



Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan

ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2019



September 2019

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted on 22nd November 2012. As part of the statutory development plan process the Council is required to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) covering the period 1st of April to 31st of March every year. The AMR will provide the basis for monitoring the effectiveness of the LDP objectives and strategic policies, the Plan's sustainability credentials and identify any significant contextual changes that might influence implementation.

Key Findings of the Annual Monitoring Process

Contextual Changes

This section looks at local, regional, national and international factors that have had an influence on land use development in Blaenau Gwent and subsequently on the implementation of the LDP. These include:

External Conditions

Economy

- The economic forecast for the UK indicates that economic growth is to stay modest at 1.4% in 2019 and 1.3% in 2020. Though there is great uncertainty as these projections assume that a Brexit deal is eventually agreed leading to an orderly exit from the EU.
- Wales has improved its unemployment rate standings when compared to the other nations and is now higher than Northern Ireland.
- Blaenau Gwent is below the Wales average in almost all socio economic indicators though has made a number of improvements in relation to employment this year.

Housing

- The UK housing market growth is moderating.
- Wales completion rates have slightly decreased this year and remain well below those rates experienced before the recession.
- The number of housing completions in Blaenau Gwent this year is higher than last year but still remains very low.

Policy, Legislation and Statistical Change

National Policy and Legislation

- Publication of Planning Policy Wales Edition 10
- Disapplication of paragraph 6.2 of Technical Advice Note 1
- Planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople Sites Circular 005/2018 - new

Regional Policy

- Strategic Development Plan for South East Wales – work to progress this is expected in 2019/20

Local Policy and Legislation

- Gwent Homelessness Strategy 2018-2022 Blaenau Gwent Local Action Plan - new

Statistics

The mid-year estimate for Blaenau Gwent has decreased slightly and now stands at 69,700 (2018).

Local Development Plan Monitoring

The results of the monitoring exercise provide a varied picture of development in Blaenau Gwent. Some of the most notable results are:

Theme 1: Create a Network of Sustainable Vibrant Valley Communities

- The delivery of the strategy for Growth and Regeneration is behind target;
- **1,286** new dwellings were built in the period 2006-2019, which is well below the expected figure of 1,900 homes by 2016 and the plan requirement of 3,500 by 2021;
- In the period 2018-2019 (April to March) **75** new dwellings were built in the County Borough which is an improvement on the previous year;
- **No** employment allocations have been delivered this year;
- **No** retail allocations have been delivered to date;
- **No** transport schemes were delivered this year leaving the total schemes completed at 12;
- Retail vacancy rates across Blaenau Gwent average **17.4%** which is a 1% increase from last year and 4.4% above the Welsh average;
- The population of Blaenau Gwent has **increased slightly** from **69,609** in 2017 to **69,700** in 2018;
- **31** affordable dwellings were built in 2018-19;
- The housing land supply for Blaenau Gwent in 2019 was **1.48** years up by 0.2 years from last year though remains under the 5 year requirement;
- **52%** of LDP allocations have been granted planning permission whereas we are now 80% through the plan period;
- **87%** of development permitted in 2018-19 was on brownfield land, higher than the 80% target;

Theme 2: Create Opportunities for Sustainable Economic Growth and the Promotion of Learning and Skills

- The latest economic activity rate is **74.5%** which is up by 7.4% from last year, decreasing the gap with the Wales average to 2.2%;
- The latest figure for the economically inactive wanting a job is **23.2%** down by **1.5%** from last year closing the gap to 1.4% above the Welsh average;
- Between 2016 and 2017 Blaenau Gwent had no job losses within manufacturing. Overall there has been a net loss of **1,300** jobs since 2008 (baseline date);
- Between 2016 and 2017 Blaenau Gwent lost **400** jobs in construction, with an overall net loss of **300** jobs since 2008;
- Between 2016 and 2017 Blaenau Gwent lost **15** jobs in services, with an overall net gain of **160** jobs since 2008;

Theme 3: Create Safe, Healthy and Vibrant Communities and Protect and Enhance the Unique Natural and Built Environment

- The Fields in Trust (FIT) Standard for outdoor play space provision remained at **0.99** ha which is well below the target of 2.4 ha;
- There has been no loss of Listed Buildings or historic sites this year;

Theme 4: Create Opportunities to Secure an Adequate Supply of Minerals and Reduce Waste

- The Plan has a **6** year land bank which is behind the target of ensuring there is a minimum 10 year land bank; and
- **59%** of waste was recycled last year, this is an increase from the year before and has now exceeded the Welsh Government target of 58% for 2016 and is working towards the target of 64% by 2021.

Detailed consideration of the results of the monitoring exercise has allowed the Council to make an informed judgement about the nature of the progress that has been made during 2018-19, in delivering the LDP targets and therefore its policies. As a visual aid in showing the monitoring outcomes, a simple colour coded system has been devised, as shown below.

G	The monitoring aim is on-going, being met or exceeded
A	The monitoring aim is not currently being achieved but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention
R	The monitoring aim is not being achieved and it is unlikely that this will be addressed without specific intervention

The result of the delivery of each of the monitoring aims is shown in the table below:

LDP Monitoring		Result
Policy		
THEME 1: CREATE A NETWORK OF SUSTAINABLE VIBRANT VALLEY COMMUNITIES		
SP1	Northern Strategy Area – Sustainable Growth and Regeneration	
	To ensure sustainable growth and regeneration in the North of the Borough	R
SP2	Southern Strategy Area – Regeneration	
	To ensure regeneration in the South of the Borough	R
SP3	The Retail Hierarchy and the Vitality and Viability of the Town Centres	
	(a) To ensure town centres thrive through the implementation of the retail hierarchy	R
	(b) To ensure the improvement of viability in town centres	A
SP4	Delivering Quality Housing	
	(a) To secure the construction of 3,500 net additional dwellings and halt population decline	R
	(b) To ensure the delivery of 1,000 affordable dwellings, 335 of which through planning obligations	R

SP5	Spatial Distribution of Housing Sites	
	(a) To ensure that housing is delivered in all areas in accordance with the Strategy	R
	(b) To ensure that housing is delivered in accordance with the strategy to increase build rates over the Plan period	A
SP6	Ensuring Accessibility	
	To ensure improved connectivity within Blaenau Gwent and with the wider area	A
SP7	Climate Change	
	(a) To ensure that more of the County Borough's electricity and heat requirements are generated by renewable and low / zero carbon energy	G
	(b) To ensure the efficient use of land	A
	(c) To avoid development in areas at high risk of flooding	A
THEME 2: CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND THE PROMOTION OF LEARNING AND SKILLS		
SP8	Sustainable Economic Growth	
	(a) To ensure sufficient employment land is provided to increase economic activity	A
	(b) To ensure the diversification of the economic base	A
THEME 3: CREATE SAFE, HEALTHY AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES AND PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE UNIQUE NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT		
SP9	Active and Healthy Communities	
	To increase opportunities for people to participate in active and healthy communities	G
SP10	Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment	
	To ensure the protection, preservation and enhancement of the natural environment	G
SP11	Protection and Enhancement of the Historic Environment	
	To ensure that listed buildings and archaeological sites are protected, preserved and where appropriate enhanced	G
THEME 4: CREATE OPPORTUNITIES TO SECURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF MINERALS AND REDUCE WASTE		
SP12	Securing an Adequate Supply of Minerals	
	To ensure a minimum 10 year land bank and provision of at least 3Mt of aggregates	A
SP13	Delivering Sustainable Waste Management	
	To ensure the delivery of sustainable waste management	G

The results of the monitoring process for 2018-19 indicate that the targets in respect of 5 out of 19 core monitoring aims are on-going, being met or exceeded (annotated in green) and 8 are not currently being achieved but the situation can be overcome without immediate intervention or are sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention

(annotated in amber). The remaining 6 (annotated in red) are currently falling short of the required pattern of delivery and actions have been identified to address them.

Generally the issues arise due to development levels being far lower than planned which is as a result of external factors beyond the Council's control in relation to the economic recession, the poorly performing housing market and issues around viability.

Trigger levels were identified in the Plan to indicate where a policy had diverged to such an extent that it could be identified as failing to be implemented and needs to be amended. The number of triggers breached this year is the same as last year. The following triggers were breached this year:

- The vacancy rate for Tredegar town centre at 24% has breached the trigger of 17%.
- The net number of additional affordable and general market dwellings built at 1,286 is 32% below the target of 1,900 (2016 outcome) and has therefore breached the trigger of 30%.
- The number of net additional affordable houses secured through S106 at 71.7 is behind the target of 224 and breaks the trigger of being below 20% of this target.
- The trigger of not having a 5 year housing supply has been breached (1.48 years).
- In terms of the requirement for no permissions for highly vulnerable or emergency services development within flood zone C2, as the Plan permitted 1, a trigger point has been breached.
- In terms of the requirement for 23.8 ha of employment land to be delivered by 2016, with 1.08 ha of employment allocations delivered, the Plan has breached the trigger of -20%.
- In terms of the number of years land bank of permitted reserves and the requirement of 100% provision of a 10 year land bank, according to the latest available information (2018) the Plan only has 6 years and therefore the 100% requirement trigger has been broken.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Monitoring

The key findings of the SA Monitoring Process are outlined below:

Economy

- The average weekly earnings for full time workers in Blaenau Gwent is **£479.10** which is down by **£12.20** since last year and is **£29.90** less than the average figure for Wales;

Social

- All social housing within Blaenau Gwent meets the Welsh Housing Quality Standard;
- Blaenau Gwent has the highest proportion of communities in the most deprived 10% in Wales;

Environment

- Carbon Dioxide emission tonnes per Capita have decreased from **6.1** in 2007 to **4.1** in 2017;
- **0** MW of renewable energy and low carbon energy capacity has been installed this year;
- There has been no decrease in air quality; and

- 0% of Special Landscape Area has been lost to development.

The result of the delivery of each of the SA monitoring objectives is shown in the Sustainability Monitoring table below. As a visual aid in showing the monitoring outcomes, a simple colour coded system has been devised, as shown below.

G	The Plan is having a positive impact on the monitoring objective
A	The Plan is not having an impact, or is having a mixed impact on the monitoring objective
R	The Plan is having a negative impact on the monitoring objective

Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring		
	SA Objective	Result
Economic		
1.	To promote economic growth and strengthen and diversify the economy	R
2.	To increase levels of local employment and ensure distribution of opportunities	G
3.	To enable the development of a strong tourism economy in Blaenau Gwent, complementary to the regional offer	A
4.	To enhance the vitality and viability of town centres	A
Social		
5.	To meet identified housing needs	A
6.	To improve the quality of Blaenau Gwent's housing stock	G
7.	To secure the delivery and maintenance of quality affordable housing	G
8.	To improve educational attainment and increase skill levels	A
9.	To improve accessibility to education, leisure, employment, health, homes and community services for all sectors of the community	A
10.	To promote community health, social care and well-being	A
11.	To reduce crime, social disorder and fear of crime	G
12.	To encourage modal shift from private transport to sustainable transport	A
Environment		
13.	To protect and enhance biodiversity across Blaenau Gwent	G
14.	To conserve and enhance the heritage assets of Blaenau Gwent and their settings	G
15.	To make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings to minimise pressure for greenfield development, where this will not result in damage or loss in biodiversity	A
16.	To conserve soil resources and their quality	G

17.	To reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, in particular carbon dioxide	G
18.	To reduce waste generation and maximise reuse and recycling	G
19.	To maintain current air quality	G
20.	To maintain current low levels of vulnerability of all development to flooding	A
21.	To promote the use of sustainably sourced products and resources	A
22.	To increase energy efficiency and generation and use of renewable energy across the County Borough	G
23.	To conserve and enhance surface and ground water quality	A
24.	Protect the quality and character of the landscape and enhance where necessary	G

The results of the monitoring process indicate that the Plan is having a positive impact in respect of 12 of the sustainability objectives (annotated in green), is not having a positive or is having a mixed impact on the majority 11 (annotated in amber); and is having a negative impact on 1 objective (annotated in red).

Overall, the plan is having a positive impact.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The current economic situation, the lack of confidence in the housing market and viability issues has undoubtedly had an impact on the delivery of the Plan. Progress on delivering the Strategy of Growth and Regeneration continues to fall short of expectations.

This year the Plan was found to be meeting 5 out of 19 monitoring aims which is the same as last year. The number of monitoring aims identified as not being achieved and needing intervention decreased to 6 this year. Also the number of trigger levels breached remained the same as last year. Whilst improvements have been made this year the Plan is still not performing in areas such as retail, housing, and employment.

The Council is currently preparing a Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP).to address these matters.

Recommendation

As a result of the findings of the Annual Monitoring Report for 2018-19 it is recommended that:

1. The Council progresses work on a Replacement Local Development Plan

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted on 22nd November 2012. The LDP provides a land use framework which forms the basis on which decisions about future development in the County Borough are based.

1.2 As part of the statutory development plan process the Council is required to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR provides the basis for monitoring the effectiveness of the LDP objectives and strategic policies, the Plan's sustainability credentials and identifies any significant contextual changes that might influence its implementation. The results of the monitoring process will feed into the preparation of the revised Plan. The results of this and the previous AMRs will form a significant part of the evidence base for the revised Plan.

1.3 This is the sixth AMR to be prepared since the adoption of the LDP and monitors the period 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019. It provides an opportunity for the Council to assess the impact the LDP is having on social, economic and environmental well-being of the County Borough. Due to tight timescales, the AMR has not been subject to public consultation.

Format of the AMR

1.4 This Chapter has outlined the requirement for, the purpose and structure of the AMR and sets out below what is covered in the rest of the document.

Chapter 2 – Monitoring Framework explains the process of monitoring the LDP, how to quantify the resulting data and, if necessary, determine whether a review of the LDP and Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is required.

Chapter 3 – Contextual Change analyses the potential impact of factors such as economic climate, local issues and changes to national policy on implementation.

Chapter 4 – Local Development Plan Monitoring provides an analysis of the effectiveness of the LDP policy framework in delivering the plan's targets.

Chapter 5 – Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring analyses the impact the LDP is having on the social, economic and environmental well-being of Blaenau Gwent.

Chapter 6 – Conclusions and Recommendations provides an overview of the findings of the AMR and makes recommendations about issues that require further consideration.

Appendix 1 – Status of Allocations provides an update on progress of the LDP Allocations.

Appendix 2 – Mandatory Indicators provides the results for the WG national indicators which are specifically designed to monitor the delivery of the LDP.

Appendix 3 – Proposed Changes to the LDP and SA Monitoring Indicators sets out any changes proposed and the reasons why.

1.5 The AMR has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005; Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations (2004); and the Habitats Regulations Assessment (2004).

2.0 MONITORING FRAMEWORK

2.1 The Monitoring Framework comprises two key elements. These are the monitoring of:

- The LDP strategy, policies and proposals; and
- The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) which includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

2.2 The on-going success of these documents and the policies within them are to be measured against a set of targets identified as part of the LDP process. Indicators have been formulated to determine whether these targets have been met. Where their results conclude that the targets are not being met, and that the effectiveness of the LDP documents (or parts or policies of it), are falling significantly below the level required, then consideration will be given to the need for a review of the LDP.

LDP Monitoring Aims, Indicators, Targets, Triggers and Outcomes

2.3 The LDP monitoring framework identifies 19 monitoring aims based on the Strategic Policies which deliver the strategy of the Plan. These monitoring aims are assessed against 50 indicators (including WG national indicators – see Appendix 2: Mandatory Indicators for results) and are specifically designed to monitor the delivery of the LDP. It should be noted that whilst the targets and indicators relate to each Strategic Policy, the framework has been designed to ensure that linkages are made between the Strategic Policies, relevant objectives and Development Management and Allocation policies. Monitoring the delivery of the Strategic Policies therefore provides a mechanism for monitoring the LDP as a whole.

2.4 Trigger levels have been set which identify where a policy has diverged from the monitoring target to such an extent that the policy is failing to be implemented or needs to be amended. Where this happens the analysis in the monitoring table identifies the issue and, where necessary, the actions required to address it.

2.5 The Plan also identifies outcomes which are stepping stones identified for 2016 and the end of the Plan period to enable us to monitor progress of the Plan.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives and Indicators

2.6 The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the LDP identifies a set of objectives and significant effect indicators which are intended to measure the social, economic and environmental impact of the LDP. The SA identifies 24 objectives and 71 indicators specifically designed to monitor the environmental credentials of the LDP.

Replacement Targets and Indicators

2.7 Where the Council has been unable to monitor a target or indicator or the target or indicator has been superseded, an explanation will be provided in the relevant monitoring section and where necessary an alternative indicator will be identified.

2.8 There may be occasions where it is necessary to amend a target or indicator. This may simply be to improve the clarity of the indicator to re-align it with the relevant data sets. Where this is necessary an explanation will be provided in the relevant monitoring section and an alternative target or indicator will be identified. Appendix 3 sets out the proposed changes and deletions for this year.

Monitoring Progress

2.9 The analysis of the monitoring process will be in the form of detailed written assessment of the indicator results and a subsequent view on the success of the targets and effectiveness of the policies. This will be provided in the respective monitoring sections of this report for the LDP and SA. As a visual aid in showing the monitoring outcomes, a simple colour coded system has been devised, and will be included in the individual tables of Strategic Policies and SA results, as shown below:

G	The monitoring aim is on-going, being met or exceeded (LDP) The Plan is having a positive impact on the monitoring objective (SA)
A	The monitoring aim is not currently being achieved but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention (LDP) The Plan is not having an impact, or is having a mixed impact on the monitoring objective (SA)
R	The monitoring aim is not being achieved and it is unlikely that this will be addressed without specific intervention (LDP) The Plan is having a negative impact on the monitoring objective (SA)

2.10 In instances where there is nothing to report the monitoring results will be left blank.

Replacement LDP

2.11 In November 2016, a full review of the Plan was triggered, being 4 years after the Plan's adoption. The Council have now completed the review of the Local Development Plan and have determined that the full revision procedure should be followed to update the Plan. The review resulted in the production of a [Review Report](#).

2.12 The Council agreed a Delivery Agreement with Welsh Government in October 2018 and has commenced work on a Replacement Local Development Plan.

Local Development Plan Wales (2005)

2.13 In addition to the monitoring framework outlined in the Council's LDP, the Welsh Government sets out in LDP Wales paragraph 4.43 the following requirements:

'the AMR to identify any policy that is not being implemented and to give the reasons, together with any steps the authority intends to take to secure the implementation of the policy and any intention to revise the LDP to replace or amend the policy. The AMR should include an assessment of:

- *Whether the basic strategy remains sound (if not, a full plan review may be needed);*
- *What impact the policies are having globally, nationally, regionally and locally;*
- *Whether the policies need changing to reflect changes in national policy;*
- *Whether policies and related targets in LDPs have been met or progress is being made towards meeting them, including publication of relevant Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG);*
- *Where progress has not been made, the reasons for this and what knock on effects it may have;*
- *What aspects, if any, of the LDP need adjusting or replacing because they are not working as intended or are not achieving the objectives of the strategy and/or sustainable development objectives; and*
- *If policies or proposals need changing, what suggested actions are required to achieve this.*

The AMR must also specify the housing land supply (from the current Housing Land Availability Study) and the number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built in the authority's area, and report on other LDP indicators.'

2.14 These matters are addressed in Chapter 6 Conclusions and Recommendations.

3.0 CONTEXTUAL CHANGE

3.1 The findings of the AMR are fundamental in determining how the implementation and delivery of the LDP is progressing. However, it is important to understand how the implementation of the LDP has been influenced by local, regional, national and international factors. Blaenau Gwent does not exist in isolation and development at even the most local level can be affected by national and international economic trends.

3.2 By seeking to understand how different factors have affected the delivery of the LDP, the Council will gain a better understanding of what it can do to support the Plan's implementation. In focussing on those factors it can influence, and accepting that some factors are beyond its control, the Council will be able to better support delivery of its objectives and shape future strategies to respond to wider socio economic issues.

3.3 The following section looks specifically at those factors that influence development in Blaenau Gwent. These include changes in:

- External Conditions; and
- Policy, Legislation and Statistical Changes.

External Conditions

Economy

3.4 The UK economic growth is predicted to stay modest at 1.4% in 2019 and 1.3% in 2020. Though there is great uncertainty as these projections assume that a Brexit deal is eventually agreed leading to an orderly exit from the EU.

3.5 Consumer spending continues to drive the economy, but the housing market has cooled and job creation is likely to slow over the next year. Business investment has been on a declining trend as a result of ongoing Brexit-related uncertainty and this is expected to continue until this is resolved (Source: PWC UK Economic Outlook, July 2019).

3.6 This year in terms of the employment rate Wales (at 75%) is higher than Northern Ireland. An improvement from last year when it was the lowest of all the nations (Source: ONS regional report, June 2019).

Blaenau Gwent's Economy

3.7 Blaenau Gwent remains below the Wales average in almost all socio-economic indicators – economic activity, employment and business enterprise. However, it has made significant improvements this year in terms of employment.

3.8 At the end of March 2019 the employment rate in Blaenau Gwent was 70.4%, an increase of 3.2% from 67.2% in 2018. However this is 4.8% lower than the Welsh average and the fourth lowest in Wales, though an improvement from last year when Blaenau Gwent was last but one (Stats Wales). The unemployed (model based) rate was 4.9%, 1% above the Welsh average. In 2018 the gross weekly pay earnings by residence stood at

£479.1 which is £26.90 less than the Welsh average and £12.20 less than last year (Source: Nomis).

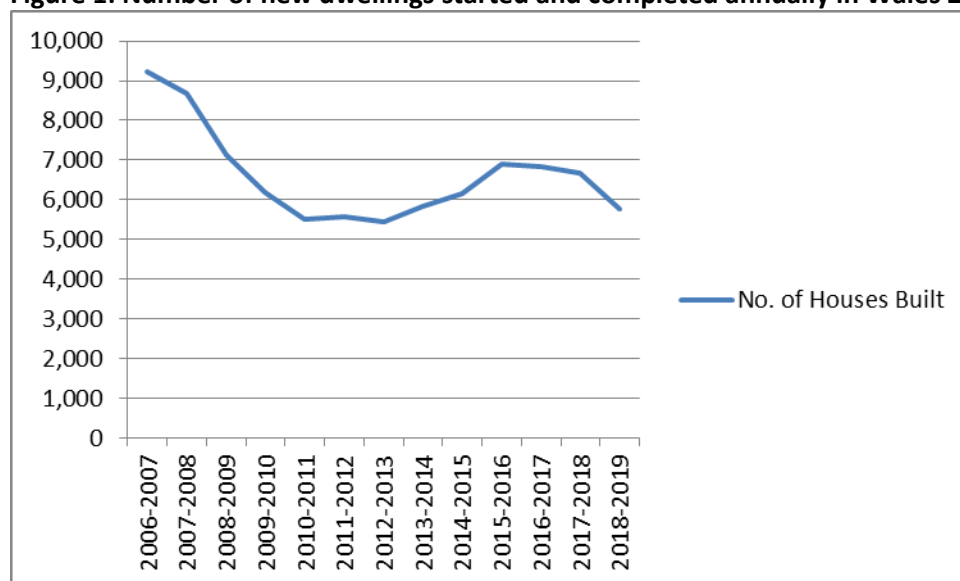
Housing Market

3.9 House price growth across the UK has been softening since the middle of 2016. However, the regional picture is mixed. Prices in London have been falling since the middle of last year, while prices in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are showing some resilience. It is projected that house prices in the UK will grow at an average of only around 1% this year, implying a 1% decline in real terms. Beyond 2019, they are expected to recover slightly in 2020 and then continue to accelerate slowly in the medium term. This assumes that a disruptive ‘no deal’ Brexit can be avoided, earnings continue to grow in real terms and unemployment. (Source: PWC UK Housing Market Outlook, July 2019).

3.10 The average house price now stands at £466,824 in London, compared with the UK average of £230,292. By contrast, the Wales average is £163,768 which is an improvement and means that it is now higher than Northern Ireland, the North East Yorkshire and the Humber and Scotland (£136,767, £130,342, £161,977, £151,891 respectively) (Source: UK House Price Index, July 2019).

3.11 The number of house completions in Wales continues to fall with completions well below that achieved before the recession and well below Welsh Government targets.

