

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh

Powys Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) (2022-2037)

Pre-deposit Proposals (Preferred Strategy)

Representation Form

Please use this form to set out your representation to the Preferred Strategy, including those relating to the Initial Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) and the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Information Report. Alternatively, the Preferred Strategy consultation can be viewed on the Council's website, where you can make online Representations at: https://powys.oc2.uk

On 25th May 2018 the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force, placing restrictions on how organisations can hold and use personal data and defining rights with regard to that data. Any personal information disclosed to us will be processed in accordance with our Privacy Notice. The Council's Privacy Notice can be found at https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/12891/Planning-Policy-Privacy-Notice

All submissions will be handled in accordance with GDPR regulations. Please note however that representations will be made available for public inspection. This completed Representation form can be returned via email to ldp@powys.gov.uk. All paper copies should be returned to the address below:

Planning Policy, Powys County Council, County Hall,
Llandrindod Wells, Powys. LD1 5LG

This is also the appropriate time to make representations on any of the sites identified in the Candidate Sites Register or identify new sites. Please note that the Council is providing a different representation form for those purposes.

Deadline to submit Representations: 5pm Monday 7th October 2024.

Please use one form per Representation.

Powys

CONTACT DETAILS

	Contact details	Agents contact details (if applicable)
Title:	Clerk	
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REPRESENTATIONS

To what document does your representation relate?

Preferred Strategy	☒
Initial Integrated Sustainability Appraisal	☒
HRA Information Report	☒

(Note that there is an alternative form for commenting on Candidate Sites).

Does your representation provide:

Support ☐ Comment ☐ Objection ☒

Please provide the section, page and paragraph number to which your representation relates:

The Community and Community Council totally supports the underlying objective of the LDP process and appreciates that it is a very technical piece of work that requires a lot of detail.

However, in communication with Officers at Powys it is apparent that some of them are unclear on the details within the overwhelming number of documents. I have met with full time professional established Clerks at major Powys towns as well as my own part time Community Council colleagues and all have expressed frustration and confusion with the contents of the LDP documentation and / or the number of links and sub links when viewing online.

If Clerks struggle to find or understand the detail, which they in turn try to pass onto unqualified Councillors, it is very obvious that trying to educate and gain the views of totally unsighted residents is doomed to fail.

At a sceptical level it has been suggested to me that the documents and the process of viewing and understanding them is deliberately complicated to ensure that the community do NOT get a say.

I struggle to accept that, and feel that this process is well intentioned but ultimately has become unintentionally written by Planning Professionals FOR Planning Professionals. Without a background / education in planning we would argue that at least 95% - probably higher – of the general public would not comprehend or understand the majority of the information contained in the documents. Furthermore it must be noted that the average person, working and trying to balance family life etc, simply does not have the time to try and wade through this over complicated information, let alone have the time to try and understand it.

If the LDP process is meant to connect and engage with the community to shape future policy for the next 10 - 15 years it fails epically.

Whilst appreciating the need for detailed analysis in determining accurate needs etc, there MUST be a way to do a far simpler version for the average Resident, Clerk and Councillor.

If not why show this as an engagement process, when one side is completely blind sided.

As an example, this form states "***Please provide the section, page and paragraph number to which your representation relates*".** Residents have told us that they do not understand the majority of content within the published documents IF they can find them, that they are very complicated and, in a language, unfamiliar to them.

Residents have told us that if they do not understand what they are reading, and the quantity of documents is thoroughly overwhelming how are they supposed to "***Assign section, pages and paragraphs***" to their views! Our residents are not unintelligent but this whole process is in an unfamiliar language to them, BUT the results will shape where they live for many years to come.

This is fully supported by the Community Councillors. It does not encourage engagement it denies engagement.

Please use the space provided below to outline your representation. If your representation is an objection, please stipulate what changes you would wish to see.

Analysis understandably forms the background to form a plan for the future needs etc however it is background, and our representation is simply, if you would like engagement you need to make the Public engagement and consultation side far more straight forward, less complicated, less 'insider' jargon and far more user friendly.

We would like to know your views on the effects the proposals will have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be?

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Please note that by submitting this form your contact details will be added to our Replacement LDP database and you will be kept informed of progress on the preparation of the Replacement LDP. If you have any queries or would like to stop receiving information, please contact the Planning Policy team as detailed above.

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM