

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This document represents a statement of consultation undertaken in respect of the preparation of the Delivery Agreement to the Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (LDP).
- 1.2 The requirement for Councils to prepare a LDP is set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The aim of the new LDPs is to make the development plan system more relevant, inclusive and engaging to local communities.
- 1.3 A key aspect of the LDP system is the emphasis placed upon community involvement and encouraging a collaborative approach to plan preparation involving the voluntary, public and private sectors, to ensure the Plan is based on consensus and an increased sense of community ownership.
- 1.4 When adopted, the LDP will supersede the Carmarthenshire Unitary Development Plan (UDP) as the statutory development plan for the County (excluding that part of Carmarthenshire within the Brecon Beacons National Park).

## 2.0 Delivery Agreement.

- 2.1 The first key stage in the preparation of the LDP is a requirement to prepare a Delivery Agreement (DA), which must be agreed by the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG). The DA is a public statement of the Council's commitment to the production of the LDP. It provides the timetable for the preparation of the LDP and, through its Community Involvement Scheme (CIS), details how and when the Council will consult and engage with groups, organisations and individuals during the Plan's preparatory process.
- 2.2 Adherence to the agreed contents of the DA represents an important test of the soundness of the LDP at the later independent examination stage.
- 2.3 The Delivery Agreement consists of the following two key elements:
  - **Timetable.** The timetable details the stages involved in the formulation and preparation of the LDP and how the Council proposes to manage its production. The timetable is divided into two stages (definitive and indicative) setting out the key parts of the process.
  - **Community Involvement Scheme.** The CIS sets out how the Council intends to engage a full spectrum of the community in a meaningful way throughout the LDP process, and contains lists of those groups, bodies and individuals that will be consulted.

## 3.0 Publication of the Draft Delivery Agreement.

- 3.1 In preparing the DA, the Council carried out an extensive, focused consultation process across a wide range of individuals, groups and bodies.
- 3.2 Carmarthenshire County Council formally approved the Draft Delivery Agreement (DA) for consultation purposes on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2007 (see Appendix A, below). The Draft DA was made available for public inspection and consultation from 30<sup>th</sup> May to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

- 3.3 Public notices appeared in local newspapers, namely the Carmarthen Journal, Llanelli Star and the South Wales Guardian from the 30<sup>th</sup> May 2007. A copy of the notice is set out in Appendix B, below.
- 3.4 In addition, a number of articles appeared in the Council's own publication, *Community News* which is distributed to all postal addresses within the County. A further article was placed in the publication, *Carmarthenshire Business News* and another appeared in the *Carmarthen Journal*. Copies of the articles are reproduced in Appendix C, below.
- 3.5 Copies of the Draft DA were forwarded to the specific consultation bodies identified within Appendix 5 of the DA and to members of the Key Stakeholder Forum listed in Appendix 7. In addition, letters giving notice and details of the availability of the DA for consultation purposes were sent to those general and other consultation bodies highlighted in Appendix 5 of the DA. A comment form was prepared to assist in providing a response (see Appendix D, below).
- 3.6 Copies of the Draft DA together with the representation form were made available for inspection at the following locations:
- all public libraries within the County;
  - Customer Service Centres in Ammanford, Carmarthen, Llanelli and Llandeilo;
  - Planning Office, 40 Spilman Street, Carmarthen

#### **4.0 Consideration of Responses Received.**

- 4.1 The LDP Advisory Panel, comprised of County Councillors and set up to guide the preparation of the LDP, were presented with a report of representations received in respect of the DA. The Panel ratified the Officer's recommendations in respect of the representations at a meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2007. A copy of the report and the summary of representations, together with the minutes from the meeting, are set out in Appendix E.
- 4.2 The Draft DA was subsequently forwarded to the Welsh Assembly Government on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007 and was agreed on the 28<sup>th</sup> August 2007. Prior to this, on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2007, the Welsh Assembly Government confirmed the local order enabling commencement of the Carmarthenshire LDP under the Local Development Plan provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- 4.3 The agreed Delivery Agreement is available for Inspection at all public libraries within the County, the Council's customer service centres and at the planning services offices. It can also be viewed on the Council's website at [www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk](http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk).

## **Useful Contacts**

For further information you can contact:

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## **Appendices**

Appendix A – Report to Council – Approval of DA for Consultation

Appendix B – DA Consultation – Public Notice

Appendix C – Articles (Community News, Carmarthenshire Business News, Carmarthen Journal)

Appendix D – DA Comment Form

Appendix E – Report to Advisory Panel/Minutes of Advisory Panel Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2007