred Strategy would benefit younger people but not to the detriment of older age groups.	None.	The Preferred Strategy sets out how much growth (housing & employment) is needed over the RLDP period and broadly where this growth should take place. It seeks to provide a more balanced demographic profile for Monmouthshire. This will make our communities more sustainable. The Preferred Strategy will inform the Deposit Plan which will include detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations. COVID-19 has demonstrated the importance of sustainable communities and a balanced demography to support the older age groups.
Disability	The Preferred Strategy includes the need to ensure the provision of a wide-ranging choice of homes including meeting affordable and accessible housing needs as far as possible. The Preferred Strategy recognises the importance of the health and well-being of people and aims to create attractive, safe and accessible places to live, work and visit. At present, WG Development Quality Requirements for affordable housing incorporate Lifetime Homes standards.	None	The Preferred Strategy aims to support the well-being of current and future generations that are more inclusive, cohesive, prosperous and vibrant. The Preferred Strategy will inform the Deposit Plan which will include detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations.
Gender reassignment	None	None	N/A

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Marriage or civil partnership	None	None	N/A
Pregnancy or maternity	None	None	N/A
Race	None	None	N/A
Religion or Belief	None	None	N/A
Sex	One of the challenges facing the County is the imbalance between male and female earnings, although this situation is improving. The Preferred Strategy aims to provide economic growth and employment provision, which could indirectly impact on wage equality.	The jobs in the foundation economy are disproportionately occupied by females. This sector is vital to support our communities, as are jobs in tourism. Neither sectors are generally well-paid, although they often offer flexible working conditions that can assist work-life balance. Wage levels are not within the remit of planning policy and policies to try to seek only high paid jobs could be to the detriment of this vital economic sector.	The Preferred Strategy aims to support economic growth and prosperity. The Preferred Strategy will inform the Deposit Plan which will include detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations.
Sexual Orientation	None	None	N/A

## 2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions. This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	<b>Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage</b>	<b>Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.</b>	<b>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
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<p><b>Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice</b></p>	<p>The Social Justice strategy focuses on three main areas: tackling loneliness and isolation; tackling poverty and promoting equitable economic prosperity; and giving children the best start in life. The Preferred Strategy seeks to tackle house price unaffordability, which currently prevents some of our communities accessing suitable housing within the County. This is likely to benefit younger people in particular, which in turn will make our ageing communities more socially sustainable. Good quality and affordable housing is important in achieving poverty reduction and equitable prosperity, and supporting the best start in life. Good spatial planning helps to build cohesive communities. The provision of affordable housing combined with policy interventions in relation to the requirement of a mix of market housing will increase opportunities for those in poverty to access safe, secure and suitable housing. Improved energy efficiency requirements for new build properties will reduce the cost of living. The provision of suitable employment land, planning policy tools to support business and the use of other (non-planning) tools to stimulate economic activity will increase employment opportunities within the County. In accordance with the WFGA, the RLDP also seeks to prevent future problems and will therefore continue to avoid new development in flood risk areas and will seek low/zero carbon development to help address the climate emergency and also tackle issues such as fuel poverty.</p>	<p>People in poverty or on low incomes might not be able to access digital opportunities to work from home and/or are more likely to be employed in roles that cannot work from home.</p>	<p>We will consider the need for planning policies in the Deposit Plan to control the housing mix of the market housing on development sites, to ensure it helps create mixed communities and supports the retention of younger people who can afford an open market home were there sufficient supply of 2 and 3 bedroom homes.</p> <p>We will consider the need for small affordable housing schemes in rural settlements similar to the current LDP's 60/40 sites in the Deposit RLDP.</p> <p>We will consider a range of policies in the Deposit RLDP around the climate change theme to minimise the carbon footprint of new development, and therefore mitigate negative impacts associated with the proposed growth.</p> <p>A policy requirement for broadband infrastructure provision will maximise opportunities for all to access the technology to work from home where possible, reducing commuting and associated costs.</p>
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### 3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

