

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 3  
(April 2025 - March 2040)**

Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating  
Strategic Environmental Assessment)

Scoping Report: Appendix A - Review of Relevant Plans,  
Policies and Programmes

Consultation: January 2026



Parc Cenedlaethol  
Arfordir Penfro  
Pembrokeshire Coast  
National Park

## ***Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes***

Many of the International level policies, plans and programmes (PPPs) referred to in this Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes are implemented in National or regional policies, plans or programmes. Therefore more detail on how relevant PPPs will influence the National Park's Plans is included in the references to National and Regional Plans. The International PPPs are included here for completeness and to provide access information for the documents.

### **International**

<b>Plan, Policy or Programme</b>
<a href="#"><u>Agenda 21 UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs 1992</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Rio Declaration on Environment and Development UNEP 1992</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development United Nations (2002)</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 27)</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>The Kyoto Protocol United Nations 1997</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Convention on Migratory Species UNEP 1979</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Convention on Biological Diversity UNEP 1992</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands UNESCO 1971</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Aarhus Convention United Nations Economic Commission for Europe 1998</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, RIO+20</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>The Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development (2015)</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>The Paris Agreement (2015)</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>EU Directive 2009/147/EC (on the Conservation of Wild Birds aka 'The Birds Directive') The Council of the European Communities 30 November 2009, as amended by Regulation (EU) 2019/1010, June 5th 2019</u></a>
<b>Notes:</b> The Directive provides a framework for the conservation and management of, and human interactions with, wild birds in Europe. It sets broad objectives for a wide range of activities, although the precise legal mechanisms for their

achievement are at the discretion of each Member State (in the UK delivery is via several different statutes). Source: JNCC.

A wide range of other statutory and non-statutory activities support the Bird Directive's implementation in the UK. They include national bird monitoring schemes, bird conservation research, and the UK Biodiversity Action Plan which involves action for a number of bird species and the habitats which support them. In the UK, the provisions of the Birds Directive are implemented through the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), and The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2017. The 'Habitats Regulations' apply to the UK land area and its territorial sea (to 12 nautical miles from the coast). Source: JNCC.

**LDP 3 considerations:** Undertake a Habitats Regulation Assessment to assess the likely impact of the LDP on protected sites, to ensure the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of designated habitats or species.

[EU Directive 85/337/EEC \(the EIA Directive\)](#) [The Council of the European Union](#)

**Notes:** Amended by Council Directive 97/11/EC, 2003/35/EC, 2009/31/EC and subsequent amendments codified by Council Directive 2011/92/EU and Council Directive 2014/52/EU

[EU Directive 91/676/EEC \(the Nitrates Directive\)](#) [The Council of the European Union 1991](#)

[EU Directive 92/43/CEE \(the Habitats Directive\)](#) [The Council of the European Communities 21 May 1992](#)

**Notes:** The Directive creates a network of sites in Europe for the conservation of biodiversity. These sites are designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) (collectively known as 'Natura 2000' sites). Any development project or plan likely to have a significant effect (either directly or indirectly) on a Natura 2000 site must be subject to an 'appropriate assessment'. If the assessment finds that the plan or project is likely to undermine the conservation objectives for the site the plan or project must not proceed unless there are 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest'. If this is the case then appropriate mitigation or compensation measures must be put in place. There are 16 Natura 2000 sites wholly or partially within the National Park.

[EU Directive \(2008/50/EC\) \(the New Air Quality Framework Directive\)](#) [The Council of the European Union 11 June 2008](#)

[EU Directive 1999/31/EC \(the Landfill Directive\)](#) [The Council of the European Union 1999](#)

[EU Directive \(2008/56/EC\) \(the Marine Strategy Framework Directive\)](#)

[\(EU Directive 2000/60/EC \(the Water Framework Directive\) The Council of the European Communities 23 October 2000\)](#)

**Notes:** Introduces 'good status', a more rigorous water quality standard. The Directive requires 'River Basin Management Plans' which should influence Development Plans and be influenced by them. Water quality improvement and management of water resources complement National Park purposes. Principal output from legislation is River Basin Management Plan.

The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 set the legal framework for protecting and improving the water environment including a framework for protecting and encouraging the sustainable use of all water bodies to achieve good status.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP protects water quality and supports the achievement of good status objectives.

[EU Directive 2002/49/EC \(Directive on Environmental Noise\) The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union 2002](#)

[EU Directive 2003/35/EC \(Directive providing for Public Participation\) The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union 2003](#)

[EU Directive 2004/35/CE \(the Environmental Liability Directive\) The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union 2004](#)

[EU Directive 2008/98/EC \(the Waste Framework Directive\) The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union 19 November 2008](#)

[European Landscape Convention Council of Europe 2000](#)

[Proposal for a new EU Environment Action Programme to 2020 European Commission 2012](#)

[Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats Council of Europe 1979](#)

[MANAGING NATURA 2000 SITES The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/CEE, European Commission 2000](#)

[European Climate Change Programme, European Commission 2000](#)

[The European Green Deal](#)

[General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020](#)

[Glasgow Climate Pact](#)

[Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

[The Bathing Water Regulations 2013 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

The above regulations revoke and replace Directive 2006/7/EC

[Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework \(COP15, 2022\)](#)

**Notes:**

This framework, adopted at COP15 in December 2022, replaces the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and sets out four long-term goals for 2050 and 23 action-oriented global targets for 2030. It includes commitments to protect 30% of land and sea areas globally, restore 30% of degraded ecosystems, and reduce pollution and invasive species.

**LDP considerations:** The candidate site stage may provide opportunities for sites to be submitted for biodiversity enhancement, sites that could then be designated/allocated in the plan.

## United Kingdom

Plan, Policy or Programme
<b>Countryside and Rights of Way Act, UK Parliament 2000</b> <b>Notes:</b> This extends the public's ability to enjoy the countryside while also providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers. The Act gives the public a new right of access to mountain, moor, heath, down and registered common land. It also: recognises the needs of landowners and managers; improves the rights of way legislation by encouraging the creation of new routes and clarifying uncertainties about what rights already exist; provides a statutory basis for biodiversity conservation previously undertaken as a matter of policy; improves the procedures associated with the notification, protection and management of SSSIs; strengthens legal protection for threatened species and brings up to date the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); supports management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty Source: DEFRA. The CROW Act 2000 updates the Wildlife and Countryside Act and includes enhanced protection for SSSIs as well as providing a legal basis for biodiversity action. <b>LDP considerations:</b> Ensure development supports and enhances access to the countryside and public rights of way network.
<b>Environment Act 1995, UK Parliament 1995</b> <b>Notes:</b> Defines national park purposes, the socio economic duty and the obligation on others to implement national park purposes. Provides clear direction in how to draft the aims, objectives and policies of both Plans. To ensure that the appropriate balance between achieving purposes and the socio-economic duty is achieved. Silkins Test. <b>LDP considerations:</b> Ensure the LDP aligns with the statutory purposes of the National Park.
<b>Environmental Protection Act 1990</b> The Environmental Protection Act 1990 is a UK legislation that regulates waste management, control of emissions into the air, water and land, and the use of genetically modified organisms. It aims to ensure industries carry out their activities in an environmentally safe and controlled manner. <b>LDP considerations:</b> The LDP strategy, proposals and policies on waste management to comply with the Act.
<b>Flood and Water Management Act 2010</b> The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 is a UK Act of Parliament that aims to reduce the flood risk associated with extreme weather, compounded by climate change. The Act encourages the use of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDs), amends the Water Industry Act to modernise the list of activities that can be restricted by water companies in a drought, and makes it easier for water companies to offer lower tariffs to certain groups. The Act provides for better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses; helps safeguard community groups

from unaffordable rises in surface water drainage charges; supports customers in vulnerable circumstances; and protects water supplies to the consumer.

The Act is divided into three parts. Part 1 deals with flood and coastal erosion risk management, including key concepts and definitions, strategies, co-operation and funding, supplemental powers and duties, and regional flood and coastal committees for regions in England. Part 2 covers miscellaneous topics such as sustainable drainage, reservoirs, special administration, provision of infrastructure, water use, and building regulations. Part 3 contains general provisions, including pre-consolidation amendments, subordinate legislation, and technical provisions <sup>1</sup>.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP strategy, proposals and policies consider flood and water management to direct development away from high risk areas and require Sustainable Drainage Systems where necessary. Embed flood risk in the Sustainability Assessment framework.

### **Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, UK Parliament 2006**

**Notes:** Established 'Natural England' and 'Commission for Rural Communities'. It provides legislative changes to amend nature conservation legislation, and in relation to bylaws for motor vehicles (giving NPs the power to make traffic regulation orders); SSSIs and extends the CROW biodiversity duty for example. Will help to achieve a rich and diverse natural environment Source: Defra.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP must reflect the biodiversity duty which has been strengthened in the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

### **Voluntary National Review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (2019)**

Is a comprehensive report that takes stock of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and provides an overview of the UK's approach to implementing those goals. The report is divided into three parts: an introduction, a review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and a statistical annex. The review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals is further divided into four sections: people, planet, prosperity, and peace. The report highlights the UK's achievements in areas such as education, health, and gender equality, while also acknowledging the challenges that remain. The statistical annex provides data on the indicators used to measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP aligns with sustainable development goals which will be assessed through the Sustainability Appraisal.

### **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) UK Parliament 1981**

**Notes:** The key means for wildlife protection on the British mainland. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) is the principal mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife on the British mainland. It is the means by which the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (the 'Bern Convention') and the European Union Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds (2009/147/EC) and Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) are implemented in Great Britain. Similar legislation is enacted to fulfil these obligations elsewhere in the United Kingdom. Source: Naturenet. The Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) largely failed to conserve habitats and species or protect them from a range of pressures, on SSSIs as well as in the wider countryside. The Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 significantly updated the Wildlife and Country Act and includes enhanced protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure adequate protection is given to designated sites, priority habitats and legally protected species.

### **Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017**

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 is a UK Statutory Instrument that provides for the selection, designation, registration, and notification of sites to be protected under the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. The regulations are divided into three parts:

- **Part 1** contains introductory and general provisions, including interpretation, relevant authorities, and duties relating to compliance with the Directives.
- **Part 2** deals with the conservation of natural habitats and habitats of species, including the selection of sites eligible for identification as of Community importance, designation of special areas of conservation, and management agreements.
- **Part 3** covers the protection of species, including European protected species of animals and plants, protection of certain wild animals and plants, and prohibition of certain methods of capturing or killing wild animals.

The regulations were made on 30th October 2017 and came into force on 30th November 2017. The changes made to the regulations by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 include creating a national site network, setting network objectives, and replacing the EU functions with UK ones.

**LDP considerations:** Undertake a Habitats Regulation Assessment to assess the likely impact of the LDP on protected sites, to ensure the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of designated habitats or species.

### **Air Quality: Revised UK National Air Pollution Control Programme**

As required by The National Emission Ceilings Regulations 2018.

The National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) sets out how the UK can meet the legally binding 2020 and 2030 emission reduction commitments (ERCs). These commitments apply for 5 pollutants:

- nitrogen oxides
- ammonia
- non-methane volatile organic compounds
- particulate matter
- sulphur dioxide

### **Evidence for the third UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA3) Summary for Wales (2022)**

Sustainability Appraisal of A– Local Development Plan 3

Appendix A: Review of relevant plans, policies and programmes

The evidence for the third UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA3) Summary for Wales identifies key risks and opportunities relating to climate change:

1. Natural environment impacts – risks to water, forests and agriculture due to changes in range and number of pests, pathogens and invasive species which could affect habitats, forestry and agriculture.
2. Infrastructure vulnerability caused by flooding and coastal erosion could affect energy, transport, water, ICT and the transport network.
3. Health and well-being would be affected by increasing high temperatures extreme weather events and increased risk of flooding.
4. Coastal businesses and cultural heritage would be affected by extreme weather, sea level rises, coastal flooding and erosion.
5. International impacts could pose risks to food availability, safety, security, international law, governance and public health.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP takes account of climate change and directs development away from areas at risk of flooding and coastal erosion and consider climate mitigation and adaptation.

#### **Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009 UK Government 2009**

**Notes:** The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 provides new powers to assist in achieving the vision set out in the UK High Level Marine Objectives.

The new powers provided by this act include:

- Marine planning – A new system for marine planning that will cover all of the key marine activities. The Welsh National Marine Plan is the statutory marine plan under this Act.
- Marine Licensing – In Wales Marine Licensing powers were delegated to Natural Resources Wales in 2011. These licensing powers replace the licensing regimes that were previously covered under: Food and Environment Act 1985, Coast Protection Act 1949 and Environmental Impact Assessment (extraction of minerals and dredging (Wales) Regulations 2007.

Marine Conservation Mechanics – The Act provides the power to create Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) to assist in the conservation of marine plants and animals or geological/geomorphological features.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP must take account of the Welsh National Marine Plan and ensure that coastal development is sustainable and protects the marine environment.

