



monmouthshire  
sir fynwy

## Equality and Future Generations Evaluation

<p><b>Name of the Officer</b> completing the evaluation Craig O'Connor</p> <p><b>Phone no:</b> 07816175737 <b>E-mail:</b> craigoconnor@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p><b>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</b></p> <p>To inform Place Scrutiny Committee of the results of the public consultation on the Deposit Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) as set out in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and the subsequent proposed minor non-material amendments to the RLD, prior to seeking Council's endorsement of the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and the RLDP, as amended following public consultation, and associated documents to submit to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p> <p>For Place Scrutiny Committee to consider whether the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report reflects the consultation process undertaken for the Deposit RLDP.</p>
<p><b>Name of Service area</b></p> <p>Planning (Planning Policy)</p>	<p><b>Date</b> 25/09/2025</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.

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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?
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<p>Age</p>	<p>The Deposit RLDP, as amended following public consultation, aims to have a positive impact on people of all ages, particularly through increasing opportunities for the younger population to both live and work within Monmouthshire to assist in ensuring a balanced demography whilst also supporting the needs of the older population socially, economically and by ensuring an appropriate housing mix to meet different needs. This would benefit younger people but not to the detriment of older age groups.</p> <p>Consultation on the Deposit RLDP took place over a six-week period between 4<sup>th</sup> November – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and was carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the revised Delivery Agreement Community Involvement Scheme and enabled people of all characteristics to engage in the process. As set out in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report, the various methods of consultation on the Deposit RLDP proved highly effective, with 956 duly made responses to the Plan from a range of people, resulting in over 4,000 individual representations. The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>The RLDP seeks to provide a more balanced demographic profile for Monmouthshire. It progresses the evidence gathering, stakeholder engagement and Pre-Deposit work and sets out the strategy, proposals and detailed policies for the future use and development of land in Monmouthshire (excluding the area within the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park (BBNP)) over the period 2018-2033. The Plan identifies how much sustainable growth is needed and where this growth will located.</p> <p>Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.</p> <p>The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>
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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?

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Disability	<p>The Deposit RLDP, as amended following public consultation, recognises the need to ensure the provision of a wide-ranging choice of homes including meeting affordable and accessible housing needs as far as possible. It also 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.</p> <p>Consultation on the Deposit RLDP took place over a six-week period between 4th November – 16th December 2024 and was carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the revised Delivery Agreement Community Involvement Scheme and enabled people of all characteristics to engage in the process. As set out in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report, the various methods of consultation on the Deposit RLDP proved highly effective, with 956 duly made responses to the Plan from a range of people, resulting in over 4,000 individual representations. The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p>	None	<p>The RLDP aims to support the well-being of current and future generations that are more inclusive, cohesive, prosperous and vibrant. It sets out the strategy, proposals and detailed policies for the future use and development of land in Monmouthshire (excluding the area within the BBNP) over the period 2018-2033, identifying how much sustainable growth is needed and where this growth will be located.</p> <p>Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.</p> <p>The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>
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<b>Protected Characteristics</b>	<b>Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic</b>	<b>Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic</b>	<b>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
Gender reassignment	None.	None.	Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.
Marriage or civil partnership	None.	None.	N/A
Pregnancy or maternity		None.	Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.
Race	None.	None.	Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.

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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?
Religion or Belief	None.	None.	Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.

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<p>Sex</p>	<p>One of the challenges facing the County is the imbalance between male and female earnings, although this situation is improving. The Deposit RLDP, as amended following public consultation, aims to provide economic growth and employment provision, which could indirectly impact on wage equality and therefore access to housing and quality of life.</p> <p>Consultation on the Deposit RLDP took place over a six-week period between 4<sup>th</sup> November – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and was carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the revised Delivery Agreement Community Involvement Scheme and enabled people of all characteristics to engage in the process. As set out in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report, the various methods of consultation on the Deposit RLDP proved highly effective, with 956 duly made responses to the Plan from a range of people, resulting in over 4,000 individual representations. The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>The RLDP aims to support economic growth and prosperity. It sets out the strategy, proposals and detailed policies for the future use and development of land in Monmouthshire (excluding the area within the BBNP) over the period 2018-2033, identifying how much sustainable growth is needed and where this growth will be located. Other policy tools beyond the RLDP are available to the Council could assist with securing well-paid employment opportunities within the County.</p> <p>Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.</p> <p>The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>
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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?
Sexual Orientation	None.	None.	Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.

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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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<b>Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice</b>	<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 Deposit RLDP, as amended following public consultation, seeks to tackle house price unaffordability, which currently prevents some of our communities accessing suitable housing within the County, by maximising affordable housing delivery on new housing allocations, reflecting the Council's commitment to deliver 50% affordable homes on new housing sites. 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 suitable homes.</p> <p>Consultation on the Deposit RLDP took place over a six-week period between 4<sup>th</sup> November – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and was carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the revised Delivery Agreement Community Involvement Scheme and enabled full stakeholder and</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>The RLDP sets out the planning policy framework to assist in addressing these key issues. It sets out our commitment to maximising the provision of affordable homes on new housing allocations and to deliver net zero carbon new homes.</p> <p>The RLDP also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A housing mix policy to control the housing mix of the market housing on development sites, which will assist in creating mixed communities and support the retention of younger people who can afford an open market home were there a sufficient supply of 2 and 3 bedroom homes.</li><li>• Residential allocations in some of our most sustainable rural settlements to deliver 50% affordable homes.</li><li>• Climate change policies to minimise the carbon footprint of new development, and therefore mitigate negative impacts associated with the proposed growth.</li><li>• Nature recovery policies to protect and enhance Monmouthshire's landscapes and biodiversity to help address the climate and nature emergency.</li><li>• A policy requirement for broadband infrastructure provision in new residential developments will maximise opportunities for all to access the technology to work from home where possible, reducing commuting and associated costs.</li></ul>
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	<p>community involvement in the process to shape the RLDP. As set out in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report, the various methods of consultation on the Deposit RLDP proved highly effective, with 956 duly made responses to the Plan from a range of people, resulting in over 4,000 individual representations. The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p>		<p>The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>
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### **3. Policy making and the Welsh language.**

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<b>How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:</b>	<b>Describe the positive impacts of this proposal</b>	<b>Describe the negative impacts of this proposal</b>	<b>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts</b>
<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 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 RLDP is subject to a Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) as part of the</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 RLDP aims to support culture and the Welsh language.</p> <p>We will continue to liaise with the Local Education Authority to understand if the proposed growth and spatial strategy 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 become bilingual</li><li>- the increased employment opportunities that this affords them in Wales.</li></ul>

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	<p>wider Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA).</p> <p>All statutory documentation on the RLDP and associated consultation along with notices, social media and general correspondence were/will be bilingual. Emails/letters etc regarding consultation on the RLDP 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.</p>		
<b>Operational</b>  Recruitment & Training of workforce	<p>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.</p>	<p>None of the current Planning Policy Team are fluent Welsh speakers, however, there are robust systems in place to deal with phone calls and correspondence without delaying the provision of the service.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<b>Service delivery</b>  Use of Welsh language in service delivery  Promoting use of the language	<p>All statutory documentation on the RLDP and associated consultation along with notices, social media and general correspondence were 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 regarding consultation on the RLDP make it clear that correspondence in Welsh is welcome and will not lead to a delay in</p>	<p>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.</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. The Deposit Plan was subject to a Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) as part of the wider Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA).</p>

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	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.		We will review this further if any additional assessment is required as we go through the RLDP process.
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**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!