<p><b>How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:</b></p>	<p><b>Describe the positive impacts of this proposal</b></p>	<p><b>Describe the negative impacts of this proposal</b></p>	<p><b>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts</b></p>
<p><b>Policy Making</b></p> <p>Effects on the use of the Welsh language,</p> <p>Promoting Welsh language</p> <p>Treating the Welsh language no less favourably</p>	<p>The Welsh Language is a material planning consideration and is included within the RLDP Objective relating to Culture, Heritage and Welsh Language to ensure there is no negative impact. Any level of growth for the County relies on in-migration, some of which, whether English or Welsh or other by nationality will choose Welsh Medium education for their children. Also in-migration to Monmouthshire comes from other areas in Wales (including rural Welsh speaking areas e.g. Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Gwynedd, Ynys Môn, Denbighshire). This is in the main due to the significantly increased employment opportunities offered in Cardiff, Newport and in adjacent areas of England e.g. Bristol, Gloucester etc. Monmouthshire with its' border location and transport links is accessible to all of these areas. This in-migration, together with the ambition to retain and attract younger families, will expose more children to Welsh curriculum education in all schools, increasing the number of Welsh speakers in the County. The Preferred Strategy has been subject to a Welsh Language Impact Assessment</p>	<p>Any level of growth for the County relies on in-migration, being a border County a proportion of this is likely to be from England.</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy aims to support Culture and the Welsh Language. The Preferred Strategy will inform the Deposit Plan which will include detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations.</p> <p>We will liaise with the Local Education Authority to understand if the proposed level and location of growth necessitates additional Welsh medium school provision.</p> <p>There are already significant plans and proposals in place in terms of expanding Welsh Medium education in Monmouthshire. This is due to a number of factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the increased popularity of the Welsh Language.</li> <li>- the opportunity for children to be become bilingual</li> <li>- the increased employment opportunities that this affords them in Wales.</li> </ul>

	(WLIA) as part of the wider Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report (ISAR).		
<b>Operational</b> Recruitment & Training of workforce	An expansion of the provision of Welsh Medium education in the county will increase the opportunities for Welsh speakers to apply for vacancies within the council thus increasing the council's Welsh speaking capacity.	None of the current Planning Policy team are Welsh speakers, however, there are robust systems in place to deal with phone calls and correspondence without delaying the provision of the service.	N/A
<b>Service delivery</b> Use of Welsh language in service delivery Promoting use of the language	All documentation on the RLDP and the consultation along with notices, social media and correspondence will be bilingual. A document will be in English only if it comes from an external source that is not subject to compliance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. Emails/letters etc will make it clear that correspondence in Welsh is welcome and will not lead to a delay in response or a lesser standard of service . When requests are made for people to be added to the RLDP consultation database we will record language choice and communicate accordingly.	None of the Planning Policy team are Welsh speakers, however, there are robust systems in place to deal with phone calls and correspondence without delaying the provision of the service.	The Welsh Language is a material planning consideration and is included within the RLDP Objective relating to Culture, Heritage and Welsh Language to ensure there is no impact. The Preferred Strategy has been subject to a Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) as part of the wider Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report (ISAR) we will review this further if any additional assessment is required as we go through the RLDP process.

**4. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below?** Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!



Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p><b>A prosperous Wales</b> Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Preferred Strategy sets out how much growth is needed over the RLDP period and broadly where this growth should take place. It sets out the preferred growth spatial options which as well as housing growth and aims to provide economic growth and employment provision in both urban and rural areas.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> Higher levels of growth would require more land to be developed, careful site selection is required to minimise loss of best and most versatile agricultural land and mineral resource.</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives relating to economic growth/employment and retail centres, which have been set in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a prosperous Wales.</p>
<p><b>A resilient Wales</b> Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Preferred Strategy sets out how much growth is needed over the RLDP period and where this growth should take place. The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives including the impact of development on the natural environment in already constrained areas. It is however recognised that developments could improve connectivity through opportunities to create new linkages. The limited supply of brownfield land within the County is a recognised issue. The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against a climate change objective which recognises that we are in a climate emergency and has committed to strive to limit the increase in global temperatures to 1.5°C. Resilience of new development to aspects of climate change can be achieved via the design and location of new developments. Developments can provide opportunities to minimise carbon by providing opportunities for renewable energy</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives relating to Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Landscape, Flood Risk, Minerals and Waste, Land and Natural Resources which have been set in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a resilient Wales.</p> <p>Recently it has been announced that there are phosphate water quality issues in the River Usk and River Wye SACs, any proposed development in these catchment areas needs to clearly evidence that the development can demonstrate phosphate neutrality or betterment in its design and/or contribution to the water body.</p> <p>Strategic Policy S4 specifically relates to Climate Change, and S18 relates to Green Infrastructure, Landscape and Nature Conservation.</p>


