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LDP Working Group 11 December, 2015

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN WORKING GROUP HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON FRIDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2015

PRESENT

County Councillor E A York (Chair)

County Councillors PJ Ashton, D O Evans, W J Evans and G M Jones

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| 1. | APOLOGIES | LDP66- 2015 |
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Apologies were received from County Councillor J.G. Shearer.

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| 2. | MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING | LDP67- 2015 |
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The Chair was authorised to sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 2nd December, 2015 as a correct record.

The Working Group noted that officers had met with the Members from the Ystradgynlais area to discuss housing site allocations. Since this meeting County Councillor S.L. Williams had advised that she was content with the Focussed Changes. Officers were waiting to speak to County Councillor D.R. Jones regarding housing allocations in the Guilsfield area.

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| 3. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST | LDP68- 2015 |
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County Councillor G.J. Jones declared a personal interest as a partner in a family building contractors business.

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| 4. | DEPOSIT REPRESENTATIONS AND RESPONSES - FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS | LDP69- 2015 |
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It was noted that the Council must consider all representations and demonstrate the steps taken to consider these. The Working Group noted that as agreed at the last meeting an email was sent to all Members [4th December, 2015] advising them of how they could review the responses to the Deposit Plan and the Authority's responses to these and the inset maps. Members were advised of the three ways to access the information.

Comments had been received from two Members. One comment was regarding the proposed removal of the enabled exceptions policy in respect of affordable housing. The Working Group was advised that the Welsh Government had stated that this was contrary to National Policy and so should be removed. Members commented that it was critical that local authorities could develop local policies to suit their local needs. However, it was acknowledged that at the present time, evidence was not available to support the inclusion of the policy at this stage, but it could be reviewed at a later stage.

The Working Group noted that information had been shared with Members in numerous ways including:

- LDP Working Group
- Live reference system on the website
- Members' Bulletin – information and updates were provided in June and October 2015
- LDP Working Group agendas, reports and minutes were public documents
- Link to Cabinet agendas and reports were sent to all Members
- Emails to Members
- Discussions and meetings with individual Members and groups of Members
- Summary of representations provided for Cabinet

The Working Group agreed that the email sent on 4th December, 2015 would be emailed again to Members to ensure that they had every opportunity to consider the representations.

The Professional Lead – Planning Policy took the Working Group through the Summary of Representations [by Issue] on the Deposit LDP 2015 which was included in the report to Cabinet on 15th December, 2015.

| DECISION: | REASON FOR DECISION: |
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| That the Summary of Representations [by Issue] on the Deposit LDP 2015 be noted and recommended to the Cabinet for adoption. | To ensure the progress of the LDP. |

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| 5. | FOCUSSED CHANGES - OUTSTANDING MATTERS | LDP70- 2015 |
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The Professional Lead – Planning Policy advised that the housing numbers were being reviewed to ensure that the figure agreed was realistic and deliverable. It was also noted that the level of employment land was being reviewed and that the Golf Course site in Newtown was no longer available.

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| 6. | FOCUSSED CHANGES - RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ASSESSMENTS | LDP71- 2015 |
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The Working Group noted that the majority of Focussed Changes had been considered and agreed at the previous meeting. As some assessments were still being considered a short report would be provided to the Cabinet meeting on 15th December, 2015. The Professional Lead – Planning Policy advised that there were no major issues of concern.

| RECOMMENDATION: | REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION: |
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| That the Focussed Changes and inset maps considered at the previous meeting and at this meeting be recommended to the Cabinet for adoption. | To ensure progress of the LDP. |

It was noted that the Brecknockshire Committee had appointed an interim representative to the Working Group to fill its vacancy. It was agreed that a briefing note be provided to the Shire for its next meeting to explain the need to fill the vacancy.

County Councillor E A York (Chair)

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