<b>Well Being Goal</b>	<b>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.</b>	<b>What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
<b>A prosperous Wales</b> Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	<b>Positive:</b> The Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, identifies the level of growth over the RLDP period and spatial distribution of this growth, including proposed site allocations for residential and employment uses, together with the detailed planning policy framework. As well as housing growth, the RLDP aims to provide economic growth and employment provision in both urban and rural areas.  <b>Negative:</b> Careful site selection has sought to minimise loss of best and most versatile agricultural land and mineral resource.	The RLDP includes RLDP Objectives relating to economic growth/employment and town/local centres, which have been set in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a prosperous Wales.  The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.  The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment



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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?
		Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.
<b>A resilient Wales</b> Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, incorporates 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 RLDP recognises that we are in a climate and nature emergency by including a specific climate and nature emergency objective. It sets out a commitment to delivering net zero carbon homes. Resilience of new development to aspects of climate change can be achieved via the design and location of new developments. All developments can provide opportunities to minimise carbon by providing opportunities for renewable energy generation, seeking to reduce commuting, supporting the use of ultra-low emission vehicles and public transport, and the provision of quality Green Infrastructure. The Plan sets out policies to protect and enhance Monmouthshire's special and unique spaces, heritage assets, landscapes and biodiversity.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> Additional growth would likely result in further pressure on the natural environment. New developments can nevertheless improve Green</p>	<p>The RLDP includes 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>There are water quality issues in the River Usk and River Wye SACs. There is a legal and national policy requirement to maintain and enhance ecology.</p> <p>The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>

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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?
	Infrastructure and ecological connectivity through opportunities to create new linkages. The Plan sets out policies to protect and enhance Monmouthshire's special and unique spaces, heritage assets, landscapes and biodiversity.	
<b>A healthier Wales</b> People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, identifies the level of growth over the RLDP period and spatial distribution of this growth, including proposed site allocations for residential and employment uses, together with the detailed planning policy framework. 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.</p> <p>The need for affordable housing, both in terms of purchase/rent and living costs, is being exacerbated by the current cost of living crisis. The RLDP seeks to maximise affordable housing through delivery of 50% affordable homes on all new site allocations and provision of net zero carbon homes.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> Additional growth has the potential to increase commuting which could affect areas with air quality problems, however, the RLDP seeks to provide for jobs within the County.</p>	<p>The RLDP includes RLDP Objectives relating to Health and Well-being in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a healthier Wales.</p> <p>The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>
<b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	<p><b>Positive:</b> The Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, identifies the level of growth over the RLDP period and spatial distribution of this</p>	<p>The RLDP has been assessed against the RLDP Objectives including housing, place-making, communities, rural communities, infrastructure and</p>

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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>growth, including proposed site allocations for residential and employment uses, together with the detailed planning policy framework. It also considers the balance of housing, employment and infrastructure in both urban and rural areas.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> None</p>	<p>accessibility in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a Wales of cohesive communities.</p> <p>Placemaking is embedded throughout the Plan, including detailed placemaking, design and site allocation policies, ensuring that exemplar places are created that are safe, accessible and pleasant for all.</p> <p>The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>
<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 Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, identifies the level of growth over the RLDP period and spatial distribution of this growth, including proposed site allocations for residential and employment uses, together with the detailed planning policy framework. It includes a specific climate and nature emergency objective. This 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 Deposit Plan sets</p>	<p>The RLDP includes a specific climate and nature emergency objective which has been set in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a globally responsible Wales. Climate change considerations inform the RLDP's planning policy framework including policies, proposals and land use allocations.</p> <p>Section 6 of the Environment Act already requires biodiversity enhancement, which will help address</p>

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<b>Well Being Goal</b>	<b>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.</b>	<b>What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
	<p>out a commitment to delivering net zero carbon new homes reflecting our commitment to respond to the climate emergency. The RLDP seeks to reduce the commuting ratio and to enable home-working, reflective of recent trends. The Plan also includes a specific policies relating to climate change and nature recovery.</p> <p><b>Negative:</b> None.</p>	<p>the emergency. This is reflected in the RLDP policy framework.</p> <p>The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</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 Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, identifies the level of growth over the RLDP period and spatial distribution of this growth, including proposed site allocations for residential and employment uses, together with the detailed planning policy framework. The RLDP includes an objective relating to Culture, Heritage and the Welsh language.</p> <p><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.</p>	<p>The RLDP includes an objective relating to 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 continue to liaise with the Local Education Authority to understand if the proposed growth necessitates additional Welsh medium school provision.</p> <p>The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to</p>