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<p>generation, seeking to reduce commuting, supporting use of ultra-low emission vehicles and public transport, and the provision of quality Green Infrastructure. Recently it has been announced that there are phosphate water quality issues in the River Usk and River Wye SACs. There is a legal and national policy requirement to maintain and enhance ecology. The current pandemic has emphasised the need to enable such responses in delivering sustainable and resilient communities. The Covid-19 pandemic has also emphasised the importance of place-making and Green Infrastructure for the provision of open spaces in close proximity to homes for physical and mental wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> Higher levels of growth would likely result in further pressure on the natural environment. New developments could nevertheless improve Green Infrastructure and ecological connectivity through opportunities to create new linkages. The value and importance of having access to locally accessible open/green spaces to assist in recreation and health and well-being has been heightened during the current pandemic.</p>	
<p><b>A healthier Wales</b> People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Preferred Strategy sets out how much growth is needed over the RLDP period and broadly where this growth should take place. It is recognised that any developments will be encouraged to support healthier lifestyles and provide sufficient open space. The RLDP will encourage Active Travel and will reflect the Integrated Network Maps. The Covid-19</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives including Health and Well-being in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a healthier Wales. The Covid-19 pandemic has emphasised the vulnerability of those in our communities with underlying health conditions, as well as the importance of place-</p>


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<p>pandemic has emphasised the vulnerability of those in our communities with underlying health conditions, as well as the importance of place-making and green infrastructure for the provision of open spaces in close proximity to homes for physical and mental wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> Higher levels of growth have the potential to increase commuting which could affect areas with air quality problems, however, the RLDP seeks to provide for jobs within the County. Moreover, the Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated that a significant proportion of our communities can work from home which is likely to continue over the longer term.</p>	<p>making and green infrastructure for the provision of open spaces in close proximity to homes for physical and mental wellbeing.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Preferred Strategy sets out how much growth is needed over the RLDP period and broadly where this growth should take place and considers the balance of housing, employment and infrastructure in both urban and rural areas. The Covid-19 pandemic has emphasised the importance of socially sustainable communities and ensuring a balanced demography. The role of younger age cohorts providing voluntary support to the over 70s who have been self-isolating has been vital. Unchecked, our ageing demography presents a very real challenge to how such support would be offered in the future.</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives including housing, place-making, communities, rural communities, infrastructure and accessibility in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a Wales of cohesive communities.</p> <p>Detailed policies included in the Deposit Plan will consider design and placemaking in more detail.</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<b>Negative:</b> Lower growth levels would result in communities that are not viable.	
<p><b>A globally responsible Wales</b> Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</p>	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Preferred Strategy sets out how much growth is needed over the RLDP period and where this growth should take place. It has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives including the impact of options on climate change. The climate change objective recognises that we are in a climate emergency and has committed to strive to limit the increase in global temperatures to 1.5°C. The Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated that a significant proportion of our communities can work from home which is likely to continue over the longer term. Home/agile working combined with school closures and reduced leisure-based travel over the course of the pandemic has significantly reduced congestion and evidence suggests air quality has improved markedly. The RLDP seeks to reduce the commuting ratio and to enable home-working: Covid-19 has demonstrated that this is achievable. The Preferred Strategy also includes a specific Strategic Policy relating to climate change (S4).</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> None.</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives including climate change which has been set in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a globally responsible Wales. Climate change considerations will inform the Deposit Plan which will include detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations.</p> <p>Strategic Policy S4 specifically relates to Climate Change.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</b> Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation</p>	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Preferred Strategy sets out how much growth is needed over the RLDP period and broadly where this growth should take place. It has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives including the impact on Culture, Heritage and the Welsh Language.</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives including including including Culture, Heritage and the Welsh Language which has been set in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language. We will liaise with the</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<b>Negative:</b> Any level of growth for the County relies on in-migration, being a border County a proportion of this is likely to be from England.	Local Education Authority to understand if the proposed growth necessitates additional Welsh medium school provision.
<p><b>A more equal Wales</b> People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Preferred Strategy sets out how much growth is needed over the RLDP period and where this growth should take place. It sets out the preferred option which through housing and economic growth in both urban and rural areas aims to assist in balancing the demography across the County and in addressing the County's affordability challenges. The preferred growth option aims to readdress the higher proportion of older age groups and lower proportion of young adults compared to the Welsh average. One of the key objectives of the RLDP is to deliver affordable housing, having a safe secure and suitable home gives people the best start in life.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> None.</p>	The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objective relating to demography which has been set in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a more equal Wales. The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the links between poverty and resilience as well as the higher level of homelessness. The Preferred Strategy seeks to take action to enable younger people who are currently priced-out of the County an opportunity to remain living here by striving to maximise affordable housing delivery to help tackle this. It also seeks to provide additional jobs.

