



Summary of Issues from Public Consultation Events

Development Plans

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Summary of Issues from Public Consultation Events

1.0 Introduction

In order to meet the requirement for soundness, the production of the LDP needs to be informed by robust evidence. As part of this, it is necessary to identify the main issues that the LDP should address. Therefore as part of the LDP process a range of consultation events have been carried out with stakeholders and the general public to establish their views on the main issues facing the Plan area.

These include:

- Members Seminars – engaging Council Members
- Area Liaison Forums – engaging with Town and Community Councils
- County Shows – engaging with the public and landowners
- Youth Seminar – engaging with young people
- Stakeholder Meetings – engaging with key stakeholders
- Specific Interest Meetings – engaging with Environment Agency Wales on specific topics
- LDP Liaison Meetings with adjoining Authorities – engaging with Carmarthenshire County Council, Ceredigion County Council and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

The information gathered from these consultation events will help inform the LDP. The next section summarises the consultation events that have taken place. A consultation matrix is included as Appendix A. This demonstrates which issues were identified in different consultation events.

1.1 Members Seminars

A series of Members Seminars were held to involve Members in the LDP process. The first Seminar was held on 25th September 2006. This provided a general introduction to LDPs and facilitated group discussions about general issues facing the County. On 11th June 2007, group sessions were held with Members asking for ideas on an overall vision for Pembrokeshire. A Members Seminar was held on 21st January 2008. This consisted of groups discussing issues that currently face Pembrokeshire as a whole, and identifying specific local issues that have emerged under the Joint Unitary Development Plan. During 2009 three Members Seminars were held on 26th January, 28th July and 27th November. These comprised a discussion of the Preferred Strategy and the Initial Sustainability Report, feedback on representations received and feedback on changes to the Preferred Strategy. A further Members Seminar was held on 12th February 2010 and consisted of a detailed presentation and break out discussion groups which introduced the Deposit Plan policy direction.

1.2 Area Liaison Forums

The LDP team attended a series of meetings with Area Liaison Forums in order to liaise with both Town and Community Councils. The first round of meetings ran from February 2007 to June 2007, where LDP team members provided a short introduction to Local Development Plans before the floor was opened to a general discussion of broad issues facing communities and which of these the LDP could address. Throughout June and July 2008, a second round of Area Liaison Forums were attended. At these meetings the Candidate Site process was discussed as well as feedback on the evidence gathering process and what background information had been gathered by PCC. Information about the Delivery Agreement and ongoing work programmes of the LDP team was also given. A third round of Area Liaison Forums was attended in March 2009. At this point the Preferred Strategy had been released and a presentation was given on its contents, along with an explanation of how Community Councils could respond to the public consultation. A fourth round of meetings ran from September 2009 to December 2009. Fourth rounds of Area Liaison Forums were attended between September 2009 and December 2009. Feedback from the consultation on the Preferred Strategy was given as well as an update on the process.

1.3 County Show

The LDP team organised a stand at the 2007, 2008 and 2009 Pembrokeshire County Agricultural Show to raise public awareness of the LDP. The stand consisted of several information boards, photographs and numerous leaflets regarding planning and the LDP process, the Delivery Agreement and timetable and the latest edition of LDP Newsletter. In 2007 the public were invited to write up issues that the LDP should address on an issue board. In 2008, a copy of each of the 1100 Candidate Sites that had been submitted was available for the public to view, and many people came to look at which sites had been submitted in their area. To attract people and publicise the LDP in both years, notepads and pencils containing the LDP logo, website and e-mail addresses, were given out to everyone visiting the stand. The stand also offered the opportunity for people to become involved in the LDP process by placing their details onto a database of names and addresses, several dozen people joined our consultation database during the 3 days. With estimated numbers of people visiting the LDP stand reaching nearly 600 for both years, public interest in the LDP was significant and general feedback was positive.

