



# Preferred Strategy Summary Version

Caerphilly County Borough Council is working on a second replacement Local Development Plan for the County.

This plan will ensure Caerphilly can grow sustainably over the next 10 years to 2035.

We are currently consulting on the 'Revised Preferred Strategy' for the new plan. This summarises the main issues facing Caerphilly and what we think should be done about them.

It sets out a draft vision, strategy, and objectives for the plan.

This document is an easy read version that summarises the Preferred Strategy, which can be found in full at <https://caerphilly.oc2.uk/>

# Why are Local Development Plans Important?

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Local Development Plans are important because they set a framework for how all development should take place in an area over the lifetime of the plan.

They cover all aspects of land use and development and set targets for growth, investment and environmental protection.

Local Development Plans are the most important factor when making decisions on planning applications.

Once it is adopted, every planning application will be tested against the policies in the Plan.



# What is a ‘Preferred Strategy’?

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The Preferred Strategy sets out the long-term vision for the county borough. It identifies which areas within the county borough will be protected, how much development is needed and where this is likely to be. The Preferred Strategy contains:



Summaries of issues, challenges and opportunities facing Caerphilly and what we would like to do about them.



A summary of how we think Caerphilly will grow over the next 10 years.



A vision that seeks to capitalise on our strategic location at the heart of the Cardiff Capital Region and will enhance the well-being of those that live, work, play in and visit the County Borough.



A set of 15 Aims and 25 key objectives for what the plan should deliver.



A set of 22 Planning Policies that will help deliver the vision, aims and objectives.



A review and proposed changes to the previous plan’s policies that relate to planning applications.

The Preferred Strategy is one of the major steps in preparing a Local Development Plan. Once we have considered all of the comments on the Strategy we will work towards a Deposit Plan. This is a full draft of the Plan which we aim to produce for a consultation early in 2026. You can comment on the Preferred Strategy at <https://caerphilly.oc2.uk/>

Comments must be received by **26th February 2025**.

# What are the issues facing Caerphilly?



Some of the main issues identified for the plan so far include:



National and regional issues, including climate change, decarbonisation, wider economic challenges, housing shortages and delivering the Southeast Wales Metro.



Environmental issues, including maintaining and enhancing biodiversity, promoting and delivering renewable energy schemes, mitigating against climate change, embracing sustainable drainage and reducing flood risk and promoting a shift to sustainable transport and electric vehicles.



Economic Issues, including high levels of economic inactivity, maximising employment opportunities, shortage of employment land, diversification from manufacturing and supporting tourism.



Social Issues, including an aging and shrinking population, tackling deprivation, changing uses of town centres, protecting and improving green spaces and providing necessary community infrastructure.



Cultural Issues, including promoting the resilience and adaption of our heritage assets as development occurs.

These issues have helped to create a Vision which will guide the 2<sup>nd</sup> Replacement LDP.

# Our Vision



To address the issues identified, The Development Strategy for Caerphilly will capitalise on our strategic location at the heart of the Cardiff Capital Region.

It will deliver sustainable development that will enhance the well-being of those that live, work, play in and visit the County Borough.

By the end of the plan period the strategy will have:

- Addressed the economic and social challenges,
- Developed and enhanced the blue and green infrastructure across the County Borough,
- Addressed the housing crisis through the provision of affordable and market housing,
- Built on the diverse and distinct character of the towns and villages in the County Borough, and
- Enhanced the strategic network of recreation, leisure, education and community facilities, strengthened communities and engendered a better quality of life for all.

All of these will be based on greener attitudes that include:

- Increased use of sustainable public transport and electric vehicles, including charging infrastructure,
- Increased accessibility through improvements to the active travel network,
- Increased generation and use of renewable energy in the County Borough.

# How will the county borough grow?



The Revised Preferred Strategy looks to deliver development that is prioritised on land within town centres and close to public transport hubs first.

The evidence we have gathered shows that by 2035, the plan will need to have provided an additional:



**6,750** new homes, and



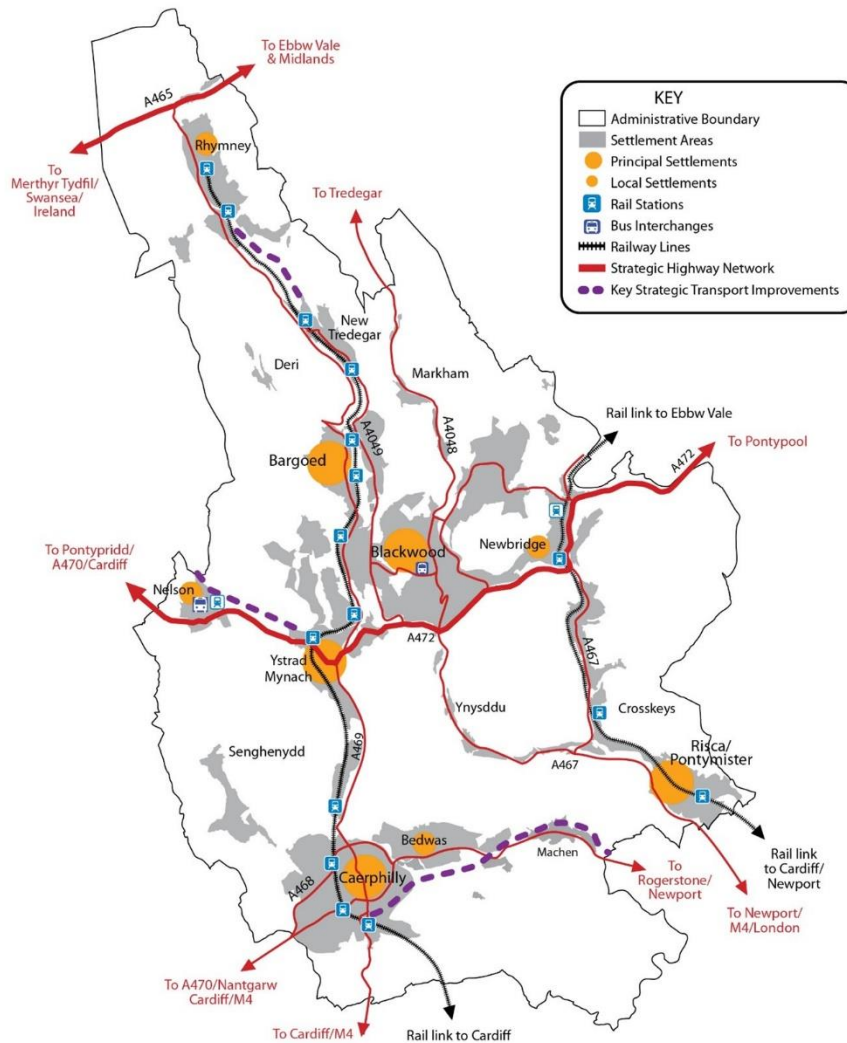
**44.5** hectares of employment land.

More detail on how this will be delivered and how we will address the other priorities in our vision is contained within the Revised Preferred Strategy.

# What is the preferred option?



As part of the Cardiff Capital Region and as Caerphilly is included in Future Wales' National Growth Area, we think the best option is to plan for a growth in our working age population by 11,603 people.



In order to meet this growth, the plan will focus development in existing town centres and providing land to maximise opportunities arising from the Southeast Wales Metro.

# Strategic Planning Policies



The Preferred Strategy includes a set of 22 Planning Policies that will help deliver the vision, aims and objectives:

<b>PS1: The Level of Growth for the 2RLDP</b>	<b>PS12: Affordable Housing Target</b>
<b>PS2: The Revised Preferred Strategy for the 2RLDP</b>	<b>PS13: Sustainable Transport Hierarchy</b>
<b>PS3: Settlement Hierarchy</b>	<b>PS14: Modal Shift</b>
<b>PS4: Areas of Growth</b>	<b>PS15: Transport Improvement</b>
<b>PS5: Climate Change</b>	<b>PS16: Safeguarding Former Rail Lines</b>
<b>PS6: Renewable Energy Generation</b>	<b>PS17: Protecting Strategic Transport Improvement Routes</b>
<b>PS7: Placemaking Principles</b>	<b>PS18: Road Hierarchy</b>
<b>PS8: Green and Blue Infrastructure</b>	<b>PS19: Hierarchy of Commercial Centres</b>
<b>PS9: Managing Employment Growth</b>	<b>PS20: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation</b>
<b>PS10: Managing Tourism Growth</b>	<b>PS21: Minerals</b>
<b>PS11: Managing Housing Growth</b>	<b>PS22: Sustainable Waste Management</b>

We have also produced two documents which look at how sustainable the strategy is. These are called the Initial Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Reports.



# Have your say on shaping the future of Caerphilly



You can view both the full version and a summary version of the Revised Preferred Strategy at <https://caerphilly.oc2.uk>.

Hard copies of the documents can be viewed at all public libraries, the Council Offices at Penallta and at the Business and Technology Centre Tredomen Business Park.

We will be delivering a series of events across the County throughout January and February to provide more information and answer your questions about the plan. Events will include structured workshops led by Planning Aid Wales and 'drop-in' clinics led by Caerphilly Planning Officers. These events are open to all. More information about the events is available at [www.planningaidwales.org.uk](http://www.planningaidwales.org.uk) and <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/pre-deposit-public-consultation>

If you would like to have your say on shaping the future of the county borough and what you think about the Revised Preferred Strategy, you can do this by:

- Logging onto the consultation portal at <https://caerphilly.oc2.uk/>

All comments must be received by 26th February 2025. Any comments received after this date will not be considered.