**5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?**

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>The Revised Preferred Strategy sets out the preferred option for housing/employment growth and spatial distribution of this growth across the County, including the identified level of growth and broad locations for development for the period 2018 - 2033. It also sets out the RLDP Vision, the role of which is to clarify the core purpose of the RLDP and provide a framework for developing the Preferred Strategy and future detailed policies. The Vision sets out the overarching context for Monmouthshire for the period up to 2033</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy will inform the Deposit Plan which will include detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations. Some of the long term implications of COVID-19 are not yet known, for example the impact longer term on our High Streets. The Deposit RLDP can incorporate flexible policies to seek to adjust to the unknown longer term implications.</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives in order to address the issues, challenges, opportunities and drivers facing the County. It seeks to balance the need to tackle issues facing Monmouthshire's communities such as housing affordability, our demography and community sustainability, and commuting levels with landscape protection and the climate emergency declaration. This is informed by the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy represents the culmination of a period of pre-deposit plan preparation and engagement which has involved engagement and consultation at an early stage of the Plan preparation process in order to gather opinions and build consensus from the outset. This has involved the preparation of an Issues, Vision &amp; Objectives Paper (updated June 2021) and a Growth &amp; Spatial Options Paper (December 2020). The feedback from these papers has been considered and helped shape the Preferred Strategy. Pre-deposit plan preparation and engagement has also included: collaborative working with neighbouring local authorities; Member involvement; discussions with key stakeholders including internal departments and external organisations including key infrastructure providers.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy will be made available for statutory engagement/consultation with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders in July/August 2021.</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy will be made available for statutory engagement/consultation with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders in July/August 2021. The consultation responses received will help shape the Deposit RLDP.</p> <p>A number of events have been attended previously to seek to integrate the LDP and Climate Emergency declaration.</p> <p>The Public Service Board will be involved at key stages of Plan-making.</p> <p>The Revised Delivery Agreement (October 2020) ensures full stakeholder /community's involvement to shape the RLDP.</p> <p>Future key stages of the RLDP process will be subject to engagement/consultation with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders.</p>



Involvement

Involving those with an interest and seeking their views

The Preferred Strategy has been informed by pre-deposit plan preparation and engagement which has involved engagement and consultation at an early stage of the Plan preparation process in order to gather opinions and build consensus from the outset. This has included engagement/consultation on the Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper (updated June 2021) and Growth and Spatial Options Paper (December 2020) and a range of collaborative working.

