

**Thursday 28 June 2012**  
**Day 3                      1000 hours**  
**SESSION 6                EMPLOYMENT**

1. What is meant in Objective 9 of the Plan by the phrase "By 2021, 50 hectares of employment land and a range of premises have been delivered"? How might this term "delivered" be interpreted? Is this a precise target? What evidence base underpins this figure?
2. What are the implications of pursuing an employment land allocation of this scale in the context of forecast declines in some sectors, especially manufacturing and other Use Class B2 activity? Does the Council acknowledge that some vacant stock may not be developed for employment or other uses during the lifetime of the Plan? What actions are the Council and others taking to improve the take up of employment land within the county relative to neighbouring local authority areas?
3. Why is the Council seeking to promote the regeneration of so much employment land when other initiatives (e.g., improved transport accessibility) might improve access to jobs for local people outside of Blaenau Gwent?
4. What is the logic for the different categories of employment land use (strategic sites, primary and secondary sites and business parks)? What evidence underpins the case for retaining all of these sites for employment? How should the Plan respond to other uses that might complement employment activity (e.g., training)?
5. How will criteria (f) and (g) of Policy SP8 be implemented? Is the Council's policy and allocations for employment land use realistic and soundly based?
6. Is there an overlap between criteria (3) and (4) of Policy DM11 and criterion (3) of Policy DM21?
7. What level of support should the Plan give to the expansion of new sectors such as tourism? How do the various policies in the Plan (for example, Policy SP8 and TM1) give positive land use planning support for the development of the county's tourism offer? Has the Plan neglected any other significant potential employment-generating tourist facilities?
8. How does the Plan help implement national policies (for example, in "Economic Renewal: a new direction" (W17)) to support priority sectors including ICT; energy and the environment; advance materials and manufacturing; creative industries; life sciences; and financial and professional services)?

**Attendee: (optional):** Welsh Govt (03)

**Close 1300 hours**