### **Stern Review on the economics of climate change HM Treasury 30/10/2006**

The Stern Review quantifies the economic risks of climate change and estimates it could cost up to 20% of global GDP annually if left unmitigated. This underpins commitment to early intervention in decarbonisation, adaptation and resilience.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP adequately addresses climate change mitigation and adaptation.

### **Water and Flood Management Act 2010, UK Government**

Provides the legislative framework for managing flood risk, surface water drainage and water infrastructure.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should consider the capacity of existing water infrastructure and direct highly vulnerable development away from areas at high risk from flooding.

### **JNCC: A Joint Statement on Improving the Approach to Protected Areas in the UK 2024**

In response to the nature and climate emergencies, NRW together with other UK nature conservation bodies provides shared principles for strengthening protected areas across the four nations.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure adequate protection is given to designated sites and undertake a Habitats Regulation Assessment to ensure the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of designated habitats or species.

## Wales

Plan, Policy or Programme
<p><a href="#">Environment (Principles, Governance and Biodiversity Targets) (Wales) Bill (June 2025)</a> and <a href="#">Environmental principles, governance and biodiversity targets: White Paper (2024)</a></p> <p>The Bill and White Paper outlines proposals to significantly strengthen environmental governance in Wales, addressing climate change and biodiversity loss. The paper proposes five core environmental principles; integration, precautionary prevention, polluter pays and rectification.</p> <p>The proposals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Embedding environmental principles into Welsh law</li><li>• The establishment of a governance body; and</li><li>• The introduction of targets and statutory duties for the protection and restoration of biodiversity in Wales</li></ul> <p><b>LDP considerations:</b> Ensure the LDP responds to the nature and climate emergencies with climate mitigation and adaptation measures and the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure, environmental resilience and low carbon measures.</p>
<p><a href="#">Marine Area Statement, Natural Resources Wales (On-Going)</a></p> <p>The Wales Marine Area Statement describes the inshore waters of Wales, extending out 12 nautical miles, and sets out three key themes for the area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Building resilience of marine ecosystems – What is understood about the marine environment around Wales and how resilience of ecosystems can be built</li><li>2. Nature-based solutions and adapting at the coast – opportunities for climate change adaptations</li><li>3. Making the most of marine planning – how marine planning can support the sustainable management of marine natural resources.</li></ol> <p>The statement provides further detail on the priorities and actions to build resilience of the marine area and the wider benefits.</p> <p><b>LDP considerations:</b> The LDP must take account of the Wales National Marine Plan and the Marine Area Statement and ensure that coastal development is sustainable and protects the marine environment.</p>
<p><a href="#">Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023</a></p> <p>This act underpins the delivery of the Sustainable Land Management (SLM) agriculture framework in Wales. The main objective of the act is to ensure that the agricultural sector in Wales produces food and other goods in a manner that is sustainable, responds to the climate and nature emergencies, conserves and enhances the countryside and cultural</p>

resources and promotes public access to them. In addition, the Act promotes and facilitates the use of the Welsh language.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should protect best and most versatile agricultural land and support the long term sustainability of farming, diversification and rural communities.

#### **All Wales Plan 2021–2025: Working Together to Reach Net Zero (2022)**

The plan contains case studies and policies and proposals to reduce emissions in housing, transport, energy, land use and public services to support the move to net zero across Wales.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy, policies and proposals suitably respond to the climate emergency and the move to net zero by reducing the need to travel and encouraging active travel and public transport, promoting low carbon development and energy efficient buildings, and supporting renewable energy where appropriate in the landscape and green infrastructure. This would also have health, equity, biodiversity and potential economic growth benefits.

#### **Net Zero Carbon Budget 2 (2021-2025)**

The plan outlines how Wales will meet its second carbon budget and contribute towards the 2030 emissions reduction target, and net zero by 2050. The plan aims to cut passenger transport emissions by 22% by 2025 compared to 2019 levels and 98% by 2050 through demand reduction, modal shift, and low-carbon technology adoption. It also targets a 10% reduction in car miles per person by 2030 while increasing sustainable travel through public transport and active travel to 35% by 2025 and 39% by 2030.

**LDP 3 considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy, policies and proposals suitably respond to the climate emergency and the move to net zero by reducing the need to travel and encouraging active travel and public transport, promoting low carbon development and energy efficient buildings, and supporting renewable energy where appropriate in the landscape and green infrastructure. This would also have health, equity, biodiversity and potential economic growth benefits.

#### **Beyond Recycling Circular Economy Strategy 2021**

Sets out a strategy for achieving a circular economy to keep resources in use for as long as possible and avoid waste through responsible resource management through six core themes: 1. Driving Innovation in materials use, 2. Upscaling prevention and re-use; 3. Building on our recycling record; 4. Investing in infrastructure; 5. Enabling community and business action and 6. Aligning Government levers. The goals include; One planet resource use; becoming zero waste by 2050; net zero emissions; maximise our economic potential and make resource efficiency part of Welsh culture.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP policies should promote resource efficiency in development and the reduction of waste.

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

An Act of the National Assembly for Wales to make provision requiring public bodies to do things in pursuit of the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales in a way that accords with the sustainable development principle; to require public bodies to report on such action; to establish a Commissioner for Future Generations to advise and assist public bodies in doing things in accordance with this Act; to establish public services boards in local authority areas; to make provision requiring those boards to plan and take action in pursuit of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in their area; and for connected purposes.

The key purposes of the Act are to:

- set a framework within which specified Welsh public authorities will seek to ensure the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (the sustainable development principle),
- put into place well-being goals which those authorities are to seek to achieve in order to improve wellbeing both now and in the future,
- set out how those authorities are to show they are working towards the well-being goals,
- put Public Services Boards and local well-being plans on a statutory basis and, in doing so, simplify current requirements as regards integrated community planning, and
- Establish a Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to be an advocate for future generations who will advise and support Welsh public authorities in carrying out their duties under the Bill.

The Act sets out 7 well-being goals for Wales:

- A prosperous Wales.
- A resilient Wales.
- A healthier Wales.
- A more equal Wales.
- A Wales of cohesive communities.
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.
- A globally responsible Wales.

**LDP considerations:** The well-being goals and ways of working will be embedded into each stage of LDP preparation.

## [A Healthier Wales: Our Plan for Health and Social Care \(2021\)](#)

Outlines the long-term vision for transforming health and social care through a whole-system approach focused on prevention, integration, and person-centred care. It promotes delivering services closer to home, reducing reliance on hospitals, and improving population wellbeing. Central to the plan are the principles of prudent healthcare, digital innovation, workforce empowerment, and collaborative working.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should support physical and mental health and well-being through the provision of access to good housing, green infrastructure, promotion of active travel, location of development in accessible locations to ensure access to services and facilities including health centres, education and work, provision of appropriate housing for an ageing population and people with disabilities. The plan will be assessed against the Integrated Sustainability Framework Assessment Framework which will embed health in the framework and through a Health Impact Assessment.

## [Health Impact Assessment \(Wales\) Regulations 2025](#)

### [The Health Impact Assessment \(Wales\) Regulations 2025 - Explanatory Memorandum](#)

These Regulations, developed under Part 6 of the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017, will place a statutory duty on specified public bodies to carry out Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) when making strategic decisions about how they exercise their functions. The regulations are due to come into force on 6 April 2027.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure a Health Impact Assessment is undertaken to assess and consider the plan's impact on physical and mental health and wellbeing and improve population health and reduce inequalities.

## [The Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2025–2035](#)

Sets out a strategic goal that "*People in Wales will live in a country which promotes, supports and empowers them to improve their mental health and wellbeing, and will be free from stigma and discrimination*". Mental health is shaped by more than just health services but the social, economic and physical environments in which people live, including how they move and access goods and services and are able to move using the transport system.

**LDP 3 considerations:** The LDP should support physical and mental health and well-being through the provision of access to good housing, green infrastructure, promotion of active travel, location of development in accessible locations to ensure access to services and facilities including health centres, education and work, provision of appropriate housing for an ageing population and people with disabilities. The plan will be assessed against the Integrated Sustainability Framework Assessment Framework which will embed health in the framework and through a Health Impact Assessment.

## **Planning (Wales) Act 2015**

The Planning (Wales) Act received Royal Assent in July 2015, it aims to modernize and improve the planning system to facilitate the delivery of homes, jobs and infrastructure.

Key messages:

- Reinforces the roles of the Welsh Government as the active stewards of the planning system in Wales
- Promotes a cultural change in planning to help make it more positive and support appropriate development more effectively
- Promotes partnership working between Local Planning Authorities

Implications for the Welsh Planning:

- New National Development Framework, Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 – concentrating on land-use planning issues at a national level, identifying key locations for infrastructure development and setting the national framework for planning
- Strategic Development Plans (SDPs) to be prepared to address regional planning issues
- Local Development Plans – Retained but will need to be reviewed to ensure that they are consistent with the National Development Framework and Regional Plans (where appropriate). End dates were brought in for Local Development Plans.
- Increased powers for Welsh Ministers – in some circumstances applicants will be able to apply directly to Welsh Government.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP is in general conformity with the hierarchy of development plans, which currently includes Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 and any emerging South West Wales Strategic Development Plan.

## **Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (2021)**

In February 2021, the Welsh Government published Future Wales which has development plan status. It replaced the Wales Spatial Plan and sets out a 20-year strategic direction for development in Wales. The plan seeks to address key national priorities through the planning system by developing a vibrant economy, achieving decarbonisation and climate-resilience, developing strong ecosystems and improving community health. The plan guides infrastructure and development investments and will be further detailed by regional Strategic Development Plans (SDPs) and local authority Local Development Plans (LDPs), which are required to be in conformity with Future Wales.

Future Wales contains a national spatial strategy and introduces four regions in Wales: The North, Mid Wales, The South West and The South East. The plan specifies 'where Wales will grow' (Policy 1) through the identification of national and regional growth areas. For each of the regions the plan highlights key locations for growth, opportunities for development infrastructure and sets a framework for regional and local planning. In the South West Region, the National Growth Area is at Swansea Bay and Llanelli (policy 28) and Regional Growth Areas are in Carmarthen and the Haven Towns comprising of Haverfordwest, Milford Haven, Pembroke and Pembroke Dock (policy 29). Future Wales states that: '*National Park Authorities are unique planning entities with a specific remit to reflect the distinctive characteristics of their areas...and that Future Wales policies respect the functions of National Parks in terms of their statutory purposes...*' (page 104).

The policy framework identifies the following key issues of national importance:

- Strategic placemaking principles (Policy 2)
- Supporting rural communities and the rural economy (Policies 4 and 5)
- Applying a 'Town Centre first' principle to support town and city centres as multi-functional places (Policy 6)
- Delivering affordable housing (Policy 7). LDPs are required to explore all opportunities to increase the supply of affordable housing and identify affordable housing led developments.
- Flooding (Policy 8) supports investment in new and improved infrastructure promoting nature-based solutions as a priority.
- Resilient Ecological Networks and Green Infrastructure (Policy 9) with the Preseli Hills and woodlands of North Pembrokeshire identified as a National Natural Resource.
- Policy 10 'International Connectivity recognises the importance of the Haven Waterway and Ports as a major national asset and an important international gateway for freight and passengers. It is also recognised that "a diverse high-skill supply chain has developed locally to support the energy sector which is increasingly incorporating the renewable energy sector, and, in particular, marine energy" (page 82).
- Transport policies (11 and 12) are underpinned by the sustainable transport hierarchy for Wales which prioritises active travel and public transport and sets the vision to transition to low emission vehicles.
- Digital infrastructure (policies 13 and 14) supports the delivery of digital communications infrastructure with new developments required to provide Gigabit capable broadband infrastructure.

- National Forest (Policy 15) states the Welsh Government is committed to develop a national forest through the identification of appropriate sites and mechanisms.
- Renewable energy policies 16, 17 and 18 contain strategic spatial and detailed criteria-based policies for the determination of applications.
- Policy 32 'Haven Waterway and Energy' designates the Haven Waterway as a site for potential new developments in renewable and low-carbon energy, fostering innovation and investment.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP must be in general conformity with Future Wales: The National Plan by ensuring the strategy, proposals and policies conform with the spatial strategy for the South West Wales and support and not compete with, the regional growth areas of the Pembrokeshire Haven Towns. The LDP must align with the policies by supporting climate action and the move to net zero, apply the placemaking principles, support a town centre first approach, protect landscapes and biodiversity and ensure housing and services are integrated with infrastructure investment.

#### **Town and Country Planning (Strategic Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2021**

The Town and Country Planning (Strategic Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations came into force on 28 February 2022. The Regulations set out the procedural requirements for the preparation of Strategic Development Plans (SDPs).

#### **The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021**

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 established Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) for four regions in Wales. The South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee is a separate legal body with was formally constituted in January 2022 and covers the local authority areas of Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Swansea, as well as the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority and Bannau Brycheiniog.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP must be in conformity with an emerging Strategic Development Plan and align with other regional plans prepared by the CJC.