Pending endorsement by Council, statutory consultation and engagement on the Preferred Strategy will take place for a six week period between 5 July 2021 and 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and will include:

- Notifying all parties on the RLDP database of the consultation.
- Planning Policy Officer attendance at Area Cluster meetings during July and August 2021;
- Members' Workshop 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 (hosted by the Economy & Development Select Committee);
- Scrutiny by Economy & Development Select Committee 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021
- Internal discussions within the Council through an officer workshop, Department Management Team and Senior Leadership Team;
- Several RLDP Preferred Strategy Drop-in Sessions during July and August 2021 in Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow, Monmouth, Magor/Undy, Raglan and Usk. Should there be a further lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic, these drop-in sessions will be replaced by additional virtual events.
- We will seek to engage with seldom heard groups in particular young people, via the Youth Council and going into secondary schools, and Gypsy and Travellers via the GTAA work and reiterating the

Feedback from Preferred Strategy consultation will be noted and considered, and will help to shape the detailed proposals, site allocations and policies which will be set out in the Deposit Plan.

A Candidate Site Advice service, similar to planning pre-application advice, has been made available and will continue to be made available to site promoters to support their Candidate Site submissions.



Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<p>opportunity to promote sites during the Second Call for Candidate Sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Two RLDP Webinar Sessions in July/August 2021.</li> </ul> <p>Our consultation and engagement arrangements have been revised in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and reflect the Coronavirus Regulations (2020) and recent Ministerial advice. We have reviewed the use of digital involvement options to provide communities with information and the ability to engage with the RLDP in a virtual manner.</p>	



Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse

The Preferred Strategy promotes an appropriate level and spatial distribution of housing and employment growth for the County to 2033, which assists in addressing the key demographic and affordability challenges facing the County and ultimately seeks to deliver the Council's core purpose to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generations. A climate change objective is included in the assessment of the Preferred Strategy which recognises that we are in a climate emergency and has committed to strive to limit the increase in global temperatures to 1.5°C. The purpose of the Preferred Strategy is to:


- Identify key issues, challenges and opportunities for the County
- Develop a vision and set of objectives for the RLDP that respond to the key issues, challenges and opportunities
- Set out the growth and spatial options that the Council has considered in determining the Preferred Strategy.
- Set out the Preferred Strategy including the scale of future population, housing and employment growth and establish the broad spatial distribution of growth.
- Set out strategic policies that will deliver/implement the strategy.

The Preferred Strategy provides the strategic context for the preparation of more detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations which will be included in the Deposit RLDP.

The Preferred Strategy will inform the Deposit Plan which will be subject to statutory consultation in Summer 2022. The RLDP seeks to address the key issues, challenges and opportunities identified (in a land use context) and supports the delivery of the Council's core purpose to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generations.

A number of events have been attended previously to seek to integrate the LDP and Climate Emergency declaration.

The Public Service Board will be involved at key stages of Plan-making.

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy sets out the preferred option for housing/employment growth and spatial distribution of this growth across the County, including the identified level of growth and broad locations for development for the period 2018 – 2033. The Strategy has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives which seek to address the issues, challenges and opportunities identified (in a land use context) and support delivery of the Council’s vision/objectives for the future of the County and its communities. The RLDP (including the Preferred Strategy) will be subject to an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (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)). The ISA findings have informed the development of the RLDP strategy, and will inform the policies and site allocations in the Deposit RLDP in order to ensure that the Plan will be promoting sustainable development.</p> <p>The Preferred Strategy sets out the Vision and overarching context for Monmouthshire for the period up to 2033. 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. The importance of carbon reduction is recognised as a key issue that the RLDP should seek to address.</p>	<p>The RLDP will be subject to an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (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)). The ISA findings have informed the development of the RLDP strategy and will inform the policies and site allocations in the Deposit RLDP in order to ensure that the Plan will be promoting sustainable development.</p> <p>We will continue to work closely with our neighbours, both in Wales and England, including the joint procurement of evidence as applicable.</p> <p>An officer workshop will be held to enable colleagues in all service areas an opportunity to be involved and consider any implications for the services they deliver.</p> <p>The RLDP will align with the new Integrated Network Maps for Active Travel, and will be accompanied by an Infrastructure Plan and revised Local Transport Plan.</p>

**Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?**

	<b>Describe any positive impacts your proposal has</b>	<b>Describe any negative impacts your proposal has</b>	<b>What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
Safeguarding	None.	.None.	N/A.
Corporate Parenting	The RLDP has the potential to provide affordable housing, delivery and allocation of which should be cognisant of the needs of children leaving care.	None.	N/A.

