

Eich cyf / Your ref :

Fy nghyf / My ref : ORE/IRL/ar

Dyddiad / Date :

Gofynner am / Please ask for:

Forward Planning Section

Llinell Uniongyrchol / Direct Line :

01267 228818

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan – Key Stakeholder Forum

I trust you will recall previous correspondence and consultations in respect of the Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (LDP). This is a new type of development plan which will eventually replace the existing Carmarthenshire Unitary Development Plan.

The LDP will cover a fifteen year period, determining how much new housing is developed in the county and where it will be built. It will influence the type and location of new employment opportunities. It will be the principal reference for considering all proposals and planning applications that relate to the development and use of land throughout Carmarthenshire. It will balance the need for new development and investment against the need to conserve and enhance the natural and built environment.

The process for preparing the LDP encourages a wide range of organisations and groups to work with the County Council to help set the broad strategy of the plan from a very early stage of preparation. So while Carmarthenshire County Council as local planning authority is responsible for producing the plan, it is essential that its preparation and content reflect the views and preferences of the community at large, and that it is based on consensus.

We sent you an introductory letter in May 2007 (please find a copy enclosed) inviting your organisation to be represented on the Key Stakeholder Forum. The Forum is being set up to give a wide spectrum of organisations and groups with an interest in the future of Carmarthenshire the opportunity to help shape the Local Development Plan. The Forum will have a very significant role, helping decide the key objectives for the Plan and developing a range of possible strategies for achieving them. It will consider which strategic routes will be best for the county, and help set the planning policies needed to shape the future development of the county.

As background, please find enclosed a booklet '*LDP Wales – Planning Your Community*' which provides information on the new plan-making process. It explains

the main stages of plan preparation, stressing the importance and value of widespread community engagement and involvement, particularly in the early stages. The Key Stakeholder Forum is at the very centre of this engagement process and will provide a crucial opportunity for your organisation to influence the strategic direction and content of the plan.

We think it is extremely important that your organisation is actively involved in contributing from the very earliest stages of plan preparation, before any significant decisions have been made. For this reason I am pleased to invite you to the first meeting of the Key Stakeholder Forum. This will be held at the **Gwenllian Court Hotel**, Mynydd Y Garreg, Kidwelly, on **Tuesday 28 October 2008**. The meeting will start at 10.00am (with tea and coffee served from 9.30am) and continue through until 3pm. A light buffet working lunch will be provided. Please find enclosed a location plan for the venue.

It is important to recognise that membership of the Forum will require an appropriate level of commitment. We suggest that, as far as is possible, representatives of organisations should remain the same throughout the process. This will help to ensure continuity and consistency. To make the Forum work effectively, it will also be important that individual representatives carry enough authority to represent the views of their particular organisation at a strategic level, and that they are in a position to report back from, and to feed information and preferences back to, the Forum when necessary.

The Stakeholder Forum is an important way for the local community to have its say on the Local Development Plan's vision, key objectives and strategic context. These are all things which will shape the future use of land within the County. As a representative of the local community, I am sure that you will appreciate the importance of taking part in this event.

While officers from the County's Forward Planning section will be present at the upcoming Forum meeting, the event will be facilitated by staff of Planning Aid Wales, led by its Chief Executive Elwyn Thomas. Planning Aid Wales is an independent provider of planning information, expertise and advice, working to increase public involvement in all aspects of the planning process. They have extensive experience of organising and managing these types of events – if you want to know more, visit www.planningaidwales.org.uk

I very much look forward to your attendance and participation in the Forum, and would be grateful if you could confirm that your organisation will be represented at the 28th October meeting, and by whom. Please confirm either by post (using the reply slip overleaf), telephone or email to the Forward Planning Section no later than 17th October 2008. If you personally are not available to represent your organisation, then please do ask a suitably senior colleague to attend on your behalf.

Should you require any more information about this event, please contact the Forward Planning Section on 01267 228818 or send an email to: forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

Jon Timothy
Forward Planning Manager

Enclosures:

Reply slip and s.a.e.

Venue location plan

Key Stakeholder Forum members and overview of LDP Delivery Agreement

CCC letter dated 28th May 2007

'LDP Wales – Planning Your Community' booklet

-----REPLY SLIP-----

Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan

Key Stakeholder Forum workshop

28th October 2008, Gwennllian Court Hotel, starting 09.30am

**I will / will not be attending the above event
(please delete as appropriate)**

Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Name of delegated
substitute (if applicable): _____

Special dietary
requirements (if any) _____

Please detach this reply slip and return it in the enclosed stamped addressed envelope. Or alternatively, confirm by telephoning 01267 228818 or by emailing forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Key Stakeholder Forum Membership

- Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services (CAVS)
- Coleg Sir Gar
- Carmarthenshire County Council
- Dyfed Powys Police
- Welsh Assembly Government - Department for Education, Culture and Welsh Language
- Welsh Assembly Government - Department for the Economy and Transport)
- Environment Agency Wales
- Trinity College
- Carmarthenshire Local Health Board
- Chamber of Commerce
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Confederation of Business Industry
- Community Legal Service
- Arts Council of Wales
- Community and Town Councils - two representatives of urban councils; two representatives of rural councils
- Countryside Council for Wales
- Cadw
- Cambria Archaeological Trust
- National Farmers Union
- Farmers Union Wales
- Young Farmers
- Youth representatives
- Carmarthenshire County Council - Executive Board Member for Regeneration and Leisure
- Carmarthenshire County Council - Chair of Planning Committee

Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan - Delivery Agreement

The Delivery Agreement is a public statement of the County Council's commitment to preparing the Local Development Plan effectively and inclusively. It provides a timeline for LDP preparation, and also contains a Community Involvement Scheme which explains how and when the Council will involve and consult with groups, organisations and individuals during the different stages of plan preparation.

The Delivery Agreement can be viewed on the County Council's website at:

www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/index.asp?loclD=8697&docID=-1