The 2009 County Show was the 225th Pembrokeshire County Show, and attracted a record number of visitors totalling 102,000 people over the 3-days. The stand consisted of several information boards, photographs and numerous leaflets regarding National and Local Planning Policy, the LDP and its associated Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal. The general feedback from the public on the Planning Department's stand was very positive. Many people stopped to ask questions about Planning in general, and more specifically about the emerging LDP, how they may become involved in the process, what stage the Candidate Sites have reached, and how they may be involved in commenting in the future. The Development Plans team took the contact details of 10 people to add to the consultation database during the show, directing many more to the new consultation section of our website (Swift). The show was also used as a showcase for consultation on Pembrokeshire's Affordable Housing Delivery Statement, and also to distribute information on emerging national policy, including TAN 6 – Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities.

1.4 Youth Seminar

A Youth Seminar was organised in County Hall on 5th March 2008. A total of 27 students attended the event from various secondary schools throughout the County. The students were welcomed by the Council's Cabinet Member for Young People and a short introduction to the Planning system followed. Students then took part in group sessions where they were invited to give feedback on the main issues that they felt were facing Pembrokeshire and those that they thought the Local Development Plan should address. Students also took part in a planning exercise which asked them to consider how much new housing might be required in a particular settlement and to draw possible increased settlement boundaries. This was followed by a discussion of the constraints that arose from looking at the issues.

1.5 Stakeholder Meetings

The first round of stakeholder meetings was held in 2007 providing a general introduction to the LDP and discussing issues that the stakeholders felt were significant to Pembrokeshire. The following groups met:

- Utilities and Infrastructure Stakeholder Group - 20th March 2008
- Community, Services and Culture Stakeholder Group – 20th March 2008
- Housing Stakeholder Group - 25th March 2008
- Environment Stakeholder Group - 25th March 2008

A second stakeholder meeting was held on 8th December 2008. The day was split into a mixture of presentations and groups discussions on the Vision, Objectives and Strategic Options. A total of 36 individuals attended the event, representing a range of different organisations and interests some of which were: Community Council Umbrella organisations, CCW, Environment Agency, Housing Associations, Local Builders and Estate Agents, representatives of local business, larger employers such as the Refineries, the Trunk Roads Agency, Highways, Dwr Cymru, Association of Voluntary Services, Local Charities, different representatives from the WAG and the local NHS Trust.

A third stakeholder meeting was held on the 10th February 2010. A total of 14 individuals attended the event, representing a range of different organisations and interests some of which were: Environment Agency Wales, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority,

Welsh Assembly Government, South West Wales Economic Forum, Countryside Council for Wales, Job Centre Plus as well as representatives from PCC housing, education and transport and environment divisions. The day was organised into a morning session comprising a presentation which provided Stakeholders with feedback on the Preferred Strategy and an update on the emerging Plan. The afternoon consisted of three group sessions discussing topics such as development in rural Pembrokeshire; residential development and the Settlement Hierarchy; development scenarios and the Economy.

1.6 Specific Interest Meetings

Meetings between PCC and EA Wales were held on 15th July 2008 and 21st October 2008 to discuss issues such including Strategic Flood Consequences Assessments, Sewerage Infrastructure Issues and Water Cycle Assessments.

1.7 LDP Liaison Meetings with adjacent Authorities

Several meetings have been held with Ceredigion County Council, Carmarthenshire County Council and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority to discuss LDP directions, cross-boundary working and approaches to Candidate Sites. A series of further meetings between Pembrokeshire County Council and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority were held to discuss LDP issues. These included topic based meetings, high-level group meetings attended by senior officers as well as meetings with PCNPA's LDP and Management Plan External Key Stakeholder Panel.

For a full schedule of consultation event summaries see Appendix B.

1.8 Most Frequently Raised Issues

From each of the public consultation events summarised above, a whole range of issues have been raised. These are shown in Appendix A – Consultation Matrix. The issues most frequently raised by key stakeholders taking part in the public consultation events included affordable housing, the scale and location of growth, rural services, regenerating town centres, employment opportunities, public transport, open/green space, renewable energy and climate change. These nine most frequently raised issues covered a wide range of important issues from each of the following four broad categories:

1. Sustainable communities;

2. A strong rural and urban economy;
3. Infrastructure, transport and accessibility; and
4. Environment.

It is also important to note that along with all the aforementioned issues, the consultation events have raised a number of other important issues that are highlighted within the consultation matrix.