Figure 1: Number of new dwellings started and completed annually in Wales 2006-2018

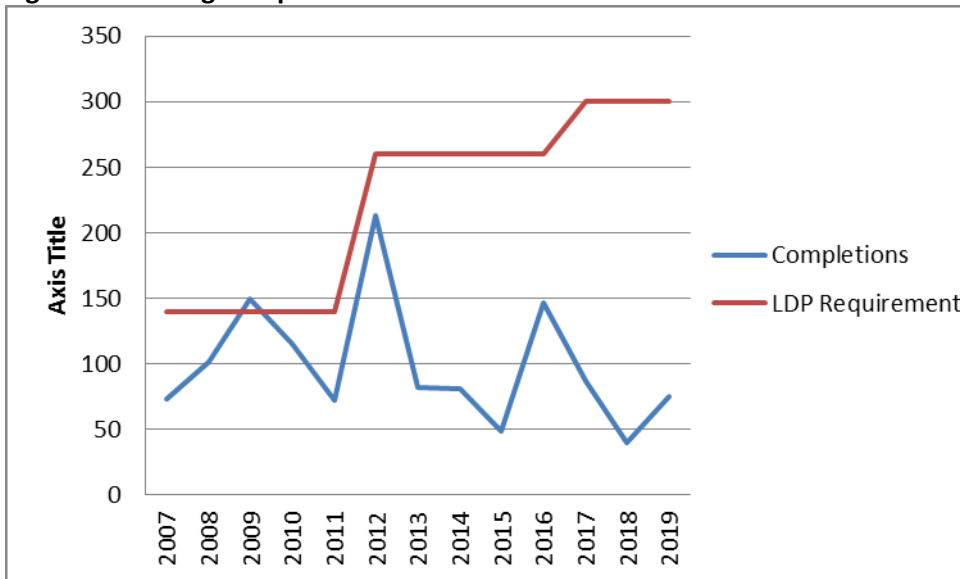


Blaenau Gwent’s Housing Market

3.12 House building completions in Blaenau Gwent have been erratic since 2006 due in part to a greater reliance on completions from the social sector where schemes tend to be completed at one point. This year saw a rise from last year though completion figures still remain very low. Overall completions have been much lower than expected again this year this is due to a distinct shortage of private sector national builders operating in Blaenau

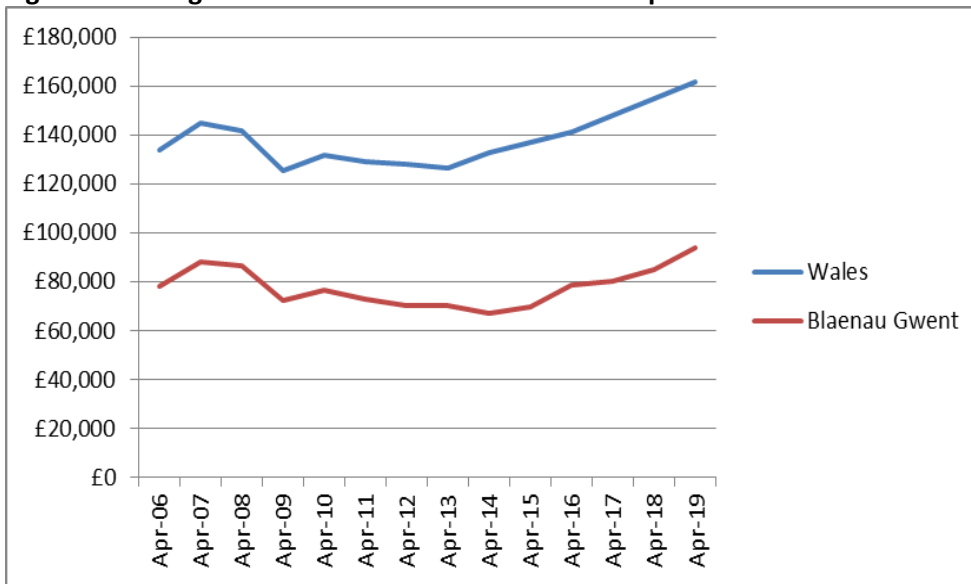
Gwent. At present only Davies Homes, at Bedwellty Gardens in Tredegar is building in Blaenau Gwent and this site is nearing completion. However looking forward things are more positive as Lovell are now on site and Persimmon Homes have a planning application in at the Ebbw Vale Northern Corridor site (MU1). Added to this the Northgate Site at The Works (MU2) has been sold to Davies Homes who are expected to submit a planning application this year. The contribution from small sites increased to 26 in 2019 which is in line with the past 10 year average but remains lower than figures recorded before the recession. Overall completions were below the 140 per annum expected by the LDP for the period between 2006-2011; fell well below the 260 expected between 2011 and 2016; and are well below the 300 expected between 2017-2021 (see Figure 2 below).

Figure 2: Housing Completions for Blaenau Gwent 2006-2019



3.13 According to the Land Registry, in April 2019 the average house price in Wales was £161,725 whereas the average house price in Blaenau Gwent was £93,806. As can be seen from the graph below house prices in Blaenau Gwent remain below the Wales average. However this year Blaenau Gwent managed to close the gap with Wales slightly reducing it by £1,788 so that the gap is £67,919. This disparity in house price is partly a reflection of the lack of new homes being built as new houses normally command higher prices.

Figure 3: Average House Price in Blaenau Gwent compared to Wales



Planning applications with significant impacts

3.14 The previous AMRs reported on a major planning application in Blaenau Gwent which could have had a significant impact on the economic future of the area: the Circuit of Wales, which received outline planning permission in September 2013. Last year we reported that Welsh Government announced the decision not to support the Circuit of Wales project in Ebbw Vale. This raised increased uncertainty over whether the development will come forward. Since last year an application has been made to extend the lifetime of the permission. The situation remains uncertain and will continue to be monitored.

Policy, Legislation and Statistical Changes

3.15 The Council needs to consider through its AMR whether changes to national planning policy have any implications for the LDP. If the implications are significant, the Council will need to determine how it addresses the issues.

Planning Policy Wales, Edition 10 (2018)

3.16 In the December 2018, Welsh Government published Edition 10 of Planning Policy Wales. The main driver for updating PPW was a Welsh Government commitment to restructure planning policy in line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

3.17 The RLDP will need to take into account the latest version of Planning Policy Wales.

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 1: Temporary disapplication of paragraph 6.2

3.18 In recognition of the immediate pressures on local planning authorities without a 5 year land supply who are liable to receive speculative planning applications for housing; the

need to ensure the most appropriate housing sites are brought forward as part of a systematic and rigorous LDP process; and to allow LPAs the capacity to focus on LDP preparation and review, WG consulted (May-June 2018) on the temporary disapplication of paragraph 6.2 of TAN 1. This would remove the reference to attaching ‘considerable weight’ to the lack of a five-year housing land supply as a material consideration in determining planning applications for housing.

3.19 Subsequently, the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs in a letter to all Welsh local authorities (dated 18th July 2018) dis-applied paragraph 6.2 of TAN 1. The letter states: *“As a result of the dis-application of paragraph 6.2 of TAN 1, it will be a matter for decision makers to determine the weight to be attributed to the need to increase housing land supply where an LPA has a shortfall in its housing land.”* It is currently unknown if the disapplication of paragraph 6.2 will only be for the Minister’s housing review or for an indefinite period.

3.20 Although Blaenau Gwent does not have a 5 year land supply and has not had one since 2014, it has not received any speculative planning applications and is therefore unlikely to take any formal decisions in light of this.

Planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople Sites Circular 005/2018

3.21 This circular provides updated guidance on the planning aspects of identifying sustainable sites for Gypsies and Travellers. It also outlines how planning authorities and Gypsies and Travellers can work together to achieve this aim. It supersedes advice contained in Circular 30/2007 *“Planning for gypsy and traveller caravan sites”*, Circular 78/91 *“Travelling Showpeople”* and Circular 76/94 *“Gypsy Sites Policy and Unauthorised Camping”* which are hereby cancelled.

3.22 The RLDP will need to take account of this circular.

Regional Policy Framework

Strategic Development Plan for South East Wales

3.23 Agreement has been reached by Leaders and Chief Executives of the Cardiff Capital Region to prepare a Strategic Development Plan for South East Wales. Work to progress this is expected to take place in 2019/20.

Local Policy Framework

3.24 There has been one change in the local policy context in 2018-19. Other documents were also added to the LDP evidence base.

Gwent Homelessness Strategy 2018 -2022 - Blaenau Gwent Local Action Plan

3.25 Preventing and addressing homelessness remains a high priority for the Welsh and Local Government in Wales. The Housing Act 2014 requires all Welsh local authorities to undertake a homelessness review and produce a four year homelessness strategy. Blaenau

Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen Councils have worked together to take a regional approach for the work resulting in the Gwent Homelessness Strategy.

3.26 Alongside this regional approach is the Blaenau Gwent Local Action Plan. One of the actions identified is intrinsically linked to the RLDP and seeks to increase the supply of good quality affordable private rented sector accommodation.

Blaenau Gwent Joint Housing Land Availability Study 2019

3.27 The Joint Housing Land Availability Study (JHLAS) 2019 provides detailed information on the housing land supply in Blaenau Gwent – based on LDP requirements. The findings of the study indicated that there was a 1.48 years supply of housing land. Whilst the housing land supply is below the required 5 years it does not reflect a shortage of land for development. It is the result of a housing target based on pre-recession growth rates that have not been achieved. Every year the figures have not been achieved the number of houses that have to be built increases. At the moment we need to be building 583 houses a year which is not achievable. If a (10 year) past build rate was used to identify supply then Blaenau Gwent would have a 9 year supply of housing land.

Supplementary Planning Guidance

3.28 The Council is currently preparing a Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Guidance document which will also include a number of Technical Guidance Notes covering trees, biodiversity, green spaces and rights of way.

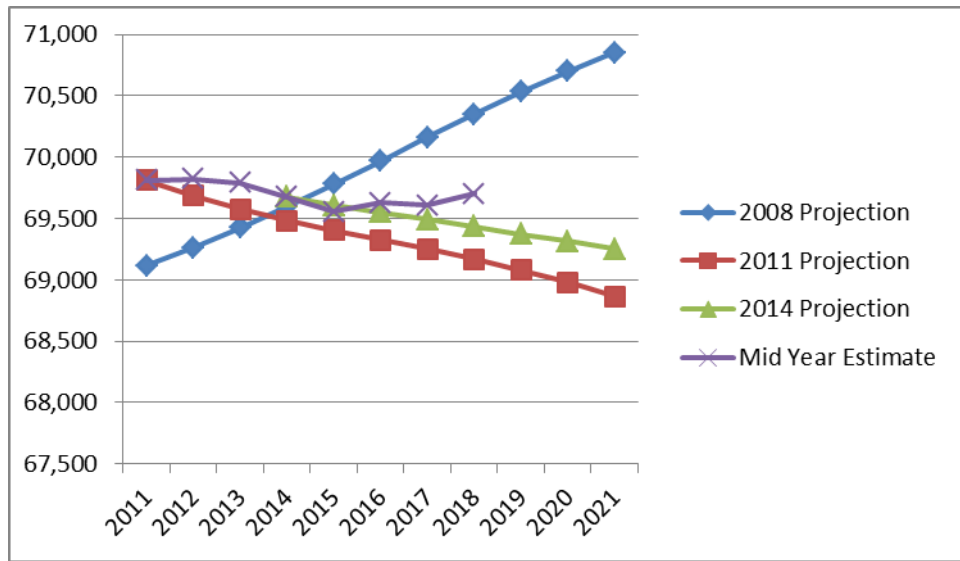
3.29 A list of Local Buildings of Historic Value has been prepared and will be consulted on alongside the RLDP.

Statistics

Mid-Year Estimates

3.30 This year the latest mid-year estimate for Blaenau Gwent has increased slightly (91) and now stands at 69,700 (2018).

Figure 4: Comparison of 2008, 2011 based Population Projections and Mid-year Estimates for Blaenau Gwent



3.31 The above graph clearly shows that the WG 2008 population projection used in the Plan is not being delivered and the projection work needs to be re-examined. It also indicates that the 2011 and 2014 projections are not accurately predicting what is happening. It is reassuring that the population is starting to rise.

4.0 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN MONITORING

4.1 The 2018-19 Annual Monitoring Report is the sixth monitoring report to be prepared since the adoption of the Blaenau Gwent LDP. The report provides an important opportunity for the Council to assess the impact that the LDP is having on social, economic and environmental well-being of the County Borough particularly as the Council is entering the final phase of the plan and has commenced preparation of a Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP).

4.2 This section outlines the results of the monitoring with respect to each of the monitoring aims set for the Strategic Policies (SP). In doing so it reports on each indicator identifying relevant triggers and where appropriate reporting on progress against outcomes.

Monitoring Table: SP1

POLICY SP1	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:
Northern Strategy Area – Sustainable Growth and Regeneration	1 & 7	DM1, DM2, DM3, DM5 & DM6 MU1, MU2, MU3, AA1, R1, H1, HC1, T1, T2, T4, & T6
MONITORING AIM:	To ensure sustainable growth and regeneration in the north of the Borough	
MONITORING INDICATOR:	MONITORING TARGET:	
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)
Amount of new A1 development	A1 Development 9,100 sq m delivered	A1 Development 11,500 sq m delivered
Amount of new leisure development	Leisure Development Contracts on Bryn Serth site – start of construction	Leisure Development Project at MU1 complete
Amount of land B use class delivered	Land in B use class 22.3 ha delivered	Land in B use class 48.5 ha delivered
Amount of housing delivered	Housing development 1,635 homes delivered	Housing development 3,155 homes delivered
Transport projects delivered	Transport projects 13 projects delivered	Transport projects 6 projects delivered
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
A key element of the Blaenau Gwent LDP Strategy is to deliver sustainable growth and regeneration in the Northern Strategy Area that benefits the whole of Blaenau Gwent. To fully understand the progress made in achieving this it is necessary to consider the findings of the monitoring exercise, as identified in the above indicators, in relation to the following interrelated factors:		
A1 Development		
The Retail Needs Assessment identified a need for 13,145 sq m of retail floorspace. The Plan allocates 11,500 sq m of land for new retail floorspace through commitments (sites with planning permission at April 2009) and a proposal in Ebbw Vale town centre. To date, none of these retail allocations have been developed. Further information regarding proposals and planning permission for these sites is contained in Appendix 1 – Status of Allocations.		

The remaining 1,645 sq m is to be met through redevelopment proposals in the town centres. The following table includes details of redevelopment proposals that have resulted in an increase of floorspace in the town centre:

Location	Proposal	Floorspace	Status
2013-2014			
Existing Aldi Store, The Walk, Ebbw Vale	Store extension	227 sq m (net sales area)	Complete
2014-2015			
No planning applications approved			
2015-2016			
No planning applications approved			
2016-2017 -			
No planning applications approved			
2017-2018			
Mcdonald's restaurant, The Walk, Ebbw Vale	Store extension	14.5 sq m	Complete
2018-2019			
No planning applications approved			
Total (2013-2018)		241.5 sq m	

241.5 sq m of floorspace has been delivered through redevelopment proposals in the town centre.

In terms of the amount of A1 land delivered and the outcome requirement of 9,100 sq m by 2016 and 11,500 sq m by 2021, as only 241.5 sq m has been delivered, the 2016 target has not been achieved and it is unlikely that the 2021 target will be achieved.

Leisure Development

Planning permission for mixed use development including the provision of a hotel has now lapsed on land at Bryn Serth. The Council are however currently working with the landowners of the site to bring the site forward including the leisure element. In 2018-2019 planning permission has been granted for a change of use of an existing office building (B1) at Bridge Street, Ebbw Vale to provide a 38 bedroom hotel (C3). The site is under construction.

In terms of the amount of new leisure development and the outcome requirement for start of construction on the Bryn Serth site by 2016 the target has not been achieved and the target of the completion of the projection by 2021 is unlikely to be achieved.

Land in B Use Class

By the end of 2016, it was expected that 22.3 ha of employment land would be delivered in the Northern Strategy Area.

Location	Proposal	Site Area (Ha)	Status
2009-2016			
MU2 The Works, Ebbw Vale	500 sq m of office space	0.18	Complete
2016-17			
EMP1.6 Land at Waun	Vehicle security park	0.7	Complete

y Pound Industrial Estate	and storage container facility, provides 460 sq m of B2 floorspace		
2017-18			
EMP1.6 Land at Waun y Pound Industrial Estate	B2 industrial unit with associated offices and external area provides 558 sq m of B2 floorspace	0.2	Complete
2018-19			
MU1 Rhyd y Blew, Bryn Serth Road	4,955 sq m of B1, B2 or B8 uses	2.87	Not Started
MU2 Land north of the Regain Building The Works, Ebbw Vale	Construction of 9 (B1) business units	1.0	Not Started

In addition to allocated sites, within this period 660 sq m has been delivered and a further 8,046 sq m is under construction on sites not allocated in the Plan.

In terms of the amount of land for B use class delivered on allocated sites and the outcome requirement for 22.3 ha to be delivered by 2016, as only 1.08 ha have been delivered, the 2016 target has not been achieved and it is unlikely that the 2021 target will be achieved.

Housing Development

To date 1,175 dwellings have been completed in the Northern Strategy Area which falls short of the 2016 outcome of 1,635 and the 2021 outcome of 3,155.

In terms of the amount of housing delivered and the outcome requirement for 1,635 homes to be delivered by 2016 and 3,155 by 2021, as only 1,175 homes have been delivered, the 2016 target has not been achieved and it is unlikely that the 2021 target will be achieved.

Transport Projects

Highway and public transport schemes implemented	
Cycle Routes	
T1.1	HoV Route linking 9 Arches Tredegar to Brynmawr
T1.3	HoV to Ebbw Vale and Cwm
T1.4	Cwm to Aberbeeg
T1.8	Brynmawr to Blaenavon
Rail Network and Station Improvements	
T2.1	Extension of rail link from Ebbw Vale Parkway to Ebbw Vale Town
T2.2	Provision of new station and bus interchange at Ebbw Vale
Improvement to Bus Services	
T4.2	Bus Interchange improvement at Brynmawr
T4.3	Bus interchange improvement at Ebbw Vale
New Roads to Facilitate Development	
T5.1	Construction of the Peripheral Distributor Road through 'The Works'
T5.2	Online improvements between the Peripheral Distributor Road and the A465
Regeneration Led Highway Schemes	

T6.1	Dualling of the Heads of the Valleys Road (Phase 3 complete and Phase underway)
<p>No further schemes have been completed this year in the Northern Strategy Area, bringing the number of schemes completed to date to 11. The Plan is two schemes short of the target to deliver 13 projects by 2016. The 2021 target is to deliver a further 6 transport projects.</p>	
<p>In terms of transport projects delivered and the outcome requirement for 13 projects delivered by 2016 the target has not been achieved. The outcome by the end of the Plan is for 19 transport projects to be delivered in the Northern Strategy Area and this is unlikely to be achieved.</p>	
<p>The monitoring aim of delivering sustainable growth and regeneration in the north of the borough has not been achieved at the anticipated 2016 levels and is unlikely to achieve the 2021 levels.</p>	
PERFORMANCE:	R
ACTION:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Replacement Local Development Plan is being prepared. 	

Monitoring Table: SP2

POLICY SP2	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:												
Southern Strategy Area – Regeneration	1, 6, 11 & 12	DM1, DM2, DM3, DM5, DM14, DM15, DM16, DM17 R1, H1, HC1, T1, T2, T4, T6, ENV2, ENV3, ENV4, TM1												
MONITORING AIM:	To ensure regeneration in the south of the Borough													
MONITORING INDICATOR:	MONITORING TARGET:													
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)												
Amount of land in B use class delivered	Land in B use class 1.5 ha delivered	Land in B use class 1.5 ha delivered												
Amount of housing delivered	Housing development 265 homes delivered	Housing development 345 homes delivered												
Tourism initiatives	Tourism initiatives 1 initiative delivered													
Environmental reclamation projects	Environmental reclamation 1 project delivered													
Transport projects	Transport projects 3 projects delivered	Transport projects 5 projects delivered												
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:														
<p>The objective of the Southern Strategy Area is to build on the strong sense of community pride and spectacular landscape to secure regeneration and create sustainable communities. To fully understand the progress made in achieving this objective it is necessary to consider the findings of the monitoring exercise in relation to the following interrelated factors:</p> <p><u>Land in B Use Class</u> By the end of 2016, 1.5 ha of employment land was expected to be delivered in the Southern Strategy Area.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Proposal</th> <th>Site Area Ha</th> <th>Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4">2018-19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roseheyworth Business Park</td> <td>Household waste recycling facility</td> <td>0.79</td> <td>Not Started</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In terms of the amount of land in B use class delivered and the outcome of 1.5 ha by 2016, with no land delivered, the 2016 target has not been achieved.</p> <p><u>Housing Development</u> To date, 111 homes have been delivered in the Southern Strategy Area which falls short of the 2016 outcome of 265 and the 2021 outcome requirement figure of 345.</p> <p>In terms of the amount of housing delivered and the outcome of 265 homes to be delivered by 2016 and 345 by 2021, with only 111 homes delivered, the 2016 target has not been achieved and the plan is unlikely to achieve the 2021 target.</p> <p><u>Tourism Initiatives</u> 1 tourism initiative is expected to have been completed by 2016. However the tourism and leisure initiative at Cwmtillery Lakes for an Outdoor Gateway and Education Centre is no longer being</p>			Location	Proposal	Site Area Ha	Status	2018-19				Roseheyworth Business Park	Household waste recycling facility	0.79	Not Started
Location	Proposal	Site Area Ha	Status											
2018-19														
Roseheyworth Business Park	Household waste recycling facility	0.79	Not Started											

progressed due to Communities First no longer being in operation. Although a project of this nature remains an aspiration.

In terms of the delivery of tourism initiatives and the outcome of 1 to be delivered by 2016, with no delivery, the target has not been achieved and is unlikely to be achieved by 2021.

Environmental Reclamation

The LDP identifies a land reclamation scheme in the Southern Strategy Area to be delivered by 2016.

The Council is looking to purchase or CPO the Llanhilleth Pit Head Baths property if necessary to redevelop it.

In terms of environmental reclamation projects and the outcome for 1 project to be delivered by 2016, with no progress on this, the target has not been achieved although it may be achieved by 2021.

Transport Projects

The outcome at the end of 2016 was for the delivery of 3 projects, with only 1 project being delivered, the 2016 target has not been achieved. The target requirement for 2021 is for a further 5 transport projects to be delivered. No further schemes have been completed during 2018-19.

Highway and public transport schemes implemented	
Cycle Routes	
T1.9	Extension to Ebbw Fach Trail from Abertillery to Aberbeeg and completion of missing section through Blaina

In terms of transport projects and the outcome for 3 projects to be delivered by 2016, with only 1 delivered, the target has not been achieved. It appears unlikely that the total of 8 schemes will be delivered by 2021.

The monitoring aim of delivering regeneration in the south of the borough has not been achieved at the anticipated 2016 levels and is unlikely to achieve the 2021 levels.

PERFORMANCE: R

ACTION:

- A Replacement Local Development Plan is being prepared.

Monitoring Table: SP3 (a)

POLICY SP3	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:						
The Retail Hierarchy and Vitality and Viability of the Town Centres	1	DM1, DM2, DM5 & DM6 AA1 & R1						
MONITORING AIM: SP3(a)	To ensure town centres thrive through the implementation of the retail hierarchy							
MONITORING INDICATOR:	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:							
Number of A1 uses in primary retail areas as a percentage of all units in the primary retail areas	Increase the % of A1 uses in Ebbw Vale's primary retail areas from a base level of 61% (2009)							
	Increase the % of A1 uses in Abertillery's primary retail area from a base level of 45% (2009)							
	Increase the percentage of A1 uses in Brynmawr's primary retail area from a base level of 61% (2009)							
	Increase the % of A1 uses in Tredegar's primary retail area from a base level of 67% (2009)							
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:								
To deliver thriving town centres and protect local shopping facilities, Policy SP3 defines a retail hierarchy. The monitoring targets set to monitor its success are the percentage of A1 uses in the primary retail area of each of the town centres.								
<u>Number of A1 uses in primary retail areas as a percentage of all units in primary retail areas</u>								
The table below shows the % of A1 uses in the Principal and District Town Centres for 2009; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018 and 2019 and the percentage change between 2009 and 2019:								
Town Centre	% of A1 Uses in Primary Retail Area 2009	% of A1 Uses in Primary Retail Area 2014	% of A1 Uses in Primary Retail Area 2015	% of A1 Uses in Primary Retail Area 2016	% of A1 Uses in Primary Retail Area 2017	% of A1 Uses in Primary Retail Area 2018	% of A1 Uses in Primary Retail Area 2019	% Change 2009 - 2019
Ebbw Vale	61%	61%	62%	68%	61%	59%	61%	0%
Abertillery	45%	45%	45%	45%	41%	40%	44%	-1%
Brynmawr	61%	62%	54%	53%	53%	58%	58%	-3%
Tredegar	67%	61%	63%	56%	54%	51%	50%	-17%
Source: Blaenau Gwent Annual Town Centre Surveys								
The percentage change of A1 uses in the Primary Retail Areas presents a bleak picture across the principal and district town centres. With the exception of Ebbw Vale, the percentage of A1 uses in the primary retail area has decreased below the 2009 level.								
In terms of increasing the % of A1 uses in the Ebbw Vale Primary Retail Area from a base of 61% there has been no increase therefore the Plan is behind target (0%).								
In terms of increasing the % of A1 uses in the Abertillery Primary Retail Area from a base of 45% the Plan is behind target (-1%).								
In terms of increasing the % of A1 uses in the Brynmawr Primary Retail Area from a base of 61% the Plan is behind target (-3%).								
In terms of increasing the % of A1 uses in the Tredegar Primary Retail Area from a base of 67% the								

Plan is behind target (-17%).

The monitoring aim to ensure town centres thrive through the implementation of the retail hierarchy is not currently being achieved.

PERFORMANCE:

R

- A Replacement Local Development Plan is being prepared.

Monitoring Table SP3 (b)

POLICY SP3	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:																																																															
The Retail Hierarchy and Vitality and Viability of the Town Centres	1	DM1, DM2, DM5 & DM6 AA1 & R1																																																															
MONITORING AIM: SP3(b)	To ensure the improvement of viability in the town centres																																																																
MONITORING INDICATOR:	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:																																																																
Reduce vacancy rates from a 2009 base figure tracked against other valley town centres	Reduce the vacancy rate in Ebbw Vale town centre from a base level of 11.5% (2009) tracked against other Valley towns																																																																
	Reduce the vacancy rate in Abertillery town centre from a base level of 20% (2009) tracked against other Valley towns																																																																
	Reduce the vacancy rate in Brynmawr town centre from a base level of 16% (2009) tracked against other Valley towns																																																																
	Reduce the vacancy rate in Tredegar town centre from a base level of 12% (2009) tracked against other Valley towns																																																																
	Reduce the vacancy rate in Blaina town centre from a base level of 25% (2009) tracked against other Valley towns																																																																
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:																																																																	
<p>The second part of Policy SP3 is to improve the vitality and viability of the town centres. In order to monitor this, the vacancy rate of the town centres need to be tracked to ensure they are decreasing and are comparable with other Valley towns.</p> <p>Reduce vacancy rates from a 2009 base figure tracked against other valley town centres</p> <p>The table below shows the vacancy rates for Blaenau Gwent's town centres for 2014; 2015; 2016 2017; 2018 and 2019; and the difference in vacancy rates between 2009 and 2019:</p>																																																																	
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Town Centre</th> <th>Vacancy Rate 2009</th> <th>Vacancy Rate 2014</th> <th>Vacancy Rate 2015</th> <th>Vacancy Rate 2016</th> <th>Vacancy Rate 2017</th> <th>Vacancy Rate 2018</th> <th>Vacancy Rate 2019</th> <th>% Change 2009 – 2019</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ebbw Vale</td> <td>11.5%</td> <td>11%</td> <td>11%</td> <td>13%</td> <td>14.5%</td> <td>11.9%</td> <td>11.9%</td> <td>+0.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abertillery</td> <td>20%</td> <td>23%</td> <td>23%</td> <td>18%</td> <td>24%</td> <td>18.8%</td> <td>18%</td> <td>-2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brynmawr</td> <td>11.6%</td> <td>11.1%</td> <td>9%</td> <td>10%</td> <td>10%</td> <td>11.7%</td> <td>8.7%</td> <td>-2.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tredegar</td> <td>12.4%</td> <td>18.6%</td> <td>19.4%</td> <td>18%</td> <td>17%</td> <td>19%</td> <td>24%</td> <td>+11.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blaina</td> <td>25%</td> <td>27.3%</td> <td>22.6%</td> <td>21.8%</td> <td>21.8%</td> <td>20.8%</td> <td>26%</td> <td>+1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Overall Vacancy Rates</td> <td>15.0%</td> <td>17.5%</td> <td>18.3%</td> <td>15.9%</td> <td>17.3%</td> <td>16.4%</td> <td>17.4%</td> <td>+2.4%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Town Centre	Vacancy Rate 2009	Vacancy Rate 2014	Vacancy Rate 2015	Vacancy Rate 2016	Vacancy Rate 2017	Vacancy Rate 2018	Vacancy Rate 2019	% Change 2009 – 2019	Ebbw Vale	11.5%	11%	11%	13%	14.5%	11.9%	11.9%	+0.4%	Abertillery	20%	23%	23%	18%	24%	18.8%	18%	-2%	Brynmawr	11.6%	11.1%	9%	10%	10%	11.7%	8.7%	-2.9%	Tredegar	12.4%	18.6%	19.4%	18%	17%	19%	24%	+11.6%	Blaina	25%	27.3%	22.6%	21.8%	21.8%	20.8%	26%	+1%	Overall Vacancy Rates	15.0%	17.5%	18.3%	15.9%	17.3%	16.4%	17.4%	+2.4%
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Blaina	25%	27.3%	22.6%	21.8%	21.8%	20.8%	26%	+1%																																																									
Overall Vacancy Rates	15.0%	17.5%	18.3%	15.9%	17.3%	16.4%	17.4%	+2.4%																																																									
<p>The overall vacancy rate for the town centres is 17.4% (2018 -19) which is a 1% increase on last year and a 2.4 % increase from 2009. The Blaenau Gwent vacancy rate remains higher than the Wales vacancy rate of 13%.</p>																																																																	

The vacancy rate in Ebbw Vale has not changed since last year, staying at 11.9% and is only 0.4% above the 2009 vacancy rate. It is lower than the national average town centre vacancy rate.

The vacancy rate in Abertillery, at 18%, has reduced by 0.8% from last year and remains lower than in 2009.

The vacancy rate for Brynmawr is 8.7% which is 2.9% lower than last year, and means that it is lower than in 2009. Brynmawr has the lowest vacancy rate out of all other town centres and is much lower than the national average of 13%.

In Tredegar, the vacancy rate rose by 5% last year to its highest level yet (24%) this means it is now nearly double that of 2009. As a result of the vacancy rate being above 17% a trigger has been breached.

The vacancy rate in Blaina has increased by 5.2% this year which means that the vacancy rate is now 1% higher than in 2009.

Town	Status	Total No. of Commercial Premises in 2009	% Vacant Units 2009	Total No. of Commercial Premises in 2018 -19	% Vacant Units 2018-19	% Change 2009-2019
Blaenau Gwent						
Ebbw Vale	Principal Town Centre	139	11.5%	118	11.9%	+0.4%
Abertillery	District Local Town Centre	159	20%	128	18%	-2%
Brynmawr	District Local Town Centre	155	11.6%	103	8.7%	-2.9%
Tredegar	District Local Town Centre	170	12.4%	155	24%	+11.6%
Blaina	Local Town Centre	64	25%	53	26%	+1%
Caerphilly (CCBC)						
Bargoed	Principal Town	138	19%	144	22.9%	+3.9%
Rhymney	Local Centre	31	6%	34	29.4%	+23.4%
Merthyr Tydfil						
Merthyr Town	Principal Town	No data available	13%	307	11.1% (2016-17 data)	-1.9%
Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT)						
Aberdare	Principal Town	223	15%	220	12.27%	-2.73%
Ferndale	Key Settlement	46	13.0%	42	6.52%	-6.48%
Mountain Ash	Key Settlement	94	14.9%	93	21.5%	+6.6%
Treorchy	Key Settlement	114	6.1%	120	9.16%	+3.06%

The picture in Blaenau Gwent is similar to other Heads of the Valleys towns. A mixed picture with some towns doing well and seeing decreases in vacancy rates whilst others fair less well with increases vacancy rates. Merthyr Tydfil, Aberdare and Ferndale have done well and seen a decrease in vacancy rates compared to the 2009 base rate (-1.9 to -6.48). Whilst Bargoed Rhymney and Mountain Ash have not done so well and seen increases in vacancy rates of between 3.06 to 23.4%.

In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Ebbw Vale from a base level of 11.5% the target has not been achieved.

In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Abertillery from a base level of 20% the target has been achieved.

In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Brynmawr from a base level of 11.6% the target has been achieved.

In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Tredegar from a base level of 12.4% the target has not been achieved and has breached a trigger.

In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Blaina from a base level of 25% the target has not been achieved.

The monitoring aim to ensure improvement of viability in the town centres is not currently being achieved in its entirety. All retail related policies will be reviewed as part of the RLDP.

PERFORMANCE:

A

Monitoring Table: SP4 (a)

POLICY SP4	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:																		
Delivering Quality Housing	2 & 3	DM1, DM2, DM3, DM7, DM8, DM9 & DM12 MU1, MU2, MU3, H1, & HC1																		
MONITORING AIM:SP4 (a)	To secure construction of 3,500 net additional dwellings by 2021 and halt population decline																			
MONITORING INDICATOR :	MONITORING TARGET:																			
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)																		
Net number of additional affordable and general market dwellings built per annum	Completion of 1,900 homes	Completion of 3,500 homes																		
Population level of Blaenau Gwent	Increase population to 69,968	Increase population to 70,849																		
Percentage of vacant properties	Decrease vacancy rate of residential properties to 4.5%	Decrease vacancy rate of residential properties to 4%																		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:																				
<p>To stem out-migration and attract people to the area Policy SP4 makes provision for the delivery of 3,500 new dwellings and aims to increase the population of the Borough to 70,894 by 2021. The monitoring targets set to measure success are the completion of homes and population levels. This is also an indicator that measures the vacancy rate of residential properties as the Plan relies on reducing vacancy rates to meet its overall housing requirement figure.</p> <p>Net number of additional affordable and general market dwellings built</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Net number of additional affordable and general market dwellings built</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2006 – 2013</td> <td>807</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-2014</td> <td>81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014 – 2015</td> <td>49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015-2016</td> <td>147</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016-2017</td> <td>87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017-2018</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018-2019</td> <td>75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total to date</td> <td>1,286</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The above table identifies that 1,286 homes have been built to date which is well below the outcome requirement figure of 1,900 homes by 2016 and the Plan requirement of 3,500 by 2021.</p> <p>This year's figure of 75 completions is an improvement on the previous year. Yet again the completion rate has been boosted by 31 completions from a Registered Social Landlord site. Small site completions have improved from last year and with the figure of 26 is comparable with what has been achieved over the past 10 years.</p> <p>In terms of the net number of additional affordable and general market dwellings built and the outcome requirement for 1,900 by 2016 and 3,500 by 2021 at 1,286 the LDP is behind target and unlikely to meet the 2021 outcome requirement. It is 32% below the requirement of 1,900 by 2016 which is above the trigger of 30%.</p>			Year	Net number of additional affordable and general market dwellings built	2006 – 2013	807	2013-2014	81	2014 – 2015	49	2015-2016	147	2016-2017	87	2017-2018	40	2018-2019	75	Total to date	1,286
Year	Net number of additional affordable and general market dwellings built																			
2006 – 2013	807																			
2013-2014	81																			
2014 – 2015	49																			
2015-2016	147																			
2016-2017	87																			
2017-2018	40																			
2018-2019	75																			
Total to date	1,286																			

Population level of Blaenau Gwent

The policy aims to increase the population of the Borough from 68,914 in 2006 to 70,849 in 2021. However, the 2006 figure was based on a mid-year estimate which has since been revised to take account of the 2011 census results. The revised figure for 2006 is 69,610.

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Population	69,610	69,685	69,820	69,850	69,798	69,812	69,822	69,789	69,674	69,554	69,628	69,609	69,700

The latest mid-year estimate (2018) is 69,700. There has been a slight increase this year but we have still failed to meet the target of 69,968 set for 2016 and are unlikely to meet the target of 70,849 set for 2021.

In terms of the outcome target of increasing the population to 69,968 by 2016, with a figure of 69,700, the Plan has failed to meet the outcome target for 2016 and is unlikely to meet the target set for 2021.

Percentage of Vacant Properties

In order to identify the number of households required in the Plan period the Council was required to convert the dwelling requirement into a household requirement. Part of this equation relied on an estimate of the vacancy rate at the end of the Plan period. The Council used a figure of 4%. In order to ensure that the projection is based on sound information it was considered necessary to monitor this figure. The aim is to reduce the vacancy rate from 5.7% to 4% by 2021.

Year	2001	2011
Vacancy Rate	5.7%	4.8%

The 2011 census figure identifies that the vacancy rate has reduced to 4.8%, a 0.9% decrease. If this rate of decrease continues the vacancy rate in 2016 would be 4.45% meeting the 2016 outcome target and by 2021 would be 3.9%, again meeting the 2021 outcome target.

As the Census is only undertaken every 10 years there is no update available for this monitoring outcome.

In terms of decreasing the vacancy rate of residential properties to 4.5% by 2016 and 4% by 2021 the Plan is on target.

The monitoring aim to secure the construction of 3,500 net additional dwellings by 2021 and halt population decline is not currently being achieved.

PERFORMANCE:

R

ACTIONS:

- A Replacement Local Development Plan is being prepared.

Monitoring Table: SP4 (b)

POLICY SP4	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:
Delivering Quality Housing	2 & 3	DM1, DM2, DM3, DM7, DM8, DM9 & DM12 MU1, MU2, MU3, H1, & HC1
MONITORING AIM: SP4 (b)	To ensure the delivery of 1,000 affordable dwellings, 335 of which through planning obligations	
MONITORING INDICATOR :	MONITORING TARGET:	
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)
Number of net additional affordable dwellings built per annum	224 affordable dwellings through S106 agreements	335 affordable dwellings through S106 agreements
	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:	
Change in viability	Change in sales value per sq m	
	A change that would impact on viability of development - building regulations and code for sustainable homes	
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
<p>The second part of Policy SP4 is to ensure that local housing need is met and sustainable linked communities are created. The monitoring targets set to monitor its success are the number of net additional affordable dwellings built per annum and a change that would impact on viability of development.</p> <p>Number of net additional affordable dwellings built per annum</p> <p>Part of delivering quality housing is ensuring that local housing need is met. This involves the delivery of a mix of tenure including social rented, intermediate rent and low cost homes. Overall the Plan aims to deliver 1,000 affordable properties by 2021.</p>		
Year	Number of net additional affordable dwellings Completed	
2006- 2013	317	
2013-2014	41	
2014-2015	7	
2015-2016	63	
2016-2017	48	
2017-2018	0	
2018-2019	31	
Total	507	
<p>To date 507 affordable dwellings have been delivered. However, this figure is likely to increase in the next few years due to the number of 100% affordable housing schemes currently under construction or in the pipeline. If all the schemes below are delivered as planned this figure would increase to 643. However this still falls short of the 2021 target of 1,000.</p>		
Development	Number of affordable units in pipeline	Progress
Gwaun Helyg, Ebbw Vale	26	Site under construction
Sirhowy Infants School Tredegar	23	Site under construction

Greenacres, Tredegar	18	Site demolition taking place
Infants School and Griffin Yard, Brynmawr	36	Not started but in SHG programme
Land adjacent Llys Glyncoed, College Road, Rassau	33	Site under construction
Total	136	

Further information regarding proposals and planning permission for these sites are contained in Appendix 1 – Status of Allocations.

In terms of the number of net additional affordable houses built per annum and the requirement for 1,000 by the end of the Plan period, with a figure of 507 and less than a third of the Plan period left, the Plan is behind target and unlikely to meet the 2021 requirement.

Number of net additional affordable dwellings delivered through S106

Of the 1,000 total affordable properties 224 are to be secured through S106 Agreements by 2016 and 335 by 2021. To date a total of 71.7 units have been secured and a further 36.5 are in the process of being secured through S106 Agreements as identified in the table below:

Development	No of units secured through S106 Agreements
BKF Plastics (S106 signed)	2
Park Hill, Tredegar (Phase 1) (S106 signed)	14.3
Park Hill, Tredegar (Phase 2) (S106 signed)	15
Peacehaven (S106 signed)	4 LCHO delivered Plus financial contribution (£80,000)
Nant Farm Road, Six Bells, Abertillery (S106 signed)	Financial Contribution equivalent to 2 affordable homes
Cambridge Gardens, Ebbw Vale (S106 signed)	Financial contribution equivalent to 1 affordable home
Carlton House, Ebbw Vale (S106 signed)	1 unit
Land at Pochin, Tredegar (S106 signed)	Financial contribution equivalent to 2.4 affordable homes
Land at Bryn Serth (condition)	30 affordable homes
	71.7 units
Rhyd -y- Blew (subject to signing of S106)	25
Pantyforest, Ebbw Vale (subject to signing of S106)	Financial contribution equivalent to 2 affordable homes
Land at Nant-y-Croft (subject to signing of S106)	5 affordable homes
Land at Ashvale Sports Club (subject to signing of S106)	2 affordable homes
Land to the east of Blaina Road (subject to signing of S106)	2.5 affordable homes
	36.5
Total	108.2 units plus £80,000 financial contribution

The figure of 71.7 falls well short of the target of 224 by 2016 and reflects the lack of confidence in the private sector housing market in Blaenau Gwent and the wider problems in the housing market.

In terms of the number of net additional affordable houses delivered through S106 per annum and the outcome requirement for 224 to be secured by 2016 and 335 by 2021, having only secured a total of 71.7 the Plan is behind target and is unlikely to meet the 2021 requirement. It also breaks the trigger of being below 20% of the 224 target for 2016.

Change in viability

The Council set a 10% affordable housing requirement for developers and to ensure that this requirement is viable it was considered necessary to monitor changes in sales value per sq m and other changes that could impact on viability such as building regulations.

Year	Source	Sales values per sq m
2010	Affordable Housing Viability Assessment	£1,700
2014	Based on an assessment of Peacehaven, Tredegar	£1,377.40
2015	CIL Report	£1,500 - £1,700
2016	Based on an assessment of Peacehaven, Tredegar	£1,548
2017	Based on an assessment of Peacehaven, Tredegar	£1,679.29
2018	Based on an assessment of Peacehaven, Tredegar	£1,787.58

The Affordable Housing Viability Assessment undertaken in 2010 was based on sales values of £1,700 per sq. m. The Council has since undertaken viability work to inform a decision on the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy. The sales values identified in this work vary across the Borough, from £1,500 in the south of the Borough to £1,700 in the Ebbw Vale area. This work is informing a revised Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) document and future S106 negotiations. Since 2014, we have monitored sales values at Peacehaven, Tredegar and these have increased from £1,377.4 to £1,787.58, an increase of 30%. With the exception of 4 affordable properties all houses at the site are now sold and it is therefore no longer possible to monitor sales values at the site.

This year has seen a further increase in house prices and hence sales values. Average house prices have increased from £83,280 in April 2018 to £93,283 in April 2019 an increase of 12% (Source: Land Registry).

In terms of the change in viability no trigger has been broken as sales value per sq metre are not 10% less than the original sales values.

The introduction of mandatory requirements for Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs) may well have implications for viability of sites though at present the implications are unclear.

The introduction of mandatory SUDs is a change that would impact on viability in areas where sales values are less than viable.

The monitoring aim to deliver 1,000 affordable dwellings, 335 of which through planning obligations is not being achieved at the anticipated levels.

PERFORMANCE:

R

ACTIONS:

- A Replacement Local Development Plan is being prepared.

Monitoring Table: SP5 (a)

POLICY SP5	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:														
Spatial Distribution of Housing	3	MU1, MU2, MU3, H1, & HC1														
MONITORING AIM: SP5 (a)	To ensure the delivery of housing in accordance with the strategy															
MONITORING INDICATOR:	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:															
The housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study	Less than a 5 year supply															
Land available for Gypsy and Traveller units	Land Available - loss of land to other uses															
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:																
<p>To ensure the delivery of housing in accordance with the strategy, the plan monitors the housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study and that land is available for Gypsy and Traveller units.</p> <p><u>The housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study</u></p> <p>Local planning authorities are required by Welsh Government (PPW) to ensure that sufficient land is available, or will become available, for a five-year supply of land for housing. To demonstrate this, each local planning authority prepares a Joint Housing Land Availability Study each year. The current published study for Blaenau Gwent (2019) indicates that Blaenau Gwent has a 1.48 year land supply.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Land Supply in Years</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>3.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>2.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>1.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>1.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>1.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>1.48</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Having less than a 5-years supply breaches a trigger point. However, the issue in Blaenau Gwent is not with the supply of land but the reluctance of developers to build due to concerns over viability and a lack of confidence in the market.</p> <p>Even where sites are identified as being available and viable relatively small numbers are identified as coming forward in the five year period. The remainder of these large sites sit outside the 5 year supply even though the land is available. This is due to slow build rates which are as a result of a lack of demand/confidence in the local housing market.</p> <p>In terms of the housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study and the requirement to have more than 5 years, having only 1.48 years, the Plan has breached a trigger.</p> <p><u>Land Available for Gypsy and Traveller units (GT1)</u></p> <p>As part of policy SP4's aim of meeting local housing need a site was included in the Plan to accommodate unmet gypsy and traveller needs. The trigger point is the loss of the proposed site to other uses – the land is currently vacant and thus the trigger has not been broken. Indeed, a planning application has been approved for the development of 4 new pitches at this site.</p>			Year	Land Supply in Years	2014	3.31	2015	2.01	2016	1.35	2017	1.27	2018	1.28	2019	1.48
Year	Land Supply in Years															
2014	3.31															
2015	2.01															
2016	1.35															
2017	1.27															
2018	1.28															
2019	1.48															

In terms of the requirement for land being available for Gypsy and Traveller units the Plan is on target.

The monitoring aim to deliver housing in accordance with the strategy is not being achieved at the anticipated levels and it is unlikely that this will be addressed without specific intervention.

PERFORMANCE:

R

ACTIONS:

- A Replacement Local Development Plan is being prepared.

Monitoring Table: SP5 (b)

POLICY SP5	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:		
Spatial Distribution of Housing	3	MU1, MU2, MU3, H1, & HC1		
MONITORING AIM: SP5 (b)	To ensure the delivery of housing in accordance with the strategy and to increase build rates over the plan period			
MONITORING INDICATOR:	MONITORING TARGET:			
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)		
Percentage of housing developments delivered in hub areas in accordance with the Plan's phasing	Ebbw Vale – 55%	Ebbw Vale – 60%		
	Tredegar – 25%	Tredegar – 20%		
	Upper Ebbw Fach – 10%	Upper Ebbw Fach – 15%		
	Lower Ebbw Fach – 10%	Lower Ebbw Fach – 5%		
To ensure the delivery of housing in accordance with the strategy, the plan monitors the percentage of build rates in the four hub areas. These are compared against a set of expected outcomes figures.				
Percentage of housing developments delivered in hub areas in accordance with the Plan's phasing				
Area	Number of Houses Delivered from April 2006 to April 2019	Percentage	Expected Outcome by 2016	Expected Outcome by 2021
Ebbw Vale	493	38%	55%	60%
Tredegar	425	33%	25%	20%
Upper Ebbw Fach	257	20%	10%	15%
Lower Ebbw Fach	111	9%	10%	5%
Total	1,286			
At 38% it is clear that Ebbw Vale has underperformed against the expected outcome of 55% for 2016 and is unlikely to reach 60% by 2021.				
However, the position is set to improve with work having commenced on a site for 100 homes at Ebbw Vale Northern Corridor (MU1) (Bryn Serth Road). A planning application has also been received for the adjacent former school and Coleg Gwent site (279 homes). The Northgate site on The Works (MU2) has now been sold and an application is expected this year.				
In terms of the percentage of housing developments delivered in the Ebbw Vale hub area and the outcome requirement for 55% by 2016 and 60% by 2021 the Plan, at 38%, is below the target and is unlikely to meet the 2021 target.				
In terms of the percentage of housing developments delivered in the Tredegar hub area and the outcome requirement for 25% by 2016 and 20% by 2021 the Plan, at 33%, is above the target and is likely to remain above by 2021.				
In terms of the percentage of housing developments delivered in the Upper Ebbw Fach hub area and the outcome requirement for 10% by 2016 and 15% by 2021 the Plan, at 20%, is above the target and is likely to remain above by 2021.				
In terms of the percentage of housing developments delivered in the Lower Ebbw Fach hub area and the outcome requirement for 10% by 2016 and 5% by 2021 the Plan, at 9%, is on target and is likely to meet the 2021 target.				
The monitoring aim to ensure the delivery of housing in accordance with the strategy and to increase build rates over the plan period is not currently being achieved but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct				

intervention.	
PERFORMANCE:	A

Monitoring Table: SP6

POLICY SP6	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:
Ensuring Accessibility	4	DM1 T1, T2, T3, T4, T5 & T6
MONITORING AIM :	To ensure improved connectivity within Blaenau Gwent and with the wider area	
MONITORING INDICATOR :	MONITORING TARGET :	
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)
Number of highway and public transport schemes implemented	Transport projects 13 projects delivered	Transport projects 26 projects delivered
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
Policy SP6 is aimed at ensuring accessibility, the monitoring aim is to ensure that connectivity within Blaenau Gwent is improved. This is to be measured through the delivery of schemes identified in the Plan.		
Number of highway and public transport schemes implemented		
Highway and public transport schemes implemented		
Cycle Routes		
T1.1	HoV Route linking 9 Arches Tredegar to Brynmawr	
T1.3	HoV to Ebbw Vale and Cwm	
T1.4	Cwm to Aberbeeg	
T1.8	Brynmawr to Blaenavon	
T1.9	Extension to Ebbw Fach Trail from Abertillery to Aberbeeg and completion of missing section through Blaina	
Rail Network and Station Improvements		
T2.1	Extension of rail link from Ebbw Vale Parkway to Ebbw Vale Town	
T2.2	Provision of new station and bus interchange at Ebbw Vale	
Improvement to Bus Services		
T4.2	Bus Interchange improvement at Brynmawr	
T4.3	Bus interchange improvement at Ebbw Vale	
New Roads to Facilitate Development		
T5.1	Construction of the Peripheral Distributor Road through 'The Works'	
T5.2	Online improvements between the Peripheral Distributor Road and the A465	
Regeneration Led Highway Schemes		
T6.1	Dualling of the Heads of the Valleys Road (Phase 3 complete and Phase 2 underway)	
No further schemes have been completed this year. At 12 schemes completed the Plan remains 1 scheme short of its outcome of 13 projects required by 2016 and 14 short of the outcome of 26 by 2021.		
Further information regarding proposals and planning permission for these sites are contained in Appendix 1 – Status of Allocations.		
In terms of the number of transport schemes implemented and the outcome for 13 by 2016 the Plan, with 12 schemes completed is behind target and is unlikely to meet the 2021 target.		

The monitoring aim to ensure improved connectivity within Blaenau Gwent and with the wider area is not being met but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention.

