Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeisdref Sirol Blaenau Gwent
Local Development PlanExamination
Ymchwiliad Cynllun Datblygu Lleol

General Offices, Steel Works Road,
Ebbw Vale, Blaenau Gwent, NP23 6DN.
Telephone / Ffôn: 01495 355716
Mobile / Ffôn symudol: 07929463361
Email/E-bost:programmeofficer@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk

Day 8: 6 JULY 2012 10.30 – 12.30
Session 20: MONITORING INDICATORS

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE HEARING SESSION

Page number	PO Ref Number	Policy / para / figure reference	Suggested change / action	Council response (agree / disagree / alternative)
	MA20.1		The Council will review its monitoring indicators again with the aim of identifying key and easy-to-measure indicators. It should also adjust targets for housing delivery from 2011 to 2021 taking account of the missed targets in the period 2006 to 2011. The revised monitoring indicators table should identify a goal or goals for each strategic policy, appropriate indicator(s) along with targets for 2016 and the end of the life of the Plan with appropriate trigger points. The Council will be expected to confirm this work is underway on 17 July 2012. The deadline for finalising its revised monitoring indicators is **1700 hours** on 20 July 2012.	Agree. Refer to Appendix 1. It has not been possible to track these changes due a fundamental restructure.

APPENDIX 1 – REVISED MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Monitoring is a fundamental part of the LDP process. It provides an opportunity for the implementation and effectiveness of planning policies to be assessed, and forms the basis for review of the Plan, where necessary. The LDP is subject to a 4-year review period.

WAG guidance requires that local authorities prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) to be submitted each year. The AMR assesses the effectiveness of policies in the LDP against various indicators and targets, identifies any significant contextual changes that have taken place, highlights any policies which are not functioning effectively and seeks to rectify any gaps in monitoring or data collection.

The AMR is the principal mechanism through which the implementation of policies in the LDP is measured and ensures that policies are based on up-to-date evidence.

The Monitoring Framework sets out the mechanism by which the implementation of the Policies and Plan Strategy will be assessed. However, the LDP Manual advises that it is not appropriate for every Policy to be monitored. The Monitoring Framework proposes to monitor the LDP Strategy. It makes sense to monitor the Policies that have been included in the Plan specifically for the purpose of realising the Strategy i.e. the Strategic Policies. These are also the point from which the Development Management Policies and Allocation Policies are derived. The successful implementation of the Development Management Policies and Allocation policies will assist in realising the Strategy and therefore the Strategy Policies provide a reasonable gauge of how other Policies are fairing and whether there are any Policies not being implemented.

The Monitoring Framework comprises the following items:

Monitoring Aim:
This sets the outcome the Strategic Policy is aiming to deliver.

Indicator:
An indicator is the measure used to monitor the performance of a particular policy.

Source Data:
This identifies the data set that will be used to provide the statistical input to the monitoring item.

Annual Monitoring Target:
Sets out the position, as it would be at the end of the Plan period to enable progress to be monitored. The monitoring target is in the form of a time factor and a level that is anticipated will be achieved.

Trigger level:
This, in essence is a level to which a Policy has diverged from the monitoring target to such an extent that it could identify that the Policy is failing to be implemented or needs to be amended. In identifying trigger levels consideration needs to be given to quantify what constitutes a significant variation from the base level. This will be different for each monitoring aim.

Outcomes
'Stepping stone' targets are identified for 2016 and the end of the Plan period to enable us to monitor progress.

TABLE 1: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 1: NORTHERN STRATEGY AREA – REGENERATION AND GROWTH

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To ensure sustainable growth and regeneration in the north of the Borough**				
Objective 1 & 7 SP1 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM4 DM6, DM7 H1, HC1, MU1, MU2 MU3 AA1, R1, T1 T2, T4, T6	Amount of new A1 development (BGCBC Planning Applications) Amount of new leisure development (BGCBC Planning Applications) Amount of land in B use class delivered (BGCBC Planning Applications) Amount of housing delivered (BGCBC Planning Applications) Transport projects delivered (BGCBC Planning Application)	Track planning status	9,100 sq m Contracts on Bryn Serth site – start of construction 22.3 ha 1,635 homes T1.2 Link from HoV to Rassau Industrial Estate T1.4 Cwm to Aberbeeg T2.2 Provision of new station and bus interchange at Ebbw Vale T4.1 Bus Priority Scheme along the Brynmawr to Newport Bus Corridor T4.2 Bus Interchange at Brynmawr T4.3 Bus Interchange at Ebbw Vale T5.1 Construction of a Peripheral Distributor Road (PDR) through 'The Works'	11,500 sq m Project at MU1 completed 48.5 ha 3,155 homes T1.5 Link from HoV to Trefil T1.6 Link from HoV to Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate T1.7 Bedwellty Pits, Tredegar to County Boundary T1.8 Hilltop to Ebbw Vale to Manmoel T2.6 Rail freight provision at Marine Colliery T6.2 Online improvements to the A4046 south of Cwm T6.3 Online improvements to the A4048 south of Tredegar