1.9 Conclusion

The issues raised by key stakeholders in the public consultation events will be taken forward and incorporated into an analysis of issues and objectives for the Draft Preferred Strategy. These are shown in the consultation matrix as the Draft Preferred Strategy issues.

To summarise, the following issues were the most commonly mentioned by key stakeholders across all of the consultation events:

Score (number of consultation events identifying issues)	Issues Raised
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing • Scale and location of growth • Rural services • Regenerate town centres • Employment opportunities • Public transport • Open/green space • Renewable energy • Climate change
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second/ holiday homes • Community facilities • Sport and leisure opportunities • Retail provision/ opportunities • Industrial/ port activities • Traffic • Sewerage capacity/ drainage issues • Built heritage

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape impacts • PCNPA
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ageing population • High quality, sustainable design • Gypsy sites • Lifelong learning and training • Settlement boundaries • Mixed use schemes • Farm diversification • Visitor economy • Brownfield development • Camping/ caravan sites • Car parking • ICT links • Energy efficiency • Recycling facilities • Flooding • Local distinctiveness • Minerals • Waste management • Water conservation • Section 106 contributions

The key stakeholders that participated in the public consultation events of the Local Development Plan consider the following land use issues to be of primary importance in Pembrokeshire:

- Lack of affordable housing to meet local needs;
- Scale and location of growth that is appropriate to the County;
- Loss of rural services;
- Poorly performing town centres;
- Lack of employment opportunities in rural communities;
- Poor public transport;
- Access to adequate recreational open/ green space;
- Meeting national targets for renewable energy; and
- Addressing climate change.

Although a scientific method of analysis has not been employed, it can be assumed that the more commonly raised issues are those that are of primary importance to key stakeholders and which they would like to see addressed by the LDP.

2.0 Pembrokeshire Residents Survey 2007

Wavehill Consulting was commissioned by Pembrokeshire Community Planning Group in the autumn of 2007 to undertake a residents' survey. The purpose of this survey was to inform the development of the subsequent Community Plan by capturing the view of the County's residents on a range of issues, and identifying key priorities from the results of the survey. The Wavehill survey provides a useful benchmark through which to examine how closely the issues identified in various LDP Public Consultation Events match up against the issues raised by the broader group of Pembrokeshire residents.

Respondents to the Wavehill Residents Survey were asked to identify and rank five key priorities:

Think about the range of public services provided in the County, such as health, housing, education, transport, economic development and the environment. In order of importance rank five of the following areas that you feel should be priorities in the County over the next five years.

This important question appeared at the beginning of the questionnaire in order that the 'headline priorities' of respondents were not influenced by any perceived emphasis in the structure and content of subsequent questions. There was also space for respondents to add their own priority if they felt that the list did not include an issue that was important to them and that they wished to rank. A total 779 responses were collected from across the County.

The top five priorities, in order of overall popularity, were:

1. Providing more affordable housing
2. Reducing crime
3. Encouraging people to live healthier lifestyles
4. Protecting the natural environment and landscape

5. Securing well paid jobs for the County

2.1 Comparing the Issues Identified

It is evident that the top five priorities identified by the Wavehill Residents Survey largely reflect the four broad categories of issues identified by the public consultation events:

1. Sustainable communities;
2. A strong rural and urban economy;
3. Infrastructure, transport and accessibility; and
4. Environment.

The need to provide affordable housing and secure employment opportunities have been identified by both the Residents Survey and key stakeholders from the consultation events as key issues and priorities for the County. These two key issues are followed by issues of an environmental and social nature, and in particular issues affecting communities.

Appendix A in the next pages provides a breakdown of the issues which were identified by key stakeholders in the LDP Public Consultation Events.

