Caerphilly County Borough
2nd Replacement Local Development Plan 2020-2035

EB42.1: Pre-Deposit Engagement (Addendum)

October 2026

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL CAERFFILI

Caerphilly County Borough

2nd Replacement

Local Development Plan

2020 - 2035

EB42.1

Addendum to Pre-Deposit Engagement

October 2026

Introduction

The Council commenced work on the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan 2020 - 2035 (2RLDP) in October 2020. The 2RLDP will cover the period 1 April 2020 to 31 December 2035.

The Council consulted on its first Pre-Deposit Plan for the 2RLDP in October and November 2022. Conformity Objections to the plan were received from Welsh Government in respect of the Strategic Site allocation, the regional approach and context to growth, and the nature-based approach. As a result of these objections, changes to the Pre-Deposit strategy have been made.

Given that changes have been made to the strategy (Revised Preferred Strategy) the Council is taking a step back in the process and is undertaking a second consultation on the Pre-Deposit Plan with its amendments.

This Addendum has been produced to outline the original Pre-Deposit engagement in 2022, and to detail the latest Pre-Deposit engagement to be undertaken in 2024/2025.

Pre-Deposit Plan Engagement

Pre-Deposit Plan Engagement, 2022

Evidence base paper *EB42 Pre-Deposit Engagement* was produced during the preparation of the 1st Pre-Deposit Plan in October 2022. This paper demonstrates compliance with the Community Involvement Scheme that forms part of the Caerphilly County Borough 2nd Replacement Local Development Plan (2RLDP) Delivery Agreement (DA), which was approved by Welsh Government in June 2021.

It also details the stakeholder engagement that has taken place to inform the vision, level of growth and strategy options considered as part of the Preferred Strategy.

Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

The CIS sets out the Council's principles, strategy and mechanisms for community and stakeholder engagement throughout the 2RLDP plan preparation process. The Council complied with the requirements for community engagement as set out in the CIS.

In an attempt to engage as wide an audience as possible in the Pre-Deposit public consultation exercise, the Council used a variety of means of communication as outlined in the CIS. The consultation methods used included:

- Emails / Letters to every individual and organisation on the LDP Consultation Database to inform them of the Pre-Deposit Consultation. In total, 626 bodies were contacted and provided with details of how to access the consultation documents and told how to respond.
- A leaflet was distributed to every household within the county borough;
- Posters were displayed in all libraries and within selected shops;
- Interactive website displaying all consultation material, allowing direct, online comments to be made.
- Caerphilly County Borough Council website, Social Media Promotion and Press release.
- An article was published in the Caerphilly Observer on 19th October 2022, entitled 'Consultation begins on plan that will shape the county borough.'
- Mobile exhibitions held across the County Borough in the settlements of Caerphilly, Risca, Bargoed, Blackwood and Maesycwmmer
- Static exhibition based at Tredomen Business & Technology Centre, Ystrad Mynach.

- Officers were available via the LDP Hotline and on an appointment basis throughout the consultation period.

Stakeholder Engagement

A series of detailed seminars were held with Officers, Stakeholders, Elected Members and Community Councillors and the Council's Youth Forum to consider the LDP process, including an Introduction seminar for Elected Members and Community Councils, and seminars to consider Visioning, the Level of Growth that the 2RLDP should accommodate and Strategy Options for dispersing the LDP land requirements. The content and outcomes of these seminars are detailed in Evidence base paper EB42 Pre-Deposit Engagement.

In light of the outcome of the seminar series, the level of growth, Projection J - CCR working age population growth (450 units per annum) was used and a hybrid strategy based on elements from Option 3: The Strategic Site, Option 4: The Metro Focus and Option 5: Town Centre Focus were used as the basis for the 2RLDP.

Pre-Deposit Plan (Revised Preferred Strategy) October 2024

To address Welsh Government Conformity Objections to the Pre-Deposit Plan 2022, some changes to the strategy have been made.

The level of growth, Projection J - CCR working age population growth (450 units per annum) is still considered appropriate. However, as a result of the removal of the strategic site from the plan, a hybrid strategy based on elements from Option 4: The Metro Focus and Option 5: Town Centre Focus is used as the basis for the 2RLDP.

Pre-Deposit Plan Engagement, 2024/2025

Whilst changes have been made in response to the Welsh Governments objections, including removal of the strategic site, it is not considered necessary to revisit the initial stakeholder engagement as the growth option and the remaining strategy are both considered appropriate as a basis for the 2RLDP. Instead, the Council is taking a step back in the process and is undertaking a second consultation on the Pre-Deposit Plan with its amendments.

This Addendum has been produced to provide an update to the engagement methods and also to demonstrate compliance with the Caerphilly County Borough 2nd Replacement Local Development Plan 2020 - 2035 (2RLDP) Delivery Agreement, First Revision (Revised DA), which was approved by Welsh Government in October 2024.

Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

The CIS sets out the Council's principles, strategy and mechanisms for community and stakeholder engagement throughout the 2RLDP plan preparation process.

Details of the emerging 2RLDP and its processes and progress will be published on the council's website throughout the process. We will seek to publicise the 2RLDP

process at every stage and reach as much of the community, and other stakeholders, as possible, to advise people about the 2RLDP and how they can get involved.

This will be done by:

- Direct contact (i.e. preferably by email, or letter), the Council's consultation database now contains the contact details of over 1700 interested persons and organisations.
- Through use of social media, (Twitter, by utilising the corporate @CaerphillyCBC account, Facebook on the Caerphilly County Borough Council page).
- Details added to the Caerphilly Conversation platform.
- Engagement with Elected Members through specific workshops, Member drop-in sessions and in reports to appropriate Council meetings.
- All 2RLDP information and documents will be made available on the Council's website, which will be constantly updated.
- Deposit of documents at the Council's principal office and libraries where possible.
- Press releases for the local media, where appropriate.
- Producing Easy Read Summary documents for key stages of the 2RLDP process.
- Public exhibitions, drop-in sessions and meetings in accessible and neutral locations.
- Videos, virtual engagement and consultation via web-based technology such as webinars.
- Site notices will be displayed regarding proposed land allocations at the Deposit stage.

Planning Aid Wales was commissioned to undertake engagement and consultation on the Pre-Deposit Plan. Officers were available for meetings and drop-in sessions, and impartial formal events were arranged and facilitated by Planning Aid Wales.

Further, and in an attempt to foster greater engagement, the Council intends to utilise Planning Aid Wales to undertake engagement and consultation on the Deposit Plan.