#### **Environment (Wales) Act 2016**

The Environment (Wales) Act introduces new environment legislation covering the following topics:

- Sustainable management of natural resources
- Climate Change – including statutory emissions targets
- Charges for carrier bags – further powers for Ministers to address issues with carrier bag charges.
- Collection and disposal of waste – improvements to waste management processes, working towards greater levels of recycling, better waste food management and increased energy recovery.
- Fisheries and shellfish – clarification on licensing and management

- Flooding and coastal erosion committee and land drainage – clarification of the laws for other environmental regulatory regimes including flood risk management.
- Section 6 duty for public authorities to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of their functions and promote the resilience of ecosystems.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP effectively responds to the nature emergency by requiring development to deliver a net benefit for biodiversity, support the sustainable management of natural resources and protected sites, and embed sustainable development principles throughout policies, site allocations and the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Assessment Framework. This approach will also generate wider health, equity, climate and potential economic benefits

#### **The Climate Change (Wales) Regulations 2021**

In February 2021 the Welsh Government laid regulations before the Senedd, which commit Wales to tighter climate change targets by 2050, as a response to the advice by the UK Climate Change Committee (CCC). This is the second set of regulations under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, following the 2018 regulations which targeted an 80 per cent reduction by 2050, deemed insufficient. The key regulations include amending the 2050 emissions target to net zero, updating interim targets for 2030 and 2040 to 63 per cent and 89 per cent reductions respectively, setting stricter limits for Carbon Budget 2 (2021-2025), introducing Carbon Budget 3 (2026-2030), and setting a 0 per cent offset limit for Carbon Budget 2.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan suitably respond to the climate emergency and directs development away from areas at risk of flooding and coastal erosion and consider climate mitigation, adaptation and environmental protection and enhancement.

#### **Climate Adaptation Strategy for Wales (2024)**

The Climate Adaptation Strategy for Wales outlines the national approach to adapting to the impacts of climate change, building resilience, and ensuring a sustainable future for its people, economy, and environment. The strategy aims to provide a framework for addressing the current and future impacts of climate change in Wales, ensure that Wales is resilient to climate risks, and align with Wales' broader climate goals, including achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

**LDP 3 Considerations:** Ensure the plan suitably respond to the climate emergency and directs development away from areas at risk of flooding and coastal erosion and consider climate mitigation, adaptation and environmental protection and enhancement.

#### **Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024**

The statutory framework to improve air quality and manage soundscapes across Wales. Key provisions relevant to SA/SEA include:

## Air Quality

National Targets: Welsh Ministers must set long-term, measurable targets for key pollutants (e.g. PM2.5, PM10, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, CO, ammonia, ozone), with a minimum 10-year horizon. [www.legisl...ion.gov.uk]

Local Air Quality Management (LAQM): Strengthened duties on local authorities to review and act on air quality annually, with action plans requiring projected compliance dates agreed with Welsh Ministers. [www.gov.wales]

Smoke Control Areas: Enhanced enforcement powers for local authorities, including civil penalties for breaches, replacing criminal sanctions.

Anti-idling and Road Charging: New powers to address stationary vehicle idling and expand trunk road charging schemes to tackle pollution hotspots.

## Soundscapes

National Strategy Requirement: Welsh Ministers must produce a national strategy for assessing and managing soundscapes, recognising the role of acoustic environments in public health and well-being.

## Cross-cutting Duties

Promotion of Active Travel: Public authorities, including local authorities, are required to promote active travel as a means of reducing air pollution.

Public Awareness: Welsh Ministers must promote awareness of air pollution risks and mitigation strategies.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure air quality and soundscape is protected and promote development that minimises emissions from transport and promotes active travel, reduces emissions from heating and other sources and integrates green infrastructure to improve air quality and human health and wellbeing. Air quality and noise will be integrated in the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Assessment Framework to assess the plan's impact, including on the environment and health.

## [Active Travel \(Wales\) Act 2013](#)

The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 requires local authorities to prepare route maps of existing and proposed walking and cycling routes and facilities and to deliver year on year active travel improvements. The Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024 now requires Ministers to promote active travel as a way to reduce or limit air pollution.

[The Active Travel Guidance \(2021\)](#) provides a summary of the aims, processes and key considerations in the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 to aid the implementation of the act. It provides detailed technical advice on how infrastructure should be planned and designed.

The [Active travel delivery plan 2024 to 2027](#) aims to make walking and cycling the choice for short everyday journeys, or as part of a longer journey in combination with other sustainable modes. Active travel links closely to climate and nature goals, as increasing active travel helps reduce car dependency, emissions and supports health and wellbeing.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the strategy directs development to the most sustainable locations with access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel. Promote the sustainable transport hierarchy to give priority to meeting demand for travel by: active travel through walking and cycling throughout towns and villages; increase access to public transport and support charging infrastructure to ultra low emissions vehicles in appropriate locations. These measures will also support physical and mental health, reduce inequalities and contribute to net zero by decarbonising travel.

#### [Bws Cymru: Connecting People with Places, Welsh Government \(2022\)](#)

The Welsh Government's strategy for improving bus services across Wales. It envisions a stable, integrated network that is reliable, affordable, flexible, user-friendly, low-carbon, and encourages more people to choose buses over cars. Key actions include developing rural networks and community hubs for Demand Responsive Transport and Community-Based Transport services, enhancing bus timetables and information.

[Bus Franchising and the Roadmap to Bus Franchising \(2025\)](#) outlines the approach to bus franchising, making the case for reform and setting out future plans for the network. The goal is to create a more reliable, affordable, and flexible bus system that is easy to use. Bus franchising will roll out in phases with South West Wales being the first to implement the system in 2027.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the strategy directs development to the most sustainable locations with access to public transport.

#### [Historic Environment and Climate Change in Wales Sectoral Adaptation Plan Cadw \(2020\)](#)

The plan raises awareness of the risks and opportunities posed by climate change for the historic environment of Wales and emphasize the need for adaptation. The plan encourages collaboration and action across all sectors to increase knowledge and understanding of the threats and opportunities related to changing weather and climate in the short, medium and long term. Some historic sites and landscapes are threatened by warmer temperatures, rising sea levels, changing rainfall patterns and extreme weather events.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP addresses climate change mitigation and adaptation and conserves and enhances the historic environment.

#### [The Infrastructure \(Wales\) Act \(2024\)](#)

The Infrastructure (Wales) Act streamlines the process for developing major infrastructure projects by establishing a single infrastructure consenting process for specified types of Significant Infrastructure Projects (SIPs) in Wales.

#### [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2023](#)

**Notes:** The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 came into force in 2024. The Historic Environment (Wales) Act is a consolidation Act that replaced: The Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953, The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 sets out provisions amending certain aspects of the law relating to ancient monuments and listed buildings; to establish a register of historic parks and gardens and a list of historic place names; to establish historic environment records for local authority areas; to establish an Advisory Panel for the Welsh Historic Environment; and for connected purposes.

The Act includes the following provisions:

- Ministerial powers, procedures for scheduling of monuments etc.
- Monument enforcement - including it more difficult for individuals who damage protected monuments to escape prosecution by pleading ignorance of a monument's status or location.
- Introduce new powers to stop unauthorized works to historic sites and buildings
- Introduce new powers for local authorities to prevent historic buildings from falling into disrepair e.g. through preservation orders and through new ways to recover costs from direct interventions
- Makes the maintenance of Historic Environment Records (HER) statutory
- Setups up a new record for historic place names

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP conserves and enhances the historic environment. The historic environment must align with the broader framework of sustainable development, climate change adaptation and placemaking.

#### [Planning Policy Wales Welsh Government 12<sup>th</sup> Edition \(February 2024\)](#)

**Notes:** Planning Policy Wales (PPW) sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government (WG). The primary objective of PPW is to ensure the planning system contributes to the delivery of sustainable development to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being. PPW requires the planning system to embrace the concept of placemaking in order to create sustainable places and improve the well-being of communities. PPW sets out the National sustainable placemaking outcomes which are a set out key objectives under the following five themes; Creating and Sustaining Communities; Growing our economy in a sustainable manner; making best use of resources; maximizing environmental protecting and limiting environmental impact and facilitating accessible and healthy environments. PPW is organized around four overarching themes:

1. Strategic and Spatial Choices to ensure the sustainable management of natural resources and promote good design and placemaking that protects the Welsh language.

2. Active and Social Places, ensure services are accessible, promote active travel, have vibrant retail centres, protect community facilities and encouraging inclusive design.
3. Productive and Enterprising Places support economic development including tourism and the rural economy and effective land use
4. Distinctive and Natural Places to protect and enhance the landscape, historic and built environment, deliver green infrastructure and deliver net benefit for biodiversity.

Edition 11 (2021) aligned PPW with 'Future Wales: The National Plan 2040' and emphasised sustainable, well-integrated places. Edition 12 (2024) introduced requirements for planning authorities to consider localised issues such as the prevalence second homes and short-term lets, detailed green infrastructure needs, mandated net biodiversity benefits and securing these benefits through a stepwise approach. Additionally, it provides a strengthened policy approach to the protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and guidance on trees and woodlands, with the promotion of new planting. There is a stronger emphasis on nature, climate resilience and placemaking.

PPW is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes. Procedural advice is given in National Assembly for Wales / Welsh Office circulars. PPW, the TANs and circulars together comprise national planning policy which should be taken into account by local planning authorities in Wales in the preparation of Local Development Plans (LDPs).

**LDP considerations:** The LDP must align with the policies and principles in PPW, including the National sustainable placemaking outcomes

#### **Development Plans Manual (Edition 3, March 2020)**

The updated Manual, published by Welsh Government, provides guidance on the preparation of development plans, including Strategic Development Plans and Local Development Plans. The Manual provides procedural guidance and advice for local planning authorities on the preparation, monitoring and review of a development plan.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP will be prepared inline with the guidance.

#### **Legislative and policy changes on second homes and short-term lets (2022)**

In October 2022, Welsh Government introduced three new use classes via an amendment to The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987. The three uses now included are:

- Use class C3 (dwelling houses; used as sole or main residences occupied for more than 183 days in a calendar year).
- Use class C5 (Dwelling houses; used otherwise than as sole or main residences covering a dwellinghouse other than as a sole or main residence and occupied for 183 days or fewer in a calendar year i.e. second homes)
- Use class C6 (Short-term lets, covers the use of a dwellinghouse for commercial short-term letting not longer than 31 days for each period of occupation).

Simultaneously, Welsh Government amended the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to allow permitted changes between the new use classes - C3, C5 and C6 or a mixture of uses. A local planning authority can withdraw these permitted development rights through an Article 4 Direction, where it is supported by robust evidence.

PPW has also been amended (edition 12), that where relevant, the prevalence of second homes and short-term lets must be taken into account when considering the housing requirements. Local policy approaches should be explored to support the viability of communities and could include introducing a cap or ceiling on the number of second homes or short-term lets (paragraph 4.2.5).

**LDP considerations:** Evidence will be gathered on second homes and short term lets and their social and economic impact and whether there is a need to develop policies to restrict residential uses in the National Park.

### **Sustainable Farming Scheme 2026**

The Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) 2026 is Wales' new agricultural support programme, set to replace the Basic Payment Scheme from January 2026. Its core aim is to help farmers produce food sustainably while improving biodiversity, soil health, water quality, and climate resilience. The scheme is structured around a set of Universal Actions that all participating farms must undertake, such as soil testing, integrated pest management, habitat creation, and animal welfare improvements. These actions are designed to be practical, measurable, and beneficial to both the environment and farm productivity.

Farmers will receive a Universal Payment for completing these actions, which includes a baseline payment and a social value component based on the public goods delivered. The scheme also includes Optional and Collaborative Layers, offering additional support for more ambitious or landscape-scale efforts. Importantly, the scheme has been revised to be more inclusive and flexible, with adjustments made following farmer feedback—such as reduced tree planting requirements and clearer guidance on habitat management. Overall, the SFS 2026 represents a shift toward a more holistic and sustainable approach to farming in Wales.

**Note:** The Sustainable Farming Scheme shall replace the Basic Payment Scheme as the main source of future Government support for farmers in Wales. Farmers shall be rewarded for actions taken to respond to climate and nature emergencies, alongside the sustainable production of food. The scheme calls for greater integration between farmers and their landscape, as such, farmers will be greater supported to maintain and enhance, and deliver more for protected landscapes (National Parks) and historic environments.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP must safeguard best and most versatile agricultural land quality, support nature recovery, climate resilience and farm diversification.

### **Welsh National Marine Plan 2019**

Sustainability Appraisal of A- Local Development Plan 3  
Appendix A: Review of relevant plans, policies and programmes

The Welsh National Marine Plan is a policy document that outlines the Welsh government's strategy for the sustainable use of its seas over the next 20 years. The plan covers an area of approximately 12,350 square miles (32,000 square kilometers) of sea and 1,300 miles (2,120 kilometers) of coastline.