			T5.2 Online improvements between the PDR and the A465 T6.1 Dualling of the A465 Heads of the Valleys Road (Tredegar to Brynmawr)	

TABLE 2: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 2: SOUTHERN STRATEGY AREA – REGENERATION

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To ensure regeneration in the South of the Borough**				
Objectives 1, 6, 11 & 12 SP2 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM4 DM6, DM15 DM16, DM17 DM18 R1, H1, HC1 T1, T2, T4, T6 ENV2, ENV3 ENV4, TM1	Amount of land in B use class delivered (BGCBC Planning Applications) Amount of housing delivered (BGCBC Planning Applications) Tourism initiatives (BGCBC Planning Applications) Environmental reclamation projects (BGCBC Planning Applications) Transport projects (BGCBC Planning Applications)	Track Planning Status	1.5 ha 265 homes 1 initiative 1 project T1.12 Aberbeeg to Royal Oak T1.13 Royal Oak to Swfrydd	1.5 ha 345 homes T1.11 Link to Cwmtillery Lakes T2.4 Extension of rail link to Abertillery T2.5 Provision of new station and Park and Ride at Abertillery T6.4 Online improvements to the A467 south of Abertillery

TABLE 3: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 3: THE RETAIL HIERARCHY AND VITALITY AND VIABILITY OF THE TOWN CENTRES

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To ensure town centres thrive through the implementation of the retail hierarchy**				
Objective 1 SP3 DM2, DM3 DM6, DM7 AA1, R1	Number of A1 uses in primary retail areas as a percentage of all units in the primary retail area (Annual Town Centre Health Check)	Increase the % of A1 uses in Ebbw Vale's primary retail area from a base level of 61% (2009) *Trigger point: a decrease to 51%* Increase the % of A1 uses in Abertillery's primary retail area from a base level of 45% (2009) *Trigger point: a decrease to 25%* Increase the % of A1 uses in Brynmawr's primary retail area from a base level of 61% (2009) *Trigger Point: a decrease to 41%* Increase the % of A1 uses in Tredegar's primary retail area from a base level of 67% (2009) *Trigger Point: a decrease to 47%*		
Monitoring Aim **To ensure the improvement of viability in the town centres**				
Objective 1 SP3	Reduce vacancy rates from a 2009 base figure tracked against other valleys town centres	Ebbw Vale town centre - 11.5% vacancy rate(2009)		

DM2, DM3 DM6, DM7 AA1, R1	(Annual Town Centre Health Checks)	*Trigger Point: an increase to 16.5%* Abertillery town centre - 20% vacancy rate (2009) *Trigger Point: an increase to 25%* Brynmawr town centre -11% vacancy rate (2009) *Trigger Point: an increase to 16%* Tredegar town centre -12% vacancy rate (2009) *Trigger Point: an increase to 17%* Blaina town centre - 25% vacancy rate (2009) *Trigger Point: an increase to 30%*		

TABLE 4: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 4: DELIVERING QUALITY HOUSING