PERFORMANCE:

A

Monitoring Table: SP7 (a)

POLICY SP7	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:														
Climate Change	6	DM1, DM2 & DM4														
MONITORING AIM: SP7 (a)	To ensure that more of the County Borough's electricity and heat requirements are generated by renewable and low zero carbon energy															
MONITORING INDICATOR:	MONITORING TARGET:															
Progress on the adoption of an Energy Opportunities Plan	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)														
	The Energy Opportunities Plan will be adopted by the Council															
The capacity of renewable energy developments installed per annum	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:															
	All major applications provide evidence of consideration to the generation of renewable energy															
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:																
Policy SP7 seeks to address the causes of climate change. As part of this, the Policy aims to ensure that more of the County Borough's electricity and heat requirements are generated by renewable and low zero carbon energy.																
<u>Energy Opportunities Plan</u>																
Regeneration Services have been actively exploring a range of energy opportunities in the County Borough. The Council owns and operates an existing district heating network at The Works site in Ebbw Vale. It is exploring the potential for further network opportunities and has carried out heat demand mapping, masterplanning and preparation of a feasibility study. An energy prospectus has been prepared identifying renewable energy generation opportunities in the Borough:																
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Project Name</th> <th>Technology</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>RE:FIT</td> <td>Lighting, CHP, Solar, PV et al</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Works Expansion</td> <td>Gas CHP, Biomass Boilers</td> </tr> <tr> <td>District Energy Network Development</td> <td>Gas CHP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Silent Valley Wind Project</td> <td>Wind</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Beaufort Wind Project</td> <td>Wind</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hydro Generation Hydro</td> <td>Hydro</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Project Name	Technology	RE:FIT	Lighting, CHP, Solar, PV et al	The Works Expansion	Gas CHP, Biomass Boilers	District Energy Network Development	Gas CHP	Silent Valley Wind Project	Wind	Beaufort Wind Project	Wind	Hydro Generation Hydro	Hydro
Project Name	Technology															
RE:FIT	Lighting, CHP, Solar, PV et al															
The Works Expansion	Gas CHP, Biomass Boilers															
District Energy Network Development	Gas CHP															
Silent Valley Wind Project	Wind															
Beaufort Wind Project	Wind															
Hydro Generation Hydro	Hydro															
In terms of the adoption of the Energy Opportunities Plan, the target has now been achieved.																
<u>The capacity of renewable energy developments installed per annum</u>																
Scheme	Location	Capacity														
2013-2014																
Wind Turbine	Unit 15 Rassau Industrial Estate	0.75 MW														
Wind Turbine	Penrhiwgwaith Farm, Hollybush	0.5 MW														
2014 – 2015																
Wind Turbine	Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate	0.5 MW														
2016-2017																
Photovoltaic solar park	Hafod y Dafal Farm, Abertillery	Partially installed –														

comprising of 53,955 photovoltaic solar panels over 28.6 ha		approximately 73% installed (15.3 ha) which equates to 10 MW
Roof and ground mounted photovoltaic panels	Unit 15 Rassau Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale	0.25 MW
Erection of a single turbine and associated transformer enclosure	Former Techboard Site, Rassau Industrial Estate, Rassau	0.5 MW
2 wind turbines	Eurocaps Ltd Crown Business Park, Tredegar	0.5 MW
2017-2018		
Two wind turbines	Coed y Gilfach, Six Bells, Abertillery	0.5 MW
2018-2019		
No renewable energy developments installed		
Total (2013-2017)		13.5 MW

Capacity of low carbon energy developments installed per annum

Scheme	Location	Capacity
2013-2014		
Combined heat and power	The Works Energy Centre	0.39 MW
2014-2015		
Biomass Boiler	The Works Energy Centre	2.4 MW
2015-2016		
No low carbon energy developments installed		
2016-2017		
No low carbon energy developments installed		
2017-2018		
No low carbon energy developments installed		
2018-2019		
No low carbon energy developments installed		
Total (2013-2017)		2.79 MW

0 MW of renewable / low carbon energy has been installed in 2018-2019.

All major applications provide evidence of consideration to the generation of renewable energy

Policy DM4 defines major applications as 100 or more flats or homes and/or provision of 1,000 sq m and over of floorspace. In 2018-19, the following major scheme has been approved:

Location	Scheme	Floorspace	Consideration of Renewable Energy
Land north of Regain Building, Mill Lane, Victoria, Ebbw Vale	Construction of 9 business units (B1) within 3 buildings, with associated parking and new access road. 50% will be office space	1,175.25 sq m	The building will achieve BREEAM Excellence standards, and passive environmental design principles will reduce energy demand. The site will also gain from connection to the

			existing biomass combined heat and power plant located at The Works.
Land at Rhyd Y Blew, Bryn Serth Road, Ebbw Vale	The construction of an employment unit for B1, B2 or B8 uses, with highway & site access, car parking, service area, sub-station, along with footpath and cycleway provision, drainage & landscaping.	4,955 sq m	The applicants undertook a Low and Zero Carbon Study which has assessed the feasibility of renewable technology options on the wider plateau. It was recommended that the roof area could be used for solar PV panels. The Building has also been designed to achieve 5 BREEAM credits under ENE1. The plans also include details of water storage and waste recycling facilities.
Land at Bryn Serth (adj to KFC) Waun-y-Pound, Ebbw Vale	Construction of 100 residential dwellings		Solar panels on roofs were considered but were deemed unviable. No other low carbon technologies were considered appropriate
Eurocaps, Crown Business Park, Tredegar	Extension of existing production and warehouse facilities	5,798 sqm	The extension will include 285 large photovoltaic panels (57kw) and will also be connected to an existing 225kw wind turbine.
<p>In terms of the requirement for all major applications to provide evidence of consideration to the generation of renewable energy, with all 4 major applications considering the generation of renewable energy, the Plan is on target.</p> <p>The monitoring aim to ensure that more of the County Borough's electricity and heat requirements are generated by renewable and low zero carbon energy is being met.</p>			
PERFORMANCE:		G	

Monitoring Table: SP7 (b)

POLICY SP7	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:														
Climate Change	6	DM1, DM2 & DM														
MONITORING AIM : SP7 (b)	To ensure the efficient use of land															
MONITORING INDICATOR:	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:															
Average density of housing development permitted on allocated sites	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)	70% of all development to be on allocated sites															
Amount of new development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions) expressed as a percentage of all development permitted	80% of new development to be on brownfield land															
MONITORING INDICATOR:	MONITORING TARGET :															
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)														
The number of land reclamation schemes completed per annum	Land Reclamation Schemes – 2 delivered	Land Reclamation Schemes – 2 delivered														
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:																
<p>The aim of this policy is to ensure the efficient use of land, this is being monitored through ensuring that the average density set in the Plan is being achieved particularly on the large mixed-use sites. Also ensuring that development is taking place on allocated land and brownfield land.</p> <p>Average Density of Housing Development permitted on allocated sites</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Average Density</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2013-2014</td> <td>31.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014-2015</td> <td>47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015-2016</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016-2017</td> <td>37.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017-2018</td> <td>35.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018-2019</td> <td>33</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In terms of the average density of housing development permitted on allocated sites the average density this year is 33 which is below the 35 Plan average.</p> <p><u>100% of Mixed-use sites to deliver 35 units and over</u></p>			Year	Average Density	2013-2014	31.07	2014-2015	47	2015-2016	19	2016-2017	37.8	2017-2018	35.7	2018-2019	33
Year	Average Density															
2013-2014	31.07															
2014-2015	47															
2015-2016	19															
2016-2017	37.8															
2017-2018	35.7															
2018-2019	33															

Year	Average Density
2013-2014	N/A
2014-2015	42
2015-2016	N/A
2016-2017	N/A
2017-2018	N/A
2018-2019	27

In terms of the average density of housing development permitted on allocated sites and the requirement for 100% of mixed-use schemes to be over 35, as the 1 permission granted this year had an average density of 27 the monitoring target has been broken.

Development on Allocated Sites

Percentage of allocated sites with permission

Year	Size (Ha) of development permitted on allocated land	% of all allocated land (379.75 ha)
2006-2013	139.091	36.6%
2013-2014	1.13	0.2%
2014-2015	21.48	5.6%
2015-2016	9.18	2.4%
2016-2017	3.97	1%
2017-2018	10.53	2.7%
2018-2019	13.98	4%
Total to date	208.71	52.5%

(Note: Some allocations already had permission prior to 2006)

In terms of the percentage of allocated sites with permissions we have reached 52.5%, however we are now 80% through the Plan period. The figure of 4% for the current year remains lower than what is required (6.6%) on an annual basis.

In terms of the percentage of allocated sites with permission the figure of 52.5% falls short of what might be expected by 2021 when we are 80% through the Plan period.

Development permitted on allocated sites as a percentage of total development permitted

Year	Size (Ha) on allocated land	Size (Ha) of Total Development permitted	% of allocated as a % of total development permitted
2006-2013	139.091	177.461	78%
2013-2014	1.13	241.42	0.4%
2014-2015	21.48	26.52	81%
2015-2016	9.18	19.32	48%
2016-2017	3.97	14.36	27%
2017-2018	10.53	18.33	57%
2018-2019	13.98	20.26	69%
Total to date	199.361	517.671	38%

This year 69% of all developments were on allocated sites, which is slightly higher than last year.

In terms of the percentage of development permitted on allocated sites as a percentage of total development permitted and the requirement for 70%, the Plan, with a figure of 69% this year is slightly below target.

New Development on Brownfield land

Year	Size (Ha) on brownfield	Size (Ha) of Total Development permitted	% on brownfield land
2006-2013	136.341	177.461	76.8%
2013-2014	5.42	241.42	2.2%
2014-2015	22.41	26.52	84%
2015-2016	14.38	19.32	74%
2016-2017	13.3	14.36	93%
2017-2018	15.69	18.33	86%
2018-2019	17.68	20.26	87%

This year 87% of new development permitted was on brownfield land.

In terms of the amount of new development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions) expressed as a percentage of all development permitted and the requirement for 80%, the Plan with a figure of 87%, is on target this year.

Land Reclamation Schemes

The LDP identifies four land reclamation schemes; two of which are to be delivered in the second phase of the plan by 2016; and two in the third phase of the plan by 2021. The Council is in negotiation with the landowners of the Llanhilleth Pit Head Baths to purchase the site and then redevelop it. Nevertheless the Plan has failed to meet the 2016 outcome.

There is no WG or capital funding available to deliver these schemes and this policy allocation will need to be re-examined through the review of the Plan.

In terms of the number of land reclamation schemes completed per annum and the outcome for 2 schemes to be completed by 2016 and a further 2 by 2021 the Plan, having completed none, the Plan has failed to meet the 2016 outcome and is unlikely to meet the 2021 outcome.

The monitoring aim to ensure the efficient use of land is not being met but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention.

PERFORMANCE:

A

Monitoring Table: SP7 (c)

POLICY SP7	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:
Climate Change	6	DM1, DM2 & DM4
MONITORING AIM: SP7(c)	To avoid development in areas at high risk of flooding	
MONITORING INDICATOR:	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:	
Amount of development (by TAN15 paragraph 5.1 development category) permitted in C1 and C2 floodplain areas not meeting all TAN 15 tests	No permissions for highly vulnerable or emergency services development within flood zone C2	
	100% of developments permitted in flood zone C1 to meet the justification test of TAN 15 and to have shown that the consequences of flooding can be managed to an acceptable level	
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
Policy SP7 seeks to address climate change and part of this involves ensuring that new developments adapt to climate change. As part of this the policy aims to ensure that new development is directed away from areas which are at risk of flooding.		
<u>Amount of development (by TAN15 paragraph 5.1 development category) permitted in C1 and C2 floodplain areas not meeting all TAN 15 tests</u>		
Year	No. of Developments	
Nov 2012 -31 st March 2013	2	
2013 – 2014	1	
2014 - 2015	1	
2015-2016	1	
2016-2017	0	
2017-2018	0	
2018-2019	1	
Total	6	
In terms of the amount of development permitted in C1 and C2 flood plain areas not meeting all TAN 15 tests the figure for 2018-2019 is 1.		
<u>No permissions for highly vulnerable or emergency services development within flood zone C2</u>		
The annual monitoring target is for no permissions for highly vulnerable or emergency services development within flood zone C2. The one permission above was for a change of use to a residential institution (highly vulnerable development) which was partly in a C2 area. NRW had no objection to the proposal as the FCA identified that the site was no longer in a C2 area. However, the TAN 15 maps have yet to be updated to reflect this.		
In terms of the requirement for no permissions for highly vulnerable or emergency services development within flood zone C2, as the Plan permitted 1, a trigger point has been breached.		
<u>100% of developments permitted in flood zone C1 to meet the justification test of TAN 15 and to have shown that the consequences of flooding can be managed to an acceptable level</u>		
The second part of the annual monitoring target is for 100% of development permitted in flood zone C1 to meet the justification test of TAN 15. One development was permitted in flood zone C1 and showed that the consequences of flooding could be managed therefore this target has been met.		
In terms of 100% of developments permitted in flood zone C1 to meet the justification test of TAN		

15 and to have shown that the consequences of flooding can be managed to an acceptable level the Plan is on target.

The monitoring aim to avoid development in areas at high risk of flooding is not being met but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention.

PERFORMANCE:	A
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Monitoring Table: SP8 (a)

POLICY SP8	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:	
Sustainable Economic Growth	8 & 9	DM1, DM2, DM3 & DM10 MU1, MU2, EMP1, EMP2, ED2 & TM1	
MONITORING AIM: SP8(a)	To ensure sufficient employment land is provided to increase employment activity		
MONITORING INDICATOR:	MONITORING TARGET:		
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)	
Net Employment Land	Employment land – 23.8 ha delivered	Employment land – 26.2 ha delivered	
Employment rate for Blaenau Gwent	Increase employment rate from 59.2% (2009) to 66.05% (2016) tracked against Merthyr Tydfil	Increase employment rate from 59.2% (2009) to 72.9% (2021) tracked against Merthyr Tydfil	
Percentage of economic activity wanting a job	Reduce percentage of economic inactive wanting a job from 25.2% (2009) to 23.95% (2016) tracked against Merthyr Tydfil	Reduce percentage of economic inactive wanting a job from 25.2% (2009) to 22.7% (2021) tracked against Merthyr Tydfil	
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:			
To meet economic and employment development needs and ensure that Blaenau Gwent achieves its economic potential, Policy SP8 allocates 50 hectares of land for employment use. The monitoring targets set to measure success are the development of employment land, employment and economic inactivity levels.			
Employment Land			
Allocated Employment Land			
By the end of 2016, it was expected that 23.8 ha of employment land would be delivered.			
Location	Proposal	Site Area (Ha)	Status
2009-2016			
MU2 The Works, Ebbw Vale	500 sq m of office space	0.18	Complete
2016-17			
EMP1.6 Land at Waun y Pound Industrial Estate	Vehicle security park and storage container facility, provides 460 sq m of B2 floorspace	0.7	Complete
2017-18			
EMP1.6 Land at Waun y Pound Industrial Estate	B2 industrial unit with associated offices and external area provides 558 sq m of B2 floorspace	0.2	Complete
2018-19			
MU1 Rhyd y Blew, Bryn Serth Road	4,955 sq m of B1, B2 or B8 uses	2.87	Not Started
MU2 Land North of	Construction of 9 (B1)	1.0	Not Started

the Regain Building, The Works, Ebbw Vale	business units		
Roseheyworth Business Park	Household waste recycling facility	0.79	Not Started

In total 1.08 ha has been delivered on allocated employment sites which falls well short of the 23.8 ha outcome requirement by 2016. The likelihood of achieving the longer term target of delivering 50 hectares of employment land by 2021 appears remote, given that planning permission has only been granted for a further 5.6 ha (56,161 sq m of floorspace) of employment land at allocated sites.

Non-Allocated Employment Land

In addition to the allocated sites, the Council monitors annually the existing 21 employment areas across the County Borough, which consist of approximately 248 primarily B1, B2 and B8 employment units. As well as ensuring the ability of new sites to come forward, the LDP also plays a key role in protecting and managing these sites.

Planning permission has been granted on EMP2 employment areas for extensions and new units. At the end of March 2019 there was extant planning permission for 13,972 sq m of floorspace for B1, B2 and B8 uses. In 2018-19, 660 sq m of this floorspace has been delivered and a further 8,046 sq m is under construction.

In terms of net employment land delivered and the outcome requirement for 23.8ha by 2016 and 50 ha by 2021, the Plan, with 1.08 ha delivered on allocated sites is behind the 2016 target and is unlikely to achieve the 2021 target. At -20% a trigger has been breached.

Employment Rate

All People – Economically Active – In Employment

Year	Blaenau Gwent	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales
2008 - 2009	59.2%	65.0%	67.2%
2009 - 2010	58.4%	64.3%	66.7%
2010 - 2011	58.1%	62.6%	66.2%
2011 - 2012	58.7%	61.6%	67.0%
2012 - 2013	59.1%	63.8%	67.7%
2013 - 2014	63.9%	66.0%	69.5%
2014 - 2015	67.3%	68.6%	69.7%
2015 - 2016	65.4%	66.9%	71.3%
2017 - 2018	67.1%	74.0%	72.7%
2018 - 2019	74.5%	77.3%	76.7%

Source: Nomis

In 2018-19, there was a significant improvement (7.4% increase) in the employment rate in Blaenau Gwent. This improvement was greater than Merthyr Tydfil (3.3% increase) and that of Wales (4%). However, Blaenau Gwent still has a lower economic activity rate than both. In terms of the Plans outcomes to increase the employment rate from 59.2% in 2009 to 66.05% by 2016 and 72.9% by 2021 both have been achieved.

Blaenau Gwent has also seen a bigger improvement than Merthyr Tydfil and Wales in terms of the change since 2008. Blaenau Gwent's employment rate has increased by 15.3%, whilst Merthyr Tydfil's has increased by 12.3% and Wales by 9.5%.

In terms of the monitoring target to increase the employment rate from 59.2% and the outcome requirement of 66.05% by 2016 and 72.9% by 2021, both targets have been achieved.

Economically Inactive – Wants a Job

Year	Blaenau Gwent	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales
2008 – 2009	25.2%	31.4%	22.7%
2009 – 2010	32.9%	33.0%	24.2%
2010 – 2011	27.6%	30.0%	24.6%
2011 – 2012	29.3%	27.0%	22.8%
2012 – 2013	34.9%	35.1%	24.7%
2013 – 2014	34.0%	29.1%	25.4%
2014 – 2015	30.5%	33.6%	25.6%
2015 -2016	27.7%	27.9%	26.6%
2016 – 2017	24.7%	22.4%	23.7%
2017-2018	23.2%	16.9%	21.7%

Source: Nomis

The monitoring outcome to reduce the percentage of economically inactive wanting a job from 25.2% (2009) to 23.95% (2016) has been achieved. The number of people economically inactive who wants a job has been steadily decreasing from its highest rate in 2012-2013 at 34.9% to 23.2% in 2018. However, it remains higher than that of Merthyr Tydfil (6.7%) and Wales (1.5%).

Since 2008 we have managed to close the gap with Wales from 3.5% to 1.5%.

In terms of the percentage of economic inactive - wanting a job and the outcome requirement of reducing this from 25.2% to 23.95% by 2016 and 22.7% by 2021, the Plan at 23.2% has achieved the 2016 target and is moving in the right direction to achieve the 2021 target.

The monitoring aim to ensure sufficient employment land is provided to increase employment activity is not being achieved at the anticipated levels and it is unlikely that this will be addressed without specific intervention.

PERFORMANCE:

A

Monitoring Table: SP8 (b)

POLICY SP8	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:							
Sustainable Economic Growth	8 & 9	DM1, DM2, DM3 & DM10							
MONITORING AIM: SP8(b)	To ensure the diversification of the economic base								
MONITORING INDICATOR :	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:								
Official labour market statistics for Blaenau Gwent identifying the number of employees in different sectors.	Maintain the number of employee jobs in manufacturing at 5,300 (2008) tracked 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								
	Increase the number of employee jobs in the service industry from 12,700 (Blaenau Gwent, 2008) to 13,797 tracked against the HoV average								
MONITORING INDICATOR:	MONITORING TARGET:								
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)							
Delivery of learning infrastructure	Completion of the Learning Zone	Completion of the new primary school on the Six Bells Colliery Site							
Delivery of health infrastructure		Completion of primary care resource centres							
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:									
Employment Diversification									
To improve the diversification of the economic base the Plan monitors the number of employees in different sectors and the delivery of learning and health infrastructure.									
The tables below show the number of employee jobs in Blaenau Gwent in relation to the manufacturing, construction and services sectors for 2008; 2009; 2012; 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016 and 2017. The same data is provided for Merthyr Tydfil, in order to track Blaenau Gwent against the Heads of the Valleys. However, the 2008 data is not available for Merthyr Tydfil so comparisons are made against the 2009 data.									
The Number of Employee Jobs in Blaenau Gwent									
Sector	2008	2009	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change (2008 – 2017)
Manufacturing	5,300	4,000	4,200	4,400	4,300	4,500	4,000	4,000	-1,300
Construction	800	900	1,000	900	800	800	900	500	-300
Services	12,700	13,100	14,100	13,000	12,800	13,070	12,875	12,860	+160
Source: Nomis									
The Change in Employee Jobs in Blaenau Gwent between 2009-2017									
Sector	No. Change 2009-2017		% Change 2009-2017						
Manufacturing	0		0%						
Construction	-400		-44.49%						
Services	-240		-1.83%						

The Number of Employee Jobs in Merthyr Tydfil

Sector	2009	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change (2009 -2017)
Manufacturing	3,100	2,700	2,800	3,000	3,000	3,500	3,000	-100
Construction	600	600	600	700	600	1,000	700	+100
Services	18,200	18,100	17,800	17,300	16,900	17,125	17,915	-285

Source: Office for National Statistics

The Change in Employee Jobs in Merthyr Tydfil between 2009-2017

Sector	No. Change 2009-2017	% Change 2009-2017
Manufacturing	-100	-3.2%
Construction	+100	+16.6%
Services	-285	-1.6%

Manufacturing

The most significant loss in manufacturing was between 2008 and 2009 when 1,300 jobs were lost. Whilst there have been both increases and decreases since, the sector has not recovered and figures remain at the 2009 level.

The annual monitoring target to maintain the number of employee jobs in manufacturing has not been met, with an overall loss of 1,300 employee jobs between 2008 and 2017. When comparing 2009 – 2017 figures against Merthyr Tydfil, Blaenau Gwent has remained at the same level better whereas Merthyr Tydfil has witnessed a loss of 3.2%

In terms of maintaining the number of employee jobs in manufacturing at 5,300, at 1,300 below this figure, the target has not been achieved.

Construction Industry

The number of jobs in construction has reached its lowest level with a loss of 400 jobs in the last year. This is also the biggest loss recorded to date. Since 2008, the figures have fluctuated within the sector showing increases and decreases between the years. Between 2008 and 2017 there has been an overall loss of 300 jobs resulting in only 500 being employed in this sector. The annual monitoring target to increase the number employed in the construction sector from 800 to 1,000 by the end of the plan period has therefore not been achieved.

Whilst Merthyr Tydfil also experienced a loss in the construction sector between 2016 and 2017, at 300 it was not as significant a loss as Blaenau Gwent. Merthyr Tydfil also managed to increase the overall number of people in construction between 2009 and 2017 whereas Blaenau Gwent failed in this respect.

In terms of maintaining the number of employee jobs in construction and the target to increase the number from 800 to 1,000 by 2021, at 500 jobs, the target has not yet been achieved.

Service Industry

There has been a small decrease of 15 people in the service sector this year. Over the period 2008 to 2017 the number of people in this sector has seen significant fluctuations, peaking at 14,100 in 2012 though returning to 2008 figures in the last two years. With a figure of 12,860 the annual monitoring target to increase the number employed in the service sector to 13,797 has not been achieved.

In comparison with Merthyr Tydfil over the period of 2009-2017, Blaenau Gwent witnessed a 1.83% decline; a slightly higher loss than that of Merthyr Tydfil which has seen a decline of 1.58% in this sector.

In terms of maintaining the number of employee jobs in the service industry and the target to increase the number from 12,700 to 13,797 by 2021, at 12,860 jobs, the target has not yet been achieved.

Learning and Health Infrastructure

Another element of Policy SP8 is maximising the potential of the health and social sector and the promotion of learning and skills. This is to be measured through the delivery of schemes identified in the Plan.

Learning Infrastructure

As reported in the previous LDP Annual Monitoring Reports, the Learning Zone; Ebbw Fawr 3-16 Learning Community; and Pen y Cwm special educational needs school were all completed and operational on The Works site, Ebbw Vale (Policy MU1) in September 2012. The Welsh medium primary school Ysgol Gymraeg Brynmawr opened in September 2009.

In terms of the Six Bells Primary School, development on site is near completion and the school is due to open in September 2019.

In terms of delivery of learning infrastructure and the outcome requirement for the completion of the learning zone by 2016 the target has been achieved. In terms of the outcome requirement for the completion of a new primary school on the former Six Bells Colliery site by 2021, the Plan is on target.

Health Infrastructure

The construction of a primary care resource centre (on land adjacent to Blaen y Cwm School in Brynmawr) is complete and the facility is operational.

Funding has been approved by the Welsh Government to build a health and social care ‘super-surgery’ in Tredegar at the former Tredegar General Hospital and Tredegar Health Centre. An application to demolish the buildings has been received and an outline planning application is expected shortly.

There is no further progress regarding a scheme for Ebbw Vale.

In terms of delivery of health infrastructure the Plan is on target for completion by 2021.

The monitoring aim to ensure the diversification of the economic base is not currently being achieved but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention.