## **6. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?**

An extensive range of background evidence and data has been used to prepare the Preferred Strategy, from a wide range of sources both internal and external to the Council. These are clearly referenced in the Preferred Strategy, but include:

- Monmouthshire Public Service Board Well-being Plan (April 2018) [https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2017/10/Monmouthshire-PSB\\_well-being-plan\\_3.0.pdf](https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2017/10/Monmouthshire-PSB_well-being-plan_3.0.pdf)
- Monmouthshire County Council Corporate Business Plan 2017 – 2022 (February 2018) [https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2018/03/Monmouthshire-Council\\_Corporate-Plan\\_1.0.pdf](https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2018/03/Monmouthshire-Council_Corporate-Plan_1.0.pdf)
- Monmouthshire Local Development Plan Review Report (March 2018) <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2018/03/Final-Review-Report-1.pdf>
- Monmouthshire Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Reports (2015- 2020) <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/planning-policy/annual-monitoring/ldp-annual-monitoring-report>
- Monmouthshire Replacement Local Development Plan Candidate Sites Register (February 2019): <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/planning-policy/candidate-sites/monmouthshire-replacement-ldp-candidate-sites-register-february-2019/>
- Habitat Regulations Assessment Initial Screening Report (December 2018) <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2020/03/HRA-Screening-Report-December-2018.pdf>
- Replacement LDP Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (As amended December 2018) <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2020/03/Final-SA-Scoping-Report-Dec-2018-1.pdf>
- MCC Economies of the Future Reports (2018) and associated economic ambition (November 2019)

- Monmouthshire LDP 'Retail Background Paper', March 2021. <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2021/05/Retail-Report-2020.pdf>
- Monmouthshire LDP 'Employment Background Paper', September 2020. <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2020/09/Final-Report-September-2020.pdf>
- Monmouthshire Housing Land Availability Schedules (2018-2019) and 2019/2020 Trajectory <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/planning-policy/housing-land-supply/?preview=true> .
- Review of the RLDP Issues, Vision, Objectives and Evidence Base in light of Covid-19 (September 2020) <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2020/11/Monmouthshire-RLDP-Review-of-Issues-Vision-Objectives-and-Evidence-Base-in-Light-of-Covid.pdf>
- Monmouthshire RLDP Revised Delivery Agreement (October 2020) <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2020/11/Revised-DA-October-2020-Final.pdf>
- Updating the RLDP Demographic Evidence produced by Edge Analytics (November 2020)
- Monmouthshire Affordable Housing Evidence Addendum Report produced by Edge Analytics (November 2020)
- Monmouthshire Growth and Spatial Options Paper (December 2020) <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2021/04/Growth-and-Spatial-Options-Paper-Dec-2020.pdf>
- Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper (Updated June 2021)
- Initial Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) Report for the Monmouthshire RLDP produced by AECOM (June 2021)
- Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Monmouthshire RLDP Preferred Strategy produced by AECOM (June 2021)

External sources of data include Welsh Government, Cadw, Natural Resources Wales, Hometrack, Office for National Statistics and Stats Wales.

**7. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?**

**Positive -**

The RLDP Preferred Strategy promotes an appropriate level and spatial distribution of housing and employment growth for the County to 2033, which assists in addressing the key demographic and affordability challenges facing the County and ultimately seeks to deliver the Council's core purpose to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generations. This is a positive impact for social justice.

The Preferred Strategy provides the strategic context for /will inform the preparation of more detailed policies, proposals and land use allocations which will be included in the Deposit RLDP.

**Negative –**

None. There are no implications, positive or negative, for social justice, corporate parenting or safeguarding.