The plan sets a vision for clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas and aims to balance the economic, social, and environmental aspects of marine management. It sets out a framework for decision-making that considers the needs of different stakeholders and the environment. The plan also aims to promote sustainable development in marine industries such as renewable energy, fishing, and tourism.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP must take account of the Welsh National Marine Plan and ensure that coastal development is sustainable and protects the seascape and marine environment.

#### **Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and our Well-being (2019)**

The guide requires the management of natural resources to protect and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem resilience and bring wider social, economic and environmental benefits contribute to health and well-being.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP is required to embed sustainable management of natural resources throughout plan preparation and contribute to ecosystem resilience, climate adaptation, biodiversity and ensure social and economic well-being including benefits for health and well-being.

#### **The Future Generations Report 2025**

A report produced by the Future Generations commissioner that provides an assessment of the improvements that all public bodies in Wales should make in relation to progressing the well-being objectives. This report is produced on a five year cycle. The report focuses on the following themes: implementation and impact; climate and nature; health and well-being; culture and Welsh language; Well-being Economy; and food.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP must embed the five ways of working and the themes.

#### **The National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales (FCERM) (2020)**

This strategy document outlines a risk management approach that encourages wider resilience, prevention, and awareness, so better decisions can be made by the public and those who have an influence on development and the environment. The document also includes a summary of the strategy, which sets out how the Welsh Government intends to manage the risks from flooding and coastal erosion across Wales over the next 10 years, whilst strengthening and clarifying roles and responsibilities.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP will direct highly vulnerable development away from areas at risk from flooding and coastal erosion.

#### **The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021**

These regulations have aim to address agricultural pollution in Wales by setting rules for certain farming practices, specifically setting standards for silage making, nutrient management planning, sustainable fertiliser applications and the storage of silage effluent and for manure/slurry storage.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP policies address challenges of nutrient management, protection of water courses and nature based solutions.

#### **Welcome to Wales: priorities for the visitor economy 2020 to 2025**

This strategy aims to grow tourism in Wales by focusing on skills development, equitable economic growth, environmental sustainability and social and cultural benefits.

The plan sets out four main priorities:

- Great products and places
- Quality visitor experiences
- An innovative Cymru Wales brand
- An engaged and vibrant sector

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP balances the economic benefits of tourism while protecting the National Park's landscape, special qualities and its communities.

#### **National transport delivery plan 2022 to 2027, Welsh Government (2023)**

The National Transport Delivery Plan 2022 to 2027 outlines how the Welsh Government intends to deliver on the priorities and ambitions set forth in Llwybr Newydd – The Wales Transport Strategy 2021 (WTS). This comprehensive plan encompasses programs, projects, and new policies that will shape transport across Wales over the next five years.

**LDP 3 considerations:** Ensure the strategy directs development to the most sustainable locations with access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel. Promote the sustainable transport hierarchy to give priority to meeting demand for travel by: active travel through walking and cycling throughout towns and villages; increase access to public transport and support charging infrastructure to ultra low emissions vehicles in appropriate locations. These measures will also support physical and mental health, reduce inequalities and contribute to net zero by decarbonising travel.

### The Community Food Strategy, Welsh Government 2025

The strategy seeks to promote production, supply and consumption of locally sourced, healthy and sustainable food by connecting producers and consumers, supporting community-led growing and combat food poverty and diet related ill health.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP safeguards the best and most versatile agricultural land for food production, support the creation of green infrastructure for community growing and access to locally sourced food.

### Clean Air Plan for Wales: Healthy Air, Healthy Wales, Welsh Government (2020)

The Clean Air Plan for Wales: Healthy Air, Healthy Wales outlines a comprehensive strategy to improve air quality across the nation. Developed by the Welsh Government, the plan aims to reduce the impacts of air pollution on human health, biodiversity, the natural environment, and the economy. Key objectives of the plan include: reducing emissions from transport, industry and agriculture; promoting active travel and public transport to decrease reliance on private vehicles; implementing clean air zones and low emission zones in urban areas; and raising public awareness about the health impacts of air pollution and encouraging behaviour changes

**LDP considerations:** Ensure air quality is protected and promote development that minimises emissions from transport, heating and other sources and integrate green infrastructure to improve air quality and human health and wellbeing. Air quality will be integrated in the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Assessment Framework to assess the plan's impact on the environment and health.

#### **Technical Advice Note 2: Planning and Affordable Housing Welsh Government June 2006**

**Notes:** Provides practical guidance in securing affordable housing. There is a requirement for Development Plans to set targets for the provision of affordable housing based on the identified need in the plan area. Availability of affordable housing is a sustainability issue. This Technical Advice Note requires that any need for affordable housing is addressed.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan sets a target for affordable housing delivery and the plan's strategy, site allocations and policies maximise opportunities to deliver affordable housing to meet the local need.

#### **Technical Advice Note 4: Retailing and Town Centres Welsh Government 2016**

**Notes:** Advice and requirements for measuring viable and vital retail centres. Includes advice on monitoring, change of use, car parking, and impact assessments. Measuring and achieving vital and viable town centres enables access to good quality local services. Retail activity is essentially market led. The Local Planning Authority role is limited, and market conditions will affect retailer strategy.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy supports the vitality and viability of retail centres and is flexible to adapt to changing retail habits in line with national policy and policy in Future Wales.

#### **Technical Advice Note 5: Nature Conservation and Planning Welsh Government 2009**

**Notes:** Provides advice about how land use planning system should contribute to protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation. It sets out the key principles of planning for nature conservation, advice about the preparation and review of development plans, development control, and conservation of sites and species. Biodiversity conservation and enhancement is an integral part of planning for sustainable development. Use and development of land can pose threats to the conservation of natural features and wildlife.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should respond to the nature emergency and ensure designated sites and species are protected. The Green Infrastructure Assessment will inform the identification and protection of green infrastructure and habitats and address the implications of climate change. A separate Habitats Regulations Assessment will be undertaken.

### **Technical Advice Note 6: Agricultural and Rural Development Welsh Government 2010**

**Notes:** Provides advice on the role of the planning system in supporting the delivery of sustainable rural communities , with specific guidance relating to;

- sustainable rural communities
- sustainable rural economies
- rural affordable housing
- rural enterprise dwellings
- one planet developments
- sustainable rural services
- sustainable agriculture

This Technical Advice Note should be used in conjunction with Planning Policy Wales and Technical Advice Note 2: Planning and Affordable Housing.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP strategy and policies should balance the protection of the countryside whilst supporting the sustainability of rural areas through appropriate housing, economic development and diversification of the rural economy.

### **Technical Advice Note 7: Outdoor Advertisement Control, Welsh Government 1996**

**Notes:** Control of virtually all outdoor advertisements in the interests of amenity and public safety is possible, although some are exempted from detailed control, or qualify for deemed consent. Majority of the National Park is within an Area of Special Control of Advertisements. Appropriate control of advertisements is significant to the character of the National Park.

**LDP considerations:** LDP policies should guide the siting, design and scale of advertisements to respect the special qualities and local character, heritage and landscape quality of the National Park.

#### **Technical Advice Note (TAN) 10: Tree Preservation Orders 1997**

Provides advice on the purpose and procedure for creating Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) to protect important trees and how to balance tree protection with development needs.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should protect and promote the positive management of trees, woodlands and hedgerows which are key to the local distinctiveness, character and biodiversity value of the National Park. Policies should encourage new planting to enhance green infrastructure, biodiversity and landscape character.

#### **Technical Advice Note 11: Noise, Welsh Government 1997**

**Notes:** Provides advice on how the planning system can be used to minimise the adverse impact of noise without placing unreasonable restrictions on development. Outlines some of the main considerations the NPA should take into account in drawing up development plan policies and determining planning applications which will generate noise or be exposed to existing noise sources. A draft TAN 11 was consulted on in early 2023 to update guidance on noise and add advice relating to air quality and soundscape.

**LDP considerations:** The strategy should ensure noise is considered in the location and design of development to protect local amenity and health and wellbeing.

#### **Technical Advice Note 12: Design, Welsh Government 2016**

This TAN focuses on the appearance of proposed development and its relationship to its surroundings. It takes design to mean the relationships between all elements of the built and natural environment, including those between buildings and between buildings and spaces. Also covered are the nature of the public domain, the relationships between different developed areas and of buildings with the countryside, and the resulting patterns of movement. The need to address these matters in development plans and in development control is discussed, as is the particular issue of design and disability. Achieving and encouraging good design in the National Park.

**LDP considerations:** The Plan should promote high quality, sustainable and inclusive design that creates locally distinctive places that respect the built and natural landscape character of the national park.

### **Technical Advice Note 13: Tourism, Welsh Government 1997**

**Notes:** This TAN recognises that although tourism cannot be regarded as a single or distinct land-use category, the issues it raises should be addressed in preparing or revising development plans and in development control decisions. It also considers problems associated with the maintenance and enhancement of the stock of hotels and the provision of appropriate sites and facilities for holiday and touring caravans. It also discusses the imposition and enforcement of seasonal and holiday occupation conditions attached to planning permissions. Tourism is a major part of the economy in the National Park.

**LDP considerations:** The Plan should support sustainable and regenerative tourism that contributes positively to the local economy whilst respecting the natural environment and its local communities.

### **Technical Advice Note 15: Development, Flooding and Coastal Erosion (2025)**

This TAN replaces the previous TAN 15 'Development and Flood Risk (2004) and TAN 14 Coastal Planning. TAN 15 is now based on 'Flood Maps for Planning' which identifies Zones 1, 2 and 3 and defended zones for each of the following categories: rivers; sea; and surface water/small watercourses. The key principle is to restrict new development in zone 3, subject to limited exceptions in section 10 and to ensure decision makers have taken flood risk into consideration in all other zones. There is some flexibility for regeneration/redevelopment in different zones if it supports the implementation of LDP or regeneration plans and is supported by an appropriate Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment. There is alignment with the SuDS Approval Body, with a requirement for Drainage Statement for planning applications which require SAB approval.

**LDP considerations:** The plan's strategy, allocations and policies should be informed by the Flood Map for Planning to direct highly vulnerable development away from high risk areas prone to flooding and coastal erosion.

### **Technical Advice Note 16: Sport and Recreation, Welsh Government 2009**

**Notes:** This TAN outlines the responsibilities of the Sports Council for Wales, the Countryside Council for Wales and the Environment Agency in relation to sport and recreation planning, and notes in particular the need for planning authorities to consider the relationship between the recreational use of land and the interests of conservation. It advises that the government does not prescribe national standards for recreational provision. It draws attention to the value of open space for the purpose, whether in local authority ownership or not. It also discusses the provision of sites and facilities and the particular issues of noise from sport and of floodlit facilities. Protection and provision of public and private green spaces for character, enhancement and recreational needs.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP will identify suitable sites and include policies to protect existing open space and recreational areas.

### **Technical Advice Note 18: Transport, Welsh Government 2007**

**Notes:** Describes how to integrate land use and transport planning. Explains how transport impacts should be assessed and mitigated.

This Technical Advice Note includes advice on:

- Integration between Land Use Planning and Transport;
- Location of Development;
- Parking;
- Design of Development;
- Walking and Cycling;
- Public Transport;
- Planning for Transport Infrastructure;
- Assessing Impacts and Managing Implementation.

**LDP 3 considerations:** Ensure the strategy directs development to the most sustainable locations with access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel. Promote the sustainable transport hierarchy to give priority to meeting demand for travel by: active travel through walking and cycling throughout towns and villages; increase access to public transport and support charging infrastructure to ultra low emissions vehicles in appropriate locations. These measures will also support physical and mental health, reduce inequalities and contribute to net zero by decarbonising travel.

#### **Technical Advice Note 20: Planning and the Welsh Language (2017)**

TAN 20 provides guidance on the legislative and policy framework for considering Welsh language and the land use planning framework (part A) and provides advice on how to consider the Welsh language as part of the Development Plan making process (Part B). The emphasis is on how the Welsh language can be incorporated into the Integrated Assessment process (Sustainability Appraisal) to develop an objective for the Welsh language to assess the plan's vision, objectives, strategy, allocations and policies.

**LDP considerations:** The plan should ensure the Welsh language and culture of the Park is protected and promoted. The Plan's strategy, allocations and policies should protect and enhance the use of the Welsh language, which will be assessed through the sustainability appraisal. A separate Welsh Language Impact Assessment is also required.

#### **Technical Advice Note 21: Waste, Welsh Government 2014, updated in 2017**

Provides advice about how planning should contribute to sustainable waste resource management, and is intended to facilitate the introduction of a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable land use planning framework in Wales. Waste management is central to sustainability.

TAN 21 identifies the need to monitor planning permissions and environmental permits for waste facilities in order to ascertain the total potential waste management capacity coming forward. The results of this data collection will be published annually at a national level. The TAN 21 update also introduces the requirement for waste planning assessments, which must be submitted with all planning applications for waste management facilities (disposal, recovery or recycling).