PERFORMANCE:	A
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Monitoring Table: SP9

POLICY SP9	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:																																								
Active and Healthy Communities	11 & 12	DM3, DM11, DM12, DM13, DM14, DM15 & DM16 MU1, MU2, CF1, TM1 & L1																																								
MONITORING AIM:	To increase opportunities for people to participate in active and healthy communities																																									
MONITORING INDICATOR:	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:																																									
Amount of greenfield and open space lost to development (ha) which is not allocated in the Plan	No net loss of greenfield land and open space to development which is not allocated in the Plan																																									
Hectares of recreational open space per 1000 population (FIT standard)	Working towards FIT standards of 2.4 hectares of recreational open space per 1000 projected population (current standard 1.11 ha)																																									
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)																																								
Number of tourism/leisure facilities completed per annum	Completion of 6 tourism/leisure facilities projects	Completion of 1 tourism / leisure projects and community cycle routes																																								
Number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home as a percentage of all people	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)	Increase the number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home from the current level of 65% (2007) to 80% (2021)																																								
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:																																										
<p>The aim is to increase opportunities for people to participate in active and healthy communities. The monitoring targets to measure success are loss of greenfield and open space to development, progress with the FIT standard, completion of tourism, leisure facilities and community cycle routes and access to natural greenspace.</p> <p>Amount of greenfield land and open space to development not allocated in the Plan</p> <p>Area Lost to development</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Planning App No.</th> <th>Proposal</th> <th>Location</th> <th>Area Lost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4">2013 - 2014</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/2013/0062</td> <td>The Circuit of Wales Project</td> <td>Land north of Rassau, Ebbw Vale</td> <td>344 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td>344 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">2014 - 2015</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/2014/0210</td> <td>Proposed new Primary Care Resource Centre with ancillary pharmacy and associated car parking</td> <td>Land adjacent to Blaen y Cwm Primary School, Blaenavon Road, Brynmawr</td> <td>0.8 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td>0.8 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">2015 - 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">There has been no loss.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">2016 - 2017</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Planning App No.	Proposal	Location	Area Lost	2013 - 2014				C/2013/0062	The Circuit of Wales Project	Land north of Rassau, Ebbw Vale	344 ha	Total			344 ha	2014 - 2015				C/2014/0210	Proposed new Primary Care Resource Centre with ancillary pharmacy and associated car parking	Land adjacent to Blaen y Cwm Primary School, Blaenavon Road, Brynmawr	0.8 ha	Total			0.8 ha	2015 - 2016				There has been no loss.				2016 - 2017			
Planning App No.	Proposal	Location	Area Lost																																							
2013 - 2014																																										
C/2013/0062	The Circuit of Wales Project	Land north of Rassau, Ebbw Vale	344 ha																																							
Total			344 ha																																							
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Total			0.8 ha																																							
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C/2016/0124	Erection of a steel frame stock building	Hafodarth Farm, Llanhilleth	0.03 ha
C/2016/0225	Detached house	Land at Whitworth Terrace	0.15 ha
Total			0.18 ha
2017 - 2018			
There has been no loss			
2018-2019			
There has been no loss			

As there was no loss of open space and greenfield land this year the target is met.

Area Gained

Planning App No.	Proposal	Location	Area Gained
2013 - 2014			
There has been no gain for this year			0 ha
2014 - 2015			
C/2014/0054	Proposed community play area to include open play space, community area, soft play area, a mounded area and an orchard with car parking on a former site of derelict housing	Bevan Avenue, Ashvale, Tredegar	0.04 ha
C/2014/0262	Creation of public amenity area on former disused land	Corner of Tillery Street and Division Street, Tillery Square, Abertillery	0.01 ha
Total			0.05 ha
2015 - 2016			
C/2015/0123	Creation of public amenity area	Hilltop, Ebbw Vale	0.07 ha
C/2015/0241	New public footpath and combined cycle route	Nanty Melyn, Rassau, Ebbw Vale	0.05 ha
N/A	Creation of public amenity area	Land on the edge of Tredegar Town Centre	0.11 ha
Total			0.23 ha
2016 - 2017			
C/2016/0252	Creation of recreational area to include kick about, play areas and park land	Site of former Tre Newydd flats, Newtown, Ebbw Vale	0.44 ha
C/2017/0008 C/2017/0009 C/2017/0011	Creation of /change of use of public amenity area by providing allocated parking area, creation of new paths to tie in with existing play areas, landscaping to provide seating areas for residents	Waunheulog, Nantyglo, Brymawr	0.46 ha
Total			0.9 ha

2017 - 2018	
There has been no gain for this year	
Total	0 ha
2018 - 2019	
There has been no gain for this year	
Total	0 ha

The monitoring target of no net loss of greenfield and open space to development has been achieved for 2018 – 2019.

FIT Standard

Year	FIT Standard (ha)
2009	1.11
2012	1.11
2014	1.05
2015	1.02
2016	1.02
2017	0.99
2018	0.99
2019	0.99

In 2009 the first assessment of recreational open space was undertaken recording a standard of 1.11 ha per 1,000 population. This has been used as a baseline target to improve upon in order to achieve the FIT standard of 2.4 ha per 1,000 population. However, rather than improving, the standard steadily decreased between 2009 and 2017 and has since remained at 0.99 ha.

In terms of the annual monitoring target of working towards the FIT standard of 2.4 hectares of recreational open space per 1,000 projected population, the Plan is failing.

Tourism and Leisure developments completed

The Plan allocates 7 tourism projects and the monitoring framework seeks to ensure the completion of 6 projects by 2016 and a further project by 2021.

Tourism Allocations Completed

2014 – 2015	
TM1.4	Bedwellty House and Park
MU2	The Works – Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre
2015 – 2016	
TM1.1	Eastern Valley Slopes
2016 - 2017	
There has been no schemes completed on allocated sites for the current year	
2017 - 2018	
There has been no schemes completed on allocated sites for the current year	
2018 - 2019	
There has been no schemes completed on allocated sites for the current year	

To date 3 of the projects have been completed. Progress is being made in terms of TM1.6 Nantyglo Roundhouse Towers with the granting of planning permission for the conversion of a barn to three holiday units last year. The works are expected to be completed by the end of 2019.

Further information regarding proposals and planning permission for these sites are contained in Appendix 1 – Status of Allocations.

Other Leisure Tourism Schemes

As well as allocated Leisure/Tourism sites, the following leisure/tourism business schemes have been granted planning permission.

Tourism Schemes

Planning App. No.	Proposal	Location	Status
2015 – 2016			
C/2015/0359	Three storey extension to the Premier Inn, alterations to the car park and air conditioning compound	Premier Inn, Festival Site, Ebbw Vale	Complete
2016 – 2017			
None			
2017 – 2018			
None			
2018 – 2019			
C/2017/0309	Change of use of office building to 38 bedroom hotel	Bridge Street, Ebbw Vale	Site Under construction

Leisure Schemes

Planning App. No.	Proposal	Location	Status
2015 – 2016			
C/2015/0414	Extension of the Market Hall cinema into the adjoining former library to provide a second cinema screen	Market Square, Brynmawr	Complete
2016 – 2017			
C/2016/0012	Change of use to indoor climbing centre	Rassau Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale	Complete
C/2016/0088	Change of use to Gym	Bridge Street Industrial Estate, Tredegar	Complete
C/2016/0145	Change of use to Gym	Unit 28a, Gwent Shopping Centre, Tredegar	Complete
2017 – 2018			
C/2017/0307	Change of use to Gym	Beaufort Street, Brynmawr	Complete

C/2017/0194	Change of use to Gym	Sirhowy Industrial Estate	Complete
2018 – 2019			
C/2018/0327	Change of use to an indoor obstacle challenge centre with cafe	Unit 4, Sirhowy Industrial Estate	Site under construction

In terms of the number of tourism projects completed per annum and the outcome requirement for 6 schemes to be completed by 2016 and a further project by 2021, with only 3 schemes being completed the 2016 target has not been achieved and the plan is unlikely to achieve the 2021 target.

The Outcome for 2021 also included reference to completion of the community cycle routes. The table below sets out the cycle routes completed:

Cycle Routes Completed

Policy	Location
T1.4	Cwm to Aberbeeg (phase 1 + 2)
T1.1	HoV Route linking 9 Arches Tredegar to Brynmawr
T1.3	HoV to Ebbw Vale and Cwm
T1.8	Brynmawr to Blaenavon
T1.9	Extension to Ebbw Fach Trail from Abertillery to Aberbeeg and completion of missing section through Blaina
(C/2015/0241)	Shared cycle/footpath on land between A465 and Nant Melyn, Rassau

There has been no cycle routes completed this year, however, a total of 6 cycle routes have been completed, 5 of which are allocated and 1 is a community based development. Of the 12 cycle routes allocated in the Plan, 5 have been completed.

Number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home as a percentage of all people

The basis for this information is an Exogenesis report which was based on a study undertaken in 2007. The Council has now updated this study and the results are as follows:

Study Year	2007	2019
Percentage of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m	65%	87%

In terms of the number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home and the outcome requirement to increase this from 65% to 77% by 2016 and 80% by 2021 with 87% having access this has been achieved.

The monitoring aim to increase opportunities for people to participate in active and healthy communities is being met.

PERFORMANCE:	G
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Monitoring Table: SP10

POLICY SP10	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:																											
Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment	13	DM1, DM14, DM15 & DM16 ENV1, ENV2 & ENV3																											
MONITORING AIM :	To ensure the protection, preservation and enhancement of the natural environment																												
MONITORING INDICATOR :	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET :																												
The amount of SSSI, lost to development per annum	No net loss of area of SSSI																												
The amount of SINCs and LNRs lost to development per annum	No net loss of SINCs / LNRs lost to development without mitigation																												
Number of developments which have an adverse effect on European sites	Where required, all sites to have a project HRA																												
Provision of environmental enhancements	Major applications produce a net gain in biodiversity and / or enhancements to the green infrastructure network																												
Percentage of water bodies of good status	No permissions granted where there is a known risk of deterioration in the status of water bodies																												
	Permissions incorporate measures designed to improve water quality where appropriate																												
Background air pollution	No decrease in air quality within the County Borough																												
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:																													
<p>The aim is to ensure the protection, preservation and enhancement of the natural environment. The monitoring targets to measure success are no loss of SSSI, SINC's and LNR's to development, all sites to have a project HRA, the provision of environmental enhancements, the percentage of water bodies of good status and no decrease in air quality in the Borough.</p> <p><u>The Amount of SSSI Lost to Development Per Annum</u> There has been no net loss of SSSI as a result of development.</p> <p>In terms of the requirement for no net loss of SSSI to development, the target has been achieved.</p> <p><u>The Amount of SINCs and LNRs Lost to Development per Annum</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Loss of LNR (ha)</th> <th>Loss of SINC (ha)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Nov 2012-March 2013</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-2014</td> <td>0</td> <td>1.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014-2015</td> <td>0</td> <td>0.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015-2016</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016 – 2017</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017 – 2018</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018-2019</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Loss to date</td> <td>0</td> <td>2.03</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There has been no net loss of LNRs or SINCs for the current year.</p> <p>In terms of the requirement for no net loss of SINCs / LNRs lost to development without</p>			Year	Loss of LNR (ha)	Loss of SINC (ha)	Nov 2012-March 2013	0	0	2013-2014	0	1.23	2014-2015	0	0.8	2015-2016	0	0	2016 – 2017	0	0	2017 – 2018	0	0	2018-2019	0	0	Total Loss to date	0	2.03
Year	Loss of LNR (ha)	Loss of SINC (ha)																											
Nov 2012-March 2013	0	0																											
2013-2014	0	1.23																											
2014-2015	0	0.8																											
2015-2016	0	0																											
2016 – 2017	0	0																											
2017 – 2018	0	0																											
2018-2019	0	0																											
Total Loss to date	0	2.03																											

mitigation the requirement has been met and the target has been achieved.

Developments which have an adverse impact on European Sites

There has been no planning application received for the current year which has been considered to have a possible adverse effect on European Sites.

In terms of the number of developments which have an adverse effect on European sites and the requirement for all sites to have a project level HRA where required, as no planning applications were received the target has been achieved.

Provision of Environmental Enhancements

The LDP identifies major applications as those defined as 100 or more flats or homes and/or the provision of 1,000 sq m and over of floorspace.

Planning App No.	Location	Nature of Development	Provision of Environmental Enhancements
2015 – 2016			
C/2015/0057	Beechwood House, Silent Valley Landfill, Cwm	Extension to the existing waste transfer station	None required
2016 -2017			
C/2016/0151	Cwmcraehen Gypsy Site	Extension of Cwmcraehen Gypsy Site for the provision of 4 new pitches, 2 semi detached utility buildings, new access and associated works	Mitigation measures have been put in place via planning conditions
C/2016/0158	Land rear of units 39 and 40 Rassau Industrial Estate	Erection of 2 buildings for class B1 B2 B8 use with new pedestrian and vehicular access and associated parking	None required
C/2016/0226	Land adj to Bethany Baptist Church, Six Bells Road, Six Bells	Outline consent for the proposed construction of a new single form entry primary school including vehicular and pedestrian access, site boundaries and car parking	A reserved matters application has been received. Suitable mitigation will be sought to provide ecological enhancements
2017 -2018			
C/2017/0019	Former NMC Site, Brynmawr	Full consent for a restaurant and outline consent for 3 retail units.	None required
2018-2019			
C/2018/0310	Land at Rhyd Y Blew	Full consent granted with conditions for the erection of employment units	Mitigation measures have been put in place via planning conditions
C/2018/0152	Land north of the Regain building, Mill Lane, Ebbw Vale	Full consent granted with conditions for the construction of 9 business	None were required

		units	
C/2018/0217	Land at Bryn Serth (adj to KFC) Waun-y-Pound, Ebbw Vale	Full consent granted with conditions for the construction of 100 residential dwellings	Mitigation measures have been put in place via planning conditions
C/2018/0154	Eurocaps, Crown Business Park, Tredegar	Extension of existing production and warehouse facilities	None were required

There have been four major applications for the current year. Due to the nature of the development no enhancements were required for two of the applications. There has been enhancement to the green infrastructure network from the other two major applications but no net biodiversity gain.

In terms of the monitoring target of major applications producing a net gain in biodiversity and/or enhancements to the green infrastructure, the Plan is on target.

Percentage of water bodies of good status

Year	Percentage surface water (natural water bodies) of Good Ecological Status
2014 (2013 figures)	42%
2015 (2014 figures)	42.8%
2016 (2015 figure)	33.3%*
2017 (2016 figure)	33.3%*
2018 (http://waterwatchwales.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/en/)	33.3%*
2019 (http://waterwatchwales.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/en/)	33.3%*

* Please note that the * annual figure is based on a new methodology.
Source: Water Watch Wales

There has been no decrease in the percentage of water bodies of good status, therefore the Plan is on target.

Granting of permissions where there is known risk of deterioration in the status of water bodies

There were no planning permissions granted for the current year where there is a known risk of deterioration in the status of water bodies.

In terms of the requirement for no permissions granted where there is a known risk of deterioration in status, with no permissions granted, the target has been achieved.

Permissions to incorporate measures designed to improve water quality where appropriate

There were no permissions for the current year where it was considered appropriate to incorporate measures to improve water quality.

In terms of permissions incorporating measures designed to improve water quality, the target has been achieved.

Background air pollution

There has been no change in the air quality for Blaenau Gwent since last year. Blaenau Gwent CBC carries out air quality monitoring for nitrogen dioxide at 22 locations. The monitoring results from all of the sites are significantly below the air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide in the UK. As a result

the Council has not declared any air quality management areas within Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council area.

In terms of the requirement for no decrease in air quality within the County Borough the target has been achieved.

The monitoring aim to ensure the protection, preservation and enhancement of the natural environment is being met.

PERFORMANCE:

G

Monitoring Table: SP11

POLICY SP11	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:																												
Protection and Enhancement of the Historic Environment	14	DM17 TM1																												
MONITORING AIM:	To ensure that listed buildings and archaeological sites are protected, preserved and where appropriate enhanced																													
MONITORING INDICATOR :	MONITORING TARGET:																													
Number of listed buildings and historic sites	No applications to result in the loss of listed buildings and historic sites																													
Number of listed buildings or archaeological sites enhanced	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	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)																												
	Prepare a list of locally listed buildings of historic value	Adopt as Supplementary Planning Guidance																												
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:																														
<p>The aim is to ensure that listed buildings and archaeological sites are protected, preserved and where appropriate enhanced. The monitoring targets to measure success are no loss of listed building or historic site, the number of listed buildings and archaeological sites enhanced and the number of listed or local buildings bought back into use for tourism.</p> <p><u>Loss of Listed Buildings and Historic Sites</u> There has been no loss of listed buildings or historic sites for 2018 - 2019.</p> <p>In terms of the number of listed buildings and historic sites and the requirement for no applications to result in a loss, the target has been met.</p> <p><u>Preservation and Enhancement of Listed Buildings and Archaeological Sites</u> For the current year 2018-2019, no planning applications have been received for the enhancement and preservation of listed buildings or archaeological sites.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Planning App. No.</th> <th>Proposal</th> <th>Location</th> <th>Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4">2015-2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c/2015/0392</td> <td>Listed building consent granted to bring an existing barn into use for tourism</td> <td>Nantyglo Roundhouse Towers, Nantyglo</td> <td>Work is nearing completion</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">2017-2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c/2017/0059</td> <td>Replacement and reinstatement of features of the Grade II listed building</td> <td>NCB Social Club, The Circle, Tredegar</td> <td>Not started</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">2018-2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">No planning applications received for this year</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In terms of all applications to preserve or enhance a listed building or archaeological sites, the target is being met.</p>			Planning App. No.	Proposal	Location	Status	2015-2016				c/2015/0392	Listed building consent granted to bring an existing barn into use for tourism	Nantyglo Roundhouse Towers, Nantyglo	Work is nearing completion	2017-2018				c/2017/0059	Replacement and reinstatement of features of the Grade II listed building	NCB Social Club, The Circle, Tredegar	Not started	2018-2019				No planning applications received for this year			
Planning App. No.	Proposal	Location	Status																											
2015-2016																														
c/2015/0392	Listed building consent granted to bring an existing barn into use for tourism	Nantyglo Roundhouse Towers, Nantyglo	Work is nearing completion																											
2017-2018																														
c/2017/0059	Replacement and reinstatement of features of the Grade II listed building	NCB Social Club, The Circle, Tredegar	Not started																											
2018-2019																														
No planning applications received for this year																														

Number of listed or local buildings of historical value brought into use for tourism			
Planning App. No.	Proposal	Location	Status
2015-2016			
c/2015/0392	Listed building consent granted to bring an existing barn into use for tourism	Nantyglo Roundhouse Towers, Nantyglo	Work is nearing completion
<p>There have been no applications received to change the use of listed buildings to tourism use for the current year 2018-2019.</p> <p><u>List of Locally Listed Buildings of Historic Value</u></p> <p>A draft list of locally listed buildings and sites of historic value for Tredegar, Ebbw Vale, Brynmawr, Blaina and Abertillery has been completed. External consultation is required before the draft can be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) document. This is likely to happen as part of the Revised Local Development Plan.</p> <p>The outcome requirement to prepare a list of locally listed buildings of historic value by 2016 has not been achieved. However, the target to adopt the list by 2021 is likely to be achieved.</p> <p>The monitoring aim to ensure that listed buildings and archaeological sites are protected, preserved and where appropriate enhanced is being met.</p>			
PERFORMANCE:		G	

Monitoring Table: SP12

POLICY SP12	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:										
Securing an Adequate Supply of Minerals	15	DM3, DM18 & DM19 M1, M2, M3 & M4										
MONITORING AIM :	To ensure a minimum 10-year land bank and provision of at least 3Mt of aggregates											
MONITORING INDICATOR :	ANNUAL MONITORING TARGET:											
Number of years land bank of permitted aggregate reserves	100% provision of a 10 year landbank (measured annually) through the plan period											
	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)										
The extent of primary land-won aggregates permitted expressed as a percentage of the total capacity required, as identified in the Regional Technical Statement	Planning application received by 2016	Consent granted for at least 3Mt										
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:												
Policy SP12 seeks to secure an adequate supply of minerals. To ensure this is achieved the land bank and the extent of required capacity is monitored.												
<u>Number of years land bank of permitted aggregate reserves</u>												
The South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party latest Annual Report is for 2018.												
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>No. of years land bank of permitted reserves</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>11.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Year	No. of years land bank of permitted reserves	2013	11.8	2014	10	2016	7	2018	6
Year	No. of years land bank of permitted reserves											
2013	11.8											
2014	10											
2016	7											
2018	6											
<p>In terms of the number of years land bank of permitted reserves and the requirement for 100% provision of a 10 year land bank according to the latest available information (2018) the Plan has a 6 year land bank and has therefore broken the trigger of less than a 10 years land bank.</p>												
<u>The extent of primary land-won aggregates permitted expressed as a percentage of the total capacity required, as identified in the Regional Technical Statement</u>												
The latest RTS for South Wales identifies that Blaenau Gwent needs 4.25 million tonnes from 2011 to 2036 and had 3 million tonnes consented at the base date. This equates to 71% of the total capacity required. As no further consents have been granted this remains the same.												
The Plan identifies three preferred areas for mineral extraction to accommodate the requirement for a further 1.25 million tonnes: Adjacent Trefil Quarry, Tredegar; Tir Pentwys Tip, Llanhilleth; and Land South East of Cwm, Ebbw Vale. In terms of the outcome for 2016 of an application being received, a Scoping Opinion has been sought at Trefil Quarry but there is no set date for the receipt of the lateral extension application. The promoters of Land South East of Cwm are actively working on bringing the site forward but no planning application has been received or formal pre-application discussions held to date. In terms of Tir Pentwys Tip Torfaen County Borough Council have refused permission for the land within their Council area. The applicant has since appealed this decision and a hearing has taken place and the outcome is due soon. As the access for developing Blaenau												

Gwent's site relies on the access in Torfaen it is unlikely that a planning application will be received for this Preferred Area.

In terms of the extent of primary land-won aggregates permitted as a percentage of the total capacity required the figure is 71%. In terms of the outcome requirement for a planning application to be received by 2016 and consent granted by 2021 the Plan is behind target.

The monitoring aim to ensure a minimum 10-year land bank and provision of at least 3Mt of aggregates is not currently being achieved but the situation can be ameliorated without intervention.

PERFORMANCE:	A
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Monitoring Table: SP13

POLICY SP13	RELEVANT OBJECTIVES:	RELEVANT POLICIES:									
Delivering Sustainable Waste Management	16	DM1, DM2, DM3 & DM20 W1									
MONITORING AIM:	To ensure the delivery of sustainable waste management										
MONITORING INDICATOR:	Outcome by End of 2016	Outcome by End of Plan (2021)									
Delivery of regional waste facilities	Residual project contract awarded										
	Organic projects contract awarded										
Amount of waste arising, and managed by management type	Meet Wise about Waste targets for reuse and recycling / composting for municipal waste to 58%	Meet Wise about Waste targets for re-use and recycling / composting for municipal waste to 64%									
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:											
<p>Policy SP13 is about the delivery of sustainable waste management in Blaenau Gwent. The outcomes being monitored are in relation to awarding contracts, completion of the regional waste facility and meeting recycling targets.</p> <p><u>Delivery of regional waste facilities</u></p> <p>The Residual Project Blaenau Gwent and Torfaen have joined the Tomorrow's Valley residual waste procurement partnership consisting of neighbouring authorities Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taff County. The contract started on 1st April 2016 and will be in place for 25 years with the option to extend for a further 5 years.</p> <p>In terms of the delivery of the regional waste facilities and the outcome requirement for the residual project contract to be awarded by 2016, as the contract has been awarded, the Plan is on target.</p> <p>The Organics Project Blaenau Gwent acting as the Lead Authority on behalf of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, Monmouthshire County Council and Torfaen County Borough Council awarded a long term contract for the treatment of food waste on behalf of the Authorities. The Contract commenced on 1st April 2018 and will be in place for 15 years with the option to extend for a further three years.</p> <p>In terms of the delivery of the regional waste facilities and the outcome requirement for the organics project contract to be awarded by 2016, as the contract was awarded in 2018, the Plan is slightly behind target.</p> <p><u>Amount of waste arising, and managed by management type</u> Our performance in relation to the recycling targets are as follows:</p> <p>Towards Zero Waste Targets</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Towards Zero Waste Target</th> <th>BG Performance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2012-13</td> <td>52%</td> <td>51.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-14</td> <td></td> <td>54.75%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Year	Towards Zero Waste Target	BG Performance	2012-13	52%	51.2%	2013-14		54.75%
Year	Towards Zero Waste Target	BG Performance									
2012-13	52%	51.2%									
2013-14		54.75%									

2014-15		50%
2015-16	58%	49%
2016-17		56.77%
2017-18		56%
2018-19		59.28%

Source: Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council: Waste

The recycling rate has improved from last year and has exceeded the target of 58% set for 2016 by 1.28%.

In terms of meeting the recycling rate of 64% by 2021 the Council is taking actions to improve the recycling rates with plans in place to build a further recycling centre in the south of the Borough.

In terms of the amount of waste arising and the outcome to meet the Wise about Waste target for reuse and recycling/ composting for municipal waste of 58% by 2016 the Plan at 59% has met the target and is going in the right direction to meet the outcome of 64% by 2021.