**8. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.**

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
<p>Inform the Economy and Development Select Committee of the intention to undertake consultation on the RLDP Preferred Strategy, and to seek Committee's feedback/comments on the Strategy.</p>	<p>Scrutiny by Economy &amp; Development Select Committee on xxxxx.</p> <p>Consultation on the Preferred Strategy will take place in July/August 2021.</p>	<p>Head of Placemaking, Housing, Highways and Flooding</p> <p>Head of Planning</p> <p>Planning Policy Team</p>
<p>Seek Council's endorsement to undertake statutory consultation on the Preferred Strategy. Feedback from this consultation will be noted and considered, and will help to shape the proposals, land use allocations and detailed polices in the Deposit Plan.</p>	<p>Statutory consultation and engagement on the Preferred Strategy will take place for a six week period between 5 July 2021 and 16 August 2021 and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Notifying all parties on the RLDP database of the consultation.</li> <li>➤ Planning Policy Officer attendance at Area Cluster meetings during July and August 2021;</li> <li>➤ Members' Workshop 22nd June 2021 (hosted by the Economy &amp; Development Select Committee);</li> <li>➤ Scrutiny by Economy &amp; Development Select Committee 15th July 2021</li> </ul>	<p>Head of Placemaking, Housing, Highways and Flood</p> <p>Head of Planning</p> <p>Planning Policy Team</p>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Internal discussions within the Council through an officer workshop, Department Management Team and Senior Leadership Team;</li><li>➤ Several RLDP Preferred Strategy Drop-in Sessions during July and August 2021 in Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow, Monmouth, Magor/Undy, Raglan and Usk. Should there be a further lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic, these drop-in sessions will be replaced by additional virtual events.</li><li>➤ We will seek to engage with seldom heard groups in particular young people, via the Youth Council and going into secondary schools, and Gypsy and Travellers via the GTAA work and reiterating the opportunity to promote sites during the Second Call for Candidate Sites.</li><li>➤ Two RLDP Webinar Sessions in July/August 2021.</li></ul> |  |
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**9. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.**

<b>Version No.</b>	<b>Decision making stage</b>	<b>Date considered</b>	<b>Brief description of any amendments made following consideration</b>
0.0	LDP Review Report and Delivery Agreement	20/04/2018	Draft for Council 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
1.0	Issues, Vision and Objectives scrutiny	01/02/2019	Draft for Economy & Development Select Committee 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
1.1	Issues, Vision and Objectives endorsement following consultation	09/04/2019	Draft for Cabinet 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
1.2	Issues, Vision and Objectives endorsement following consultation	14/06/2019	Amended for Cabinet 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2019 to reflect 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2019's Climate Emergency declaration by Council
2.0	Growth and Spatial Options endorsement to consult	07/06/2019	Draft for Cabinet 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2019
2.1	Growth and Spatial Options scrutiny	09/07/2019	Draft for Economy & Development Select Committee 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
3.0	Preferred Strategy endorsement to consult	11/12/2019	Draft for Council report 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2020
3.1	Preferred Strategy endorsement to consult	17/02/2020	Social Justice Strategy reviewed with Judith Langdon
4.0	Revised Delivery Agreement	05/03/2020	Timetable amended further to account for slippage as a result of the pre-election period preceding the December 2019 General Election, the additional time and work needed to inform the Preferred Strategy and delays associated with joint working with neighbouring local authorities on joint evidence base work.
4.1	Revised Delivery Agreement and review of Issues, Vision and Objectives and of evidence base in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic.	07/10/2020	Timetable amended further to account for Covid-19 pandemic and revised Welsh Government population and household projections.
5.0	Revised Growth and Spatial Options scrutiny	17/11/2020	Draft for Economic Development Select Committee 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2020



5.1	Revised Growth and Spatial Options endorsement to consult, including identifying growth option 5 and spatial option 2 as the preferred options at this stage of the process.	03/12/2020	Draft for Cabinet report 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
6.0	Preferred Strategy Consultation endorsement to consult	24/06/2021	Draft for Council Report 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2021