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To secure construction of 3,500 net additional dwellings by 2021 and halt population decline**				
Objectives 2&3 SP4 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM4 DM8, DM9 DM10, DM13 MU1, MU2 MU3, H1, HC1	Number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built per annum (Joint Housing Land Availability Study) Population level of Blaenau Gwent (Mid year estimate population) Percentage of vacant residential properties (Census data 2011)		Completion of 1,400 homes *Trigger point: +/- 30%* Increase population to 69,968 *Trigger point: +/- 3%* Decrease vacancy rate to 4.5% *Trigger point: +/- 1%*	Completion of 1,600 homes *Trigger point: +/- 30%* Increase population to 70,849 *Trigger point: +/- 3%* Decrease vacancy rate to 4% *Trigger point: +/- 1%*
Monitoring Aim **To ensure the delivery of 1,000 affordable dwellings, 335 of which through planning obligations**				
Objectives 2&3 SP4 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM4 DM8, DM9 DM10, DM13 MU1, MU2 MU3, H1, HC1	Number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built per annum (BGCBC Planning Applications) Change in viability (Annual Land Registry Data) (WG Direction)	Change in sales value per sq m *Trigger point: +/- 10%* Building Regulations and Code for Sustainable Homes *Trigger point: A change that would impact on viability of development*	224 affordable dwellings through S106 agreements *Trigger point: -20%*	335 affordable dwellings through S106 agreements *Trigger point: -20%*

TABLE 5: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 5: SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSING

Relevant Policies and Objectives	**Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)**	**Annual Monitoring Target**	**Outcome by end of 2016**	**Outcome by end of Plan**
Monitoring Aim **To ensure that housing is delivered in all areas in accordance with the strategy**				
Objective 3 SP5 MU1, MU2, MU3, H1, HC1	The housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study (Joint Housing Land Availability Study) Land available for Gypsy and Traveller units (BGCBC Planning Applications)	Maintain 5 year supply *Trigger point: Less than a 5 year supply* Land available *Trigger point: Loss of land to other uses*		
Monitoring Aim **To ensure the delivery of housing in accordance with the strategy to increase build rates over the plan period**				
Objective 3 SP5 MU1, MU2 MU3, H1, HC1	Percentage of housing developments delivered in hub areas in accordance with the Plan's phasing (Joint Housing Land Availability Study)		Ebbw Vale – 55% Tredegar – 25% Upper Ebbw Fach – 10% Lower Ebbw Fach – 10%	Ebbw Vale – 60% Tredegar – 20% Upper Ebbw Fach – 15% Lower Ebbw Fach – 5%

TABLE 6: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 6: ENSURING ACCESSIBILITY

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To ensure improved connectivity within Blaenau Gwent and with the wider area**				
Objective 4 SP6 DM1, DM3 T1, T2, T3, T4 T5, T6	Number of highway and public transport schemes implemented (BGCBC – Transport Section and WG)	Track Planning Status	T1.2 Link from HoV to Rassau Industrial Estate T1.4 Cwm to Aberbeeg T1.12 Aberbeeg to Royal Oak T1.13 Royal Oak to Swfrydd T2.2 Provision of new station and bus interchange at Ebbw Vale T4.1 Bus Priority Scheme along the Brynmawr to Newport Bus Corridor T4.2 Bus Interchange at Brynmawr T4.3 Bus Interchange at Ebbw Vale T5.1 Construction of a Peripheral Distributor Road (PDR) through 'The Works' T5.2 Online improvements between the PDR and the A465 T6.1 Dualling of the A465 Heads of the Valleys Road (Tredegar to Brynmawr)	T1.5 Link from HoV to Trefil T1.6 Link from HoV to Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate T1.7 Bedwellty Pits, Tredegar to County Boundary T1.8 Hilltop to Ebbw Vale to Manmoel T1.11 Link to Cwmtillery Lakes T2.4 Extension of rail link to Abertillery T2.5 Provision of new station and Park and Ride at Abertillery T2.6 Rail freight provision at Marine Colliery T6.2 Online improvements to the A4046 south of Cwm T6.3 Online improvements to the A4048 south of Tredegar T6.4 Online improvements to the A467 south of Abertillery Completion of community network (cycling and walking routes)

TABLE 7: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 7: CLIMATE CHANGE

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To ensure that more of the County Borough's electricity and heat requirements are generated by renewable and low zero carbon energy**				
Objective 6 SP7 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM5	The capacity of renewable energy developments installed per annum (BGCBC Planning Applications)	All major applications provide evidence of consideration to the generation of renewable energy *Trigger point: 20% of major applications fail to provide evidence of consideration of the generation of renewable energy*		
	Progress on the adoption of an Energy Opportunities Plan		The Energy Opportunities Plan will be adopted by The Council	
Monitoring Aim **To ensure the efficient use of land**				
Objective 6 SP7 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM5	Average density of housing development permitted on allocated sites (BGCBC Planning Applications)	100% of mixed use sites to deliver 35 units and over per hectare		
	Amount of development, including housing, permitted on allocated sites in the development plan as a % of development plan allocations and as a % of total development permitted (ha and units) (BGCBC Planning Applications)	70% of all development to be on allocated sites *Trigger point: -10%*		
	Amount of new development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions) expressed as a percentage of all development permitted (BGCBC Planning Applications)	80% of new development to be on brownfield land *Trigger point: -10% for 3 consecutive years*		