The monitoring aim to ensure the delivery of sustainable waste management is currently being achieved.

PERFORMANCE:	G
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5.0 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MONITORING

5.1 The Sustainability Appraisal of the LDP identified 24 objectives and 71 indicators which are intended to measure the social, economic and environmental impact of the LDP.

5.2 A key issue in determining the Plan's sustainability progress is ensuring the proposed indicators are providing the necessary information to allow prediction of the effects of the Plan. The monitoring programme contained within the Sustainability Appraisal Report was preliminary and only identified potential indicators. The monitoring process has found that there are opportunities to improve the SA monitoring to ensure that appropriate data is collected. There are no proposed changes to the SA monitoring indicators for this year.

SA Objective 1	SA Indicators																						
To promote economic growth and strengthen and diversify the local economy	Employment by Sector	R																					
	Amount of major retail, office and leisure development	R																					
Monitoring Results	R																						
<p>Employment by Sector Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP8 (b) for detail.</p> <p>In terms of maintaining the number of employee jobs in manufacturing at 5,300, at 1,300 below this figure the target has not been achieved. In terms of maintaining the number of employee jobs in construction and the target to increase the number from 800 to 1,000 by 2021 at 500 jobs the target has not been achieved. In terms of maintaining the number of employee jobs in the service industry and the target to increase the number from 12,700 to 13,797 by 2021 at 12,860 jobs the target has not been achieved.</p> <p>Amount of major Retail, Office and Leisure Development</p> <p>Retail Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP1 for detail.</p> <p>In terms of the amount of A1 (retail) land delivered and the outcome requirements of 9,100 sq m by 2016 and 11,500 sq m by 2021, as only 241.5 sq m has been delivered the 2016 target has not been achieved and it is unlikely that the 2021 target will be achieved.</p> <p>Office Development</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Proposal</th> <th>Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3">2014-15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Land to the south east of Lime Avenue, The Works, Ebbw Vale</td> <td>48,000 sq m of B1 employment floorspace</td> <td>Not started</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">2015-16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Former Rehobeth Congregational Church, Brynmawr</td> <td>An element of the redevelopment involves A2 use (up to 148 sq m)</td> <td>Complete in 2017-18</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">2016-17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>39 and 40 Rassau Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale</td> <td>B1 employment floorspace</td> <td>Not started</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Location	Proposal	Status	2014-15			Land to the south east of Lime Avenue, The Works, Ebbw Vale	48,000 sq m of B1 employment floorspace	Not started	2015-16			Former Rehobeth Congregational Church, Brynmawr	An element of the redevelopment involves A2 use (up to 148 sq m)	Complete in 2017-18	2016-17			39 and 40 Rassau Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale	B1 employment floorspace	Not started
Location	Proposal	Status																					
2014-15																							
Land to the south east of Lime Avenue, The Works, Ebbw Vale	48,000 sq m of B1 employment floorspace	Not started																					
2015-16																							
Former Rehobeth Congregational Church, Brynmawr	An element of the redevelopment involves A2 use (up to 148 sq m)	Complete in 2017-18																					
2016-17																							
39 and 40 Rassau Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale	B1 employment floorspace	Not started																					

2017-18		
39-47 Somerset Street, Abertillery	change of use of the existing ground floor units from A1 retail to a single unit of A2 use (364 sqm)	Complete in 2018-19
2018-19		
Land north of Regain Building, Mill Lane, Victoria, The Works, Ebbw Vale (MU2)	Construction of 9 business units (B1) within 3 buildings, with associated parking and new access road. 50% will be office space (1,175.25 sqm)	Not started
Site to the north of the Learning Zone, The Works Ebbw Vale (MU2)	Provision of office development with ancillary facilities (856 sqm)	Not started

In terms of the amount of office development, 364 sq m of A2 development has been completed this year.

Tourism and Leisure

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP9 for detail.

In terms of the number of tourism projects completed per annum and the outcome requirement for 6 schemes to be completed by 2016 and a further project by 2021, with only 3 schemes being completed the 2016 target has not been achieved and the plan is unlikely to achieve the 2021 target.

In terms of the amount of major retail, office and leisure development the Plan is behind target.

The plan is having a negative impact on the objective to promote economic growth and strengthen and diversify the local economy.

SA Objective 2	SA Indicators	
To increase levels of local employment and ensure distribution of employment	% of working age population that are economically active	G
	Earnings by residence	A
Monitoring Results	G	
% of Working Age Population that are Economically Active		
Refer to the LDP Monitoring Framework – Table SP8 (a) for detail.		
In terms of the monitoring target to increase the employment rate from 59.2% and the outcome requirement of 66.05% by 2016 and 72.9% by 2021, both targets have been achieved.		
Earnings by Residence		
Gross Weekly Pay for Full-Time Workers		
Year	Blaenau Gwent (£'s)	Wales (£'s)
2009	361.00	444.90
2013	404.50	476.90
2014	395.90	480.00
2015	403.50	487.60

2016	433.90	498.30
2017	491.30	505.90
2018	479.10	509.0

Source: Nomis

In 2018, the average gross weekly pay for full-time workers in Blaenau Gwent decreased by £12.20 which is the first decrease since 2014. In the same period, the weekly pay in Wales increased by £3.10. The gap between Blaenau Gwent and Wales has increased to £30.70 in 2018 from £14.60 in 2017, though it remains closer than in 2009 when the gap was £83.90.

Hourly-Pay Excluding Overtime

Year	Blaenau Gwent (£'s)	Wales (£'s)
2013	10.13	12.00
2014	10.09	12.01
2015	10.55	12.30
2016	11.09	12.66
2017	12.00	12.75
2018	12.11	12.67

Source: Nomis

In Blaenau Gwent, the hourly pay excluding overtime has increased slightly since 2017, a difference of 11p which is comparable to that of Wales which has witnessed an increase of 12p in the same period.

In terms of earnings by residence there has been a decrease in earnings this year though it has improved greatly since 2009.

The Plan overall is having a positive impact on the objective to increase levels of local employment and ensure distribution of employment.

SA Objective 3	SA Indicators	
To enable the development of a strong tourism economy in Blaenau Gwent, complementary to the regional offer	Total number of day visitors	A
	Total number of stay visitors	G
	Number of tourism facilities completed per annum	R
	Amount of revenue generated by the tourism industry	G
Monitoring Results	A	
Total Number of Day Visitors		
Year	Number of Day Visitors	
2012	504,500	
2013	517,470	
2014	508,240	
2015	537,850	
2016	557,970	
2017	514,620	

Source: Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council: Tourism

The table above sets out the number of day visitors to Blaenau Gwent. There has been a decrease of 43,350 day visitors since 2016.

In terms of the number of day visitors, there has been a decrease.

Total Number of Stay Visitors

Year	Number of Stay Visitors
2012	125,900
2013	126,660
2014	131,320
2015	137,680
2016	141,130
2017	164,090

Source: Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council: Tourism

The table above sets out the number of stay visitors to Blaenau Gwent. The number of stay visitors has increased by 22,130 visitors since 2016.

In terms of the number of stay visitors there has been an increase.

Number of Tourism Facilities Completed per Annum

Refer to the LDP Monitoring Framework – Table SP9 for detail.

In terms of the number of tourism projects completed per annum and the outcome requirement for 6 schemes to be completed by 2016 and a further project by 2021, with only 3 schemes being completed the 2016 target has not been achieved and the plan is unlikely to achieve the 2021 target.

Amount of Revenue Generated by the Tourism Industry

The table below sets out the amount of revenue generated by the tourism industry. Since 2016, there has been a £5.3 million increase in revenue generated by this sector which is extremely positive for the area.

Year	Amount of Revenue Generated by the Tourism Industry
2013	£37.98 million
2014	£39.76 million
2015	£43.2 million
2016	£45.6 million
2017	£50.9 million

Source: Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council: Tourism

In terms of the amount of revenue generated by the tourism industry, there has been a further increase.

The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective to enable the development of a strong tourism economy in Blaenau Gwent, complementary to the regional offer.

SA Objective 4	SA Indicators	
To enhance the vitality and viability of town centres	Annual vacancy rate in town centres	A
Monitoring Results	A	
<p>Annual vacancy rate in town centres Refer to the LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP3 (b) for detail.</p> <p>In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Ebbw Vale from a base level of 11.5% the target has not been achieved. In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Abertillery from a base level of 20% the target has been achieved. In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Brynmawr from a base level of 11.6% the target has been achieved. In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Tredegar from a base level of 12.4% the target has not been achieved and has breached a trigger. In terms of reducing the vacancy rate in Blaina from a base level of 25% the target has not been achieved.</p> <p>The Plan is having a negative impact on the objective to enhance the vitality and viability of town centres.</p>		

SA Objective: 5	SA Indicators		
To meet identified housing needs	Number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built per annum		R
	Percentage of vacant residential properties		G
	Net additional Gypsy and Traveller units		G
Monitoring Results	A		
Number of Net Additional Affordable and General Market Dwellings Built per Annum			
Year	General Market Housing	Affordable Housing	Total
2007	73	0	73
2008	102	0	102
2009	112	38	150
2010	43	72	115
2011	46	26	72
2012	65	148	213
2013	49	33	82
2014	40	41	81
2015	42	7	49
2016	46	101	147
2017	39	48	87
2018	40	0	40
2019	44	31	75

Total	715	545	1,286
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Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP4 (a) for more detail.

In terms of the net number of additional affordable and general market dwellings built and the outcome requirement of 1,900 by 2016 and 3,500 by 2021 at 1,286 the Plan is behind target and is unlikely to meet the outcome for 2021.

Percentage of Vacant Residential Properties

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP4 (a) for more detail.

In terms of decreasing the vacancy rate of residential properties to 4.5% by 2016 and 4% by 2021 the Plan is on target.

Net Additional Gypsy and Traveller Units

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP5 (a) for more detail.

In terms of the requirement for land being available for Gypsy and Traveller units the Plan is on target.

The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective of meeting housing needs.

SA Objective: 6	SA Indicators	
To improve the quality of housing stock	Number of houses meeting Welsh Housing Quality Standard	G
Monitoring Results	G	
<u>Number of houses meeting Welsh Housing Quality Standard</u>		
United Welsh have 919 properties in Blaenau Gwent – all but 2 of which are WHQS compliant.		
Melin has 342 properties in Blaenau Gwent – all of which are WHQS compliant		
Linc Cymru has 598 properties in Blaenau Gwent – all of which are WHQS compliant.		
Tai Calon has 5,891 properties in Blaenau Gwent – 100% of which are WHQS compliant.		
Therefore a total of 7,748 houses meet the Welsh Housing Quality Standard this is an increase from last year.		
Year	Number of houses meeting Welsh Housing Quality Standard	
2014	4,129	
2015	7,000	
2016	8,038	
2017	8,103	
2018	8,026	
2019	7,748	
In terms of the number of houses meeting the Welsh Housing Quality Standard the Plan is having a positive impact.		
The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to improve the quality of housing stock.		

SA Objective: 7	SA Indicators	
To secure the delivery and maintenance of quality affordable housing	% of eligible residential planning permissions where affordable housing has been negotiated	G
	Average house price to income ratio	G
Monitoring Results	G	

% of Eligible Residential Planning Permissions where Affordable Housing has been Negotiated

Year	Number of eligible planning applications	No. where affordable housing has been negotiated	% of eligible residential planning permissions where affordable housing has been negotiated
2013-2014	1	1	100%
2014-2015	3	2	66%
2015-2016	8	7	87.5%
2016-2017	1	1	100%
2017-2018	3	2	66%
2018-2019	7	6	90%

Affordable housing was negotiated on 90% of eligible planning applications this year.

In terms of the percentage of eligible residential planning permissions where affordable housing has been negotiated, at 90%, the Plan is having a positive impact.

Average House Price to Income Ratio

Year	Average house price	Average earnings	Ratio
2013-2014	£61,860	£21,034	2.94:1
2014-2015	£61,371	£20,711.6	2.96:1
2015-2016	£69,384	£20,976.8	3.3:1
2016-2017	£77,737	£22,562.8	3.4:1
2017-2018	£83,280	£25,547.7	3.26:1
2018-2019	£93,806	£24,956	3.73:1

Source: Nomis and Land Registry

In March 2019 the average house price rose to £93,806 (Land Registry) whereas the average earnings reduced to £24,956 (Nomis 2019). This results in a ratio of 3.73:1 which is the highest to date.

In terms of average price to income ratio this year has risen to 3.73:1.

The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to secure the delivery and maintenance of quality affordable housing.

SA Objective 8	SA Indicators	
To improve educational attainment and increase skills levels	Delivery of learning infrastructure	G
	Proportion of new employment opportunities that offer training schemes secured through S106	G

	agreements on major schemes		
Monitoring Results	A		
<u>Delivery of Learning Infrastructure</u>			
Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP8 (b) for detail.			
<p>In terms of delivery of learning infrastructure and the outcome requirement for the completion of the learning zone by 2016 the target has been achieved. In terms of the outcome requirement for the completion of a new primary school on the former Six Bells Colliery site by 2021, the Plan is on target.</p>			
<u>Proportion of new employment opportunities that offer training schemes</u>			
Year	Number of major employment schemes	Number which offer training schemes	Proportion
2013-2014	1	1	100%
2014-2015	0	0	N/A
2015-2016	0	0	N/A
2016-2017	0	0	N/A
2017-2018	0	0	N/A
2018-2019	3	0	0%
<p>There have been 3 planning permissions granted for major employment opportunities in the period 2018-19, none of which offer training schemes.</p>			
<p>In terms of delivery of the proportion of new employment opportunities that offer training schemes secured through S106 agreements on major schemes the Plan is not having a positive impact.</p>			
<p>The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective to improve educational attainment and increase skills levels.</p>			

SA Objective 9	SA Indicators		
To improve accessibility to education, leisure, employment, health, homes and community services for all sectors of the community	The percentage of the total length of rights of way in the local authority area, that are easy to use by the general public		A
	Accessibility by hubs – Number of highway and public transport schemes implemented		A
Monitoring Results	A		
<u>The percentage of the total length of rights of way in the local authority area, that are easy to use by the general public</u>			
Year	Total Length of PROW	PROW Accessible to the General Public	Percentage Accessible to the General Public
2013 - 2014	300,984 metres	295,086 metres	98.07%
2014 - 2015	300,984 metres	241,289 metres	80.2%
2015 - 2016	300,984 metres	242,589 metres	80.6%

2016 - 2017	301,392 metres	243,805 metres	80.9%
2017 - 2018	301,392 metres	243,805 metres	80.9%
2018-2019	301,392 metres	243,805 metres	80.9%

Source: Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council: Green Infrastructure

The total length of public right of way network in Blaenau Gwent has remained the same at 301,392 metres of which 243,805 (2018-19) metres are accessible by the general public. Therefore the percentage of the total length of rights of way in the local authority area that is accessible by the general public is 80.9%.

The Plan is not currently having a positive impact on the percentage of the total length of rights of way in the local authority area that are easy to use.

Accessibility by Hubs – Number of Highway and Public Transport Schemes Implemented

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP6 for detail.

In terms of the number of transport schemes implemented and the outcome for 13 by 2016, the Plan, with 12 schemes completed is slightly behind target and is unlikely to meet the 2021 target.

The Plan is currently having a mixed impact on the objective to improve accessibility to education, leisure, employment, health, homes and community services for all sectors of the community.

SA Objective 10	SA Indicators	
To promote community health, social care and well-being	Community satisfaction / perceptions	-
	Overall index of multiple deprivation	R
	Hectares of recreational open space per 1,000 population	R
	Number of leisure facilities completed per annum	R
	Delivery of health infrastructure	G
	Number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home as a percentage of all people	G
	Percentage of population within 1 km of Cycle Network	G
	Adult participation in sport in the previous four weeks	X
	Percentage of pupils who take part in sport at least 3 times a week	A
	Percentage of pupils who take part in sport at a club outside of school in the last year	A
	Percentage of pupils who enjoy sport outside of school a lot	A
	Monitoring Results	A
Community Satisfaction / Perceptions		
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council have not undertaken a community satisfaction survey this		

year. Welsh Government undertakes an annual National Survey for Wales. Previous Annual Monitoring Reports included results for the question is the Local Authority doing all It can to improve the local area. This question is not included in the 2018/19 survey so no results can be shown for this year.

Overall Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) has not been recalculated since 2014 therefore there is no update to report. The next WIMD is planned for October 2019 following a user survey conducted in 2016. In 2014, Blaenau Gwent (23.4%) had the highest proportion of communities in the most deprived 10% in Wales. The proportion of communities in the most deprived 10% in Wales has fallen in Merthyr Tydfil from 25% in 2011 to 22.2% in 2014, whilst the proportion has remained the same for Blaenau Gwent.

Although the WIMD won't be recalculated until October 2019, some of the indicators that make up the WIMD are updated annually. However, the annual indicator updates have been suspended for 2018 due to changes in underlying data sources. The WIMD (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation) latest update in 2017 reported Blaenau Gwent as having the highest percentage of its population (21%) in income deprivation of 22 local authorities in Wales. At an overall Wales level this stood at 16%. It also has the highest percentage of its working age population, 15% claiming employment related benefits, compared to the overall Wales level of 10%.

In terms of the overall index of multiple deprivation there is no update to report. The results of other WIMD indicators demonstrate that Blaenau Gwent has not improved and its position relative to Wales is negative.

Hectares of Recreational Open Space per 1,000 Population

Refer to the LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP9 for details.

In terms of working towards the FIT standard of 2.4 hectares of recreational open space per 1,000 projected population, with no increase in 2018-19, the figure has remained at 0.99 ha. However the trigger of no decrease has been achieved since 2017 to date.

Number of Leisure Facilities Completed per Annum

Refer to the LDP Monitoring Framework Tables SP1 and SP9 for detail.

In terms of the number of leisure facilities completed per annum and the outcome requirement for 6 schemes to be completed by 2016 and a further project by 2021, the target has not been achieved as only 3 out of the 7 schemes have been completed.

Delivery of Health Infrastructure

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP8 (b) for details.

In terms of delivery of health infrastructure the Plan is on target for completion by 2021.

Number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home as a percentage of all people

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP9 for details.

In terms of the number of people with access to natural greenspace within 400m of their home

and the outcome requirement to increase this from 65% to 77% by 2016 and 80 by 2021 with 87% having access this has been achieved.

Percentage of Population within 1km of Cycle Network

Year	Percentage of population within 1 km of Cycle Network
2013-2014	91%
2014-2015	95%
2015-2016	95%
2016-2017	96%
2017-2018	96%
2018-2019	96%

There has been no change in the percentage of the population within 1km of the cycle network.

In terms of the percentage of population within 1 km of the cycle network the Plan is having a positive impact.

Adult participation in sport in the previous four weeks

It is proposed to delete this indicator as the data is no longer being collected.

Percentage of primary school pupils in Blaenau Gwent who attend a leisure or sports centre once a week or more often

The data for primary school pupils are no longer being collected as a general school sport survey is being undertaken which does not distinguish between primary and secondary pupils. Also the data collected has also changed. It is therefore proposed to amend the indicator to accord with the school sport survey as follows:

Percentage of pupils who take part in sport at least 3 times a week

Percentage of pupils who take part in sport at least 3 times a week

Year	Blaenau Gwent	Wales
2018	38%	48%

Source: School Sports Survey (Sports Wales, 2015 and 2018)

In 2018, 38% of pupils take part in sport at least times a week, this is less than that for Wales (48%). Next year's Annual Monitoring Report will provide year on year comparative figures.

Percentage of primary school pupils who took part in an extra curricular club

The data for primary school pupils are no longer being collected as a general school sport survey is being undertaken which does not distinguish between primary and secondary pupils. Also the data collected has also changed. It is therefore proposed to amend the indicator to accord with the school sport survey as follows:

Percentage of pupils who take part in sport at a club outside of school in the last year

Percentage of pupils who take part in sport at a club outside of school in the last year

Year	Blaenau Gwent %
2015	77%
2018	66%

Source: School Sports Survey (Sports Wales, 2015 and 2018)

There has been an 11% decrease in the percentage of pupils who took part in sport at a club outside of school between 2015 and 2018.

Percentage of secondary school pupils who took part in a club outside school

The data for primary school pupils are no longer being collected as a general school sport survey is being undertaken which does not distinguish between primary and secondary pupils. It is therefore proposed to delete this indicator and replace with another indicator that is being used by Sports Survey, as follows:

Percentage of pupils who enjoy sport outside of school a lot

Percentage of pupils who enjoy sport outside of school a lot

Year	Blaenau Gwent %
2015	66%
2018	59%

Source: School Sports Survey (Sports Wales, 2015 and 2018)

There has been a 7% decrease in the percentage of pupils who enjoy sport outside of school a lot 2015 and 2018.

The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective to promote community health, social care and well-being.

SA Objective 11	SA Indicators	
To reduce crime, social disorder and fear of crime	Percentage of large new housing sites that meets the 'secured by design' certification criteria	G
Monitoring Results	G	
Percentage of new housing sites that meets the 'secured by design certification criteria'		
Two out of the three full applications granted are compliant with 'secure by design criteria'.		
In terms of the percentage of housing sites that meets the 'secured by design certification criteria' at 66% the Plan is on target.		
The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to reduce crime, social disorder and fear of crime.		

SA Objective: 12	SA Indicators	
To encourage modal shift from private transport to sustainable transport	Frequency of buses between hubs	A
	Frequency of public transport to Cardiff or Newport	A
	No. and value of planning contributions secured for improvements in public transport, walking and cycling	A
	Modal split - % of population travelling to work by sustainable modes	-

Monitoring Results		A
Frequency of buses between hubs		
The following list identifies the main bus services that currently operate within Blaenau Gwent:		
SERVICE	ROUTE AND TIMINGS	OPERATOR
X4*	Cardiff-Merthyr-Tredegar-Ebbw Vale-Brynmawr-Abergavenny-Herford (2 hourly to Hereford every 30mins at busy times and hourly throughout the rest of the day to Abergavenny)	Stagecoach
X15*	Brynmawr-Abertillery-Newport (every 30 mins at busy times and hourly service for the rest of the day)	Stagecoach
E2	Ebbw Vale-Hilltop (circular every 30mins)	Stagecoach
E3*	Brynmawr-Abertillery-Ebbw Vale-Garnlydan (hourly service)	Stagecoach
E4	Ebbw Vale-Garnlydan (every 30 mins)	Stagecoach
E11*	Tredegar Peacehaven-Ebbw Vale (hourly service)	Harris Coaches
E12	Tredegar-Dukestown (hourly)	Harris Coaches
E14	Tredegar-Gwent Way (hourly service)	Harris Coaches
4	Tredegar – Cefn Golay-Rhymney – Pontlottyn and Ystrad Ysbyty Fawr(hourly service)	Harris & Stagecoach
20	Tredegar – Waundeg-Rhymney Station (30 mins at busy times otherwise hourly service)	Harris Coaches
52	Abertillery-Newbridge-Blackwood (every hourly service)	Stagecoach
56	Tredegar-Blackwood-Newport (30 mins at busy times otherwise hourly)	Stagecoach
3/S	Abergavenny-Gilwern-Brynmawr (4 services a day)	Stagecoach
1	Abertillery-Cwmtillery-Brynithel-Hillcrest-Abertillery (hourly service)	Henleys Bus Service
3	Abertillery-Arael View (every 30 mins)	Henleys Bus Service
X1*	Brynmawr-Abertillery-Pontypool-Cwmbran (hourly)	Phil Anslow
31	Brynmawr to Forgeside (hourly)	Phil Anslow
* denotes links between hubs		
In terms of frequency of buses between hubs this varies between 2 and 4 per hour. There has been no change since last year.		
Frequency of public transport to Cardiff or Newport		
There is an hourly train link to Cardiff from Ebbw Vale town. The current frequency of services between Ebbw Vale and Cardiff Central are as follows: Monday-Saturday: 1 train per hour (First train, 06.35, last train, 22:37). Sunday: 1 train every 2 hours (First train, 8.49, last train, 22:32). Plans are underway to increase this service to 2 per hour. There is a bus service every 30 mins at busy times and hourly at other times to Newport from Tredegar, Brynmawr and Abertillery.		
In terms of the frequency of public transport to Cardiff and Newport there has been no change		

since last year.

No. and value of planning contributions secured for improvements in public transport, walking and cycling

No contributions have been secured this year.

Year	No of improvements	Value of contributions
2009-2014	5	£50,000
2014-2015	0	0
2015-2016	0	0
2016-2017	0	0
2017-2018	0	0
2018-2019	0	0

In terms of the number and value of planning contributions secured none were secured this year.

Modal split - % of population travelling to work by sustainable modes

No further update is available.

The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective to encourage modal shift from private transport to sustainable transport.

SA Objective 13	SA Indicators	
To protect and enhance biodiversity across Blaenau Gwent	Number of developments which have an adverse effect on European sites	G
	Area of SSSI lost to development per annum	G
	Amount of protected woodland and trees lost to development per annum	G
	Area of SINC lost to development per annum	G
	Area of LNR lost to development per annum	G
	Number of Environmental Enhancements	G
Monitoring Results	G	
<u>Number of developments which have an adverse effect on European sites</u>		
Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP10 for detail.		
<p>In terms of the number of developments which have an adverse effect on European sites and the requirement for all sites to have a project level HRA, as no planning applications were received the target has been achieved.</p>		
<u>Area of SSSI lost to development per annum</u>		
Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP10 for detail.		
<p>In terms of the requirement for no net loss of SSSI to development the Plan is on target.</p>		

Amount of protected woodland and trees lost to development per annum

The amount of trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) that have been lost this year through development are set out in the table below.

