

Day 6 **1330 hours**
SESSION 13 **SECURING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
(environmental assets, water quality, flood risk, climate change)

CCW has been invited to present a paper on the Usk Bat Sites SAC. This will be circulated to all parties invited to this session.

1. How has the Plan translated national policies into local action and does it provide adequate policy support for protecting the borough's environmental assets? Would the Plan be unsound if SSSIs and LNRs were not shown on the supporting proposals map?
2. What constraints are there on development within the county given its proximity to the Usk Bat Sites SAC and other European designated sites (Cwm Clydach Woodlands, Aberbargoed Grasslands; Sugar Loaf Woodlands)?
3. What is the likely cumulative effect of developing a range of sites for employment use (for example, MU1; EMP1.5 - Rassau Platform B; and EMP1.8 - Crown Business Park Platform A) and transport projects (for example, T6.1) on the commuting and foraging opportunities for bats? Does the Plan provide sufficient policy guidance to address any significant potential impact such development might have on protected species?
4. What is the purpose of Policy DM5? What does it seek to achieve that is not covered by other policies?
5. What plans are in place to increase the amount of the county's electricity and heat requirements from renewable and low/ zero carbon technologies to support Policy SP7? Should the Plan make site allocations for new renewable and low/ zero carbon development including wind energy? Should the Plan require development sites (e.g., MU1) to deliver on site energy through microgeneration to meet the needs of future residents and workers?
6. Does Policy SP7 provide sound guidance on when it may be appropriate to release greenfield land for new development?
7. Why has a new criterion (b) been added to Policy DM3? Does FC criterion (c) of this policy repeat Policy DM1?
8. Is there any conflict between the siting of development and infrastructure identified in the Plan and the areas of flood risk identified as Zone C (refer TAN 15)?
9. Do Policies SP10 and DM3 provide clear guidance on how development should aspire to improve water quality and protect and enhance the county's natural environment?

Optional attendees for Questions 3 and 5 relating to Site MU1: Newbridge Construction (19), Lewis Civil Engineering / Tata Steel UK (21), Welsh Govt Dept for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science (25).

Optional for Question 9: Newbridge Construction (19)

Attendees for other questions: CCW (10), Emt Agency (18).

Close 1800 hours