	The number of land reclamation schemes completed per annum (BGCBC Planning Applications)		Completion of Parc Bryn Bach and Llanhilleth Pit Head Baths land reclamations schemes	Completion of Pennant Street and Cwmcrachen land reclamation schemes
Monitoring Aim **To avoid development in areas at high risk of flooding**				
Objective 6 SP7 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM5	Amount of development (by TAN 15 paragraph 5.1 development category) permitted in C1 and C2 floodplain areas not meeting all TAN 15 tests (BGCBC Planning Applications)	No permissions for highly vulnerable or emergency services within flood zone C2 *Trigger point: 1 or more*		

TABLE 8: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 8: SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To ensure sufficient employment land is provided to increase economic activity**				
Objective 8 & 9 SP8 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM4 DM11 MU1, MU2 EMP1, EMP2 ED1, TM1	Net employment land supply / development (Employment land database) Employment rate for Blaenau Gwent (Nomis – official labour market statistics) Percentage of economic inactive wanting a job (Nomis – official labour market statistics)		23.8 ha *Trigger point: +/- 20%* Increase employment rate from 61.7% (2009) to 65.6% (2016) tracked against the HoV average *Trigger point: 3% decrease against the HOV average* Reduce percentage of economic inactive wanting a job from 8.4% (2009) to 7.35% (2016) tracked against the HoV average *Trigger point: 1% increase against the HOV average*	26.2 ha *Trigger point: +/- 20%* Increase employment rate from 61.7% (2009) to 69.4% (2021) tracked against the HoV average *Trigger point: 3% decrease against the HOV average* Reduce percentage of economic inactive wanting a job from 8.4% (2009) to 6.3% (2021) tracked against the HoV average *Trigger point: 1% increase against the HOV average*
Monitoring Aim **To ensure the diversification of the economic base**				
Objective 8 & 9 SP8 DM1, DM2 DM3, DM4 DM11 MU1, MU2 EMP1, EMP2 ED1, TM1	Official labour market statistics for Blaenau Gwent identifying the number of employees in different sectors (Nomis – official labour market statistics)	Maintain the number of employee jobs in manufacturing at 5,300 (2008) tracked against the HoV average *Trigger point: 5% decrease against the HOV average* Increase the number of		

		employee jobs in construction industry from 800 (Blaenau Gwent, 2008) to 1,000 (Wales, 2008) tracked against the HoV average *Trigger point: 10% decrease against the HOV average* Increase the number of employee jobs in service industry from 12,700 (Blaenau Gwent, 2008) to 13,797 *Trigger point: 5% decrease against the HOV average* Increase the number of employee jobs in tourism related industry from 1,100 (Blaenau Gwent, 2008) to 1,625) *Trigger point 5% decrease against the HOV average*		
	Delivery of learning infrastructure (BGCBC Planning Applications) Delivery of health infrastructure (BGCBC Planning Applications)	Track planning status	Completion of the learning zone	Completion of the new primary school on the Six Bells Colliery Site Completion of primary care resource centres

TABLE 9: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 9: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Relevant Policies and Objectives	**Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)**	**Annual Monitoring Target**	**Outcome by end of 2016**	**Outcome by end of Plan**
Monitoring Aim **To increase opportunities for people to participate in active and healthy communities**				
Objectives 11 & 12 SP9 DM4, DM12 DM13, DM14 DM15, DM16 DM17 MU1, MU2 CF1, TM1, L1	Amount of greenfield and open space lost to development (ha) which is not allocated in the Plan (BGCBC planning applications)	No net loss *Trigger point: 1 development resulting in significant loss for 3 consecutive years or 3 developments resulting in significant loss for 1 year*		
	Hectares of recreational open space per 1000 population (FIT standard) (BGCBC – Open Space Assessment)	Working towards FIT standards of 2.4 hectares of recreational open space per 1000 projected population (current standard 1.11 hectares) *Trigger point: decrease*		
	Number of tourism/leisure facilities completed per annum (BGCBC planning applications)	Track planning status	Completion of Parc Bryn Bach, including a hotel, Eastern Valley Slopes, Garden Festival, Cwmtillery Lakes and Blue Lakes	Completion of Nantyglo Roundhouse and Towers and community cycle routes
	Number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home as a percentage of all people BGCBC – Access to Green Space Study		Increase the number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home from the current level of 65%	Increase the number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home from the current level of 65%