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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?
		Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.
<b>A more equal Wales</b> People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	<b>Positive:</b> The Deposit RLDP, as amended following public consultation, identifies the level of growth over the RLDP period and spatial distribution of this growth, including proposed site allocations for residential and employment uses, together with the detailed planning policy framework. Housing and economic growth in both urban and rural areas will assist in balancing the demography across the County and in addressing the County's affordability challenges. The RLDP aims to address 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 much needed affordable housing, having a safe secure and suitable home gives people the best start in life.  <b>Negative:</b> None.	The RLDP includes an objective relating to demography which has been set in order to address the identified issues relating to creating a more equal Wales. It 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.  The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan. The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.

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

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<b>Sustainable Development Principle</b>	<b>Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.</b>	<b>Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>The Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, sets out the level of growth for housing/employment and the spatial distribution of this growth across the County, including proposed site allocations for residential and employment uses, together with the detailed planning policy framework. It also sets out the RLDP vision, the role of which is to clarify the core purpose of the RLDP and provides the framework for the Plan's strategy and policies. The Vision sets the overarching context for Monmouthshire for the period up to 2033.</p> <p>Consultation on the Deposit RLDP took place over a six-week period between 4th November – 16th December 2024 and was carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the revised Delivery Agreement Community Involvement Scheme and enabled full stakeholder and community involvement in the process to shape the RLDP. As set out in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report, the various methods of consultation on the Deposit RLDP proved highly effective, with 956 duly made responses to the Plan from a range of people, resulting in over 4,000 individual representations. The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p>	<p>A total of 17 RLDP Objectives are included in the RLDP in order to address the issues, challenges, and opportunities facing the County.</p> <p>The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</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 Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, has been informed by a range of evidence. We have engaged with consultees at key stages from the outset of the RLDP process to build consensus including on the issues, vision and objectives, the growth and spatial options, Preferred Strategy and Deposit stages.</p> <p>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>We engaged/consulted on the Deposit RLDP including through methods listed above, two virtual events for members of the public, a virtual event for Town and Community Councils and nine in person drop-in sessions at various settlements across the County. The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p>	<p>The RLDP Delivery Agreement ensures full stakeholder /community's involvement to shape the RLDP.</p> <p>We engaged/consulted on the Deposit RLDP including through methods listed above, two virtual events for members of the public, a virtual event for Town and Community Councils and nine in person drop-in sessions at various settlements across the County. The responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</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>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>The Deposit Plan, as amended following public consultation, has been informed by a range of evidence. We have engaged with consultees at key stages from the outset of the RLDP process to build consensus including on the issues, vision and objectives, the growth and spatial options Preferred Strategy and Deposit stages.</p> <p>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 RLDP Delivery Agreement Community Involvement Scheme sets out the way in which the Council proposes to involve the local community and other stakeholders in the preparation of the RLDP. This has involved engagement with the Cabinet Member for Equalities and Engagement to ensure the consultation process was as inclusive as possible.</p>	<p>The revised Delivery Agreement ensures full stakeholder /community's involvement to shape the RLDP.</p> <p>We engaged/consulted on the Deposit RLDP including through methods listed above, two virtual events for members of the public, a virtual event for Town and Community Councils and nine in person drop-in sessions at various settlements across the County. The responses received to this engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>