Appendix A – Consultation Matrix

Key Issues	Area Liaison Forum Meetings	Youth Seminar	County Shows	Stakeholder Meetings	Members Seminars	Specific Interest Meetings & Liaison Meetings with adjacent Authorities
1. Sustainable Communities						
Lack of affordable housing to meet local needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Implications of an ageing population	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Implications of increasing numbers of second/ holiday homes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Scale and location of growth that is appropriate to the county	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Adequacy of gypsy and traveller accommodation – demand exceeding capacity	✓			✓	✓	✓
Inadequate school provisions – impact of falling numbers				✓	✓	✓
Restricted opportunities for continued education/ adult learning and training	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Lack of community facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Loss of rural services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Structural changes to health/ social care provision	✓			✓	✓	
Lack of sport and leisure opportunities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sustaining Welsh language and culture	✓			✓	✓	
Reducing crime	✓				✓	
Settlement boundaries – infill/ rounding off	✓	✓		✓	✓	

Appendix A – Consultation Matrix

Mixed use schemes	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Health or social inequalities		✓		✓	✓	
Homeless population				✓	✓	
In Migration	✓			✓		
2. A Strong Rural and Urban Economy						
Poorly performing town centres	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lack of retail provision/ opportunities	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Structural changes in the agricultural industry – farm diversification	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Lack of employment opportunities in rural communities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Loss of skilled young people from the county	✓			✓	✓	
Underperforming visitor economy	✓			✓	✓	✓
Need to expand industrial/ port activities	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Need to meet local, regional and national demand for minerals – a significant economic resource	✓			✓	✓	✓
The need to ensure food security	✓			✓		
Low wage levels/ Seasonality of jobs	✓				✓	
Demand for home working/ live work units	✓			✓	✓	
Demand for and need to upgrade camping/ caravan accommodation	✓			✓	✓	✓
Inadequate and/or inappropriate skills base in the local workforce	✓			✓		
3. Infrastructure, Transport and Accessibility						

Appendix A – Consultation Matrix

Poor public transport	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Limited car parking	✓	✓			✓	✓
Impact of traffic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
The need to reduce travel				✓	✓	
Infrastructure constraints on scale and location of new development - sewerage capacities/ drainage issues	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Limited role of the airport	✓		✓	✓		
Variable quality and availability of ICT infrastructure – broadband internet coverage and quality	✓	✓		✓	✓	
The need to maintain and improve rail links	✓	✓			✓	
Inadequate local access to, from and within the County				✓		✓
The need to reduce and appropriately manage waste	✓			✓	✓	✓
The need to identify locations and make provision for recycling facilities		✓	✓	✓		✓
4. Environment						
Efficient use of resources		✓	✓	✓	✓	
The need for high quality, sustainable design to improve the environment and people's health/well being	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Access to adequate recreational open/ green space	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Appendix A – Consultation Matrix

Meeting national targets for renewable energy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Effects of Climate change	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flooding		✓	✓	✓		✓
Impact of pollution on the environment and people's health/well being				✓		
Loss of and threats to heritage assets	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Erosion of local distinctiveness	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Loss of and threats to species and habitats	✓	✓		✓		
Impact of development on landscape and environment	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Brownfield land prioritised for development over Greenfield land	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Improving water quality and conservation	✓			✓	✓	✓
5. Other						
Section 106 contributions	✓			✓	✓	✓
Collaboration with PCNPA	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

Schedule of Public Consultation Events

This schedule provides a list of the detailed notes available for consultation events that have taken place as part of the LDP process.

Members Seminars

- Members' Seminar, 25th September 2006 – Summary.
- Members Seminar 11th June 2007 – Vision Statement ideas.
- Members' Seminar 21st January 2008 – Summary of issues.
- Members' Seminar 26th January 2009 – briefing and discussion of the Preferred Strategy and the Initial Sustainability Report.
- Members' Seminar 28th July 2009 – feedback on representations received on the Preferred Strategy.
- Members' Seminar 27th November 2009 – feedback on Preferred Strategy changes, introduction to the hierarchy and further discussions on the broad strategy.
- Members' Seminar 12th February 2010 – detailed policy presentation to introduce policy direction in advance of the Deposit Plan and breakout discussion groups.