			(2007) to 77% (2016) *Trigger point: -5%*	(2007) to 80% (2021) *Trigger point: -5%*

TABLE 10: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 10: PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To ensure the protection, preservation and enhancement of the natural environment**				
SP10 DM3, DM15, DM16, DM17 ENV1, ENV2, ENV3	The amount of SSSI, lost to development per annum (BGCBC Planning Applications)	No net loss of area of SSSI to development *Trigger point: 1 permission or more*		
Objective 13	The amount of SINCs and LNRs lost to development per annum (BGCBC Planning Applications)	No net loss of SINCs / LNRs lost to development without mitigation *Trigger point: 2 or more permission in any year*		
	Number of developments which have an adverse effect on European sites	Where required, all sites to have a project HRA		
	Provision of environmental enhancements (BGCBC Planning Applications)	Major applications produce a net gain in biodiversity and / or enhancements to the green infrastructure network		
	Percentage of groundwater of good status (Environment Agency)	No permissions granted where there is a known risk of deterioration in status		
		Permissions incorporate measures designed to improve water quality where appropriate		
	Background air pollution (BGCBC)	No decrease in air quality within the County Borough		

TABLE 11: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 11: PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Relevant Policies and Objectives	**Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)**	**Annual Monitoring Target**	**Outcome by end of 2016**	**Outcome by end of Plan**
Monitoring Aim **To ensure that listed buildings and archaeological sites are protected, preserved and where appropriate enhanced**				
Objective 14 SP11 DM18, TM1	Number of listed buildings and historic sites (BGCBC planning applications)	No applications to result in the loss of listed buildings *Trigger point: More than 1 for 3 consecutive years*		
	Number of listed buildings or archaeological sites enhanced (BGCBC planning applications)	All applications to preserve or enhance a listed building or archaeological site		
	Number of listed or local buildings of historical value brought into use for tourism		Prepare a list of locally listed buildings of historic value	Adopt as Supplementary Planning Guidance

TABLE 12: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 12: SECURING AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF MINERALS

Relevant Policies and Objectives	**Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)**	**Annual Monitoring Target**	**Outcome by end of 2016**	**Outcome by end of Plan**
Monitoring Aim **To ensure a minimum 10 year land bank and provision of at least 3Mt of aggregates**				
Objective 15 SP12 DM4, DM19 DM20 M1, M2, M3, M4	Number of years land bank of permitted aggregate reserves (South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party – Annual Survey)	100% provision of a 10 year landbank (measured annually) through the plan period *Trigger Point: Less than 10 year supply*		
	The extent of primary land-won aggregates permitted expressed as a percentage of the total capacity required, as identified in the regional waste Plan (BGCBC Planning Applications)		Planning application received by 2016	Consent granted for at least 3Mt

TABLE 13: STRATEGIC POLICY (SP) 13: DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Relevant Policies and Objectives	Monitoring Indicator (Source Data)	Annual Monitoring Target	Outcome by end of 2016	Outcome by end of Plan
Monitoring Aim **To ensure the delivery of sustainable waste management**				
Objective 16 SP13 DM1, DM2, DM3, DM4, DM21 W1	Amount of waste management capacity permitted expressed as a percentage of the total capacity required, as identified in the regional waste plan (Planning Application)		Organic project contracts awarded	
	Delivery of regional waste facility (BGCBC – Waste Section)		Residual project contact awarded Completion of regional waste facilities	
	Amount of waste arising, and managed by management type (BGCBC – Waste Section)		Meet Wise about Waste targets for re-use and recycling / composting for municipal waste to 58% *Trigger point: -10%*	Meet Wise about Waste targets for re-use and recycling / composting for municipal waste to 64% *Trigger point: -10%*