2016-2017		
Planning Ref No	Location	Comments
C/2004/0534	Medhurst Nantyglo	The planning permission relates to the development of 3 dwellings. There has been a loss of 33 protected trees due to unlawful works on site, not carried out in accordance with the planning permission.
C/2016/0050	Bangor Road	2 trees lost to development. Planning permission granted at appeal.
2017 - 2018		
Planning Ref No	Location	Comments
No loss of protected trees or woodland		
2018 - 2019		
Planning Ref No	Location	Comments
No loss of protected trees or woodland		

In terms of the amount of protected woodland and trees lost to development per annum there was no loss this year. The Plan is therefore on target for the current year.

Area of SINC lost to development per annum

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP10 for detail.

In terms of the requirement for no net loss of SINCS lost to development without mitigation the requirement has been met and the Plan is on target.

Area of LNR lost to development per annum

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP10 for detail.

In terms of the requirement for no net loss of LNR lost to development without mitigation the requirement has been met and the Plan is on target.

Number of Environmental Enhancements

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP10 for detail.

In terms of the provision of environmental enhancements and the requirement for major applications to produce a net gain in biodiversity and/or enhancements to the green infrastructure network, mitigation has been put in place where it was necessary therefore this target has been achieved.

The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to protect and enhance biodiversity across Blaenau Gwent.

SA Objective 14	SA Indicators	
To conserve and enhance the heritage assets of	Number of conservation area	G

Blaenau Gwent and their settings	appraisals and conservation area management plans undertaken / implemented	
	Number of listed buildings and historic sites	G
	Number of listed buildings or archaeological sites enhanced	G
	Number of listed or local buildings of historical value brought into use for tourism	G
	The number of scheduled ancient monuments having undergone positive management works	G
	Number of historic assets that have an approved monument management in place	G
	Condition of registered parks and gardens of historic interest	G
Monitoring Results	G	
<p><u>Number of conservation area appraisals and conservation area management plans undertaken / implemented</u> The Tredegar Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan was adopted by the Council in 2013. The Tredegar Conservation Area Design Guide is currently still on hold.</p> <p>In terms of the number of conservation area appraisals and conservation area management plans undertaken and being implemented, there is full coverage in Blaenau Gwent.</p> <p><u>Number of listed buildings and historic sites</u> In 2009 it was recorded that there are 53 listed buildings and 9 scheduled ancient monuments, there has been no loss of listed buildings and historic sites therefore, there is no change from the base date of the Plan.</p> <p>In terms of the number of listed buildings and historic sites the Plan is having a positive impact.</p> <p><u>Number of listed buildings or archaeological sites enhanced</u> Refer to Monitoring Framework Table SP11 for detail.</p> <p>In terms of all applications to preserve or enhance listed buildings or archaeological sites, the target is being met.</p> <p><u>Number of listed or local buildings of historical value brought into use for tourism</u> Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP11 for detail.</p> <p>There have been no applications to change the use of a listed building for tourism use.</p> <p><u>The number of scheduled ancient monuments having undergone positive management works</u> There have been no scheduled ancient monuments that have undergone positive management works in 2018 - 2019.</p>		

Year	No. of Scheduled Ancient Monuments having undergone positive management works
2006 -2014	2
2014 -2015	0
2015 - 2016	0
2016 - 2017	0
2017 - 2018	0
2018 - 2019	0

In terms of the number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments having undergone positive management works there have been none this year.

Number of historic assets that have an approved monument management plan in place

Currently there are 4 monument management plans in place. There are no historic assets that have undergone monument management plans in 2018 - 2019.

Year	No. of historic assets that have an approved monument management plan in place
2006-2014	4
2014-2015	0
2015 - 2016	0
2016 - 2017	0
2017 - 2018	0
2018 - 2019	0

In terms of the number of historic assets that have an approved monument management in place there has been no change in 2018 - 2019.

Condition of registered parks and gardens of historic interest

The only registered park and garden is Bedwellty Park, which is in excellent condition having been restored with a £5.6m grant from Heritage Lottery Fund in 2011.

In terms of the condition of registered parks and gardens of historic interest the only existing park and garden has been improved and is in excellent condition.

Where it is required the Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to conserve and enhance the heritage assets of Blaenau Gwent and their settings.

SA Objective 15	SA Indicators	
To make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings to minimise pressure for greenfield development, where this will not result in damage or loss to biodiversity	Amount of new development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield development and conversions) expressed as a percentage of all development permitted	G
	Average density of housing	A

	development permitted on allocated sites	
	Number of land reclamation schemes completed per annum	R
Monitoring Results	A	
<p><u>Amount of new development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield development and conversions) expressed as a percentage of all development permitted</u> Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP7 (b) for details.</p> <p>In terms of the amount of new development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions) expressed as a percentage of all development permitted and the requirement for 80%, the Plan with a figure of 87%, is on target.</p> <p><u>Average density of housing development permitted on allocated sites</u> Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP7 (b).</p> <p>In terms of the average density of housing development permitted on allocated sites the average density this year is 33 which is below the 35 Plan average.</p> <p><u>Number of land reclamation schemes completed per annum</u> Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP7 (b).</p> <p>In terms of the number of land reclamation schemes completed per annum and the outcome for 2 schemes to be completed by 2016 and 4 by 2021 the Plan, having completed none, has failed to meet the outcome.</p> <p>The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective to make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings to minimise pressure for greenfield development, where this will not result in damage or loss to biodiversity.</p>		

SA Objective 16		SA Indicators	
To conserve soil resources and their quality		No. and area of contaminated land site remediated through new development	G
		Area of greenfield land lost to development (ha) which is not allocated in the plan	G
Monitoring Results		G	
<p><u>No. and area of contaminated land site remediated through new development</u> In terms of the number and area of contaminated land sites to be remediated through development there have been 8 within 2018 – 2019.</p>			
Year	No. of contaminated land sites to be remediated through development	Area of contaminated land to be remediated through development (ha).	
2012 – 2014	5	2.93	
2014 – 2015	0	0	
2015 – 2016	1	1.85	

2016 – 2017	0	0
2017 – 2018	3	3.67
2018-2019	8	7.72

The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to conserve soil resources and their quality.

Area of greenfield land lost to development (ha) which is not allocated in the plan

Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP9.

The monitoring target of no net loss of greenfield land lost to development which is not allocated in the plan has been achieved for 2017 – 2018.

The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to conserve soil resources and their quality.

SA Objective 17	SA Indicators
To reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, in particular carbon dioxide	Greenhouse gas emissions (CO ₂ equivalent) by sector and per capita (tonnes per year) G
Monitoring Results	G

The table below shows the Local Authority Carbon Dioxide Figures (2015) by sector in Blaenau Gwent. The most up to date information available is for 2017 which was published in June 2019

Local Authority CO₂ emissions estimates 2005-2017 (kt CO₂) by sector in Blaenau Gwent

Year	Industry & Commercial	Domestic	Transport	Total
2007	171.3	171.2	88.4	6.1
2008	174.5	175.8	87.0	6.2
2009	137.5	157.2	84.9	5.4
2010	149.9	164.8	83.2	5.6
2011	126.3	143.6	82.7	5.0
2012	138.8	152.5	82.1	5.3
2013	136.7	150.0	81.1	5.2
2014	103.1	121.5	81.6	4.4
2015	101.9	122.2	84.2	4.4
2016	100.4	116.1	85.7	4.3
2017	98.7	107.7	79.4	4.1

Source: 2005-2017 UK Local and Regional CO₂ Emissions Dataset (Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC))

According to the data available from DECC, the CO₂ emissions in Blaenau Gwent are significantly less than 2007. This could be attributed to the economic recession and the reduced industrial activity. The most recent data for 2017 shows a decrease in all sectors. These figures require on-going monitoring to ensure that improved economic conditions in the future don't lead to an increase in CO₂ emissions.

The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, in particular carbon dioxide.

SA Objective: 18	SA Indicators	
To reduce waste generation and maximise reuse and recycling	Amount of re-use and recycling/composting of municipal waste	G
Monitoring Results	G	
<p>Amount of waste arising and managed by management type Refer to LDP Monitoring Table SP13 for details.</p> <p>In terms of the amount of waste arising and the outcome to meet the Wise about Waste target for reuse and recycling/ composting for municipal waste of 58% by 2016 the Plan at 59% has met the target and is going in the right direction to meet the outcome of 64% by 2021.</p> <p>The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective to reduce waste generation and maximise reuse and recycling.</p>		

SA Objective 19	SA Indicators	
To maintain current air quality	Estimated background air quality	G
Monitoring Results	G	
<p>Background air pollution Refer to LDP Monitoring Framework Table SP10 for details.</p> <p>In terms of the requirement for no decrease in air quality within the County Borough the Plan is on target.</p> <p>The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to maintain current air quality.</p>		

SA Objective 20	A	
To maintain current low levels of vulnerability of all development to flooding	Amount of development (by TAN 15 paragraph 5.1 development category) permitted in C1 and C2 floodplain areas not meeting all TAN 15 tests	A
Monitoring Results	A	
<p>Amount of development permitted in C1 and C2 floodplain areas not meeting all TAN 15 tests Refer to LDP Monitoring Table SP7 (c).</p> <p>In terms of the amount of development permitted in C1 and C2 flood plain areas not meeting all TAN 15 tests the figure for 2018-2019 is 1.</p> <p>The Plan is having a mixed impact on maintaining the current low levels of vulnerability of all development to flooding.</p>		

SA Objective 21		SA Indicators
To promote the use of sustainably sourced products and resources	Use of reclaimed and sustainably sourced materials for construction	A
Monitoring Results		A
Use of reclaimed and sustainability sourced materials for construction		
It was suggested in the 2013-2014 AMR that this information is only collected for major schemes.		
Proposal	Application type	Use of reclaimed and sustainably sourced material secured
2014-2015		
Primary care resource centre on land adjacent to Blaen y Cwm School in Brynmawr	Full	Yes
Proposed factory extension to provide additional warehousing facilities at Zorba Delicacies on Rassau Industrial Estate	Full	No
B1 employment use on land to the south east of Lime Avenue	Outline	Will be dealt with as Reserved Matters
Residential development at the former Rhyd y Blew reservoir	Outline	Will be dealt with as Reserved Matters
2015-2016		
Extension to the existing Waste Transfer Station	Full	No
2016-2017		
Erection of two buildings for class B1/B2/B8 use on land rear of 39 and 40 Rassau Industrial Estate	Full	No
Proposed construction of a new single form entry school on land adjacent to Bethany Chapel, Six Bells	Outline	Yes (reserved matters currently being considered)
Extension of Cwmcrachen Gypsy Site for the provision of 4. No pitches	Full	No
2017-2018		
Drive thru restaurant and retail units on the former NMC factory site, Blaina Road, Nantyglo	Hybrid application – Full and Outline	No material details were submitted with the outline application. The materials for the drive thru restaurant are typical of the established restaurant chain.
2018-2019		
Land north of Regain Building,	Full	The applicant has identified

Mill Lane, Victoria, The Works, Ebbw Vale		within the DAS that materials will be locally sourced
Land at Rhyd Y Blew, Bryn Serth Road, Ebbw Vale. The construction of an employment unit for B1, B2 or B8 uses,	Full	The applicant has stated that low impact building materials will be used but does not state whether these will be locally sourced or reclaimed material.
Land at Bryn Serth (adj to KFC) Waun-y-Pound, Ebbw Vale. Construction of 100 residential dwellings	Full	No
Eurocaps, Crown Business Park, Tredegar. Extension of existing production and warehouse facilities	Full	No

The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective to promote the use of sustainably sourced products and resources.

SA Objective 22	SA Indicators	
To increase energy efficiency and generation and use of renewable energy across the County Borough	Capacity of renewable energy developments installed per annum	G
	Capacity of low carbon energy developments installed per annum	G
Monitoring Results	G	
<p><u>Capacity of renewable energy developments installed per annum</u> Refer to Monitoring Table SP7 (a) for detail.</p> <p>0 MW of renewable energy developments have been installed in 2018-19. 0 MW of low carbon energy developments have been installed in 2018-19. However taking into account previous years, the plan is moving in the right direction and having a positive impact.</p> <p><u>Capacity of low carbon energy developments installed per annum</u> Refer to Monitoring Table SP7 (a) for detail.</p> <p>0 MW of low carbon energy developments have been installed in 2018-19. However taking into account previous years, the plan is moving in the right direction and having a positive impact.</p> <p>The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to increase energy efficiency and generation and use of renewable energy across the County Borough.</p>		

SA Objective 23	SA Indicators	
To conserve and enhance surface and ground water quality	Percentage surface water (natural water bodies) of Overall Good Status	A
	Percentage groundwater of Overall Good Status (quality and levels)	A

	% of planning applications granted in sewered areas where there is no capacity and no planned upgrades	G
Monitoring Results	A	

The full local evidence packages from NRW on the Water Framework Directive have not been updated since 2015 for local authorities, however up-to-date data is available via the Geo-portal Lle and Water Watch Wales.

Percentage surface water (natural water bodies) of overall Good Status

Year	Percentage surface water (natural water bodies) of Good Ecological Status
2014 (2013 figures)	42%
2015 (2014 figures)	Lakes 50% Rivers 37.5% 42.8% overall
2016 (2015 figures)	Lakes 0% Rivers 33.3% 33.3% overall
2017 (2016 figures)	Lakes 0% Rivers 33.3% 33.3% overall
2018 (2017 figures)	Lakes 0% Rivers 33.3% 33.3% overall
2019 (2018 figures)	Lakes 0% Rivers 33.3% 33.3% overall

* Please note this figure is based on the new methodologies. NRW have introduced changes to how they monitor water body status. These include updated standards to determine good status and changes to the size and shape of water bodies.

In terms of the percentage of surface water of good overall status, there has been no change in the figures from last year.

Percentage groundwater of Overall Good Status (quality and levels)

Year	Percentage Groundwater Overall Status (natural water bodies) of Good Ecological Status
2014 (2013 figures)	50%
2015 (2014 figures)	50%
2016 (2015 figures)	50%
2017 (2016 figures)	50%
2018 (2017 figures)	50%
2019 (2018 figures)	50%

* Please note this figure is based on the new methodologies. NRW have introduced changes to how they monitor water body status. These include updated standards to determine good status and changes to the size and shape of water bodies.

In terms of the percentage of groundwater water of good overall status there has been no change since last year

Percentage of planning applications granted in sewered areas where there is no capacity and no planned upgrades

0% of planning applications have been granted in sewered areas where there is no capacity and no planned upgrades. The Plan is therefore having a positive impact.

The Plan is having a mixed impact on the objective to conserve and enhance surface and ground water quality.

SA Objective 24	SA Indicators	
Protect the quality and character of the landscape and enhance where	Proportion of valued landscape lost to development	G

necessary	Number of new developments exceeding TAN 11 or BS4142 Noise Requirements	G
	Number of planning permissions granted that include conditions relating to light pollution	G
	Effect of development which negatively affects the Brecon Beacons National Park (visual and physical effects)	G
	Proportion of landscape characterised and managed	G
Monitoring Results	G	

Proportion of valued landscape lost to development

There has been no major planning application proposed outside the settlement boundary and within a Special Landscape Area for the current year, therefore there has been no loss in valued landscape.

Year	Area of valued landscape lost to development (ha)	Proportion of valued landscape lost to development
2013-2014	236 ha	3%
2014-2015	0 ha	0%
2015-2016	0 ha	0%
2016-2017	0 ha	0%
2017-2018	0 ha	0%
2018-2019	0 ha	0%

In terms of the proportion of valued landscape lost to development there was no loss this year.

Number of new developments exceeding TAN 11 or BS4142 Noise Requirements

The information below is based on major planning applications. There have been no planning applications which has exceeded TAN 11 or BS4142 noise requirements. However the table below shows the number of applications received for the current year, where potential noise nuisance has been conditioned and mitigation measures put in place.

Planning App. No.	Location
2016 – 2017	
C/2016/0151	Cwmcraehen Gypsy Site, Nantyglo
C/2016/0158	Land to rear of units 39 and 40 Rassau Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale
C/2016/0226	Land adjacent to Bethany Baptist Chapel, Six Bells
2017 – 2018	
C/2017/0019	Former NMC Factory Site, Brynmawr
2018-2019	
C/2017/0143	Land at Ashvale Sports Club, Griffiths Gardens
C/2017/0159	Land East of Blaina Road, Brynmawr
C/2017/0309	Office building, Bridge Street, Ebbw Vale
C/2017/0338	Land adjacent to and north of Llys Glyncoed, Ebbw Vale
C/2017/0344	Baldwin House, The Boulevard, Victoria, Ebbw Vale
C/2018/0132	Crawshay House, Greenland Road, Brynmawr
C/2018/0191	Greenacre Hospital, Tredegar
C/2018/0205	Former quarry adjacent to Craig House, Nant y Croft, Rassau, Ebbw Vale

C/2018/0217	Land at Bryn Serth, Ebbw Vale
C/2018/0310	Land at Rhyd y Blew
C/2018/0334	Land South of Unit 11 Roseheyworth Business Park, Abertillery

In terms of the number of new developments exceeding TAN 11 or BS4142 Noise, as there are none, the Plan is having a positive impact.

Number of planning permissions granted that include conditions relating to light pollution

The information provided has been based on major applications.

In terms of the number of major applications granted that include conditions relating to light pollution, there were none received in 2018-2019. Therefore a return of no applications has been recorded for the current year.

Planning App No	Location
2016-2017	
C/2016/0226	Land adjacent to Bethany Baptist Chapel, Six Bells
2017 - 2018	
None	
2018-2019	
None	

No planning permission has been granted that includes conditions relating to light pollution.

Effect of development which negatively affects the Brecon Beacons National Park (visual and physical effects)

There has been no development which has negatively affected the Brecon Beacons National Park.

In terms of the effect of development which negatively affects the Brecon Beacons National Park (visual and physical effects) as there were no developments with impacts, the Plan is having a positive impact.

Proportion of landscape characterised and managed

100% of the landscape has been characterised through the LANDMAP process and as a result extensive areas of land has been designated as Special Landscape Areas (7,614 ha).

10 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) sites with a total area of 396 ha are subject to management plans.
3 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) with a total area of 152 ha are also subject to management plans.

This information has remained unchanged since last year.

In terms of the proportion of landscape characterised and managed, as 100% is characterised and 548 ha are subject to management plans, the plan is having a positive impact.

The Plan is having a positive impact on the objective to protect the quality and character of the landscape and enhance where necessary.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The 2018-19 AMR is the sixth monitoring report to be prepared since the adoption of the LDP in November 2012. The findings of the AMR provide an important opportunity for the Council to assess the effectiveness of the Plan and to determine whether or not it needs to be reviewed.

6.2 LDP Wales (2005) asks for seven factors to be considered when monitoring LDP's. The following section provides a conclusion of findings of the monitoring process, specifically addressing the requirements of LDP Wales (2005).

1. Does the basic strategy remain sound (if not, a full plan review may be needed)?

6.3 The LDP provides a robust platform for sustainable growth and regeneration for the next three years as the area comes out of recession. Welsh Governments initiatives such as the Valleys Taskforce and the promise of £25 million pounds investment over the next 3 years in the Tech Valleys project to bring advanced manufacturing jobs to the Gwent Valleys will both assist with growing the economy and help deliver the Strategy of growth and regeneration.

6.4 The required 4-year review of the Plan has been undertaken and identifies that a full review is required. Important factors in reaching this conclusion include the inability to deliver the levels of growth required by the LDP strategy and the resulting failure to maintain the 5 year land supply. The level of growth therefore needs to be reconsidered which could result in a significant change to the strategy. In addition, the extent of changes required to the evidence base in order to extend the plan period could result in a plan significantly different from the adopted LDP.

2. What impact are the policies having globally, nationally, regionally and locally?

6.5 Globally, the SEA Monitoring framework identifies that there is a mixed impact on economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainability.

6.6 Nationally the LDP policy framework is providing opportunities for development to meet national need for housing and employment land.

6.7 From a regional perspective the LDP is assisting in meeting transport, waste and mineral requirements.

6.8 Locally the LDP interventions and delivery of allocations assist with regeneration and meeting the Local Well-being Plan objectives and local community needs.

3. Do the policies need changing to reflect changes in national policy?

6.9 Section 3 indicates the changes in national planning policy guidance. The Replacement Local Development Plan will take into account these changes. In the meantime, relevant changes in national policy will be considered where necessary in any development management decision.

4. Are policies and related targets in LDPs being met or progress being made towards meeting them, including publication of relevant supplementary Planning guidance (SPG)?

6.10 The findings of the LDP and SA monitoring exercise are outlined in Sections 4 and 5 of the AMR.

6.11 The results of the monitoring process for 2018-19 indicate that the targets in respect of 5 out of 19 monitoring aims are on-going, being met or exceeded and 8 monitoring aims are not currently being achieved but the situation can be overcome without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention. The remaining 6 are currently falling short of the required pattern of delivery.

6.12 The lack of delivery in terms of employment, retail and housing is having an impact on Strategic Policies SP1, SP2, SP3 (a), SP4 (a), SP4 (b) and SP5 (a). Whilst development levels are far lower than planned this is as a result of external factors particularly in relation to the economic recession, poorly performing housing market and the high aspirations identified for the area.

6.13 In terms of the Sustainability Appraisal monitoring the results indicate that the Plan is having a positive impact in respect of the majority (12) of the sustainability objectives; not having a positive or are having a mixed impact on 11 of the objectives; and is having a negative impact on 1 objective. The main area where targets are not being met is with regards to the promotion of economic growth and strengthening and diversification of the economy. Overall, the plan is having a positive impact on aspects of sustainability.

6.14 No new Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) documents have been approved in 2018-19.

5. Where progress has not been made, what are the reasons for this and what knock on effects may it have?

6.15 The primary reason for the slow delivery of some aspects of the LDP is directly attributable to the impact of the global economic recession on the operations of the housing and commercial markets. The reduction in new investment in housing and commercial development during the recession inevitably had an adverse impact on the delivery of some elements of the LDP.

6.16 It is becoming increasingly clear that the original housing requirement figure based on the 2008 household projection is too high. It was based on a period of growth whereas what we have experienced is a recession. This has meant low housing completions for 13 out of the 15 year Plan period. Use of the residual method for calculating the five year

supply means that in the last two years of the Plan we need to build over 1,107 houses per annum which is an unattainable target.

6. What aspects, if any, of the LDP need adjusting or replacing because they are not working as intended or are not achieving the objectives of the strategy and/or sustainable development objectives.

6.17 The table below identifies the policies that need adjusting or replacing because they are not working or are not achieving the objectives of the strategy. A Replacement Local Development Plan is currently being prepared which will seek to address these strategic issues.

Policy	Monitoring Aim
SP1: Northern Strategy Area – Sustainable Growth and Regeneration	To ensure sustainable growth and regeneration in the north of the Borough
SP2: Southern Strategy Area – Regeneration	To ensure regeneration in the south of the Borough
SP3 (a): The Retail Hierarchy and Vitality and Viability of the Town Centres	To ensure town centres thrive through the implementation of the retail hierarchy
SP4 (a): Deliver Quality Housing	To secure construction of 3,500 net additional dwellings by 2021 and halt population decline
SP4 (b): Delivering Quality Housing	To ensure the delivery of 1,000 affordable dwellings, 335 of which through planning obligations
SP5 (a): Spatial Distribution of Housing	To ensure that housing is delivered in all areas in accordance with the strategy
SP8: (a) Sustainable Economic Growth	To ensure sufficient employment land is provided to increase economic activity

6.18 Further information on aspects of the LDP which need adjusting or replacing can be found in the LDP Review Report.

7. If policies or proposals need changing, what suggested actions are required to achieve this?

6.19 The Council is currently preparing a Replacement Local Development Plan.

Recommendations

6.20 The current economic situation, the lack of confidence in the housing market and viability issues has undoubtedly had an impact on the delivery of the Plan. Progress on delivering the Strategy of Growth and Regeneration continues to fall short of expectations.

6.21 This year the Plan was found to be meeting 5 out of 19 monitoring remains the same as last year. The number of monitoring aims identified as not being achieved has decreased to 6 this year. The number of trigger levels breached remains the same as last year. Whilst improvements have been made this year the Plan is still not performing in areas such as retail, housing, and employment.

6.22 The Council have completed a full review of the Local Development Plan and have determined that a full revision procedure should be followed to update the Plan.

6.23 The Council agreed a Delivery Agreement with Welsh Government in October 2018 and has commenced work on a Replacement Local Development Plan.