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<b>Sustainable Development Principle</b>	<b>Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.</b>	<b>Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The Deposit RLDP, as amended following public consultation, sets out the level of growth for housing/employment and the spatial distribution of this growth across the County to address the core issues of delivering much needed affordable housing at pace and scale, responding to the climate and nature emergency by delivering net zero carbon new homes in exemplar places, supporting economic prosperity, and sustaining and ensuring our communities are socially and economically sustainable by attracting and retaining younger people to rebalance our ageing demographic.</p>	<p>The RLDP seeks to address our key issues/challenges/opportunities (in a land use context) and support delivery of the Council's vision for the future of the County and its communities.</p> <p>The RLDP Delivery Agreement seeks to ensure that the Plan will be delivered in accordance with the project timetable and ensures full stakeholder /community involvement to shape the RLDP.</p> <p>The responses received to this consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p>The RLDP, as amended following public consultation, will be reported to Council in October 2025 to seek endorsement to submit the Plan to Welsh Government and Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) for independent examination.</p>

<div data-bbox="120 671 327 927" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="349 647 521 911">Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p data-bbox="544 161 1328 895">The Deposit RLDP, as amended following public consultation, sets out the level of growth for housing/employment and the spatial distribution of this growth across the County, including proposed site allocations, together with the detailed planning policy framework. It seeks to address the issues/challenges/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 Plan is subject to an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) including Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Well-being of Future Generations Assessment (WBFG), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA), and Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA)), whose findings have been used to inform the development of the RLDP strategy, policies and site allocations in order to ensure that the Plan will be promoting sustainable development.</p> <p data-bbox="544 927 1312 1150">The RLDP also sets out the Vision which will set the overarching context for Monmouthshire for the period up to 2033. MCC recognises that we are in a climate emergency and nature emergency and has committed addressing these. The RLDP will have a key role in addressing these issues.</p>	<p data-bbox="1350 161 2092 504">The RLDP is subject to an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) including Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Well-being of Future Generations Assessment (WBFG), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA), and Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA)), whose findings have been used to inform the development of the RLDP strategy, policies and site allocations in order to ensure that the Plan will be promoting sustainable development.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 536 2092 839">As set out in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report, the various methods of consultation on the Deposit RLDP proved highly effective, with 956 duly made responses to the Plan from a range of people, resulting in over 4,000 individual representations. The responses received to the Deposit RLDP engagement/consultation are captured in the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 887 2047 999">We have and will continue to work closely with our neighbours, both in Wales and England, including the joint procurement of evidence as applicable.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 1046 2092 1230">The RLDP will align and support with the new Integrated Network Maps for Active Travel, and the Deposit Plan will be accompanied by an Infrastructure Plan, Local Transport Strategy and Economy, Employment and Skills Strategy.</p> <p data-bbox="1350 1278 2013 1390">The ISA is an iterative process throughout the Plan process. This will ensure the Plan is promoting sustainable development.</p>
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**6. 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 will provide affordable homes, the delivery and allocation of which should be cognisant of the needs of children leaving care.	None.	N/A

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

A range of evidence and data has been used to inform the Deposit RLDP from a wide range of sources both internal and external to the Council, including:

- Initial Report of Consultation (October 2024)
- Housing Background Paper (October 2024)
- Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper (Updated September 2024)
- Monmouthshire Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Reports (2014- 2023)
- RLDP Delivery Agreement (revised October 2024)
- Candidate Site Assessment Report (October 2024)
- Candidate Sites High Level Assessment (August 2022)
- Monmouthshire RLDP Candidate Sites Register (updated July 2023)
- Monmouthshire RLDP Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) for the Deposit RLDP; Monmouthshire RLDP ISA Report Non-Technical Summary; Monmouthshire RLDP ISA Technical Annex Candidate Sites (AECOM, September 2024).
- HRA of the Monmouthshire RLDP Deposit Plan (AECOM, September 2024)

External sources of data include Welsh Government, Cadw, Natural Resources Wales, Hometrack, Office for National Statistics and Stats Wales. *Equalities dashboard link.* [Equality data dashboard for EQIA's 2020.xlsx](#)

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**8. 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 Deposit RLDP, as amended following public consultation, sets out the level of growth for housing/employment and the spatial distribution of this growth, including proposed site allocations, together with the detailed planning policy framework to address the core issues of delivering much needed affordable homes, responding to the climate and nature emergency by delivering net zero carbon new homes in exemplar places, supporting economic prosperity, and ensuring our communities are socially and economically sustainable by attracting and retaining younger people to rebalance our ageing demographic. This is a positive impact for social justice.