**LDP considerations:** The Plan should support the sustainable management of waste and the waste hierarchy to prioritise reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery over disposal. Suitable sites for waste management facilities should be appropriately located.

#### **[Technical advice note \(TAN\) 23: economic development, Welsh Government 2014](#)**

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 23 provides guidance on the role of land use planning in generating wealth, jobs, and income. It aims to support local planning authorities in preparing Local Development Plan (LDP) policies and making informed decisions regarding economic development.

**LDP considerations:** The evidence base should assess current and future aspirations for the economy and inform the strategy and policies to support sustainable economic growth, vibrant town centres, regenerative tourism and diversification of the rural economy.

#### **[Technical advice note \(TAN\) 24: the historic environment, Welsh Government 2017](#)**

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24 provides guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision-making on planning and listed building consent applications. The Welsh Government will be updating TAN 24 to align with the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure LDP protects and enhances the historic environment.

#### **[Minerals Technical Advice Note \(Wales\) 1: Aggregates, Welsh Government 2004](#)**

Sets out detailed advice on the mechanisms for delivering the policy for aggregates extraction by minerals authorities and the aggregates industry. Sustainable extraction which takes full consideration of environmental and amenity impacts, whilst maximising the reuse of secondary and recycled materials.

**LDP considerations:** The plan should ensure mineral resources are safeguarded and establish a policy framework to ensure there is an adequate regional supply of mineral reserves, whilst respecting that no new mineral workings or extensions should be permitted in the National Park.

### **Minerals Technical Advice Note 2: Coal, Welsh Government 2009**

The TAN sets out detailed advice on the mechanisms for delivering the policy for coal extraction through surface and underground working by mineral planning authorities (MPAs) and the coal mining industry. The advice note focuses on protecting 'areas of importance' (including National Parks) and on reducing the environmental impacts of coal extraction.

**LDP considerations:** PPW sets a more up to date position on energy minerals and coal in line with Wales' transition to a low carbon economy and the climate emergency. Coal extraction should not be permitted unless there are exceptional circumstances and LDPs must not allocate sites for coal extraction. The focus for energy supply should be on renewable and low carbon energy sources.

### **Welsh Development Quality Requirements, Welsh Government, 2021**

The Welsh Development Quality Requirements (WDQR) set standards for all publicly funded affordable homes in Wales to ensure they are built to a high standard. The WDQR 2021, focuses on creating beautiful homes and places and sets space standards and environmental standards in construction and operation.

**LDP considerations:** LDP policies need to align with the requirements and consider their impact on the viability and deliverability of development.

### **Consultation on proposed changes to Building Regulations, Part L, Welsh Government, 2025**

Welsh Government are consulting on proposed changes to Part L (conservation of fuel and power), Part F (Ventilation), and Part O (Overheating) of the Building Regulations. The two potential options set out that new dwellings and non-domestic buildings would be required to be 'zero-ready dwellings' with low carbon systems for heating and hot water that will require no further work to reach zero carbon emissions in the future as the electricity grid decarbonises. There are proposals for on-site renewables for new dwellings and for significant extensions.

**LDP Considerations:** LDP policies would need to align with building regulations. The LDP would need to consider how changes to building regulations would impact on viability and deliverability of development.

### **Noise and Soundscape Plan for Wales 2023-2028 Welsh Government**

Wales' national strategy on soundscapes and covers all forms of airborne sound. It recognizes that unwanted or harmful sound affects health and well-being in a number of ways and can arise from domestic, commercial and transportation sources. The plan is underpinned by the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Bill providing a statutory basis for soundscape policy.

The Noise and Soundscape Plan considers all forms of airbourne sound:

- Guidance on the impacts of remote working, air source heat pumps, fireworks and traffic and changes in speed limits on the sound environment
- Wales' ambition on appropriate soundscapes that are suitable for the context
- Embed the five ways of working aligning with the Well-being of Future Generations Act
- Integrated action on noise and air quality and broader environmental and health policies.
- The Plan recognises that soundscapes are an integral part of people's experience of protected landscapes and sound/tranquility may be a special quality of protected landscapes.

**LDP Considerations:** Soundscapes and tranquillity are identified as one of the National Park's special qualities. The LDP should minimise the impact of development on soundscapes and tranquility. Noise will be integrated in the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Assessment Framework to assess the plan's impact, including on the environment and health.

### **White Paper on Adequate Housing, Fair Rents and Affordability, Welsh Government, 2024**

Sets out proposals for housing adequacy, affordability, private rented sector regulation and a long term housing strategy for Wales.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy and policies address:

- affordability through a mix of tenure and size in accessible locations
- good quality homes with high standards of design
- accessibility through the consideration of provisions for an ageing population including Lifetime Homes Standard and policies to support and protect the Welsh speaking communities to ensure housing meets the communities needs

### **The Homelessness and Social Housing Allocation (Wales) Bill, Welsh Government 2025**

The Bill builds on the White Paper on Ending Homelessness in Wales (2023) and focuses on reforming homelessness law and duties across public services to prevent, reduce and end homelessness.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP supports the provision of a range of suitable housing for the local communities' needs.

### **Second Homes: Developing new policies in Wales, Welsh Government, 2021**

A report by Dr Seimon Brooks on second homes which makes 12 policy recommendations aimed at addressing the second homes crisis and its impact on Welsh-speaking communities. The recommendations include the establishment of a new class for second homes, raising council tax premiums on second homes. The report emphasizes there is significant regional and local variation in second homes.

**LDP Considerations:** Evidence will be gathered on second homes and short term lets and their social and economic impact and whether there is a need to develop policies to restrict residential uses in the National Park

#### [Socio-economic Duty \(March 2021\)](#)

Following 31 March 2021, a range of public sector bodies are subject to the Socio-economic Duty in section 1 of the Equality Act 2010. The duty aims to support the most vulnerable members of society, by requiring strategic decision makers have a clear audit trail to demonstrate they have regard to how their decisions might help reduce the inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage.

#### [Economic mission: priorities for a stronger economy, Welsh Government 2021](#)

The Economic mission emphasises the importance of small and medium sized enterprises and investing in skills development to enhance economic resilience. The mission focuses on creating a more prosperous economy within environmental limits, building a greener economy to realise net zero economic opportunities and ensuring a more equal economy to benefit all communities and reduces inequalities.

**LDP Considerations:** Ensure the LDP directs growth to the most sustainable locations to ensure housing, employment, services and facilities are provided in accessible locations to provide inclusive opportunities.

#### [Wales Innovates: Creating a Stronger, Fairer, Greener Wales](#)

The strategy's vision is 'to create and nurture a vibrant innovation culture for a stronger, fairer, greener Wales'. The strategy is grouped into four missions: 1. Education, 2. Economy, 3. Health and Wellbeing 4. Climate and Nature.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should ensure access to services, employment and sustainable transport for all to promote equity and inclusion, support sustainable use of resources, encourage low-carbon materials and support the transition to a greener economy, thereby addressing both the nature and climate emergencies.

#### [Together for Retail: A Wales Retail Forum Action Plan 2023](#)

Recognises the challenges for town centres with changing consumer behaviour and online shopping and cost pressures. The plan identifies three pillars and key actions: people, places to deliver a town centre first policy and resilience.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP supports the vitality and viability of town centres and is flexible to adapt to changing retail habits in line with national policy and policy in Future Wales.

### **Town Centres Position Statement Welsh Government 2023**

Outlines the challenges facing town centres and sets out the Town Centre First policy for prioritizing town centres as locations for retail, leisure, health, education and public sector investment alongside housing.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP supports the vitality and viability of town centres and is flexible to adapt to changing retail habits in line with national policy and policy in Future Wales.

### **Healthy weight strategy (Healthy Weight Healthy Wales) Welsh Government**

The strategy to prevent and reduce obesity in Wales with four themes: Healthy Environments, Healthy Settings, Leadership and Enabling Change and Healthy People. The plan promotes active travel, better promotion of and opportunities for access to local green spaces and rights of way for recreation, an increased appreciation of National Parks and their contribution to the health and quality of people who live in or visit them and provision of high quality play facilities targeted at areas of deprivation.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should support physical and mental health and well-being through the provision of access to good housing, green infrastructure, promotion of active travel, location of development in accessible locations to ensure access to services and facilities including health centres, education and work, provision of appropriate housing for an ageing population and people with disabilities. The plan will be assessed against the Integrated Sustainability Framework Assessment Framework which will embed health in the framework and through a Health Impact Assessment.

### **Age Friendly Wales: Our strategy for an ageing society (2021)**

In Wales, projections indicate that in 20 years (by 2038) 1 in 4 of the population will be over 65. The population aged over 75 in Wales is also projected to increase from 9.3% of the population in 2018 to 13.7% in 2038. There is an increasing number of people living alone and increasing numbers of people on the dementia register. The number of unpaid carers in Wales is also increasing. The strategy states that “there is currently a difference of around 18 years in healthy life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas”.

The strategy identifies three cross cutting themes:

1. Creating an age friendly Wales
2. Prioritising prevention by building communities, homes, transport systems and outdoor spaces that enable people to age well.
3. A rights based approach to ensure older people do not experience discrimination due to age or other protected characteristics such as disability, race or sexual orientation. Welsh language services should be accessible.

The strategy identifies four aims:

- Enhancing well-being - prevent illness and support people to manage their own health and well-being and enabling people to live independently for as long as possible.
- Improving local services and environments by ensuring the natural and built environment is safe and age friendly. Housing should be of an acceptable standard and new housing models support people to age well, which will include contemporary sheltered housing and extra care housing. Ensure open spaces and buildings are safe and accessible to older people and reinvigorate town centres which are the most accessible areas of towns to provide face to face contact in shops and facilities.
- Building and retaining people's own capability
- Tackling age related poverty

**LDP considerations:** The plan's strategy should direct growth to sustainable locations to ensure an ageing population can access services and facilities, including health, community and public transport facilities. The provision of new housing should be accessible and adaptable for an ageing population.

### **Heat Strategy for Wales, Welsh Government, 2024**

Sets the pathway to net zero heat by decarbonizing housing and businesses by 2030 and identifies benefits for equality and affordability as well as the environment. Emphasises heat pumps as the primary solution for domestic heat.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan supports the move to net zero by reducing the need to travel and encouraging active travel and public transport to reduce emissions, promoting low carbon development and energy efficient buildings, and supporting renewable energy where appropriate in the landscape and green infrastructure. This would also have health, equity, biodiversity and potential economic growth benefits.

### **Water Strategy for Wales, Welsh Government 2015**

**Summary:** The Water Strategy for Wales sets out the long term (20 years) policy position of the Welsh Government to improve the management of water resources in Wales. The strategy covers estuarine and costal as well as inland fresh water resources and is divided into 6 key topic areas:

- **Water for nature, people and business** – management of water resources to meet needs, improvement/maintenance of water quality and providing opportunities for “green growth”.
- **Improving the way we plan and manage our water services** – setting out how the Welsh Government will ensure that water infrastructure is sustainable.
- **Delivering excellent services to customers** – Ensuring affordable and reliable water and sewerage services.
- **Protecting and improving drinking water quality** – Ensuring compliance with the drinking water directive and dealing with quality problems effectively.
- **21st century sewerage and drainage systems** – sets out the Welsh Government Approach to integrated sewerage and surface water management.
- **Supporting delivery** – Sets out how the key outcomes will be delivered.

#### **Notable inclusions:**

- The strategy recognises the importance of the Wales coastline to the economy and the role of water quality in promoting “blue growth”.
- Payments for eco-system services that support water management
- Legislative support for sustainable and sewerage systems

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP's strategy and policy framework supports this strategy through the protection of water quality and supply, requirement for SuDs, direct development away from areas of high flood risk, support climate mitigation and adaptation.

#### **Final Water Resources Management Plan 2024, Dwr Cymru Welsh Water**

This plan outlines how Welsh Water will manage water supply and demand over the next 25 years, including climate resilience, leakage reduction, and sustainable abstraction. It includes Pembrokeshire-specific measures to address drought risk and ecological protection.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure LDP policies support sustainable water use and align with abstraction and resilience measures in the WRMP.

#### **Llwybr Newydd: the Wales transport strategy 2021**

**Notes:** Llwybr Newydd: the Wales transport strategy 2021 is a policy and strategy document that outlines the Welsh Government's vision for the future of transport in Wales to be accessible, sustainable and efficient. The strategy aims to encourage people to use sustainable modes of transport, with a target of 45% of journeys to be by sustainable means across Wales by 2045. The document sets out the government's ambitions for the next 20 years and its priorities for the next 5 years. The strategy identifies three priorities:

1. Bring services to people in order to reduce the need to travel
2. Allow people and goods to move easily from door to door by accessible, sustainable and efficient transport
3. Encourage people to make the change to more sustainable transport.

The Welsh government has allocated more than £210 million across Wales in 2021/22 to support the commitments in Llwybr Newydd. More than £115 million has been allocated to councils to spend on transport projects that will support the commitments in the strategy. The National Transport Delivery Plan 2022-2027 sets out the specific programmes and projects.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the strategy directs development to the most sustainable locations with access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel. Promote the sustainable transport hierarchy to give priority to meeting demand for travel by: active travel through walking and cycling throughout towns and villages; increase access to public transport and support charging infrastructure to ultra low emissions vehicles in appropriate locations. These measures will also support physical and mental health, reduce inequalities and contribute to net zero by decarbonising travel.

#### **Towards Zero Waste – Waste Strategy for Wales, Welsh Government 2010**

**Notes:** This strategy provides the long-term framework for achieving zero waste in Wales by 2050, with a cross cutting aim to reduce the waste produced in all sectors by 1.5% year on year.

**LDP considerations:** Policies should enable development that contributes to achieving the targets set out in Towards Zero Waste

### **Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales, CADW and CCW**

**Notes:** Identifies areas of historic interest wholly or partly in the National Park and the features of importance. Key synergies between PCNPA management of archaeological and historic resources, but also critical relationships to other management policies.

**LDP considerations:** Contribute to Management conservation of areas and features identified in the register.

### **Section 42 list: Habitats and species of principal importance for conservation in Wales, CCW/ Welsh Government 2007**

### **Woodlands for Wales, Welsh Government**

A 50 year vision to sustainably manage and expand Wales' woodlands and trees. The four key themes focus on:

1. Responding to climate change by increasing woodland to absorb carbon and reduce flood risk and supporting sustainable timber use,
2. Woodlands for people to improve recreation, health, education and stewardship
3. A competitive and integrated forest sector to support woodland based industries and strengthen supply chains
4. Environmental quality to enhance biodiversity, protect habitats and promote native species.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the green infrastructure assessment considers opportunities to manage and expand woodlands and trees to provide a range of benefits for the environment, health, education, the economy and respond to the nature and climate emergencies.

### **Cymraeg 2050 Welsh language strategy (Welsh Government) 2017**

The Welsh Government's long term approach which includes two main targets:

- The number of Welsh speakers to reach one million by 2050
- The percentage of the population that speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh to increase from 10% (in 2013 to 2015) to 20% by 2050.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP evidence base will identify Welsh Language Sensitive Areas where language is sensitive or significant. The strategy and policies will be sensitive to the needs of Welsh speaking communities, particularly with regard to appropriate housing, community infrastructure and employment opportunities. The likely effects of the LDP on the Welsh language will be assessed through the sustainability appraisal and the Welsh Language Impact Assessment.

### **Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and The Welsh Language Standards Regulations (No.1) 2015**

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 established a legal framework to impose a duty on some organisations to comply with one or more standards of conduct on their delivery of services through the Welsh language, including, areas such as policy making, the operational activities of the organisation and promoting the Welsh language.

Section 26 of the Measure allowed the Welsh Ministers to specify such standards, and these have been set out under The Welsh Language Standards Regulations (No.1) 2015. These Regulations only apply to National Park Authorities, County and County Borough Councils and the Welsh Ministers. Once published, the Welsh Language Commissioner, under Section 44 of the Measure, issued a Compliance Notice on the 30th September 2015 to all relevant organisations, which set out the standards with which they should comply.

In terms of policy making the Compliance Notice requires the Authority to consider how a new policy could be formulated (or how an existing policy could be changed) so that the policy decision would either;

- have a positive effect, or an increased positive effect, or
- would not have an adverse effect, or would have a decreased adverse effect, on the Welsh language.

The policy decision should also ensure that it does not treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language

**LDP considerations:** A Welsh Language Impact Assessment will be undertaken to assess the policies' impact on the Welsh language.

#### **State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) for Wales 2020**

The State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) for Wales provides an assessment of the condition and sustainable management of Wales' natural resources and guides future policy and action towards sustainability and nature resilience.

The report evaluates how natural resources are being managed sustainably in Wales and identifies the need for a proactive approach to build resilience of Wales' natural resources and also provides an opportunity to deliver a wide range of benefits to improve health and support prosperity, aligning with the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The report identifies pressures on natural resources, which include climate change and population growth and outlines opportunities for integrated solutions. The report highlights significant contributions of natural resources to the economy, including agriculture, water quality, timber and forestry. SoNaRR addresses challenges, such as securing low-carbon energy, job creation, tackling poverty and managing flooding and drought and identifies the need for improved management of natural resources to tackle challenges.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy and policies on the natural environment and its resources including water and soil address both the nature and climate emergencies and identify deliver wider benefits for health, equality and prosperity.

#### **Wales Biodiversity Deep Dive**

The Wales Biodiversity Deep Dive is a Welsh Government commissioned, expert-led assessment to accelerate nature recovery across land and sea. The deep dive focuses on identifying strategies to protect at least 30% of the land and 30% of the sea by 2030. The recommendations include tripling peatland restoration targets and further action to restore Wales' wildlife and plants.

**LDP considerations:** The plan's strategy and policies should respond to the nature and climate emergencies and 30x30 target by safeguarding green and blue infrastructure to contribute to an interconnected and resilient natural environment.

#### [Advice to planning authorities for planning applications affecting phosphorus sensitive river Special Areas of Conservation, Natural Resources Wales \(2023\)](#)

In January 2021, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) introduced stricter targets for phosphate pollution in riverine Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). NRW issued guidance to Planning Authorities for determining planning applications, stating new development must not increase phosphate levels in rivers. In Pembrokeshire, the Teifi and Eastern and Western Cleddau river catchments were found to be failing the revised water quality targets for phosphorus. In January 2024 updated guidance to include the assessment of other water quality attributes against targets in SAC rivers including the assessment of ammonia discharge into SAC rivers.

Source Apportionment Graphical Information System (SAGIS) was undertaken and the results for the [Western Cleddau](#) recorded 65% orthophosphate source load was from rural land use compared to 84% in the [Eastern Cleddau](#) and 30% in the [Teifi](#).

The [Nutrient Budget Calculator for Wales](#) is used to calculate phosphorous and nitrogen mitigation requirements for development within the catchment for rivers that are SACs.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan directs future development away from the affected SACs and water bodies or that nutrient neutrality can be demonstrated through suitable mitigation. Officers will work with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water to ensure wastewater treatment works have adequate capacity for future development.

#### [Advice to planning authorities for planning applications affecting nutrient sensitive Special Areas of Conservation, Natural Resources Wales, 2025](#)

NRW published condition assessments and conservation advice packages for the Marine SACs and SPAs in Wales. In Pembrokeshire the relevant sites include The Pembrokeshire Marine SAC, The Cardigan Bay SAC and The Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC. Many of the features for which the sites have been designated are identified as being in an unfavourable conservation status. The Milford Haven Inner waterbody within the Pembrokeshire Marine SAC is failing for both chemical (Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN) and biological (phytoplankton and opportunistic macroalgae) indicators of nitrogen enrichment. Any development which would lead to an increase in nitrogen discharges directly to the Milford Haven Inner waterway or draining to the catchment leading to the Milford Haven Inner Waterway is required to demonstrate nutrient neutrality for nitrogen.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the strategy, policies and site allocations directs future development away from the affected SACs and water bodies. Officers will work with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water to ensure wastewater treatment works have adequate capacity for future development.

### The National Peatland Action Programme (NRW)

A 5 year plan of peatland restoration in Wales to address the nature and climate emergencies. The priorities are peatland erosion, peatland drainage, sustainable management of blanket peats, sustainable management of lowland peats, restoration of afforested peatlands and gradual restoration of highest carbon-peatlands. The Wales Peatland Data Portal provides information on peatland locations, supported habitats, carbon storage estimates and greenhouse gas emissions.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should protect existing peatlands from damage and encourage land use practices that maintain their long term resilience to contribute to carbon storage, biodiversity and water management.

### Valued and Resilient: The Welsh Government's Priorities for the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks, Welsh Government, July 2018

Outlines the Welsh Government's priorities for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and National Parks in Wales. Here are the key goals:

**1. Valued Places:**

- Engage diverse audiences beyond traditional stakeholders.
- Foster a sense of ownership and connection to these national landscapes.

**2. Resilient Environments:**

- Sustainable management of natural resources.
- Biodiversity conservation.
- Green energy and decarbonization.

**3. Resilient Communities:**

- Realize economic potential.
- Promote tourism and outdoor recreation.
- Support the Welsh language.

**4. Resilient Ways of Working:**

- Collaboration across landscapes.
- Innovation in resource allocation.

**LDP considerations:** The plan's strategy and policies should align with priorities by ensuring the protection and enhancement of the special qualities of the national park, its landscape and environment including its biodiversity. The plan should also promote resilient communities and address the longer term pressures on the landscape including climate change.

#### **Natural Resources Policy, Welsh Government, 2017**

Outlines priorities for sustainable management of Wales' natural resources. It focuses on land, sea, and air, aiming to enhance prosperity while improving the environment. Key points include:

1. **Economic and Environmental Objectives:** The NRP emphasizes that investing in natural resources is cost-effective and crucial for Wales' prosperity. It integrates economic and environmental goals.
2. **Sectors and Opportunities:** Industries like farming, forestry, fisheries, energy, and water directly use natural resources. The NRP identifies opportunities to enhance value chains and tap into growing markets, such as renewables and carbon.
3. **Brexit Considerations:** Given the EU-integrated framework regulating natural resources, Brexit poses challenges.

The NRP aims to support key sectors by improving processing capacity, maintaining quality standards, and more

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP embeds the sustainable management of natural resources throughout plan preparation and supports ecosystem resilience, climate adaptation, net benefit for biodiversity and ensure social and economic well-being including benefits for health and well-being.

#### **Habitat Wales Scheme (2024–2025)**

##### **Notes:**

This new agri-environment scheme supports farmers to manage land for biodiversity, carbon storage, and water quality. It replaces the Glastir Advanced scheme and supports the Sustainable Land Management framework.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP strategy and policies protect designated sites, important habitats and support connectivity.

#### **The Good Practice Guidance: Planning for the Conservation and Enhancement of Dark Skies, Welsh Government (2025)**

The Good Practice Guidance: Planning for the Conservation and Enhancement of Dark Skies in Wales provides a national framework to help planners, developers, and communities reduce light pollution and protect Wales' exceptional dark skies. It supports the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act and aligns with national planning policy, aiming to balance the need for lighting with the protection of biodiversity, heritage, and human health.

#### **Key Objectives**

- Conserve and enhance dark skies through planning and design.
- Reduce light pollution to protect biodiversity, human health, and cultural heritage.
- Promote energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.
- Support local planning authorities and developers with practical design principles.

### Good Practice Lighting Principles

- Only light where necessary – avoid over-lighting and clutter.
- Use the right light – warm colour temperatures ( $\leq 2700K$ ).
- Control lighting – use dimmers, timers, or motion sensors (PIR).
- Minimise brightness – no brighter than needed.
- Lower mounting heights – reduce light spill.
- Avoid lighting near wildlife – protect habitats and species.
- Limit internal light spill – especially in sensitive areas.

### Planning and Design Considerations

- Integrate dark sky principles into Local Development Plans (LDPs).
- Assess lighting impacts on landscape, biodiversity, and amenity.
- Apply guidance to residential, commercial, agricultural, heritage, and public realm lighting.
- Encourage retrofitting of existing lighting to meet dark sky standards.

### Benefits of Implementation

- Improved public health and well-being.
- Enhanced biodiversity and ecological resilience.
- Better quality of life and residential amenity.
- Support for tourism and cultural identity through stargazing and heritage.

**LDP considerations:** Develop a policy framework to conserve and enhance the darkest areas of the National Park by controlling external and internal lighting on new development and also contributing to a net benefit for biodiversity and climate mitigation.

### Wales Placemaking Charter (2020)

The Charter launched in 2020, was developed by the Welsh Government and the Design Commission for Wales in collaboration with the Placemaking Wales Partnership. It was developed to reflect the collective and individual commitment of organisations to support the creation of high-quality places across Wales. The Charter outlines six principles aimed at promoting quality, sustainability, and community in planning and development across Wales. These principles are; community involvement, sustainable locations, prioritising walking, cycling, and public transport, creating safe and welcoming public spaces, promoting a mix of uses, and respecting local identity. The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority is a joint signatory to the Placemaking Charter, alongside the other National Parks in Wales.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure policies set out criteria to achieve high design standards which respect the landscape character and capacity of the national park and contribute to local distinctiveness and placemaking, respecting the Park's natural, cultural and built heritage. Promote energy efficient and climate responsive design at an early stage in the design process through appropriate densities and patterns of development and nature based solutions including SuDS and green infrastructure.

#### **LGBTQ+ Action Plan for Wales (2023)**

The plan establishes a vision to make Wales the most LGBTQ+ friendly nation in Europe by tackling existing inequalities, challenge discrimination so LGBTQ+ people feel safe to live and love authentically, openly and freely as themselves. It includes a wide range of policy-specific actions relating to human rights, education, improving safety, housing, health and social care, sport, culture, and promoting community cohesion.

**LDP considerations:** The Plan will seek to develop a strategy and policies which directs growth to sustainable locations and supports opportunities for enhanced inclusivity through the provision of accessible services and facilities, access to transport, open space and appropriate housing.

#### **Regional:**

#### **Southwest Wales Corporate Joint Committee Corporate Plan**

Outlines the objectives and initiatives for the region, focusing on economic development, transport planning and sustainability. The vision is for the region to be resilient, sustainable and enterprising, achieving a net-zero carbon economy by 2050. It emphasizes the importance of digital infrastructure and tackling health and socio-economic inequalities.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP vision, objectives and strategy align with the plans for the southwest region.

#### **South West Wales Area Statement, Natural Resources Wales (on-going)**

The South West Wales Area Statements cover the Local Authority areas of Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire. It identifies the key risks, opportunities and priorities for building resilience of ecosystems and supporting the sustainable management of natural resources under four focus areas:

1. Reducing health inequalities by 1. Providing access to open green spaces and urban green infrastructure, 2 encouraging recreational activities and use of green and blue active travel and 3. Protecting the environment for our well-being

2. Ensuring sustainable land management through supporting agriculture and sustainable production, improving the quality and quantity of water, increasing carbon stores in soils and biomass, reversing the decline in biodiversity, reducing the risk of flooding and supporting secure and stable employment
3. Reversing the decline of, and enhancing biodiversity by ensuring we all understand the importance of and value nature, enhancing species and habitat connectivity and have appropriate expertise and good data to make informed decisions
4. Mitigating and adapting to climate change through ecosystem based approaches, improving air and addressing noise quality and more renewable energy.

Each section is supported by evidence that is presented on the Wales Environmental Information Portal.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP embeds the sustainable management of natural resources throughout plan preparation and supports ecosystem resilience, climate adaptation, net benefit for biodiversity and ensure social and economic well-being including benefits for health and well-being.

#### **[South West Wales – Stage 1 Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment \(2022\)](#)**

A Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment (SFCA) for Carmarthenshire County Council, Neath Port Talbot Council, Swansea County Council, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority. The stage 1 SFCA is a desk based study which collates existing information to undertake a broad assessment of potential flood risks across the entire study area from all sources of flooding. It identifies areas at potential high risk from flooding and provides details of historical flood events and details of flood risk management structures or procedures.

**LDP considerations:** Undertake an SFCA to assess flood risk of the Plan's strategy and policies.

#### **[Ceredigion Local Development Plan, Ceredigion County Council 2013 \(Adopted\)](#)**

#### **[Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan, Carmarthenshire County Council 2014 \(Adopted\)](#)**

#### **[Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033 Second Deposit Revised](#)**

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP is consistent with the priorities and strategy of neighbouring plans and undertake joint working where possible.

#### **[Carmarthenshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2024-2029](#)**

A flood risk management strategy for Carmarthenshire for managing climate change. The strategy promotes community resilience and well-being and seeks to enhance the natural environment with nature based solutions. The strategy fosters a community led approach.

#### **[Shoreline Management Plan 2, West of Wales Coastal Group](#)**

#### **[Shoreline Management Plan 2, Swansea and Carmarthen Bay Coastal Engineering](#)**

The Shoreline Management Plans are strategic plans for managing coastal flood risk along the west coast and south coast of Pembrokeshire over the next 100 years. The plan considers how coastal flood risk and erosion should be managed over the short term (epoch 1: 2005 to 2025), medium term (epoch 2: 2025 to 2055) and long term (epoch 3 2055 to 2105). The plan identifies different policy options:

- Hold the Line to maintain or change the existing standard of defence
- Advance the Line to build new defences seaward of the existing defences
- Managed Realignment to allow the shoreline to move landward or seaward in a planned way
- No Active Intervention where there is no new investment or intervention in sea defences and the coast can naturally evolve

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP takes account of the SMPs coastal risk and management approaches to inform the plan's strategy and policies to identify where development should be avoided or constrained.

#### [\*\*Western Wales River Basin Management Plan 2021-2027, Natural Resources Wales\*\*](#)

The **Western Wales River Basin Management Plan (2021-2027)** is a framework designed to protect and enhance the water environment in the Western Wales River Basin District to benefit both people and wildlife. It provides an overarching strategy for water management, covering rivers, lakes, canal, groundwaters, estuaries and coastal waters.

The plan summarises:

- Current state and existing condition of the water environment
- Pressures affecting the water environment
- Objectives and goals for water quality improvement and protection
- Measures and actions needed to achieve the objectives
- Progress highlights developments since the 2015 plan.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should align its growth strategy and policies to support the delivery of nature based solutions, habitat restoration and river catchment management.

#### [\*\*Natural Resources Wales Flood Risk Management Plan: South West Wales Place, Natural Resources Wales \(2023 – 2029\)\*\*](#)

The South West Wales Place Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) outlines strategies for managing flood risk in key areas across Wales from 2023 to 2029.

##### 1. Scope and Purpose:

- The FRMP covers all of Wales and addresses flood risk from rivers, reservoirs, and the sea.
- It provides information on the scale of flood risk and outlines priorities for managing flooding.

2. Actions and Measures:

- The plan proposes actions to mitigate flood risk at both national and local levels.
- It considers adaptation and climate change mitigation.

**LDP considerations:** The plan should direct growth away from areas at risk of flooding and ensure appropriate mitigation measures. The plan should support nature based solutions and climate change resilience.

**Celtic Freeport**

In September 2022, the UK and Welsh Governments invited proposals for Freeport(s) to be established in Wales. The successful Celtic Freeport bid was prepared by a public sector / private sector consortium comprising Associated British Ports, Neath-Port Talbot Council, Pembrokeshire County Council and the Port of Milford Haven. The Freeport's governance structures were established in 2023, with the final business case submitted and the Freeport designated in 2024. It is expected to generate significant economic benefits, including £900 million in Gross Value Added (GVA) by 2030 and £13 billion by 2050. This initiative represents a significant opportunity for Pembrokeshire, aligning with the aspirations of both the UK and Welsh Governments to drive energy transition and economic growth.

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should develop a suitable strategy and policies to direct economic growth to suitable, sustainable locations.

**Regional technical Statements for the North Wales and South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Parties (Second Review) September 2020**

The purpose of the RTS is to ensure that there is an adequate and steady supply of aggregates for the construction and other industries, taking into account the key objectives of the sustainable supply of minerals as set out in the Minerals Technical Advice Note 1 (MTAN1).

**South West Wales Energy Strategy (2022)**

The **South West Wales Regional Energy Strategy** outlines a bold vision for achieving a net zero carbon energy system by 2050, with a key milestone of reducing emissions by 55% by 2035. It is aligned with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and focuses on harnessing the region's rich renewable energy potential to create a prosperous, equitable, and sustainable future.

**Key Vision and Goals**

- Net zero by 2050, with a 55% emissions reduction by 2035.
- Aims to decarbonise electricity, heat, and transport sectors.
- Emphasises regional coordination, skills development, and economic growth.

**Strategic Priorities**

- **Energy Efficiency:**

- Insulate 161,000 homes.
- Install 78,000 heat pumps.
- **Electricity Generation:**
  - Expand offshore wind from 50MW to 696MW.
  - Add 800MW of onshore wind and 1,215MW of solar PV.
  - Develop 1,061MW of marine energy (e.g., tidal lagoon, floating offshore wind).
- **Smart and Flexible Systems:**
  - Support local energy generation and grid flexibility.
- **Heat Decarbonisation:**
  - Shift from fossil fuels to low-carbon heating (e.g., hydrogen, electrification).
- **Transport Decarbonisation:**
  - 78% of vehicles to be electric by 2035.
  - Promote public transport and active travel.
  - Develop hydrogen fuel cell EV refuelling infrastructure.

### **Economic and Environmental Impact**

- £4 billion investment required to meet the energy vision.
- Estimated creation of:
  - 12,500 net jobs and 3,700 gross jobs in energy efficiency.
  - 925 jobs in domestic heat.
- Energy consumption fell by 26% (2005–2017).
- Greenhouse gas emissions reduced by 14% since 1990.

### **Sectoral Emissions Reduction Targets by 2035**

- Domestic: 58%
- Commercial & Industrial: 56%
- Transport: 51%

This strategy positions South West Wales as a leader in the transition to a low-carbon economy, leveraging its natural resources and community strengths to deliver long-term environmental and economic benefits.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy, policies and proposals suitably respond to the climate emergency and the move to net zero by reducing the need to travel and encouraging active travel and public transport to reduce emissions, promoting low carbon development and energy efficient buildings, and supporting renewable energy where appropriate in the landscape and green infrastructure. This would also have health, equity, biodiversity and potential economic growth benefits.

## **South West Wales Regional Transport Plan (2025–2030), Corporate Joint Committee for South West Wales**

The South West Wales Regional Transport Plan (2025–2030) outlines a strategic vision for improving transport across Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, and Swansea:

“A transport system that drives sustainable economic growth, supports the decarbonisation of the transport system, and ensures efficient, accessible mobility within and beyond the region for all purposes.”

The plan aligns with National Transport Strategy and identifies six objectives:

- Improve active travel
- Support economic growth
- Align with the Welsh Government’s sustainable transport hierarchy
- Recognise the diverse communities and their varying transport needs
- Develop a connected, affordable, and accessible transport network.
- Make sustainable transport more available, attractive and affordable
- Promote sustainable travel choice.

The Plan contains 21 policies. Policy 6 ‘Rural Areas and Transport Provision’ recognises rural accessibility challenges with a strong focus on improving connectivity through Demand Responsive Transport and community transport. Policy 21: ‘Tourism and Transport’ aims to enhance tourist access and experience by enhancing opportunities for tourists to arrive by sustainable modes and use sustainable travel or charge ULEVs.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the strategy directs development to the most sustainable locations with access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel. Promote the sustainable transport hierarchy to give priority to meeting demand for travel by: active travel through walking and cycling throughout towns and villages; increase access to public transport and support charging infrastructure to ultra low emissions vehicles in appropriate locations. Support sustainable modes of travel for tourists. These measures will also support physical and mental health, reduce inequalities and contribute to net zero by decarbonising travel.

## **South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan (2020), South West Wales Local Authorities and Welsh Government**

The **South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan (2022)** outlines a strategic vision for transforming the region’s economy by 2030. It focuses on building a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable economy across Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, and Swansea. The plan responds to challenges like climate change, Brexit, and post-pandemic recovery, while leveraging the region’s strengths in energy, innovation, and natural assets.

The plan is structured around three missions that support its overarching ambitions:

- **Mission 1: Renewable Energy & Net Zero**

Position the region as a leader in green energy and industrial decarbonisation.

- **Mission 2: Resilient Business Base**

Strengthen SMEs, promote entrepreneurship, and support innovation.

- **Mission 3: Experience Economy**

Enhance tourism, culture, and quality of life to attract talent and investment.

### **Key Objectives**

- Develop a £3 billion project pipeline aligned with strategic missions.
- Support inclusive growth and reduce regional inequalities.
- Promote collaboration across public, private, and academic sectors.
- Align with the Well-being of Future Generations Act and Welsh Government frameworks.
- Foster innovation and sustainability in energy, business, and community development.

**LDP considerations:** The evidence base should assess current and future aspirations for the economy and inform the strategy and policies to support sustainable economic growth, vibrant town centres, regenerative tourism and diversification of the rural economy.

**Local:**

**[Pembrokeshire County Council Local Development Plan, Pembrokeshire County Council 2013 \(Adopted\)](#)**

**[Pembrokeshire County Council Deposit Local Development Plan 2 2024](#)**

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP is consistent with the priorities and strategy of neighbouring plans and undertake joint working where possible.

**[Partnership Plan 2025-2029,](#)**

**[Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority](#)**

The Partnership Plan provides a strategic framework to guide the collaborative efforts of key partners and stakeholders in conserving, enhancing and sustainably managing the National Park over the five years covered by the plan.

The plan aims to coordinate the work of various stakeholders including public bodies, communities, and individuals, and deliver on the statutory purposes of the National Park: conservation, public enjoyment, and understanding.

The plan is structured around four core themes:

**1. Conservation**

- Protect and enhance the Park's landscapes, biodiversity, and cultural heritage.
- Address threats such as habitat loss, pollution, and invasive species.

**2. Connection**

- Foster deeper public engagement with nature and heritage.
- Improve access and inclusivity, ensuring all communities can enjoy and benefit from the Park.

**3. Climate and Natural Resources**

- Support climate resilience and adaptation.
- Promote sustainable land and marine resource management.
- Encourage low-carbon practices and nature-based solutions.