Recommendations

6.24 As a result of the findings of the Annual Monitoring Report for 2018-19 it is recommended that:

1. The Council continues to progress work on the Replacement Local Development Plan.

Appendix 1: Status of Allocations

Policy Ref.	Site Name	Description	Progress
Mixed Use Sites			
MU1	Ebbw Vale Northern Corridor	<p>Strategic mixed-use employment site – on land at Rhyd-y-Blew (29.8 ha of which 13.2 ha is the indicative developable area)</p> <p>Employment and road side services - at Bryn Serth (22.8 ha of which 10.5 ha is the indicative developable area)</p> <p>Commercial leisure hub – commercial leisure and associated A3 uses (4 ha)</p> <p>Residential - 805 homes including 10% affordable housing on three parcels of land (23 ha) <i>(It should be noted that not all of the existing facilities are required to relocate to enable the provision of 805 homes)</i></p>	<p>Part of Enterprise Zone.</p> <p>Full application approved (2013/0199) in February 2014 for access and engineering works which have been completed. The sewerage connection works have also been completed.</p> <p>A full application has been approved (c/2018/0310) for the erection of a 4955 sq.m (50,000 sq.ft) employment unit for B1, B2 or B8 uses. No development has taken place to date.</p> <p>Part of Enterprise Zone</p> <p>Outline planning (2002/0061 & 2010/0269) permission for mixed-use development including employment and road side services (A3, C1, B2 & B8 uses) has lapsed. The Council are however currently working with the landowners of the site to bring the site forward.</p> <p>Partly covered by mixed use planning permission which has now lapsed. The Council are however currently working with the landowners of the site to bring the site forward including the leisure development.</p> <p>Outline planning application (2013/0170) for 250 housing units on the former reservoir site has been granted subject to the signing of a S106 agreement, which is currently being re-negotiated.</p> <p>Full permission has been granted for 100 homes (2018/0217) at Land at</p>

		<p>A network of green links – to allow the effective integration of the SINC's and other key habitat areas</p>	<p>Bryn Serth. Lovell Homes are now on site.</p> <p>A further planning application has been submitted by Persimmon Homes for 277 units on the former school and college site.</p> <p>These are being secured through S106 contributions and/or on site works.</p>
MU2	'The Works', Ebbw Vale	<p>Aneurin Bevan Hospital – a 96 bed Local General Hospital;</p> <p>The Central Valley & Wetlands Park – a green corridor running through the site</p> <p>Environmental Resource Centre – Provides an education facility for local children and the community to explore the heritage and ecology of the site</p> <p>Employment – 5 ha of commercial and business space primarily located adjacent to the hospital site</p> <p>Residential – Approximately 520 homes at varying densities across the site built to higher than nationally required standards and including 20% affordable housing</p>	<p>The development is complete.</p> <p>The development is complete.</p> <p>The development is complete.</p> <p>Part of Enterprise Zone.</p> <p>The REGAIN building is complete providing 500 sq m of floorspace and covers a wider site area of 0.18 ha.</p> <p>Full planning permission (2018/0152) has been granted for 9 B1 business units within 3 buildings employment use on 1.2ha of land north of regain building, Mill Lane.</p> <p>Full planning permission (C/2018/0208) has been granted for the provision of office development to the north of the learning zone (856sqm).</p> <p>5 sustainable houses have been completed on the site.</p> <p>A Design and Masterplan for The Works was adopted in October 2013.</p> <p>A Development Brief for the</p>

		<p>Learning Zone – The Learning Zone includes the provision of education and training for 14-19 year olds. The Works site will also include a 21st Century 3-16 School over two sites that will provide; primary education; an integrated children’s centre, secondary education and the relocated Pen y Cwm Special School</p> <p>Leisure Centre and Sports Fields – A new leisure centre and sports pitches will be developed to provide new leisure amenities for the community</p> <p>Arts Centre – A new arts centre will be developed to provide a community and professional arts/cultural event programme</p> <p>Basement Strategy – A range of uses are being considered for the basements including sports and leisure, exhibition space, summer markets for food & craft including a café, education and recreation facilities</p> <p>Retail – The retail element will only consist of local convenience facilities, including local shops and smaller commercial units;</p> <p>Energy Centre – A centralised energy hub.</p> <p>Family History & Genealogy Visitor Centre – The Former General Offices (Grade II* Listed Building) is to become a visitor centre bringing industrial heritage to life and showcasing one of the largest archives in</p>	<p>Northgate residential area has been adopted. The land has been sold and a planning application is expected soon.</p> <p>The development is complete.</p> <p>The development is complete.</p> <p>Significant funding issues are causing a delay in the project coming forward.</p> <p>On-going.</p> <p>The development has not started.</p> <p>The development is complete.</p> <p>The development is complete.</p>
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		Wales. Public Realm – Focus on a sequence of public squares running through the site.	The development is complete.
MU3	NMC Factory and Bus Depot, Brynmawr	Residential – maximum of 60 homes including 10% affordable housing; and Commercial / Leisure/ Community Facility opportunity to act as an active link between Brynmawr District Town Centre and Lakeside Retail Park	Outline planning application (2017/0159) has been granted for 25 dwellings and a drive thru restaurant. Full planning permission for a restaurant (A3) and outline planning permission for a convenience retail unit (A1), a comparison retail unit (A1) and a flexible unit (A1, A2, A3) on the former NMC Factory site has been approved. No development has commenced on site. However a number of planning application conditions have been discharged relating to signage, highway works and contamination. The factory buildings have also been demolished on the site.
Action Areas			
AA1.1	Southern Gateway, Ebbw Vale	Mechanical Link - Planning permission was granted in December 2013 for an outdoor inclined mechanical link, which will provide a pedestrian connection between the town centre and 'The Works' site Proposed office and retail development	The Cableway is complete. There is no progress to report.
AA1.2	Market Square, Ebbw Vale	Provision of a key link with Ebbw Vale Northern Corridor site Mixed-use development	No progress to date. No progress to date.
Retail			
R1.1	Rhyd y Blew Retail Park, Ebbw Vale	6,000 sq m of non-food retail comprises of 13 retail units of varying sizes.	The land has been sold. Discussions are ongoing with the landowner on the future use of the site.
R1.2	Extension to Festival Shopping Outlet Centre, Ebbw Vale	1,400 sq m of comparison floorspace.	In December 2017, planning permission has been granted (c/2017/0297) to allow an extension of the statutory time period for commencement of works on land to

			the north of Festival Shopping. The development has not started.
R1.3	Extension to Tesco Stores, North West Approach, Ebbw Vale	1,700 sq m of convenience and comparison	Planning permission has now lapsed.
R1.4	Market Street, Ebbw Vale	600 sq m of comparison floorspace	The site is currently being used as a car park. No progress to date.
Housing			
H1.1	Willowtown School, Ebbw Vale	Allocation for 22 units.	The school building has been demolished. Discussions are on-going regarding development of this site. Planning Permission has not been granted.
HC1.1	North of Cwmyrdderch Court Flats, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 16 units.	The site is a self-build site with 3 units completed. There are currently no further units under construction. The site is under construction.
HC1.2	Letchworth Road, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 27 units.	The site is a self-build site. To date 21 units have been completed and 4 units are under construction. 2 units not started. The site is under construction and near completion.
HC1.3	Old 45 Yard, Steelworks Road, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 82 units.	The development is complete.
HC1.4	Adjacent Pant-y-Fforest, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 21 units.	A planning application (c/2014/0077) to vary a condition to extend the time period for the submission of a reserved matters planning application has been approved and S106 has now been signed. Development has not started.
HC1.5	Heol Elan, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 43 units.	The development is complete.
HC1.6	Land at College Road, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 41 units.	The development is complete.
HC1.7	Adj Sports	Committed housing site for 69	Full permission (c/2009/0266) was

	Ground, Gwaun Helyg, Ebbw Vale	units.	granted in 2010 for 73 units. 42 units have been completed and 4 units are under construction. The site is under construction.
HC1.8	Higgs Yard, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 29 units.	Full permission (c/2007/0658) was granted in 2009 and has now lapsed.
HC1.9	Mountain Road, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 22 units.	The development is complete.
HC1.10	Briery Hill, Ebbw Vale	Committed housing site for 33 units.	The development is complete.
H1.2	Cartref Aneurin Bevan, Tredegar	Housing allocation for 13 units.	The development is complete.
H1.3	Greenacres, Tredegar	Housing allocation for 18 units.	The site has full planning permission for residential development for 22 social housing units. Contractors are on site demolishing the existing building.
H1.4	Land adjacent to Chartist Way, Tredegar	Housing allocation for 101 units.	The site is not being marketed. No progress to date.
HC1.11	Derelict Bus Garage, Woodfield Road, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 11 units.	The development is complete.
HC1.12	Former LCR Factory, Charles Street, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 14 units.	The site is a self-build site. 4 units complete and a further 3 units are under construction. The site is under construction.
HC1.13	Former Factory Site, Pochin, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 28 units.	Planning permission for reserved matters was granted (c/2008/0360) in 2008. Outline planning permission has been granted for the construction of dwellings (c/2014/0238) and the S106 agreement has been signed. A reserved matter application is pending for access, site layout and infrastructure and currently conditions are being discharged. The number of units on site has decreased to 15. The factory has been demolished and some ground work undertaken.

HC1.14	Land at Poultry Farm, Queen Victoria Street, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 3 units.	19 units completed and 3 units not started. Full permission has been granted for the construction of a further dwelling (c/2015/0033). There has been no further development on site
HC1.15	Upper Ty Gwyn Farm, Nantybawch, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 38 units.	The site is a self-build site. 17 units have been completed and a further unit is under construction. The site is under construction and progressing slowly.
HC1.16	Former LCR Factory, opposite Tredegar Comprehensive School, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 47 units.	The development is complete.
HC1.17	Peacehaven, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 147 units.	The number of units on site decreased to 143 units. 137 units complete and 4 under construction. The site is almost completed.
HC1.18	The Goldmine, Sirhowy, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 16 units.	Planning permission has expired. Development has not started.
HC1.19	BKF Plastics, Ashvale, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 54 units.	Outline planning permission C/2007/0730 was granted and a renewal of this has since been granted C/2015/0052. The building has been demolished. Development has not started.
HC1.20	Sirhowy Infants School Site, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 23 units.	The site has full planning permission granted for the construction of 23 dwellings and associated works. The site is under construction.
HC1.21	Corporation Yard, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 23 units	Outline planning permission c/2007/0418 has now lapsed. Planning permission (c/2015/0077) has been approved for 6 houses on part of the site. The development has not started.

HC1.22	Park Hill, Tredegar	Committed housing site for 160 units.	<p>Outline planning permission (c/2003/0322) was granted in 2005 for 160 dwellings. Since the base date of the Plan full permission was granted on part of the site (c/2009/0329) and outline permission was granted on the remainder of the site (c/2009/0328). In total planning permission has been granted for 293 units.</p> <p>Planning permission (c/2015/0236 and c/2015/0237) has been granted to remove conditions 34, 35 & 36 (code for sustainable homes) & variation of condition 38 (to extend the life of the planning permission (c/2009/0328).</p> <p>The section 106 agreement has been signed for the site.</p> <p>Development has not started.</p>
H1.5	Garnfach School, Nantyglo	Housing allocation for 28 units.	<p>The school buildings have been demolished.</p> <p>Development has not started.</p>
H1.6	Crawshay House, Brynmawr	Housing allocation for 25 units.	<p>A planning application (2018/0132) has been approved to convert the building into 14 apartments.</p> <p>Development has not started.</p>
H1.7	Infants School & Old Griffin Yard, Brynmawr	Housing allocation for 36 units	<p>The school buildings have been demolished. The Council are working with Linc Cymru to provide feasibility plans for a mixed tenure scheme of houses and bungalows.</p> <p>Development has not started.</p>
H1.8	Hafod Dawel Site, Nantyglo	Housing allocation for 44 units.	The development is complete.
H1.9	West of the Recreation Ground, Nantyglo	Housing allocation for 15 units.	<p>No planning applications received. No further progress to date.</p> <p>Development has not started.</p>
H1.10	Land to the East of Blaina Road, Brynmawr	Housing allocation for 25 units.	Outline planning (2017/0159) has been approved for residential development (25 units) and a drive thru restaurant.

			Development has not started.
H1.11	Land to the North of Winchestown, Nantyglo	Housing allocation for 15 units.	No planning applications received. Development has not started.
HC1.23	Recticel and Gwalia Former Factory Site, Brynmawr	Committed housing site for 45 units.	The development is complete.
HC1.24	Land at Clydach Street, Brynmawr	Committed housing site for 15 units.	The site is a self-build site. 9 units have been completed, progress is slow. A discharge of conditions application for 3 plots has been approved. The site is under construction.
HC1.25	TSA Woodcraft, Noble Square Industrial Estate, Brynmawr	Committed housing site for 25 units.	Full planning permission (c/2006/0619) granted in 2007 for 37 units. The site is under new ownership and further development is underway. 12 units have been completed with 1 further unit under construction. 24 units remain to be built. The site is under construction.
HC1.26	Roberto Neckwear, Limestone Road, Nantyglo	Committed housing site for 19 units.	Outline planning permission (c/2005/0602) was granted in 2006 and has now expired. The site is back in use. Development has not started.
HC1.27	Cwm Blaina Farm, Blaina	Committed housing site for 78 units. The site is part self-build and part developer led.	Outline planning was granted for phase 4 (c/2004/0608) in 2005. Outline Planning permission has been granted for 25 dwellings (c/2015/0426; c/2015/0435; c/2016/0007). The site is under construction with 128 units complete and 6 more under construction. The recent permissions should lead to the completion of the site. The site is under construction.
HC1.28	Salem Chapel, Waun Ebbw Road and Pond Road Junction, Nantyglo	Housing commitment for 11 units.	Full planning permission (c/2008/0310) was granted in 2008 which has now lapsed. The development has not been

			started.
H1.12	Six Bells Colliery Site, Six Bells	Housing allocation for 40 units.	No planning applications received. No further progress to date.
H1.13	Warm Turn, Six Bells	Housing allocation for 32 units.	No planning applications received. No further progress to date.
H1.14	Roseheyworth Comprehensive, Abertillery	Housing allocation for 33 units.	No planning applications received. No further progress to date.
H1.15	Former Mount Pleasant Court, Brynithel	Housing allocation for 18 units.	No planning applications received. No further progress to date.
H1.16	Hillcrest View, Cwmtillery	Housing allocation for 22 units.	Full planning permission granted (c/2008/0383) in 2010 has now lapsed. The development has not been started.
H1.17	Quarry Adj to Cwm Farm Road, Six Bells	Housing allocation for 22 units.	No planning applications received. No further progress to date.
HC1.29	At Cwm Farm Road, Abertillery	Committed housing site for 20 units.	Since the base date of the plan the outline planning permission 2008/0207 has been renewed by application 2012/0005 and application 2017/0075. The development has not started.
HC1.30	Former Swffryd Junior School, Swffryd	Committed housing site for 18 units.	The development is complete.
HC1.31	Land at Penrhiw Estate, Brynithel	Committed housing site for 23 units.	Outline planning permission was granted (2005/0578) in 2006. A renewal of this planning permission was granted in 2009 (2009/0151). Outline planning permission was granted in 2015 (2015/0352). The development has not been started.
Gypsy Traveller			
GT1	Land South of Cwmcraehen Gypsy Site, Nantyglo	Accommodation for 6 pitches	A full planning application (c/2015/0399) has been granted for the extension of Cwmcraehen gypsy site for the provision of 4 new pitches, 2 semi-detached utility buildings, new access and associated works.

			The development has not started.
Transport			
Cycle Routes			
T1.1	HoV Route linking Nine Arches Tredegar to Brynmawr		The development is complete.
T1.2	Link from HoV to Rassau Industrial Estate		The development has not started.
T1.3	HoV to Ebbw Vale and Cwm		The development is complete.
T1.4	Cwm to Aberbeeg		The development is complete.
T1.5	Link from HOV to Trefil		The development has not started.
T1.6	Links from HoV to Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate		The development has not started.
T1.7	Hilltop to Ebbw Vale to Manmoel		The development has not started.
T1.8	Brynmawr to Blaenavon		The development is complete.
T1.9	Extension of Ebbw Fach Trail from Abertillery to Aberbeeg and completion of missing section through Blaina		The development is complete.
T1.10	Link to Cwmtillery Lakes		The development has not started.
T1.11	Aberbeeg to Royal Oak		The development has not started.
T1.12	Royal Oak to Swffryd		The development has not started.
Rail Network and Station Improvements			
T2.1	Extension of rail link from		The development is complete. The railway line was operational in May

	Parkway to Ebbw Vale Town		2015.
T2.2	Provision of new station and bus interchange at Ebbw Vale		The development is complete.
T2.3	Extension of rail link to Abertillery		Investigations are underway.
T2.4	Provision of new station and Park and Ride at Abertillery		No further progress has been made.
T2.5	Rail freight provision at Marine Colliery		No further progress has been made.
Safeguarding of Disused Railway Infrastructure			
T3	Rail track east of Brynmawr	This is a safeguarding policy.	Safeguarding in place.
Improvements to Bus Services			
T4.1	Bus Priority Scheme along the Brynmawr to Newport Bus Corridor		The development has not started.
T4.2	Bus Interchange improvement at Brynmawr		The development is complete.
T4.3	Bus Interchange improvement at Ebbw Vale		The development is complete.
New Roads to Facilitate Development			
T5.1	Construction of a Peripheral Distributor Road through 'The Works'		The development is complete.
T5.2	Online improvements between the Peripheral Distributor Road and the A465		The development is complete.

Regeneration led Highway Improvements			
T6.1	Dualling of the A465 Heads of the Valleys Road (Tredegar to Brynmawr)		The development is complete.
T6.2	Online improvements to the A4046 south of Cwm		The development has not started.
T6.3	Online improvements to the A4048 south of Tredegar		The development has not started.
T6.4	Online improvements to the A467 south of Abertillery		The development has not started.
Employment			
EMP 1.1	Land at Festival Park, Ebbw Vale		The development has not started.
EMP1.2	Land at Tredegar Business Park, Tredegar	Part of Enterprise Zone	The development has not started.
EMP1.3	Land at Rising Sun Industrial Estate, Nantyglo		The development has not started.
EMP 1.4	Rassau Platform A, Ebbw Vale	Part of Enterprise Zone	The development has not started.
EMP 1.5	Rassau Platform B, Ebbw Vale	Part of Enterprise Zone	The development has not started.
EMP 1.6	Land at Waun-y-Pound, Tredegar	Part of Enterprise Zone	<p>The north eastern arm of the site has been granted planning permission for:</p> <p>0.4 ha for a vehicle security park and storage container facility including office facility and weigh bridge. The development is complete.</p> <p>0.2 ha for the construction of a B2 industrial unit with associated offices and external area. The development is complete.</p> <p>Construction and operation of a 16</p>

			MW gas fired standby Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) power plant. The development is complete.
EMP 1.7	Marine Colliery, Ebbw Vale		The development has not started.
EMP 1.8	Crown Business Park Platform A, Tredegar		The development has not started.
EMP1.9	Crown Business Park Platform B, Tredegar		The development has not started.
EMP1.10	Land at Roseheyworth Business Park, Cwmtillery		Planning permission has been granted for 0.79 ha of the site to be developed for a household waste facility, new access road and shop. The development has not started.
Education			
ED1.1	Ysgol Gymraeg, Brynmawr	New primary school	The development is complete.
ED1.2	Lower Plateau Six Bells Colliery Site	A new primary school on the former Six Bells Colliery site to replace Bryngwyn and Queen Street	Outline planning permission and a reserved matters planning application have been approved. Development on site has almost been completed and the school is due to open in September 2019.
Community Facilities			
CF1.1	Sirhowy Infants School, Tredegar	Community Centre	The development is complete.
Tourism and Leisure			
TM1.1	Eastern Valley Slopes, Ebbw Vale	Potential for tourism, leisure and education via promotion of access to the countryside and improvement to the natural environment.	The development is complete.
TM1.2	Garden Festival, Ebbw Vale	Proposal to develop Festival Park into a major tourist destination. 3 applications have been granted: c/2010/0132 for Castle, super tubing c/2011/0109 for Vertigo hang loose zip-wire attraction c/2011/0248 for widening of footpaths and creation of new sections for shared use.	The development is complete. The development has not started. The development is complete.
TM1.3	Blue Lakes, Tredegar	Ebbw Vale and District Development Trust (EVAD)	EVAD have been disbanded and it is unlikely that this scheme will proceed.

		proposal to create a new park, visitor centre and café.	The development has not started.
TM1.4	Bedwellty House and Park, Tredegar	Restoration of Bedwellty House to create a visitor experience, restaurant, gardens and function area.	The development is complete.
TM1.5	Parc Bryn Bach (including a hotel), Tredegar	Potential to further develop the tourism offer of the park with opportunities for a hotel and bunk-house facility.	The development has not started.
TM1.6	Nantyglo Roundhouse Towers, Nantyglo	Potential for heritage centre and educational resource.	<p>Planning permission has been granted for the conversion of the north wing of the barn to 3 no. holiday units (c/2015/0128). Development has commenced on site and will be completed by the end of 2019.</p> <p>A further application for a bunk house and picnic area to the southern end of the barn has been received. A decision is pending.</p> <p>The educational and heritage potential has not been progressed.</p> <p>The development has not started.</p>
TM1.7	Cwmtillery Lakes, Cwmtillery	Outdoor Gateway and Education facility as a base for outdoor activities.	<p>Community led project which is unlikely to be taken forward.</p> <p>The development has not started.</p>
Formal Leisure			
L1.1	Chartist Way, Tredegar	Informal play space provision	No further progress to date.
Land Reclamation			
ENV4.1	Pennant Street phase 2, Ebbw Vale		No further progress to date.
ENV4.2	Parc Bryn Bach, Tredegar		No further progress to date.
ENV4.3	Cwmcraehen, Brynmawr		No further progress to date.
ENV4.4	Llanhilleth Pithead Baths, Llanhilleth		<p>The Council is in negotiation with the owner to buy the site.</p> <p>The development has not started.</p>
Cemetery Extensions			

ENV5.1	Cefn Golau Cemetery, Tredegar		The development is complete.
ENV5.2	Dukestown Cemetery, Tredegar		No further progress to date.
ENV5.3	Blaina Cemetery, Blaina		The development is complete.
Waste			
W1.1	Land south of Waun-y-Pound, Tredegar		<p>This site was offered up as part of the Heads of the Valleys Organics project. None of the bidders selected chose to use the site. However, the selected bidder no longer wishes to proceed. The site is no longer required for the organics project.</p> <p>The north eastern arm of the site has since been developed and work has been completed for: a vehicle security park and storage container facility, a B2 industrial unit with associated offices and external area, a 16 MW gas fired standby Short Term Operating Reserve (STOR) power plant.</p>
W1.2	Silent Valley, Ebbw Vale	New bulking / waste transfer facility. Permission granted (2013/0105) in 2013.	<p>The development is complete.</p> <p>Planning permission (c/2015/0057) has been granted for an extension to the existing waste transfer station.</p> <p>The development is complete.</p>

Appendix 2: Mandatory Indicators

Mandatory Indicators	Monitoring Results
The housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study	The current published Joint Housing Study for Blaenau Gwent (2019) indicates that there is a 1.48 year land supply.
Number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built per annum	A total of 44 general market units and 31 affordable units were built in 2018-19.
Net employment land supply / development per annum	660 sq m of employment land has been developed in 2018-19.
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)	From a total 379.75 ha of allocated land 13.98 ha was permitted in 2018-19 which is equivalent to 4%. Out of a total of 20.26 ha of land permitted 13.98 ha was on allocated sites, which is equivalent to 69%.
Average density of housing development permitted on allocated development plan sites	The average density of housing development permitted on allocated sites is 33 per ha for the period 2018-19.
Amount of new development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions) expressed as a percentage of all development permitted (BGCBC Planning Applications)	During 2018-19, 87% (17.68 ha of a total of 20.26 ha) of development permitted was on previously developed land.
Amount of major retail, office and leisure development (sq m) permitted in town centres expressed as a percentage of all major development permitted (TAN 4);	No major retail, office and leisure developments have been permitted in Blaenau Gwent's town centres.
Amount of development (by TAN 15 paragraph 5.1 development category) permitted in C1 and C2 floodplain areas not meeting all TAN 15 tests	During 2018-19, one permission for highly vulnerable or emergency services was permitted within flood zone C2 not meeting all TAN 15 tests.
Amount of greenfield and open space lost to development (ha) which is not allocated in the Plan	During 2018-19 0 ha of open space has been lost to development which is not allocated in the Plan.
The extent of primary land-won aggregates permitted expressed as a percentage of the total capacity required, as identified in the regional waste Plan	71% of the total capacity required has been permitted. No further capacity has been permitted in 2018-19.
The capacity of renewable energy developments installed per annum	0 MW of renewable /low carbon energy was installed in 2018-19.

Appendix 3: Changes to LDP and SA Monitoring Framework

Policy Ref.	Indicator	Change	Reason
Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring Framework			
SA10	Adult participation in sport in the previous four weeks	It is proposed to delete the indicator.	The data is no longer being collected.
SA10	Percentage of primary school pupils in Blaenau Gwent who attend a leisure or sports centre once a week or more often	Amend the indicator as follows: Percentage of pupils who take part in sport at least 3 times a week	The datasets for primary school pupils are no longer being collected as a general sports survey is being undertaken which does not distinguish between primary and secondary pupils. The data collected as part of the Sports Survey has also changed.
SA10	Percentage of primary school pupils who took part in an extra curricular club	Amend the indicator as follows: Percentage of pupils who took part in sport at a club outside of school in the last year	The datasets for primary school pupils are no longer being collected as a general sports survey is being undertaken which does not distinguish between primary and secondary pupils. The data collected as part of the Sports Survey has also changed.
SA10	Percentage of secondary school pupils who took part in a club outside school	Delete the indicator and replace with the following: Percentage of pupils who enjoy sport outside school a lot	The datasets for primary school pupils are no longer being collected as a general sports survey is being undertaken which does not distinguish between primary and secondary pupils. It is proposed to delete this indicator and replace with another indicator that is being used by the Sports Survey.