First Area Liaison Forum Meetings

- South West Pembrokeshire Area Liaison Forum Meeting 27th February 2007
- North East Area Liaison Forum Meeting 15th March 2007
- North Area Liaison Forum Meeting 12th April 2007
- Mid Pembrokeshire Area Liaison Forum Meeting 21st May 2007
- South East Area Liaison Forum Meeting 23rd May 2007
- South Area Liaison Forum Meeting 11th June 2007
- Additional follow up meeting with South West Area Liaison Forum Meeting 26th February 2008

Second Area Liaison Forum Meetings

- North East Area Liaison Forum Meeting 23rd June 2008
- Mid Pembrokeshire Area Liaison Forum Meeting 23rd June 2008
- North Area Liaison Forum Meeting 26th June 2008
- South West Area Liaison Forum Meeting 15th July 2008

Third Area Liaison Forum Meetings

- South West Area Liaison Forum 17th March 2009
- South East Area Liaison Forum 18th March 2009
- North Area Liaison Forum 24th March 2009
- North East Area Liaison Forum 23rd March
- Mid Pembrokeshire 24th March 2009
- South Area Liaison Forum 31st March 2009

Fourth Area Liaison Forum Meetings

- South West Area Liaison Forum – 21st September 2009 at Milford Haven Town Hall.

Appendix B – Schedule of Consultation Events

- Mid Pembrokeshire Area Liaison Forum – 7th December 2009 at County Hall Haverfordwest.
- North East Area Liaison Forum – 3rd December 2009 at Crymych Learning Centre.
- North Area Liaison Forum – 7th December 2009 at St. David's.
- South Area Liaison Forum – 24th November 2009 at Hundleton.
- South East Area Liaison Forum – 16th December 2009 at Penally.

County Show

- County Show 14th-16th August 2007 summary review and issues board comments
- County Show 19th-21st August 2008 summary review
- County Show 18th-20th August 2009 summary review

Youth Seminar - 5th March 2008 summary of issues and feedback

Youth Zone corporate website - link set up to LDP pages 27th June 2007

Youth Zone Magazine - Winter 2008 issue, an article on the LDP published to raise awareness amongst this age group.

Stakeholder Meetings

- **First Round Stakeholder Meetings**
 - Utilities and Infrastructure Stakeholder Group Meeting 20th March 2008
 - Community, Services and Culture Stakeholder Group Meeting 20th March 2008
 - Housing Stakeholder Group Meeting 25th March 2008
 - Environment Stakeholder Group Meeting 25th March 2008
- **Second Stakeholder Meeting (14th – 8th December 2008)**
 - Vision, Objectives and Options Discussion Paper
- **Third Stakeholder Meeting (10th February 2010)**
 - Feedback on Preferred Strategy, update on the emerging Plan and group discussion sessions

LDP Newsletters

- Edition 1 – 1st November 2007
- Edition 2 – 2nd August 2008
- Edition 3 – March 2009
- Edition 4 – August 2009

Specific Interest Meetings

- PCC and EA Wales Meeting - 15th July 2008
- PCC and EA Wales Meeting - 21st October 2008

LDP Liaison Meetings with adjacent Authorities

Meeting with Ceredigion County Council, Carmarthenshire County Council re: LDP directions, cross-boundary working and approaches to Candidate Sites - 28th November 2008.

Appendix B – Schedule of Consultation Events

Meeting with Ceredigion County Council and PCNPA (via phone link) held on 21st October 2009 at Aberaeron.

Meetings between PCC and PCNPA

- **PCNPA's LDP and Management Plan External Key Stakeholder Panel** (EKSP) - 11th June 2007, 6th November 2007, 8th May 2008, 7th November 2008, 29th September 2009.
- **High-level group (senior officers)** 13th August 2008, 30th September 2008, 25th November 2008, 20th January 2009, 27th May 2009, 15th September 2009, 8th December 2009.
- **Topic Specialists** – Housing 30th July 2008
Planning Obligations 10th June 2008
Employment 11th September 2008
Waste 15th September 2008
Minerals 19th August 2008, 18th November 2008, 10th February 2009
Retail 24th July 2008
Tourism 18th August 2008
Harbours 23rd July 2008 and 11th September 2008
Renewable Energy 16th September 2008
Highways 11th August 2008, 23rd September 2008

Key Service Providers

- Initial Consultation with Key Service Providers likely to have LDP Land Requirements – December 2007