**4. Communities**

- Strengthen local communities through sustainable development.
- Support well-being, economic opportunities, and cultural identity.
- Encourage active participation in decision-making and stewardship.

**LDP Considerations:** The Partnership Plan and the LDP are two statutory plans for the National Park and the LDP strategy and policies should support the vision, objectives and actions set out in the Partnership Plan. The LDP should align and promote the actions identified in the Partnership Plan over the four core themes of conservation, connection, climate and natural resources and communities.

## **National Park Authority Corporate Plan 23/24-26/27**

The NPA Corporate Plan sets out the corporate well-being objectives (a requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations Act) and the steps required to support the delivery of the objectives and how the Authority will apply the sustainable development principle five ways of working in authority activities.

### **Well-being plan for Pembrokeshire (2023)**

The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires Public Service Boards to produce a Well-being Plan, which details how it will improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their respective areas. The process of developing a Well-being Plan begins with a Well-being assessment to gather baseline data and understand the issues, this process then informs the development of the Well-being Objectives.

The Pembrokeshire Well-being Plan has the following vision:

“to unlock the power and potential of Pembrokeshire’s people and communities so that they are happy, healthy and live well, our communities are kind, safe, resourceful and vibrant, our economy is green and thriving, and our environment is protected and enhanced.”

Four well-being objectives are identified to act as the framework through which the PSB prioritises key areas of focus in the well-being plan. The four objectives are:

- Support growth, jobs and prosperity and enable the transition to a more sustainable and greener economy
- Work with our communities to reduce inequalities and improve well-being
- Promote and support initiatives to deliver decarbonisation, manage climate adaptation and tackle the nature emergency
- Enable safe, connected, resourceful and diverse communities

The Well-being Plan will be delivered through a number of project plans and actions to meet the well-being objectives: Reducing poverty and inequalities – the plan has headline actions to utilise short term funding to respond to the cost of living crisis and develop a poverty strategy

Strengthening Communities – the plan will build a better understanding of our bilingual communities, increase engagement and involvement across Pembrokeshire’s communities and build the confidence, capacity and capability of communities.

Biodiversity and the Nature Emergency - raise the profile of and change the way we think about acting for biodiversity and the role that all PSB partners have in tackling the nature crisis and work collaboratively to deliver actions identified in the Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) for Pembrokeshire.

Climate Adaptation – coordinate the implementation of the Climate Adaptation Strategy for Pembrokeshire.

Decarbonisation and Net Zero – work together to share good practice, deliver carbon reduction actions and reduce carbon use to net zero by 2030 and monitor and support delivery of the Pembrokeshire Local Area Energy Plan (LEAP)

**LDP Considerations:** Ensure the LDP aligns with the well-being goals and the objectives and actions identified in the Well-being Plan for Pembrokeshire of strengthening bilingual communities to support jobs and prosperity and tackle inequalities, and also tackle the climate and nature emergencies.

#### **[Tackling Poverty: Our Strategy 2023, Pembrokeshire Public Services Board](#)**

The strategy responds to evidence of high rates of child poverty in Pembrokeshire. The strategy identifies key drivers that create poverty which includes costs of childcare, transport and employment. The vision is for partners to work better together to support people impacted by poverty so preventative action is taken. The strategy includes an action plan focused on prevention.

**LDP Considerations:** Ensure the LDP vision, objectives, strategy, policies and proposals provide appropriate housing, including affordable housing in accessible locations with access to employment opportunities and services and facilities including childcare, health centres, education and work.

#### **[Pembrokeshire Climate Adaptation Strategy 2022](#)**

The Pembrokeshire Climate Adaptation Strategy has been developed by the Pembrokeshire Public Services Board (PSB) and its partners. The Strategy seeks to address anticipated climate change impacts and build resilience of Pembrokeshire over a five year period between 2022 and 2027. The strategy considers multiple climate risks that may affect the local economy, natural environment, infrastructure, communities and well-being and seeks to adapt to climate change impacts, including severe weather and sea level rises.

The strategy identifies four key themes:

- People and communities
- Natural environment
- Built environment
- Economy and infrastructure.

Across the four themes, there are 39 climate adaptation priorities which serve as a checklist for decision-making and forward planning in Pembrokeshire. The strategy also identifies 24 specific climate adaptation actions to enhance climate resilience across different areas, including infrastructure, communities, natural environment, agriculture, business and industry.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy, policies and proposals suitably respond to the climate emergency and directs development away from areas at risk of flooding and coastal erosion and consider climate mitigation, adaptation and environmental protection and enhancement.

### **Milford Haven 5 Year Recreation Management Plan, Port of Milford Haven 2021**

The “**Milford Haven 5 Year Recreation Management Plan**” is a 5 year plan to enhance the recreational opportunities within the Milford Haven Waterway. This collaborative approach involves planning, monitoring, and managing the Haven’s recreational offerings. [The plan provides clear guidance on how the Port of Milford Haven actively supports waterborne visitors throughout the year<sup>1</sup>.](#)

Key aspects of the plan include:

1. Enhancing Pilotage Capability: The MHPA aims to expand its world-class pilotage services.
2. Developing Milford Haven as a Destination: The goal is to establish Milford Haven as a leading place to live, visit, play, and enjoy.
3. Renewable Energy Hub: The MHPA seeks to develop existing multi-purpose port operations and establish Pembroke Port as one of the UK’s premier renewable energy hubs.
4. Early Phase Hospitality Offer: [Plans are underway to create an early-phase hospitality offering.](#)

The plan outlines actions driven by the MHPA and its partners to ensure appropriate recreational facilities are accessible for those who wish to enjoy the Haven.

**LDP Considerations:** Ensure the LDP promotes regenerative tourism and sustainable recreation to actively restore or enhance the National Parks landscape, biodiversity, and cultural heritage and have wider benefits for health and wellbeing. Policies will protect water quality and designated sites.

### **A Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Pembrokeshire, Pembrokeshire Biodiversity Partnership**

**Notes:** The Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Pembrokeshire (LBAP) is the primary mechanism by which the NPA will contribute to the UKBAP arising from the Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity. Planning and implementation is coordinated by the Pembrokeshire Biodiversity Partnership, a group of 14 organisations that includes the NPA, and there will continue to be complete integration of the LBAP with relevant sections of the NPMP. The LBAP is a key means for 'joining up' conservation action and for enabling partners to take a broad view of conservation measures required. Influencing management on non partner-owned sites and securing finance for additional projects.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy and policies on the natural environment and its resources including priority habitats and species contribute to an interconnected and resilient natural environment and deliver wider benefits for health, equality and prosperity.

### **[Nature Recovery Action Plan for Pembrokeshire: Our Strategy for Nature Recovery, Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership \(2018\)](#)**

The Nature Recovery Action Plan for Pembrokeshire highlights the key pressures on nature in the county and directs Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership members and to suggested actions that can be carried out to tackle those pressures within the context of legislation. It is intended to stimulate ideas, direct conservation effort and provide hooks for local projects and actions.

Themes for action are set out under six strategy objectives:

1. Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels
2. Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management
3. Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation
4. Tackle key pressures on species and habitats
5. Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring
6. Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery

**LDP considerations:** The LDP should protect and enhance protected sites and connect habitats. The LDP should integrate nature recovery, ecosystem resilience, climate mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and promote access to green infrastructure to ensure social and economic well-being including benefits for health and reducing inequalities.

### **[Pembrokeshire's Local Area Energy Plan 2022](#)**

The vision for Pembrokeshire's energy system is to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 and a UK home of green energy. The plan sets out the nature, scale, rate and timings of changes needed to transition to a net zero energy system. The priority intervention areas include: retrofit whole buildings; develop local onshore renewables; decarbonise transport; deploy heat pumps, reinforce electricity distribution network, decarbonise industry and pilot electrolyser and hydrogen villages. The strategy is accompanied by a technical report [Pembrokeshire LAEP](#) and route map [Pembrokeshire LAEP.pdf](#)

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan's strategy, policies and proposals suitably respond to the climate emergency and the move to net zero by reducing the need to travel and encouraging active travel and public transport to reduce emissions, promoting low carbon development and energy efficient buildings, and supporting renewable energy where appropriate in the landscape and green infrastructure. This would also have health, equity, biodiversity and potential economic growth benefits.

## [\*\*Pembrokeshire Destination Management Plan 2024-28\*\*](#)

The plan states tourism was worth £594 million in 2022 and attracted 6.6 million visitors, providing 22.9% of the local employment. The plan recognises the visitor economy should:

- Benefit local communities generating sustainable livelihoods and income opportunities
- Protect cultural identify and traditions (including language, arts and heritage)
- Support the circular economy
- Conserve the environment
- Be inclusive to all

The Plan has an ambition to “grow tourism for the good of Pembrokeshire” with a vision “to be a global leader in regenerative tourism”. The strategic priorities include: regenerative, events and seasonality, wellbeing and active, shared narrative and brand and brilliant basics. The plan identifies a number of actions to support an integrated sustainable public transport system

**LDP considerations:** Promote tourism development to become more regenerative that actively restores or enhances the National Parks landscape, biodiversity, and cultural heritage and has wider benefits for health and wellbeing.

## [\*\*Local Housing Market Assessment for Pembrokeshire 2023, Pembrokeshire County Council, agreed by Welsh Government 2025\*\*](#)

Pembrokeshire County Council as the Housing Authority has undertaken a review of local housing needs in Pembrokeshire, including the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. The LHMA follows the new prescribed methodology and template published by Welsh Government. The LHMA Toolkit calculates the need for future affordable and market housing utilising evidence of existing unmet affordable housing need from the Housing Register and estimates newly arising need for both affordable and market tenures. The LHMA considered six scenarios; three demographic scenarios based on the Welsh Government’s household projections and three LDP growth scenarios. The results show:

- A significant existing, unmet affordable need, which is substantially larger than the forecast newly arising need.
- The majority of affordable housing need is for social rented properties
- A substantial need for affordable, one-bedroom properties

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan sets a target for affordable housing delivery and the plan’s strategy, site allocations and policies maximise opportunities to deliver affordable housing to meet the local need.

## [Housing strategy 2024-2029, Pembrokeshire County Council](#)

The Local Housing Strategy for Pembrokeshire was published in 2023 and focuses on the following areas:

1. Increasing affordable housing
2. Prevent and alleviate homelessness
3. Improving the quality and sustainability of housing
4. Support people to live independent living
5. Reduce the carbon footprint of housing stock by 2033

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the plan sets a target for affordable housing delivery and the plan's strategy, site allocations and policies maximise opportunities to deliver affordable housing to meet the local need in accessible locations to reduce carbon emissions.

## [Pembrokeshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2019 – Approved by Welsh Government May 2024](#)

The Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) 2019 for Pembrokeshire identified an immediate need for 9 new residential pitches to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers by the end of 2024. The GTAA 2019 estimates a need for a further 30 pitches from 2025 to 2033, totaling a requirement of 39 pitches by the end of 2033. The general locations of areas of need are in the south of Pembrokeshire.

**LDP considerations:** The Authority will work with Pembrokeshire County Council as the Housing Authority to ensure the accommodation needs for Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople is met.

## [Cleddau Nutrient Management Plan and Teifi Nutrient Management Plan, West Wales Nutrient Management Boards 2025](#)

The Cleddau and Teifi Nutrient Management Plans aim to address nutrient pollution, particularly phosphates in the riverine Special Areas of Conservation. The plans identify pollution hotspots and guide targeted mitigation through improved wastewater treatment, sustainable land management and nature based solutions in order to enable development.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the strategy, policies and site allocations directs future development away from the affected SACs and water bodies or that nutrient neutrality can be demonstrated through suitable mitigation. Officers will work with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water to ensure wastewater treatment works have adequate capacity for future development.

### **Article 4(1) Direction for 28 day sites for camping, caravans and mobile homes**

The National Park Authority confirmed the introduction of an Article 4(1) Direction to remove permitted development rights for the use of land for up to 28 days for camping, caravans and mobile homes, effective from 1 January 2026.

**LDP considerations:** Ensure the LDP's strategy and policies balance the economic benefits of tourism while protecting the National Park's landscape, special qualities and its communities.

### **Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2023-2028, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park**

This Strategy sets out how Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority will promote the Welsh Language through its work and areas of influence. The Strategy sets out three objectives for the Authority in the promotion of the Welsh Language over the coming five years:

Objective 1 - Promoting use of Welsh every day across the Authority, by staff, Members and volunteers

Objective 2- Promoting use of Welsh every day across our services, projects and activities, by the public and service users

Objective 3: Promoting use of Welsh every day across all parts of the National Park

**LDP considerations:** The LDP evidence base will identify Welsh Language Sensitive Areas where language is sensitive or significant. The strategy and policies will be sensitive to the needs of Welsh speaking communities, particularly with regard to appropriate housing, community infrastructure and employment opportunities. The likely effects of the LDP on the Welsh language will be assessed through the sustainability appraisal and the Welsh Language Impact Assessment.