The Deposit RLDP Consultation Report sets out who and how we consulted/engaged with the community and stakeholders at each stage of the RLDP process up to Deposit, the responses received to the Deposit Plan consultation and the Council's consideration of these representations. The various methods of consultation and engagement undertaken during the Deposit consultation proved highly effective, with 956 duly made responses received on the Deposit Plan from a range of statutory consultees, organisations, agents, community groups and private individuals. These responses resulted in over 4,000 individual representations being made on different elements of the Plan and have resulted in a number of minor amendments to the Plan, set out in the Schedule of Minor Changes to the Deposit RLDP and shown as track changes in the amended version of the Deposit RLDP and Proposals Map.

**Negative –**

There are no negative implications for corporate parenting or safeguarding.

**9. 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
Recommend that Place Scrutiny Committee scrutinises the content of the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and provide any comments/observations on the Report prior to seeking Council's endorsement of the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and the RLDP, as amended following public consultation, and associated documents to submit to Welsh Government and PEDW for independent examination.	Place Scutiny Committee 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2025.	Chief Officer Place and Community Well-being Head of Planning Planning Policy Team

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Seek Council's endorsement of the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and the RLDP, as amended following public consultation, and associated documents for submission to Welsh Government and PEDW for independent examination.	Council 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025.	Chief Officer Place and Community Well-being Head of Planning Planning Policy Team
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**10. 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.**

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
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.

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4.1	Revised Delivery Agreement and review of Issues, Vision and Objectives and of evidence base in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic.	07/10/2010	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 proposals 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
7.0	Pre-decision scrutiny by Place Scrutiny Committee of the proposal to progress the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) prior to it being reported to Council on 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2022.	26/09/2022	Draft for Scrutiny Committee and Council reports
7.1	Council endorsement on proposal to progress the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP).	27/09/2022	Draft for Council Report 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
8.0	Pre-decision scrutiny by Place Scrutiny Committee of the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) new Preferred Strategy prior to it being reported to Council on 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2022 to seek Council's endorsement for the new Preferred Strategy to be issued for statutory consultation/engagement and stakeholder involvement.	10/11/2022	Draft for Scrutiny Committee and Council reports
8.1	Council endorsement of the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) new Preferred Strategy to be issued for statutory consultation/engagement and stakeholder	01/12/2022	Draft for Council Report 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2022

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	involvement in December 2022 - January 2023.		
8.2	Pre-decision scrutiny by Place Scrutiny Committee of post-consultation updates to the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) Preferred Strategy, prior to it being reported to Council on 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 to seek endorsement of the amendments as the basis for preparing the Deposit Plan.	28/09/2023	Draft for Scrutiny Committee and Council Reports
9.0	Pre-decision scrutiny on the Deposit Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP), prior to it being reported to Council on 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 to seek Council's endorsement of the Deposit Plan to commence statutory consultation/engagement with communities and key stakeholders.	01/10/2024	Draft for Place Scrutiny Report (10 <sup>th</sup> October 2024)
9.1	Council endorses the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and the Deposit RLDP, as amended, the RLDP and associated documents will be submitted to Welsh Government and PEDW for independent examination by a planning inspector.	24/10/2024	Draft for Council Report
10.0	Place Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise the content of the Deposit Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) Consultation Report and provide any comments/observations on the Report prior to seeking Council's endorsement of the Deposit RLDP Consultation Report and the RLDP, as amended following public consultation, and associated documents to submit to Welsh Government and PEDW for independent examination.	25/09/2025	Draft for Place Scrutiny Report